



RIGHT TO REMAIN

CAMPAIGNING FOR MIGRATION JUSTICE
IMPACT REPORT 2024/25

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RIGHT TO REMAIN IMPACT REPORT 2024/25

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WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO REMAIN WHERE THEY WANT TO BE — NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE ‘DESERVING’, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE ‘HARD WORKING’, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE MADE ‘VULNERABLE’, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE ‘EXCEPTIONAL’, BUT BECAUSE THEY LOVE, THEY LIVE AND THEY ARE HUMAN.

ACTUALLY, WE ARE NOT DREAMING — WE ARE BUILDING THAT WORLD TODAY, RIGHT NOW, BY BEING HERE.

www.righttoremain.org.uk
www.wallsmustfall.org

Charity number 1192934
Company number 04026564

**THESE WALLS
MUST FALL**

**RIGHT
TO REMAIN**

1 WE ARE RIGHT TO REMAIN

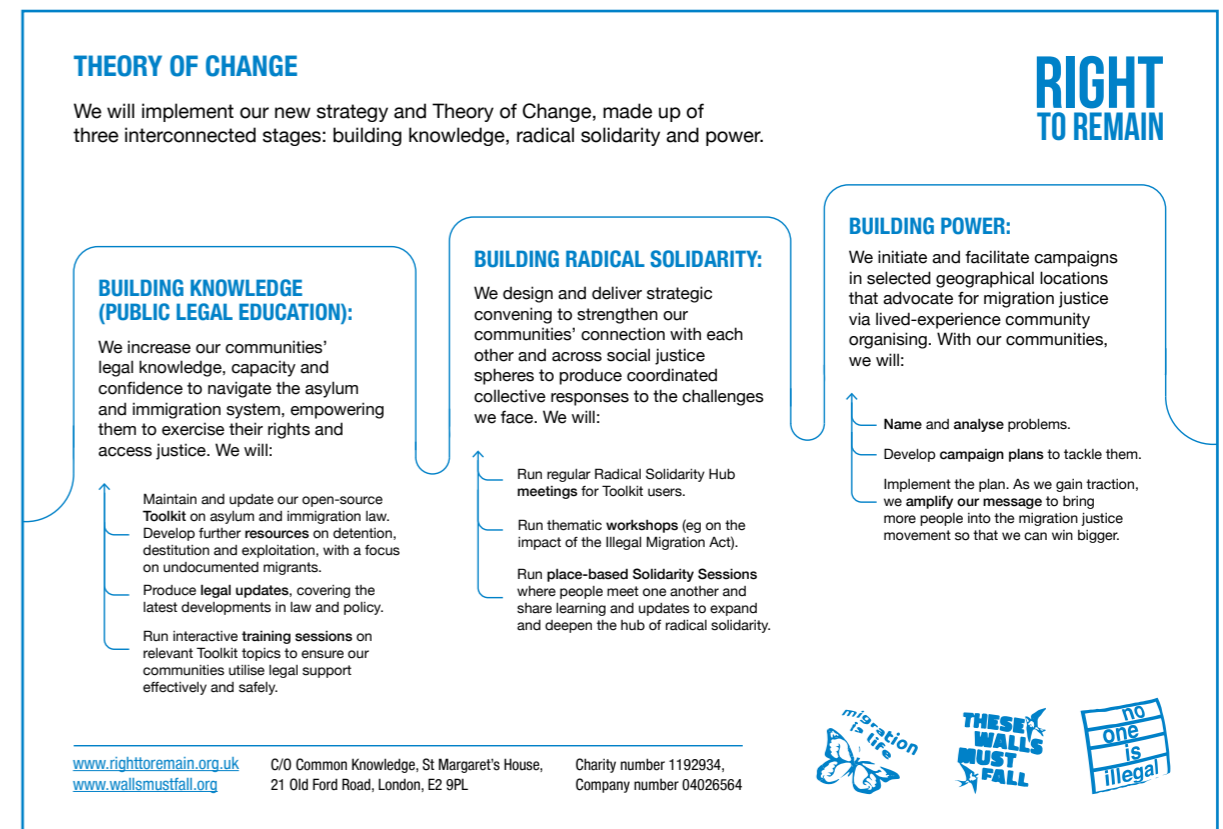


Right to Remain is a national migration justice organisation, working with hundreds of communities and groups across the UK.

As a key anchor organisation within the migration justice movement, we uniquely combine public legal education that democratises knowledge, facilitates strategic convenings that harness radical solidarity between communities and lived-experience-led campaigning and community organising that builds power. Together, our work empowers people to establish their right to remain and collectively challenge injustices of the immigration and asylum system. Our Theory of Change encapsulates these three interconnected, blended and iterative processes: building knowledge, building radical solidarity and building power. Each process has corresponding – and overlapping – objectives and activities.

Our Theory of Change

Our vision is a world where everyone can exercise their right to remain where they need to be with dignity and humanity. Our values are agency, people power, mutual aid, solidarity, anti-racism and foregrounding people with lived experience.





Manchester Solidarity Session in 2024, with These Walls Must Fall

We are a small, agile organisation, proud of our dynamic, reflective and influential approach. Throughout our existence, we have adapted to the changing political and socio-economic environment by responding to our communities' needs and priorities while challenging unequal power-dynamics that structure our society.

The organisation was founded in 1995 as the National Coalition of Anti Deportation Campaigns, a coalition of grassroots groups fighting against the deportation of their friends, family members, neighbours and co-workers across the UK. Our name changed in 2014 to reflect the expanded scope of the organisation's work, in response to our community's changing needs. As the landscape of asylum and migration law, policies and practices grew harsher and more prone to sudden changes, it became essential that our community understood the asylum and immigration system better from the very beginning of their journey through the process.

