# Buguma ABVF-UK

Association of Brotherhood Vira Fuliiru

Charity Number: 120643

## Trustees' Annual Report

Financial Year: 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

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# 1. Charity Aims, Objectives and Values

## 1.1 Our Objects

The objects of the CIO are to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by working with people across the UK who are socially excluded on the grounds of their ethnic origin, religion, belief or creed (in particular, people from the Vira Fuliiru community), to relieve the needs of such people and to assist them to integrate into society, in particular by:

(a) Providing a local network group that encourages and enables members of the Vira Fuliiru community to participate more effectively in the wider community.

(b) Increasing or co-ordinating opportunities for members of the Vira Fuliiru community to engage with service providers, enabling those providers to adapt their services to better meet the needs of the community.

(c) Providing financial help and bereavement assistance to members during funerals, through contributions from members, for those who may not have life insurance to cover funeral costs when they lose loved ones.

## 1.2 Our Aims

At Buguma ABVF-UK, we aim to assist our members, most of whom are refugees, and to empower them to thrive and develop within their new communities. We help smooth their transition into the wider community by addressing the many barriers members face, such as poverty, isolation and language. We work to fill these gaps and support integration into wider society.

We believe that a strong community is built on compassion, unity and mutual support. Life can bring unexpected challenges, and during those moments no one should feel alone. Our Community Support Network is designed to provide practical help, emotional care and a sense of belonging to those facing difficult circumstances.

## 1.3 Standing Together in Difficult Times

Whether it is the loss of a loved one, financial struggles or feelings of isolation, our community is committed to standing together and supporting one another. We aim to:

- Offer comfort and solidarity during times of hardship
- Ensure that individuals and families feel supported and valued
- Respond quickly and compassionately to urgent needs
- Build a culture of care and responsibility within the community

By coming together, we create a safety net that helps everyone feel secure and supported.

## 1.4 Bereavement Support

Losing a loved one is one of life's most challenging experiences. Our network provides compassionate support to individuals and families during times of bereavement. This includes:

- Emotional support and a listening ear
- Community presence during mourning periods
- Assistance with organising support within the community
- Helping families feel less alone during their time of loss

We believe that sharing grief within a supportive community can bring comfort and healing.

## 1.5 Support During Financial Hardship

Financial difficulties can affect anyone at any time. Our Community Support Network provides guidance and practical assistance to those facing economic challenges. We offer:

- Advice and signposting to relevant services and resources
- Community-led support initiatives where possible
- Encouragement and guidance to help individuals regain stability
- A respectful and confidential approach to every situation

Our goal is to help individuals navigate challenges with dignity and hope.

## 1.6 Tackling Social Isolation

Feeling isolated or disconnected can have a significant impact on wellbeing. We are committed to creating opportunities for connection and inclusion within the community. Through our network, we:

- Reach out to individuals who may feel isolated
- Encourage participation in community events and activities
- Create welcoming spaces for people to connect and build relationships
- Promote a sense of belonging for everyone

No one should feel invisible or excluded. We strive to ensure everyone has a place within the community.

## 1.7 Language and Identity Workshops

Language is a key part of identity; without it, cultural connections can fade over time. Our Language and Identity Workshops are dedicated to preserving and promoting the Kifuliiru and Kajooba dialects among younger generations. Through these workshops, we aim to:

- Teach basic and advanced communication skills in our native dialects
- Help young people connect with their cultural roots
- Strengthen intergenerational relationships within families
- Build pride in linguistic and cultural identity

We create a supportive and engaging learning environment where participants can develop language skills while exploring the history and meaning behind the words they learn. This ensures that our heritage is not lost but carried forward with pride.

## 1.8 Community Support Network

A strong community stands together in times of need. Our Community Support Network is built on compassion, solidarity and practical assistance for those facing difficult circumstances. We provide support in areas such as:

- Bereavement: offering emotional and community support during loss
- Financial hardship: connecting individuals with resources and guidance
- Social isolation: creating opportunities for inclusion and connection

Our goal is to ensure that no member of our community feels alone or unsupported. Whether through direct assistance, referrals or simply being present, we strive to uplift and care for one another.

## 1.9 Our Values

At Buguma ABVF-UK, these projects reflect our core values: unity, cultural pride, empowerment and compassion. Together, we are building a community where every individual feels valued, supported and inspired to thrive.

# 2. Management Structure

## 2.1 Board of Trustees

Buguma ABVF-UK is governed by a board of six trustees: one Chairperson and five trustees, who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity.

## 2.2 Governance and Meetings

The board meets monthly, with additional meetings convened as required to address urgent matters or emerging needs.

At the quarterly general assembly meetings, the board reviews the financial report and members' contributions, monitors performance against set objectives, and assesses financial and safeguarding risks. The board reports on delivery and reviews performance to ensure that activities remain aligned with the charity's main mission and that resources are used appropriately.

# 3. Goals and Achievements

## 3.1 Challenges This Year

As a community-led organisation, Buguma ABVF-UK has faced financial challenges in achieving its objectives, due to a lack of funding from our partners, such as the National Lottery (our main funder), and reduced contributions from members.

This was due to our transition from an association to a charity, together with changes to our banking arrangements during that transition, which disrupted the provision of assistance to members.

## 3.2 Funding Secured

We are pleased to announce that the Buguma ABVF-UK trustees have now secured next year's funding from our main sponsor, the National Lottery, covering the 2025/2026 budget.

