



*“Welcoming and Supporting Refugees in Hertfordshire”*

<https://www.hertswelcomes.org.uk/>

Patron: Robert Voss CBE CStJ HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire

## **Herts Welcomes Refugees Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Verso Vineyard Church, 7 Ashley Road, Brick Knoll Park, Ashley Road Industrial Estate,  
St Albans, AL1 5UG

**Please join us from 6:30 for networking and refreshments**

### **Agenda**

- 7:30**      **Welcome and introduction to the evening – Irene Austin, Chair**
- 7:35**      **Opening message from our patron Robert Voss CBE CStJ HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire**
- Opening message from the Mayor of City and District of St Albans Cllr Anthony Rowlands**
- 7:50**      **AGM Business**
1. Approve the minutes of the AGM for 2022
2. Election of trustees:
- Andy Gregg’s appointment to be approved
- Kate Scott and Samah Alrahabi retire and stand for re-election
- Trustees to continue:
- Irene Austin
- Adrian Ball
- John Borton
- Veronica Raymond
3. Resolution to change the Objects of our Constitution to be approved
4. Trustees’ Report, Treasurer’s Report and approve the 2023 Accounts
- 8:15**      **Refugee Voices**
- A chance to hear from our Advisory Group members and families we have supported during the year
- 9:15**      **Closing remarks Irene Austin**

**Resolution to be presented to our AGM in April 2024 for approval to amend the Objects of the charity by removing the particular reference to Syrian refugees as it is now not Syrian refugees who are the main group coming into Hertfordshire as it was in 2019 when the last amendments was made.**

**At present the Objects of our Constitution read:**

### **3. Objects**

The Objects of the CIO are:

1. The relief of refugees and asylum seekers, **(in particular Syrian refugees)**, by operating as a coordination and action network which will:
  - (a) encourage local councils and the County Council to continue to accept refugees under any Government Resettlement scheme;
  - (b) work with local councils, the County Council and relevant organisations to ensure that refugees arriving under any government resettlement scheme and other refugees and asylum seekers have access to and are provided with the appropriate services;
  - (c) welcome refugees and asylum seekers to Hertfordshire and offer ongoing practical support;
  - (d) connect organisations and individuals who wish to support refugees and asylum seekers in order to enable their integration into the local community through the creation of a supportive and enabling environment.
2. To advance the education of the public in all aspects of the refugee situation, **(in particular, with reference to refugees of Syrian origin.)**

**We would ask our members to approve the following changes to objects 1 and 2**

We will remove the reference to Syrian refugees so the objects would now read:

**1 The relief of refugees and asylum seekers, by operating as a coordination and action network which will:**

- (a) encourage local councils and the County Council to continue to accept refugees under any Government Resettlement scheme;
- (b) work with local councils, the County Council and relevant organisations to ensure that refugees arriving under any government resettlement scheme and other refugees and asylum seekers have access to and are provided with the appropriate services;
- (c) welcome refugees and asylum seekers to Hertfordshire and offer ongoing practical support;
- (d) connect organisations and individuals who wish to support refugees and asylum seekers in order to enable their integration into the local community through the creation of a supportive and enabling environment.

**2 To advance the education of the public in all aspects of the refugee situation.**