There are three reasons for this: in order to support one another to secure immigration status and the right to remain in the UK, to proactively protect the community from the risk of the violence and trauma of detention and deportation and, most importantly, to challenge injustice and human rights abuses. We became a registered charity (1192934) in December 2020.

Since then, the main resource of our public legal education work about the asylum and immigration system, our Right to Remain Toolkit, has become the critical infrastructure for the entire asylum and migration field and beyond. It is the lifeline for many who are stuck in a Kafkaesque system. Over the last few years, Right to Remain has significantly deepened and expanded the reach of our work to ensure that more people are protected from harm while trying to access justice and exercise their rights to build networks and alliances with others. In 2024/25, our Toolkit was used by an average of 50,000 unique

users online every month. People use the Toolkit to practise for their asylum interviews, gather their own evidence, prepare for their own appeals when they cannot find a lawyer, and exercise agency by equipping themselves with knowledge of what could happen to them and their options. Many groups, large and small, use it for their staff and volunteer training and for their work at large. Lawyers and students use it as a reference point and other professionals such as youth workers, ESOL teachers, and doctors use it to support people going through the system.

Right to Remain's popularity is due to the fact that our resources, workshops and outreach are accessible, practical and empowering. They are accessible because they are designed specifically for both non-specialists and people going through the system, based on feedback from our community collected over the years. They are practical because they include information about possible steps people can take to improve their chance of securing immigration status and their right to remain in the UK, also based on the tips contributed by our community. And they are empowering because they help people understand what might happen to them at each stage of the process, and how to help prepare for different scenarios, enabling them to take better control of their lives with or without the help of legal advisors.

We also demystify legal support. We explain clearly how allies and supporters who are not accredited to give legal advice and who, for this reason, are afraid to help others can still safely provide vital support in our community. While quality legal advice remains scarce, it is vital to scale up the amount of legal support available. This both alleviates the pressure faced by the struggling legal advice sector, and connects people in the system with their supporters, equipping them with knowledge and confidence to fight for the right to remain together, and seek ways to survive the system within their

local community. This knowledge of the system will always remain central to our movement. In fact, our legal education work goes beyond a simple gesture of information provision. Our work is relational. We carefully and consciously do this in a way that calls for solidarity to bring more people and groups into the movement, focussing on building power in our community.

The Toolkit and our workshops act as a portal through which people can enter the shared struggle for migration justice and start taking collective action to change the system – because you need to understand the system to be able to fight it, just as our community said when we developed the Toolkit over ten years ago. The Toolkit and our public legal education work is therefore the basis of our strategic convening and campaigning, including our experience-led community organising work, These Walls Must Fall. Our refreshed Theory of Change connects our work building knowledge (public legal education), building radical solidarity (strategic convening) and building power (campaigning and organising), and encapsulates the process through which we strive to achieve our vision with our communities.



2

OUR OPERATING ENVIRONMENT IN 2024/25

In 2024/25, migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum again faced crisis after crisis. Right to Remain is immensely proud that throughout this turbulent and scary year, we remained steadfast in our ability and resolve to support and guide the migration justice movement and stand in solidarity with our communities and allies.

The demand for our public legal education continued to increase, as people struggled to navigate the confusing asylum and immigration legal system. Draconian laws including the Nationality and Borders Act, the Illegal Migration Act, and the Safety of Rwanda Act profoundly destabilised our communities, leaving them desperate for clear information.

These legal developments restrict the asylum system, condemning an untold number of undocumented people to a permanent limbo, exposing them to risks of human rights abuses such as detention, destitution and exploitation. At the same time, visa routes and pathways to naturalisation are rapidly shrinking, affecting people's life plans and right to remain in the UK. The introduction of the e-visas system was an additional burden in 2024/25, as we all scrambled to prevent Windrush-style chaos by making sure hard-to-reach migrants are aware of the change and taking steps to avoid becoming undocumented. Coupled with the

growing challenges to the legal advice sector and increasing attacks on and hostility towards refugees and migrants, these laws and policies exacerbate people's struggle to regularise their immigration status and to secure their safety, let alone simply survive.

The change of the UK government in summer 2024 reversed some of the worst excesses of the Hostile Environment, such as the Rwanda plan. But the Labour Government swiftly introduced the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill that criminalises people on the move. The new government began deploying more enforcement measures such as immigration raids, detention and deportation, hardening our operating environment further. Given their grave consequences for our community, Right to Remain made a strategic decision soon after the General Election to prioritise preparing our communities for the impact of ramped up enforcement measures across all aspects of our work.

The demonisation of refugees and migrants by the media and successive governments created a fertile ground for the summer of race riots in 2024. Much has already been said and written about the tragic incident that sparked a series of riots and attacks on minoritised, racialised communities across the UK. Many refugee and migrant support groups experienced lockdowns and had to restrict services due to safety fears. The impact of these racist violences and blatant anti-migrant activities have been devastating for our communities, not least as they were still recovering from another crisis, the panic caused by the Rwanda plan when the Home Office started rounding people up to put on the first deportation flight to Rwanda.

However, in the face of these crises and challenges, we also saw a movement moment. More and more people are rejecting the attempt by politicians, the media and other power-holders to portray refugees and migrants as a problem. More people are seeing

through this attempt to divert attention away from the real problems within our society: rampant profit making from and exploitation of people and the planet. More people are waking up to the reality that the immigration system is inherently racist and must be dismantled. Appalled by the inhumanity against migrants, wider communities are more ready to take solidarity action with us as they see a parallel hostile condition in their own creeping material deprivation and curtailment of rights.

