



African Women's Group Scotland Year Ending 31st October 2025 Accounts

Our Scottish Charity No SC047816.

Mailing Address:

11 Devanha Gardens East

Aberdeen, AB11 7UH

Our Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland

St Nicholas Branch

78 Union Street Aberdeen

AB10 1HH

AWGS Annual Report October 2025

African Women's Group Scotland (AWGS)

Governance Structure

African Women's Group Scotland (AWGS) is a registered Scottish Charity (SCIO). The organisation is governed and managed by a Board of Trustees, who provide strategic leadership, oversight, and governance to ensure that AWGS operates in line with its charitable objectives and legal responsibilities.

Our Purpose and Objectives

The African Women's Group Scotland exists to support the African community and to promote the development, advancement, wellbeing, and education of African women and their families, while promoting racial equality.

Our Objectives

- To reduce isolation and promote friendship within the African community.
- To assist African women in accessing appropriate employment, services, and opportunities, and to build their self-confidence and self-worth through training, seminars, and workshops.
- To promote equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- To promote cultural, religious, and racial harmony.
- To support individuals and families in need, hardship, or disadvantage.
- To support women, children, and community development initiatives in Africa.

The Chair's Address

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our supporters and funders. Without their continued support, much of our work would not be possible.

I would like to thank:

- **The Milne Family Foundation.**
- **CNOOC Group** for their support of our Hardship Fund.
- **The Henry Duncan Foundation** for supporting our outreach work and activities.
- **Aberdeen City Council**, our ever-present supporter.
- **BBC Children in Need** for supporting our youth activities.
- **Wood Foundation** supported our 30th anniversary celebration.
- **Our local supermarkets** that support our food project for struggling families.

I also extend our appreciation to the women who fundraise for and donate to the group.

My heartfelt thanks go to the Trustees, staff, and volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes. We are especially grateful to our volunteers, who give countless hours supporting members of the community in distress and in times of need. We also thank our members who generously provide their professional services free of charge.

Highlights of the Year

Key highlights during the year include:

- The celebration of the 30th Anniversary year of the organization.
- Completion of the Youth Project.
- Increase in the use of our services.
- Continued support for women and families experiencing hardship.
- Supporting women experiencing domestic abuse.
- Establishment of a cultural dance troupe and performance in Aberdeen and Glasgow.
- Delivery of public speaking training.

- Visitation from Sharpen Her from Glasgow to share experiences.
- Establishment of an AWGS branch in Dundee.
- Increased networking and collaboration with other community groups, service provider.

AWGS continues to provide a safe space for African women to meet, make friends, reduce isolation, identify pressing issues and share information. Also increasingly providing a voice for African women.

Community Engagement and Activities

Our WhatsApp group continues to grow and now has over **366 women**. Members share information daily on topics such as employment opportunities, immigration policies, safeguarding, domestic abuse awareness, and wider community issues. The group has become an important source of information gathering and sharing.

Our monthly virtual meetings continue to be a source of empowerment and engagement. These sessions often involve partner organisations and service providers such as Aberdeen City Council, the NHS, Social Work, and Immigration.

Volunteers

Our volunteers remain the backbone of the organisation. Without their dedication, AWGS would not be able to deliver its services. Volunteers:

- Visit housebound individuals and families.
- Support people in hospital and distress.
- Assist with shopping for those unable to do so themselves.
- Help organise public events and fundraising activities.
- Provide information and support to new migrants to reduce isolation.
- Identify and raise community issues to the group's attention.
- Attend meetings, conferences, and bring feedback.
- Identify community issues and bring them to attendance.
- Attend court and school hearings if requested.
- We have supported 280 families and individuals at various times with food vouchers, financial assistance for children's clothing, and support with heating costs.

Achievements During the Year

- Increased fundraising activities and income.
- Employment of a part-time Development Worker.
- Continued to provide hardship support to individuals and families.
- Organised a joint community health workshop in partnership with other community groups.

- Performances by our dance troupe in Glasgow (twice) and Aberdeen, including during the Aberdeen Tall Ships visit.
- Growth in membership, with more women contributing their skills, knowledge, and expertise.
- Increased interest among members in seeking elected office within the city, a positive step that AWGS fully supports.
- Provide 3 women with limited legal aid.
- Provided 18 women with public speaking skills. Public speaking is great for advocacy in every situation. It is a necessary skill for women to have.
- A visit from a sister organisation (Sharpen Her) from Glasgow to share experiences and learn from each other.

Challenges and Low Points

Despite many achievements, the organisation continues to face challenges:

- Limited access to mental health services, with high levels of stress and anxiety among community members, particularly those with no recourse to public funds and international students.
- Difficulties accessing legal Aid for women experiencing domestic abuse immigration status or appropriate counselling services
- Reports from parents about children experiencing bullying in schools.
- Lack of a permanent office space, making it difficult to offer volunteering and administrative opportunities and to meet members privately.
- The ongoing need for capacity-building within the community to strengthen resilience and provide opportunities.

Closing Remarks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Trustees for their tireless work, the volunteers for their dedication, and everyone who has supported AWGS throughout the year. Together, we will continue to support one another, strengthen our community, and build a more inclusive and resilient future.

Chair:

Mrs Elizabeth Gatima

AWGS Account 1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025

Income

Milne Family Foundation	£10000.00
BBC Children in Need	£21109.50
Fund Raising (30 th anniversary Ticket sales)	£6273.90
Henry Duncan Foundation	£8000.00
CNOON	£5000.00
Wood Foundation	£1891.39
AWGS Membership fee Gifts& Donations	£2140.00
Other Donation & gift	£1550
Aberdeen City Council	£2120.00
African Dance performance	£1500.00
Income for the year	£58034.79

Expenditure from 1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025

Hardship Support	£10550.00
Hall Hire	£1330.00
BBC Staff Salary	£21172.24
BBC Youth Activities	£4587.03
Volunteers	£2400.12
ICT	£1130
Insurance	£285.17
30 th Year Celebration	£ 5868.20

Summer Group Event	£1544.84
African Dance group	£3393.29
African Projects	£704.99
 Total Expenditure	 £52965.88

Balance For the year = Income 58034.79 – Exp 52944.92 = 5089.87

Surplus for the year 24/25 = 5089.87

Previous Balance brought forward =41610.64

Total Balance in October 2025 =5089.87 + 41610.64 = 46700.51

Restricted Fund

Hardship	£17000.00
Youth Activities	£6871.25
Trainning	£5000
Volunteer	£3000
ICT	2500
Admin	£450.00
Total	£34821.25
 Unrestricted Funds	 £11878.76
Restricted Funds	£34821.75