

**Belfast Asian Women's Academy**  
**Financial Statements and Trustees' Report**  
**for the financial year ended 31 March 2025**

**Charity Number: 108281**  
**Company Number: NI677159**

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**Belfast Asian Women's Academy**  
**Charity Number – 108281**  
**Company Number – NI677159**  
**Charity Information**

**Trustees**

Rafait O'Rourke  
Bandana Singh  
Ramya Krishna Gollapudi  
Minhas Mahsud  
Patrinne Irvine  
Preeti Yellamaty

**Directors**

Kalpana Chandran  
Ramya Gollapudi  
Bandana Singh  
Rafait O'Rourke (appointed 9 July 2024)  
Patrinne Irvine (appointed 1 April 2025)  
Minhas Mahsud (appointed 1 April 2025)  
Preeti Yellamaty (appointed 1 April 2025)

**Charity Number in Northern Ireland**

108281

**Company Number in Northern Ireland**

NI677159

**Registered Office and Principal Address**

Building 7  
HQ Weavers Court Business Park  
Linfield Road  
Belfast  
BT12 5GH

**Independent Examiners**

PGR Accountants Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Unit 2 Channel Wharf  
21 Old Channel Road  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT3 9DE  
Northern Ireland

**Belfast Asian Women's Academy**  
**Charity Number – 108281**  
**Company Number – NI677159**  
**Independent Examiner's Report**

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 as amended by the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.

In this report the trustees of Belfast Asian Women's Academy (or "the charity") present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2025.

**Mission, Objectives and Strategy**

Belfast Asian Women's Academy is established for exclusively charitable purposes, namely:

1. The advancement of citizenship or community development.
2. Public benefit of ethnic minority women resident in the district area of Belfast and its environs.

This will be achieved through the sharing of knowledge and lived experience and networking for personal and professional development; fostering understanding between women from diverse communities, resident in Belfast; the active promotion of sport, social and recreational activities; the sharing of culture and experience through food, drama and dance; advocating and supporting ethnic minority women who are new-comers, resident in Belfast.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Structure**

Belfast Asian Women's Academy has a management committee of up to 7 members who meet at least 4 times a year and are responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the charity. At present the charity has 400 beneficiaries from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity.

A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility of the services rests with Kalpana Chandran (charity founder). Kalpana is responsible for ensuring the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

**Governance**

The Articles of Association was signed on 5 March 2021. The charity is constituted under this Articles of Association and is governed under this Articles

The charity has been registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland from 20 June 2022 under registration number 108281.

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**Public Benefit**

The Trustees have had regard to the Commission's Public benefit requirement statutory guidance and it meets the requirements through its charitable purposes as set out above.

This year, BAWA positively impacted over 400 beneficiaries, enhancing their quality of life through our diverse initiatives and outreach programmes.

**Our Projects & Programmes– Year Ending March 2025**

**Social and Recreational Event**

- Supported five women to become runners.
- Fifteen women participated in the Belfast City Marathon Relay.
- Fifty women engaged in the fitness programme.
- Twenty women took part in football activities.
- Established the first Asian Women's Football Team, featured on BBC NI News.
- The football team competed in the NI Confederation Cup for ladies and played a friendly match with PSNI.
- Participated in the Positive Action through Community Engagement Project; one participant completed a full marathon.
- Thirty women played Bingo monthly.

**South Asian Heritage Month (SAHM) Launch**

- Hosted the inaugural SAHM event at Stormont, supported by MLA Deirdre Hargey and launched by Junior Ministers Aisling Reilly and Pam Cameron.
- The event was endorsed by councillors, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, MLAs, MPs, and the Commissioner for Human Rights.
- Over 100 attendees participated in the launch.

**Asian Women's Conference**

- Organised the first Asian Women's Conference at the Grand Central Hotel, attended by 100 women.

**Family Trips**

- Arranged visits for 20 families to the Giant's Causeway, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, and the National Football Stadium.

**Diwali Celebration**

- Delivered a Diwali cultural event for 200 attendees, including the Lord Lieutenant and the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commissioner.

**Collaborative Work**

- Partnered with Belfast South Community Resources to deliver the "Know Us" project, promoting awareness of the South Asian diaspora in Sandy Row and surrounding areas.
- Provided cultural performances for the NI Confederation Cup (organised by EMSONI).

**Support & Advocacy Work**

- Supported four individuals in addressing workplace racial discrimination.
- Provided advocacy for five individuals affected by hate crimes, in collaboration with PSNI and elected representatives.
- Assisted two women in securing full-time employment through the mentoring programme.
- Provided guidance to six members addressing private housing issue.
- Assisted a family on immigration issue.
- Assisted a family to overcome poverty.

**Conclusion**

As we conclude this recap of our programmes and activities in 2024/2025, we remain optimistic and excited for the opportunities that 2025/2026 will bring. Thank you once again for your support; together, we can continue to inspire and empower our community.

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**Financial Review**

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £412 (2024 - £536) and liabilities of £0 (2024 - £0). The net assets of the charity have decreased by £124. The charity has performed in line with the Trustees expectations.

**Reserves Policy**

Belfast Asian Women's Academy aims to maintain reserves in unrestricted funds at a level equivalent to approximately six months of core operating costs. These reserves are a contingency which aim to:

- Protect the future operation of Belfast Asian Women's Academy from the effects of any unforeseen variations in income and expenditure.
- Provide cash flow for grants that are paid in arrears.

The reserves policy and levels of reserves required are reviewed yearly as part of the annual budgetary process.

**Trustees**

The Trustees who served throughout the financial year were as follows:

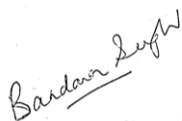
Kalpana Chandran  
Ramyra Gollapudi  
Bandanva Singh  
Rafait O'Rourke

**Approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:**



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**Minhas Mahsud**  
**Trustee**



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**Bandana Singh**  
**Trustee**