As we stood against these attacks and held spaces for the communities affected by the crisis to come together and heal, our confidence in our Theory of Change and strategy for 2024 – 2029 has grown. We are confident that building knowledge, radical solidarity and power allow us to seize this opportunity to mainstream migration justice and grow and strengthen our migration justice movement that catalyses a systemic change. The sections below describe our work in 2024/25 to this end.

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Not Rwanda, Not Anywhere demo, Manchester, May 2024



3

BOOSTING THE MIGRATION JUSTICE MOVEMENT

OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024/25

2024/25 was another busy year for Right to Remain across all areas of our work: public legal education, strategic convening and campaigning/ community organising.



Our Theory of Change’s holistic approach, of building knowledge, radical solidarity and power, means that our areas of work often intentionally overlap with each other. Our small but dynamic staff team continued to punch above our weight, adapting quickly to emerging crises that affect people seeking asylum, refugees and migrants in a fast moving migration justice landscape.

One of our strengths is a combination of groundedness and agility. This ensured that we stayed relevant to our communities’ various needs throughout the year, when they desperately needed clear guidance and direction. This is demonstrated by a summary list of our interventions in 2024/25. The overall

volume of our work has also increased over the last few years. In 2024/25, we organised or delivered a total of 59 events, workshops and presentations, attended by at least 2,500 people from 389 organisations*. We have seen a steady increase in our engagement volume over the last few years: we ran 24 events in 2022/23 and 37 events in 2023/24. (*Please note that these figures are not unique user figures and include some instances whereby the same people and groups are counted more than once. When we run workshops at events organised by external partners, we are often unable to receive accurate information about attendees. Please also note that not all the These Walls Must Fall activities are listed in the table, as there were too many to include.).

OUR 2024/25 EVENTS:

9 APRIL	TOOLKIT PRESENTATION TO MIGRANTS CHAMPIONS NETWORK	ONLINE
15 APRIL	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER WORKSHOP	ONLINE
16 APRIL	TOOLKIT PRESENTATION TO CITY OF SANCTUARY YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER	ONLINE
18 APRIL	TOOLKIT PRESENTATION TO CITY OF SANCTUARY SOUTH + SOUTH WEST	ONLINE
22 APRIL	HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING SESSION BY LIBERTY FOR THESE WALLS MUST FALL CAMPAIGNERS	ONLINE
29 APRIL	WORKSHOP AT STAND UP SPEAK OUT (TOOLKIT, LEGAL ADVICE VS LEGAL SUPPORT)	ONLINE
1 MAY	RWANDA INFORMATION WEBINAR 1	ONLINE
3 MAY	MANCHESTER DEMO 'NOT RWANDA, NOT ANYWHERE!'	IN-PERSON
3 MAY	RWANDA CHECK-IN MEETING FOR FRIENDS AND ALLIES	ONLINE
14 MAY	RADICAL SOLIDARITY HUB – RWANDA, REPORTING AND DEPORTATION	ONLINE
17 MAY	YOUNG ASYLUM GUIDE WORKSHOP	ONLINE
20 MAY	TOOLKIT PRESENTATION TO CITY OF SANCTUARY NORTH WEST	ONLINE
22 MAY	SOLIDARITY SESSIONS MANCHESTER + LIVERPOOL (RWANDA, REPORTING AND DETENTION)	ONLINE
24 MAY	RWANDA INFORMATION WEBINAR 2	ONLINE
6 JUNE	WORKSHOPS AT MIGRANT HOMELESSNESS LEARNING SYMPOSIUM	IN-PERSON

