

Consultation On Proposed Changes To Our Objects

Our Memorandum and Articles of Association (the document which governs how we work as a charity) include the agreed statement of our charitable purposes, our Objects. As a registered charity we must ensure that everything we do furthers our charitable objects. The Memorandum and Articles of Association were last updated in 2012. The Objects are a section within the Articles of Association identifying the scope and bounds of the Foundation's operations. The Trustees recently reviewed our Objects to ensure that they accurately reflect our current and planned activities and areas of focus, which by their nature change over time, and as recommended by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees propose to make a few changes in order to:

- ✓ Make it clear that we will work to support not just those who have experienced trafficking, torture or other forms of extreme human cruelty but also those who are vulnerable to these forms of mistreatment and exploitation.
- ✓ Ensure that we are also able to help the dependents of those who have been or who are at risk of trafficking, torture and other forms of extreme human cruelty;
- ✓ Make it clear that while many of our clients are people seeking asylum and refugees, we also work with others at risk, whether due to their insecure immigration status or other vulnerabilities.

As well as updating our Objects, the Trustees have also taken the opportunity to update some of the procedural and administrative aspects of the Articles of Association. This includes measures intended to increase the number of Trustees and other updates due to changes in legislation and guidance.

The Trustees have received detailed legal advice on the proposed amendments to the Objects and Articles. To make these changes, we need to obtain the consent of the Charity Commission and we will shortly apply for this consent. Before we do so, the Trustees want to ensure that all our stakeholders have an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Objects.

Any feedback or comments

The Trustees welcome your thoughts on the proposed changes. If you have any comments please email Kerry Smith, the CEO directly at Kerry.Smith@helenbamber.org. Any responses will be reviewed and considered by the Trustees before they submit their application to the Charity Commission to make any changes to the Objects.

Response deadline:

The deadline for any response is noon on Friday 12th August 2022

Proposed wording

You can read the proposed Objects wording below in italics, and compare them with the current wording.

The current objects of the Charity are:

- (A) TO RELIEVE AND ASSIST PERSONS AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF PERSONS WHO ARE AT RISK BY REASON OF THEIR EXPERIENCE OF TORTURE, HOSTILITIES, GENOCIDES OR OTHER ATROCITIES
- (B) TO PREVENT SICKNESS AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF PERSONS WHO ARE AT RISK BY REASON OF THEIR EXPERIENCE OF TORTURE, HOSTILITIES, GENOCIDES OR OTHER ATROCITIES,
- (C) TO RELIEVE POVERTY AMONG THE PERSONS MENTIONED AT (A) AND (B) ABOVE, AND
- (D) TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON ALL ISSUES CONCERNING GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, TORTURE AND ATROCITIES AND THEIR EFFECT ON PERSONS WHO SUFFER THEM."

The proposed objects of the Charity are:

4.1 The Charity is established for the following purposes for the benefit of the Beneficiaries:

4.1.1 to relieve their conditions of need, hardship or distress;

4.1.2 to preserve and protect their physical and mental health;

4.1.3 to advance their education and training so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community;

4.1.4 to advance public education about the position of and issues relating to the Beneficiaries, including gross violations of human rights, torture, atrocities and other forms of human cruelty and their effect on persons who suffer them;

4.1.5 assisting them in such other exclusively charitable ways as the Charity determines from time to time.

4.2 In this Article 4, "Beneficiaries" means individuals who:

4.2.1 are seeking asylum or other forms of protection in the UK;

4.2.2 have already been granted refugee status, humanitarian protection or other forms of protection status by UK immigration authorities;

4.2.3 have insecure immigration status or are stateless;

4.2.4 are vulnerable by reason of their experience of torture, trafficking, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities or human cruelty,

4.2.5 are vulnerable to destitution, exploitation, abuse, trafficking or other forms of human cruelty including but not limited to those outside their country of origin; and

4.2.6 the dependants of those mentioned in Articles 4.2.1 to 4.2.5 above.

Please send your responses by noon, Friday 12th August 2022 directly to Kerry.Smith@helenbamber.org

Many Thanks

The Management Team

20th July 2022