



asian resource centre
croydon

Annual Report 2015/16

Chair's Preface

On behalf of ARCC in my role as Chair I would like to welcome you to Asian Resource Centre of Croydon's Annual Report. This year has seen many changes within our organisation.

We have had an office move from our offices at Union Road to our new offices at the CVA on London Road. We also saw the arrival of Ima Miah as our new Director of Operations.

ARCC like all voluntary organisation in Croydon has gone through a difficult year as the council restructured funding to the voluntary sector. Croydon like many other local authorities have had their funding cut by central government. As voluntary sector organisations, we live in an extraordinary time where many organisation will find it extremely hard to carry on when funding cutbacks set in.

At ARCC we continue to work with our partners at grass root level to maximise the impact of what we do, and to reach more people by taking our services into more community settings and ensuring that our partners we work with are able to provide the invaluable service they provide to their community by keeping up with the changing needs of their community and by building a strong and vibrant Asian voluntary sector in Croydon.

We continue to look for new ways to fund our activities and to develop innovative approaches to break down barriers to promote volunteering opportunities for people in the hard to reach communities.

On behalf of the board of Directors/Trustees, I would like to thank all our staff, partners, volunteers and members for your continued help and support.

I would also like to thank all the members of staff at the ARCC for the hard work they have put in during this difficult year that we all have been through while making sure at all times our partner organisations were not left behind.

Ashtaq Arain
Chair



Vision, Mission & Aims

Vision

Our vision is to be a hub for information, advice and support on the key issues affecting the Asian communities in the area and be widely recognised and valued as an asset to Croydon.

Mission

We will work to inspire enterprise, employment and civic engagement within the Asian communities in Croydon. We will help Asian businesses, community organisations and individuals play a positive role in creating a prosperous and harmonious Borough.

Aims

Highlight and address the needs of the Asian communities in Croydon regardless of religious, linguistic or cultural difference.

Work closely with strategic bodies and service providers to ensure the needs of the Asian Communities (in particular of South Asian origin Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) are known and met.

Assist our members in the process of building their knowledge, skill and capacity and thereby become more beneficial to, and effective in, the communities they live, work and serve.

Director of Operations Report

It's wonderful to be back at ARCC, especially since the organisation is doing more direct delivery with community members than ever before. This year has been both busy and productive as you will see from the following content in this report. We continue to support Asian groups and organisations to build their capacity and help them through difficult economic circumstances. Capacity building is becoming an unfavourable word amongst funders, however our members have told us that they have found our support both needed and relevant.

With limited resources we have managed to exceed all of our funder's targets and look forward to bigger and better contracts in the coming year. This year we have focused on building partnerships and consulting with new and existing members in preparation of the Council's new commissioning round.

Our membership has increased this year and our events and monthly coffee mornings are more popular than ever. With more projects, more participation and more staff to look forward to, ARCC is edging ever closer to its vision of one voice.