6 JUNE	BRISTOL SOLIDARITY SESSION (CO-ORGANISED WITH BRISTOL REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER PARTNERSHIP (BRASP))	IN-PERSON
19 JUNE	LONDON ASYLUM WORKING GROUP PRESENTATION ON THE ILLEGAL MIGRATION ACT	ONLINE
21 JUNE	10-YEAR ROUTE PILOT WORKSHOP	IN-PERSON
24 JUNE	SOLIDARITY SESSION FOR REPORTING CENTRE SOLIDARITY GROUPS / ACTIVISTS	ONLINE
25 JUNE	JUSTICE TOGETHER INITIATIVE CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS	IN-PERSON
5-7 JULY	WORKSHOPS ON MIGRANT WORK EXPLOITATION AT NEW ORGANISING CONFERENCE	IN-PERSON
9 JULY	POST-GENERAL ELECTION SOLIDARITY SESSION	ONLINE
18 JULY	MANCHESTER POST-GENERAL ELECTION SOLIDARITY SESSION	IN-PERSON
8 AUGUST	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER WORKSHOP	ONLINE
12 AUGUST	BOURNEMOUTH SOLIDARITY SESSION (CO-ORGANISED WITH PORTLAND GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP GROUP)	IN-PERSON
14 AUGUST	SOLIDARITY SESSIONS MANCHESTER + LIVERPOOL 'ORGANISING AMIDST RACIST VIOLENCE'	ONLINE
15 AUGUST	RADICAL SOLIDARITY HUB (ENFORCEMENT)	ONLINE
6 SEPTEMBER	THESE WALLS MUST FALL MANCHESTER PROTEST AGAINST INCREASED VISA FEES	IN-PERSON
11 SEPTEMBER	10 YEAR ROUTE WORKSHOP	IN-PERSON
26 SEPTEMBER	TOOLKIT WORKSHOP FOR STAR	ONLINE
2 OCTOBER	ONLINE RALLY FOR HASOCKFIELD DETENTION DEMO	ONLINE
8 OCTOBER	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER WORKSHOP	ONLINE
15 OCTOBER	MIN VOICES GLASGOW – EVISAS INFO SESSION	ONLINE
17 OCTOBER	HASSOCKFIELD DEMO BRIEFING SESSION (CO-ORGANISED WITH NO TO HASSOCKFIELD CAMPAIGN)	ONLINE
19 OCTOBER	NATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY TO END IMMIGRATION DETENTION – HASSOCKFIELD DETENTION CENTRE DEMO (COORGANISED WITH NO TO HASSOCKFIELD GROUP)	IN-PERSON
21 OCTOBER	NAPIER BARRACKS WORKSHOP (CO-ORGANISED WITH NAPIER FRIENDS)	IN-PERSON
22 OCTOBER	KING TROLL THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION AT NEW DIORAMA THEATRE	IN-PERSON
6 NOVEMBER	NACCOM MEMBERS MEETING – EVISAS INFO SESSION	ONLINE
6 NOVEMBER	MP CASEWORKER WORKSHOP (CO-ORGANISED WITH GMIAU)	ONLINE
6 NOVEMBER	BIRMINGHAM SOLIDARITY SESSION – DETENTION / ENFORCEMENT	IN-PERSON
7 NOVEMBER	RMC TOOLKIT AMBASSADORS WORKSHOP – BIRMINGHAM	IN-PERSON
21 NOVEMBER	RIGHT TO REMAIN SOLIDARITY PARTY	IN-PERSON
26 NOVEMBER	NOTTINGHAM SOLIDARITY SESSION – DETENTION / ENFORCEMENT	IN-PERSON

27 NOVEMBER	EUSS ALLIANCE – EVISAS INFO SESSION	ONLINE
28 NOVEMBER	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER WORKSHOP	ONLINE
6 DECEMBER	10 YEAR ROUTE WORKSHOP	ONLINE
10 DECEMBER	SAHIR HOUSE – EVISA INFO SESSION	ONLINE
13 DECEMBER	RADICAL SOLIDARITY HUB (EVISAS)	ONLINE
18 DECEMBER	THESE WALLS MUST FALL MANCHESTER VIGIL ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY	IN-PERSON
18 DECEMBER	ENGLISH FOR ACTION – EVISA INFO SESSION	ONLINE
28 JANUARY	LIVERPOOL SOLIDARITY SESSION	IN-PERSON
30 JANUARY	CECILIA'S STORY, FILM LAUNCH AT THE NATIONAL JUSTICE MUSEUM IN NOTTINGHAM – PANEL	IN-PERSON
8 FEBRUARY	SHEFFIELD SOLIDARITY SESSION DETENTION / ENFORCEMENT	IN-PERSON
20 FEBRUARY	TOOLKIT AMBASSADORS SESSION – MANCHESTER ASYLUM HOTEL	IN-PERSON
27 FEBRUARY	IMMIGRATION RAIDS COMMUNITY DISCUSSION	ONLINE
28 FEBRUARY	TOOLKIT WORKSHOP WITH NILC	ONLINE
25 MARCH	STAND UP SPEAK OUT – KNOWLEDGE IS POWER SESSION	ONLINE
27 MARCH	HOPE AND JUSTICE COLLECTIVE WORKSHOP (COORGANISED WITH MIGRANTS ORGANISE AND SLRA)	IN-PERSON

Sheffield Solidarity Session, February 2025



4 BUILDING KNOWLEDGE PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION WORK

Our public legal education work increased our communities' legal knowledge, capacity and confidence to navigate the asylum and immigration system and empowered them to exercise their rights and access justice. This developed a shared understanding of the asylum and immigration system within our communities, creating an optimal environment for building solidarity and challenging the injustice of the system.

Our two legal education officers continued to deliver public legal education material, addressing the emerging legal information needs of our refugee and migrant communities and their supporters with agility. Through legal research, working with other specialist organisations and engaging actively with a number of practitioners' fora, we:

- **Maintained and updated our open-source Toolkit on asylum and immigration law**, which was used by an average of 51,971 in 2024/25. We updated it 53 times in 2024/25, a significantly busier year compared to 2023/24 when we updated it 21 times. For example, [The Inadmissibility Rules](#) page went through several updates, responding to the Safety of Rwanda which received Royal Assent on 25 April 2024 and the newly elected Labour Government's announcement to scrap the Rwanda plan. The confusing and protracted transition to eVisas was another topic which necessitated our quick responses on a number of occasions.