## 3.3 Key Achievements

Despite these difficulties, Buguma ABVF-UK achieved zero arrests among young people through its awareness programme and quarterly meetings held across the country, particularly in the North West and in Bolton. During the year:

- Two biannual meetings were held with young members on crime prevention and their responsibilities within the community.
- Two funerals were supported for members who had lost a spouse (one a wife, one a husband). Contributions and assistance from the community covered costs of over £8,000.

## 3.4 Reserves

We had to draw significantly on our reserves to cover these costs, which highlights the importance of maintaining our reserves policy to meet members’ needs. The trustees have again voted to keep at least £20,000 in reserve to cover such needs.

# 4. Trustees and Volunteers

## 4.1 Our Trustees

Buguma ABVF-UK has a team of one Chairperson and five trustees dedicated to carrying out our work in the community. We would like to recognise their dedication to the wider community.

## 4.2 Our Volunteers

Our team of six trustees is supported by a dedicated group of 20 to 30 volunteers who help prepare meetings. In particular, our women’s group is at the core of our strength, providing care to vulnerable members and supporting the education of our children.

Without our volunteers, it would be very difficult to provide help and assistance to the community.

# 5. Financial Review

## 5.1 Reserves Policy

Buguma ABVF-UK has a reserves policy in place to ensure organisational resilience. During the year, we relied on our bank reserves, built from members' contributions, to secure a smooth transition and continue our mission.

## 5.2 Funding This Year

Our National Lottery funding application this year was unsuccessful. This was due to issues arising from the change of name on our bank account, and coordination with the bank was not completed in time. As a result, the £20,000 grant was not secured on time.

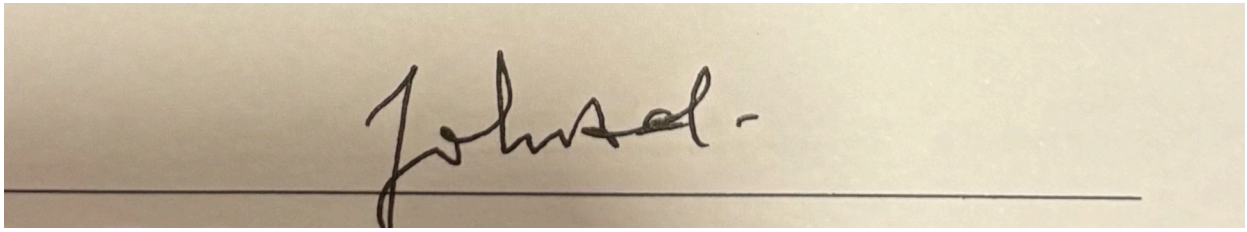
We therefore ran into a deficit this year due to the lack of funding, but stayed afloat thanks to increased contributions and donations from members. Our £15,000 budget was made possible because nearly 70% of it came from members' contributions and fundraising events held at quarterly meetings throughout the year.

## 5.3 Looking Ahead

We are pleased to announce that this issue has been resolved and we have secured £19,275 this year. Our dedicated team of trustees and volunteers will ensure that transparency remains at the core of everything we do.

## 6. Signature

This report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf on 30 October 2026 by:



**John Buluhu**
Chairperson
Buguma ABVF-UK

Date: 30/10/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

| Charity Name | No (if any) |
|---|---|
| BUGUMA ABVF-UK | 1206243 |

# Receipts and payments accounts

**CC16a**

| For the period from | Period start date | To | Period end date |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1/1/2024 | | 12/31/2025 |

## Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Last year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| **A1 Receipts** | | | | | |
| Membership fee | 9,000 | - | - | 9,000 | - |
| Charitable activities | 1500 | - | - | 1,500 | - |
| Donations and legacies (excluding Endowments Received) | 2000 | - | - | 2,000 | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total****(Gross income for AR)* | 12,500 | - | - | 12,500 | - |
| **A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total receipts*** | 12,500 | - | - | 12,500 | - |
| **A3 Payments** | | | | | |
| Venue hire (4) | 900 | - | - | 900 | - |
| Youth meeting and food | 600 | - | - | 600 | - |
| General assembly food and drinks | 1,600 | - | - | 1,600 | - |
| Ngwesho funeral | 1,500 | - | - | 1,500 | - |
| Frank Samson funeral | 6,235 | - | - | 6,235 | - |
| Women's Celebration Day | 600 | - | - | 600 | - |
| Funeral assistance | 1,800 | - | - | 1,800 | - |
| Website update | 400 | - | - | 400 | - |
| Transport | 1,800 | - | - | 1,800 | - |
| ***Sub total*** | 15,435 | - | - | 15,435 | - |
| **A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total payments*** | 15,435 | - | - | 15,435 | - |
| ***Net of receipts/(payments)*** | - 2,935 | - | - | - 2,935 | - |
| **A5 Transfers between funds** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **A6 Cash funds last year end** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Cash funds this year end*** | - 2,935 | - | - | - 2,935 | - |

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

### B1 Cash funds

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | ***Total cash funds*** | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |

### B2 Other monetary assets

| Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - |

### B3 Investment assets

| Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |

### B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

| Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |
| | | - | - |

### B5 Liabilities

| Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | - | |
| | | - | |
| | | - | |
| | | - | |
| | | - | |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|---|---|---|
| #VALUE! | JOHN BULUHU | 10/26/2026 |
| | | |