Ima Miah
Director of Operations



Floristry Classes



Community Engagement



Commissioning Workshop



International Older People's Day Event



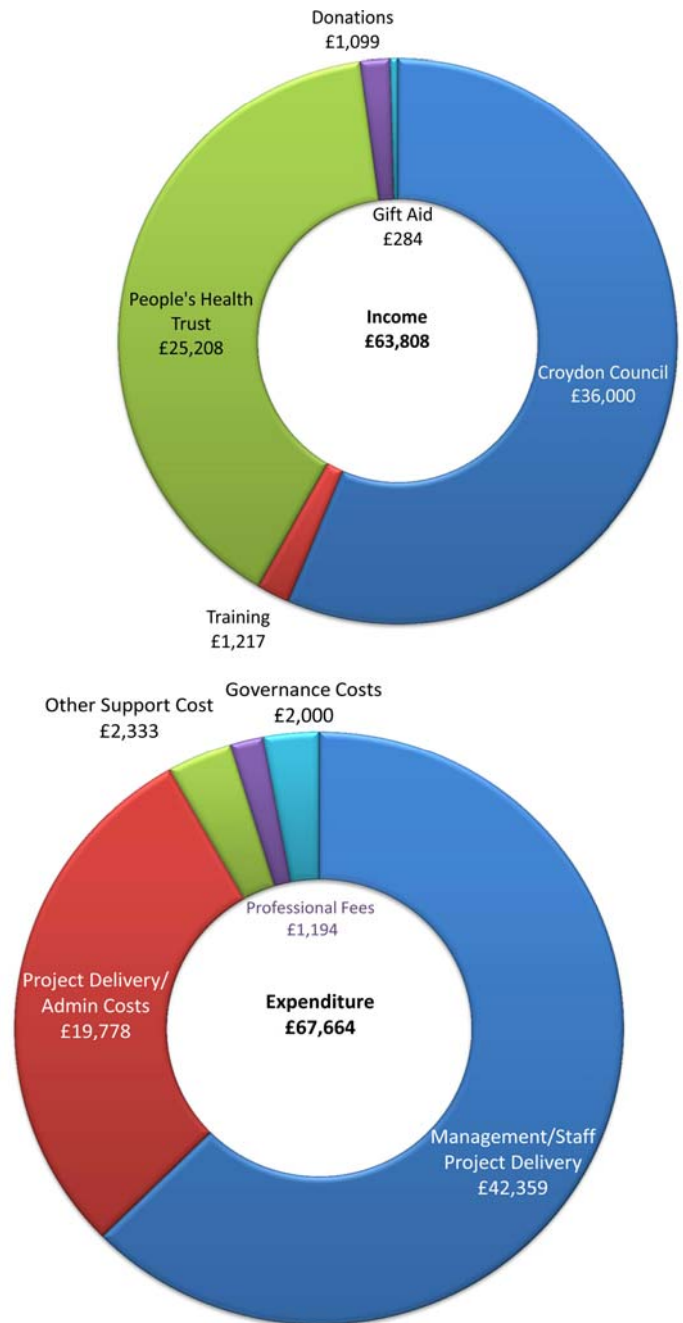
International Women's Day Event

Achievements 2015/16

- ARCC has enjoyed delivering 17 years of Capacity Building and this year has been more important than ever. The Voluntary sector is seeing funding cuts and budget constraints more than ever and ARCC services have been critical in helping organisations to manage through these pressures and demonstrate the value of their services.
- Awards for All - Delivered sessions in yoga, floristry, IT & exercise classes amongst elderly to reduce social isolation.
- In collaboration with UK Online & Tinder Foundation ARCC has continued to deliver IT classes in the Borough. The sessions have helped a number of silver surfers to get digitally skilled by learning new skills.
- Our Monthly Elders Coffee Morning has been an unprecedented success since its launch. This is a much needed monthly event allowing elders from a diverse range of communities to come together giving them an opportunity to socialise, make friends and share experiences.
- Funded by the People's Health Trust our weekly Dance Movement Classes have been a huge success since the project launch in June 2015. We have four sessions of Dance Movement Classes every week targeting people 50+ from a range of communities. In addition to this we have held a number of taster sessions on different topics.
- Organised by Croydon Council ARCC held a stall at the Charity Fare at The Community Space at Bernard Weatherall House to promote the projects/activities of the organisation along with a number of other charities. The event allowed us to sign up a number of participants for our different projects, activities and training courses.
- With the change in funding structure at the Council and with Commissioning opportunities fast approaching ARCC held a number of consultative meetings and workshops with our service users and groups to highlight the opportunities available to groups.
- We held a number of workshops/focus groups in association with a number agencies including Diabetes UK, NHS and Age UK on various topics.
- We celebrated International Older People's Day and reaffirmed our commitment to Croydon elders through celebrating later life and the achievements of older people in our community and the contribution they make as a whole. Guest speakers included Gavin Barwell MP, Steve Reed MP and others.
- ARCC celebrated International Women's Day with this year's theme "pledge for parity". The event was a great success with the Mayor of Croydon in attendance along with our inspirational project speakers, performers and stall holders.
- We worked in partnership with the Council to pilot Visbuzz a one-touch video calling device, to help tackle adult loneliness and isolation through digital inclusion to boost wider well-being and social interaction.
- Office move to new premises at CVA Resource Centre resulted in increased partnership working and delivery.

Financial Statement

Year Ending 31st March 2016



Please note this is a summarised version of the Annual Accounts. A full set of accounts is available upon request via email to info@arccltd.com



Secretary's Outlook

This has been a very eventful year and ARCC has embraced all the changes and challenges faced by the organisation and the voluntary sector with diligence.

ARCC has delivered a wide range of activities with the hard work of a small staff team and an active Trustee's Board including one to one and group sessions to support organisations with business planning, fundraising, policies and procedures, monitoring and evaluation, IT, marketing, partnership working as well as commissioning support in our endeavour to build and strengthen the Asian voluntary sector.

Digital Literacy is a very necessary skill in this time and ARCC have delivered IT classes in collaboration with UK Online and our partnership with Croydon Council and Visbuzz, a one-touch video calling device, has enabled many people to learn new skills and connect with each other and their loved ones.

The annual International Women's Day Event was a great success and was attended by over 80 people with the Mayor of Croydon in attendance. We also held our second International Older People's Day which was also a memorable day full of entertainment. We intend to continue to celebrate our elders in all communities and support them fully. ARCC has developed a monthly coffee morning which has been very well attended and enjoyed by all who participate and we will be seeking funding to develop this positive gathering.

ARCC had to move to new premises this year and are now based at CVA Resource Centre. We are now settled in and sincerely hope this will lead to increased partnership working and service delivery.

Our objectives continue to be to support Asian groups and individuals to get involved in all aspects of community and civic life and ARCC will continue to co-ordinate and share all of the diverse voices of our communities and strengthen and build our contribution to the social agenda of Croydon.

I would like to thank the staff, volunteers and my fellow Directors for their commitment, the giving of their skills and knowledge that has resulted in the culmination of another successful year for ARCC.

Dilly Surelia
Secretary

ARCC Board of Directors & Staff

Ashtaq Arain	Chair
Vidyadharan Chandrababu	Vice-Chair
Dilshad Surelia	Secretary
Rumel Jahur	Treasurer
Bhupinder Bhardwaj	Director
Somasundaram Kanagasundaram	Director
Ghazala Mirza	Director
Raghu Shetty	Director
Kushalya Y Kakad	Co-Opted Member
Mrudula Patel	Co-Opted Member
Joseph Jeffers	Director of Operations
Ima Miah	Acting Director of Operations
Mamun Khan	Communications & Marketing Officer
Rabia Iqbal	Volunteer Administrator



Community Singing Workshop

Funders/Accreditation





Asian Resource Centre of Croydon Ltd

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Registered Company No: 6250781