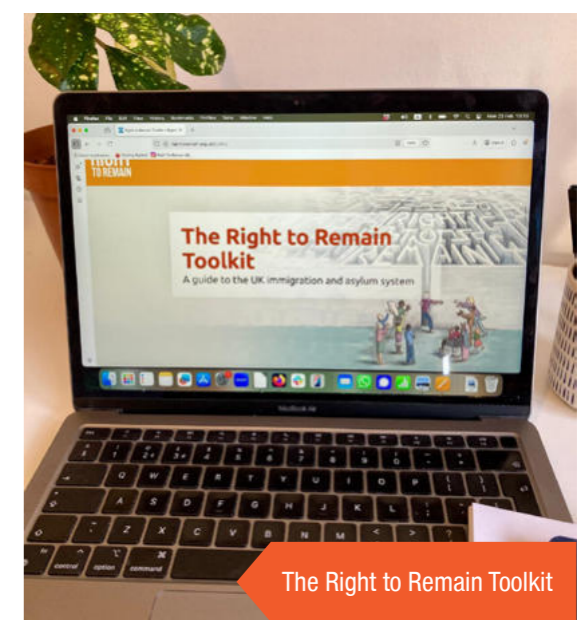


The Right to Remain Toolkit



Bristol Solidarity Session, June 2024

- **Created new resources in response to our community's requests.** They include:
 - **June 2024** [What happens when you get Refugee Status](#)
 - **July 2024** [No Recourse to Public Funds](#)
 - **October 2024** Key Guide [How to support someone with the transition to eVisas](#)
- **We published 39 legal updates** in 2024/25, covering the latest developments in law and policy (similar to the 36 updates we published in 2023/24, but significantly higher than the 18 updates in 2022/23, and 3 in 2021/22).
- **We increased our Legal Update Newsletter subscribers.** The number of subscribers at the end of 2024/25 was 3,132, a significant increase of 29% from the end of 2023/24 (2,428).
- **We delivered 23 interactive public legal education workshops, training sessions and talks** on Toolkit topics, to ensure that groups supporting asylum seekers and migrants utilise legal support effectively and safely.
- **In 2024/25, we developed new workshops, including on the 10-year route, fee waiver and Toolkit Ambassadors.** The former assists people who are required to apply for an extension of their visas every 2.5 years with a huge administration fee. This punitive regime disproportionately affects migrants of colour with lower income. Toolkit Ambassadors workshop is designed to empower people who are seeking asylum and migrants themselves to be able to share with their community members how to use the Toolkit.



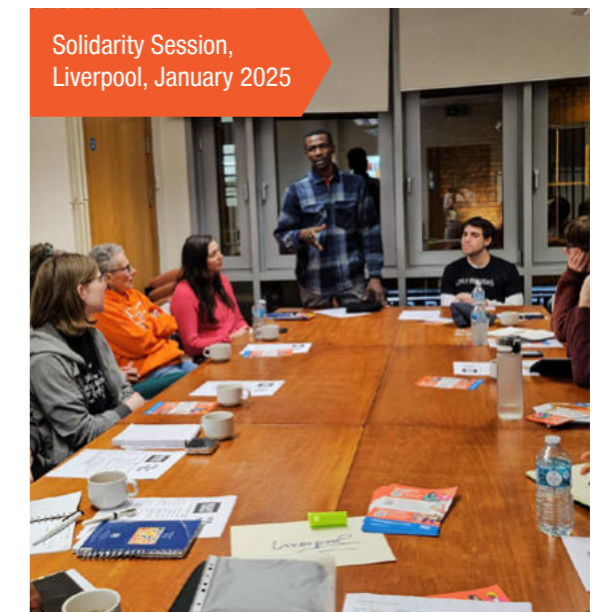
The Right to Remain Toolkit

TYPE OF WORKSHOP / TRAINING SESSION	DESCRIPTION OF THE WORKSHOP / TRAINING	OUTPUTS IN 2024/25
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER (ONLINE)	Stages of the asylum system, the difference between legal advice and legal support	We ran 4 online sessions. Each is usually attended by an average 30 participants from 20 groups.
"MINI" KNOWLEDGE IS POWER	A shortened version of Knowledge is Power workshop	We ran 2 sessions as part of the 'Stand Up Speak Out' training series, 1 session at STAR conference and 2 sessions at Migrant Homelessness Learning Symposium.
10 YEAR ROUTE AND FEE WAIVER WORKSHOP	This is a new workshop we developed and launched in 2024/25.	We ran 3 workshops, including one pilot session hosted and supported by Notre Dame Refugee Centre. The workshops were attended by 46 people from 37 groups.
E-VISA INFO SESSIONS	Based on the E-visa guide we published, we did outreach sessions focusing on small groups who were struggling to understand the E-visa transition process.	We ran 5 sessions for the following groups: English for Action, Sahir House, EUSS Alliance, NACCOM members and MIN Voice in Glasgow. A total of 115 people attended these sessions.
WORK EXPLOITATION AND MIGRANT WORKERS' RIGHTS	This workshop builds on the guide on the topic we developed earlier.	We piloted this workshop at the New Organising Conference in Nottingham, organised by Ella Baker School of Organising.
TOOLKIT PRESENTATIONS	This is a mini Toolkit workshop, designed to introduce the Toolkit, its many functions and how to use them effectively. We plan to run more sessions like this in the future.	We ran 4 sessions: 1 session for Migrants Champions Network of Migrants Democracy Project and 3 regional cohorts of the City of Sanctuary groups (Yorkshire and Humber, South and South West and North West). 78 people attended these sessions.
TOOLKIT AMBASSADORS	This is a new workshop that continues to be in development. Its objective is to empower and equip community members – those with direct experience of the asylum and immigration system – to be able to show others how to use the Toolkit.	We ran 3 pilot sessions. The first workshop was for the volunteers of Refugee and Migrant Center in Birmingham, followed by a session in one of the asylum hotels in Greater Manchester, co-delivered with These Walls Must Fall campaigners. The last one was delivered as part of a London event of the Hope and Justice Collective.

In addition to those listed in the table below we also ran the following sessions.

- We updated and ran an online workshop on our Young Asylum Guide in May 2024.
- Following the General Election in July 2024, we worked with GMIAU and other organisations in Greater Manchester to deliver an online session for MP caseworkers in November 2024. About 30 staff from 14 MPs' offices attended the session, where we explained how they can use the Toolkit to assist constituents' asylum and immigration queries.
- In February 2025, Law Centre Northern Ireland and Right to Remain hosted an online workshop on how to use the Toolkit and the difference between legal advice and legal support for individuals and organisations in Northern Ireland affected by The Immigration Practitioner's Group of solicitors in Northern Ireland going on strike from 4 February 2025, for an indefinite period. There was a huge demand for this session, and nearly 100 people attended.

- In June 2024, Right to Remain ran a specialist session on public legal education for the grantees of the Justice Together Initiative. We had an opportunity to share how our ethos of solidarity building informs our approach to public legal education work, that is designed to empower individuals and encourage collective actions (instead of individualised and atomising "service delivery model"), that is vital for the migration justice movement.



Solidarity Session, Liverpool, January 2025

FEEDBACK ON SOME OUR WORKSHOPS IN 2024/25

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER WORKSHOP:

I found the Knowledge is Power workshop really helpful. I manage a befriending scheme in a town in Scotland which has had a big emphasis on supporting people in the asylum system since an ex-hotel asylum facility opened in the town three years ago. The legal support and legal advice exercise was particularly enlightening and I was wondering if we could use some of your examples of legal advice vs legal support in training our volunteers. Many thanks again for your important work.

FEEDBACK ON SOME OUR WORKSHOPS IN 2024/25

10 YEAR ROUTE AND FEE WAIVER WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER 2024

Very informative session which covered all aspects of the 10 year route and fee waiver process. I really enjoyed the case studies to put things into perspective.

All exercises were really useful, and this workshop was facilitated to allow everyone to share thoughts and expertise.

Really interactive and well designed workshop.

I didn't know before this workshop that I could support someone to gather evidence for a fee waiver application. Also, I was very unclear and this really helped clarify what private life means.

It would be great if this workshop could be hybrid or online in the future.

I love these kinds of community empowerment spaces! Thanks Right to Remain for all the amazing work you do.

I would love a future workshop about evidence gathering on the 20 year rule.

10 Year Route Workshop, June 2024



FEEDBACK ON THE RIGHT TO REMAIN TOOLKIT

AAYAN (NOT HIS REAL NAME) GAVE US THIS FEEDBACK ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE OF USING THE TOOLKIT:

At the beginning, I had a lot of anxiety, fear of the unknown, worries that I am missing something, or that I had made a mistake during the process. Now, I'm more relaxed and secure. I feel ready for the next steps whether granted (hopefully) or refused (hopefully not). At least, I have an idea where I am heading, and that lifted a lot of my worries and anxieties. The Toolkit helped me see my goal as a series of steps, and now I feel like I know where I stand.

ANONYMOUS TOOLKIT USER:

It's the most comprehensive and user-friendly asset by miles. I never hesitate in sharing it with people who are struggling within the UK asylum machinations.

RAIS LANCASTER:

The Toolkit is there to help asylum seekers and to empower them, and it has been incredibly useful being able to translate the page to their language when we are explaining complicated legal matters to them. We use the Toolkit nearly daily at RAIS Lancaster; all of the information is in one place, neatly connected, and very clear without using overly legalistic language that is inaccessible to us and the asylum seekers we are supporting.

LEGAL UPDATES IN FOCUS

In May 2025, we sought feedback on our legal updates. 26 people with wide ranging roles answered the online survey: case workers, support workers, campaigners, ESOL teachers, representatives of faith groups and clinicians, working in organisations supporting large number of individuals (11 people work for groups serving between 100 and 600 people a year, 7 people work for groups serving more than 600 people a year.) 100% reported that they find our legal updates useful with a very high satisfaction rate (92% – 24 respondents – said they cannot think of any improvements). 38% (10) said they frequently take action based on the information they receive, while 62% (16) said that they take action sometimes, showing that the information shared is often leading to some action. Most importantly, 92% (24) said they share the information they receive with others, indicating that the legal updates audience goes beyond those who directly receive them from us and that there are secondary layers of potential users that we might not even be aware of. When asked what they like most about the legal updates, their answers consistently mentioned ‘easy to understand’, ‘clear’ and ‘timely’.

100%
FOUND LEGAL
UPDATES USEFUL

38%
FREQUENTLY TAKE
ACTION BASED ON
THE INFORMATION
THEY SEE

92%
SHARE THE
INFORMATION
WITH OTHERS

Birmingham Solidarity
Session, November 2024



Post General Election Solidarity
Session, Manchester, July 2024

Based on the monitoring information and feedback received, these activities achieved the following outcomes:

- ✓ More people understand the asylum and immigration system better, with increased knowledge of the system and confidence to take an appropriate steps for themselves;
- ✓ More people are able to provide legal support safely and with more confidence.

THE RIGHT TO REMAIN TOOLKIT

The Right to Remain Toolkit is free to use, and it's for people who want to learn more about the asylum and immigration legal process, or a particular part of the legal process, to take action to help themselves and others.



5

BUILDING RADICAL SOLIDARITY

STRATEGIC CONVENING AND ENGAGEMENT WORK

We design and deliver strategic convenings on the critical themes impacting our communities to strengthen our connections with each other and across social justice spheres. Radical solidarity forged in those spaces can produce coordinated collective responses to the challenges of the asylum and migration system.

We view these convenings that bring in new people, new groups and new voices into the movement as a way to mainstream the migration justice movement and create a society that offers more protection and care for people who are affected by the asylum and immigration system. It also allows us to understand the challenges our communities are facing and how they are responding to them, enabling us to adjust and refine our work constantly to ensure we are meeting their needs.



Solidarity Party, London, November 2024

Bournemouth Solidarity Session, August 2024



RADICAL SOLIDARITY HUB

Launched in 2023/4, our quarterly Radical Solidarity Hub online meetings for Toolkit users and our allies has gone from strength to strength. We hosted 3 Hub meetings on the topics ranging from e-Visas to enforcement, attended by 190 people from 178 groups. These meetings are our response to the overwhelming feedback we receive from our convenings: that the participants want to regularly receive the latest updates on the asylum and immigration system and they value the energy and solidarity they get from sharing experiences, especially when our operating environment is hostile and exhausting. We use the meetings to update the participants on what Right to Remain is working on and give a platform to small groups and thematic experts to encourage co-learning and foster solidarity.

FEEDBACK ON RADICAL SOLIDARITY HUB

Really interesting meeting thank you! Especially as I'd missed some of the updates (even though I get the Right to Remain newsletter). They are so incredibly useful and valuable.

August 2024

PLACE-BASED SOLIDARITY SESSIONS

In addition to regular Solidarity Sessions we host with These Walls Must Fall in Manchester and Liverpool, we ran Solidarity Sessions in Bristol (June 2024), in Bournemouth (August 2024) and at Napier Barracks (October 2024). They were always held in collaboration with local groups, covering legal education and solidarity building, with an intention of bringing local groups and individuals together. While we received many requests to run Solidarity Sessions outside Manchester and Liverpool, we chose these locations in order for us to gain a better understanding of our terrain. Bristol is known for a tightly-knit network of local groups and we wanted to know what we can add to an area that's already well connected. We went to Bournemouth to understand the experiences of new community support groups that emerged in response to a hostile local reception to the infamous Bibby Barge asylum ship accommodation. In Napier, we were able to directly engage with people who were stuck in a new 'camp' type accommodation used by the Home Office. We were humbled by the determination of the barrack residents who were so eager and hungry for knowledge, and were keen to help each other to navigate the complex asylum system.

THEMATIC SOLIDARITY SESSIONS

There were three big, destabilising, events in 2024/25: the Rwanda asylum plan, the General Election in July 2024 and the race riots of summer 2024. We responded to each through our strategic convening events (for our response to the Rwanda plan and the race riots, please see the next section, Building Power). Just five days after the General Election, we held an online session on 9 July for a collective analysis of the election results and a discussion about what to expect, so that we could calmly face the new reality.

SOLIDARITY SESSIONS ON DETENTION AND ENFORCEMENT

The terrifying Rwanda plan revealed our communities' general lack of knowledge, confusion and helplessness in the face of detention and deportation. This was despite the availability of some Toolkit resources on these topics: it was clear direct engagement that brings these resources alive was needed. Right to Remain decided to direct our attention

to preparing our communities for these immigration enforcement measures to mitigate their harm and violence, with a focus on engaging directly with groups and people. We developed a workshop that combines public legal education and community-level planning activities on detention and deportation and piloted it in Birmingham and Nottingham in November, with a focus on lived experience of these enforcement measures. We also updated relevant Toolkit pages, to incorporate into our workshops. The feedback received showed that there is a real lack of knowledge, particularly about the reality of immigration detention. In January 2025, we followed this up with a modified version of the Solidarity Session co-delivered with These Walls Must Fall, co-organised with SYMAAG and Migration Research Group at Sheffield University. The session itself was successful but it also forged much closer ties with Sheffield-based groups, leading to further collaboration and exchanges of knowledge into 2025/26. It also connected groups working in Sheffield with those in Derby, Manchester and Liverpool, forging new links and relationships vital for organising collective response.



FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION FROM THE BIRMINGHAM SOLIDARITY SESSION IN NOV 2025

The session was attended by 28 people from 17 groups, and of those 25 people completed our monitoring forms. The answers shows that 24 out of 25 people increased their knowledge of the system and 23 out of 25 said that they are more willing and energised to act to prevent the harm of detention, based on what they learned during the session. Other feedback include the following:

Good info, refreshing speakers, clearly presented. Toolkit is an amazing resource.

Chance to meet others and be reminded we are not alone. Reflecting on how to prepare before (detention) and the importance of being willing / able to talk about difficult subject not hide.

Almost everything was new info for me so it was really valuable learning – delivered clearly.

Very interesting. I liked the mix of legal info and input on campaigning.

Based on the monitoring information and feedback received, these activities achieved the following outcomes:

- ✓ More people are more willing and energised to support themselves and others to navigate the asylum and immigration system
- ✓ A wider variety of individuals and groups in more geographical area are working together for the migration justice movement
- ✓ More individuals and groups communicate with each other to protect our communities from the harm of the asylum and immigration system



National Demonstration to Shut Down Derwentside (Hassockfield) Detention Centre, County Durham, October 2024. Photo credit: Simone J. Rudolphi

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6

BUILDING POWER

THESE WALLS MUST FALL CAMPAIGNING AND ORGANISING

In 2024/25, These Walls Must Fall continued to work with, organise and build the power of people with lived experience of the asylum and immigration system to raise their voices and campaign together.

These Walls Must Fall are currently based in Manchester and Liverpool, led by our Organiser. While many of the activities were locally-run, as These Walls Must Fall has increasingly started co-delivering solidarity sessions and other workshops with the rest of the Right to Remain team across the UK, the geographical reach and influence of These Walls Must Fall have also expanded, as described below.

At the organisational level, we made huge progress in bringing closer together our public legal education work with our campaigning and organising work, as we have been seeking to through our new Theory of Change and Strategy. We are far more confident in saying that These Walls Must Fall and their campaigning goals shape the work that Right to Remain does, and our work as an organisation is responding meaningfully to what is happening on the ground to our communities.

Due to precarious and often very challenging life circumstances, the number of active

These Walls Must Fall lived-experience campaigners fluctuated throughout the year, between 20 and 30 people. Through regular in-person and online check-ins and joint actions, the campaigners acted as a mutual source of support and solidarity to each other as they navigated the Hostile Environment. It is a testament to their collective leadership and skills for caring for each other that the group remained strong, despite an incredibly harrowing year. They remained active in partnering with others in challenging injustices, including partnering with GMIAU to organise a protest against increased visa fee hikes which have a disproportionate negative impact on working-class migrants and families

It is a testament to their collective leadership and skills for caring for each other that the group remained strong, despite an incredibly harrowing year.

(6 September 2024, attended by approximately 150 people) and a vigil on International Migrants Day (18 December 2024) held in Manchester city centre in collaboration with Manchester No Borders. About 50 people gathered in memory of those who lost their lives to the hostile border regimes and in solidarity with everyone facing injustice.

These Walls Must Fall deepened and expanded their relationships with allies, including local groups and activists. For example, they collaborated on Abolish Reporting and other local grassroots campaigns, with Manchester No Borders, RAS Voice, RAPAR, WAST (Women Asylum Seekers Together), RAS Voice, Caritas, the Migrant Destitution Fund, Social Workers Without Borders, MRSN (Manchester Refugee Support Network), and Safety for Sisters and

African Rainbow. These Walls Must Fall were often in demand as speakers and panelists at local meetings and events, shaping local discussions about protection for people seeking asylum and migrants. This popularity reflects the growing presence, influence and credibility These Walls Must Fall now yields in their local areas, which is one of the intended outcomes of These Walls Must Fall.

After the General Election, These Walls Must Fall also collaborated with key Manchester-based groups (GMIAU, Asylum Matters and Boaz Trust) to advocate for an inclusive Greater Manchester, on the back of the Greater Manchester Expectations document produced by GMIAU. So far, the groups have effectively coordinated meetings with 21 out of 27 MPs in the Greater Manchester area (as of October



2025), with These Walls Must Fall bringing lived experiences of people seeking asylum and migrating to the table, improving politicians' understanding of the real impact of the Hostile Environment and anti-migrant rhetoric. While this builds on These Walls Must Fall's work influencing and intervening in asylum and migration discussions at the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (via the Step Change Consortium), direct lobbying of MPs has been a new area of work for These Walls Must Fall and is one of the key highlights of 2024/25.

These relationships and allyships are based on trust, gained through the practice of joint working. We are very grateful to these organisations and activists, as well as the campaigners whose grace and strength act as glue that holds together this solidarity structure.

In 2024/25, These Walls Must Fall co-delivered more workshops and events with the rest of

the Right to Remain team, increasing their opportunities for engagement with a greater number and types of groups across the UK. They include two online Rwanda webinars at the time of Operation Vector (1 and 24 May 2024), Immigration Raids Community Discussion (27 February 2025) and Toolkit Workshop for the groups in Northern Ireland (28 February 2025). In-person events included a Bristol Solidarity Session (6 June 2024), Derwentside/Hassockfield detention demo (19 October 2025) and Sheffield Solidarity Session (8 February 2025). In these spaces, These Walls Must Fall campaigners were in the lead, reversing the conventional power hierarchy in which they are treated as 'clients' and 'users'. This often had a profound impact on groups unaccustomed to our 'solidarity' (rather than 'charity') model, sometimes galvanising them to take lived experiences more seriously.

There are two stand-out These Walls Must Fall

highlights in 2024/25. One is the response to the Rwanda plan during the months of May and June 2024, including a large spontaneous solidarity demo and march in Manchester city centre and a number of locally-focused Solidarity Sessions to address the impact of the Rwanda plan. Another is the leading role These Walls Must Fall took in the national demonstration to shut down Derwentside (Hassockfield) detention centre (October 2024).

Both illustrate the outcomes we are seeking through These Walls Must Fall: our community's increased awareness of the need

to take solidarity action and build capacity to challenge the system. They also show another intended outcome, that our community's increased ability to exercise their agency through campaigning activities. They show how Right to Remain's Theory of Change effectively and holistically leverages our public legal education, strategic convening and campaigning/organising, building knowledge, radical solidarity and power in a holistic way in an increasingly harsh and unpredictable environment.

RIGHT TO REMAIN'S RESPONSE TO 'OPERATION VECTOR' AND THE NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION TO SHUT DOWN DERWENTSIDE (HASSOCKFIELD) DETENTION CENTRE

When the Rwanda Act and Treaty passed on 25 April 2024, just four days later the Home Office began 'Operation Vector' to round up people for the first flight to Rwanda. In response to the resulting deeply-felt crisis and widespread panic in our communities, Right to Remain redirected our efforts to provide targeted and holistic support by sharing urgent legal information, convening emergency solidarity spaces, and equipping grassroots groups with up-to-date tools and guidance to protect those most at risk.

We quickly published and updated the following legal education material: What we know so far about the Rwanda Act and Treaty, Immigration raids: your rights and what to do, Immigration bail reporting: the basics and The Illegal Migration Act: latest updates. They were widely circulated across the sector and beyond the usual suspects: many individual activists and members of the grassroots groups.

We hosted Rwanda briefing webinars on 1 and 24 May with 750 people signing up. On 3 May, we held a 'Rwanda check-in' session for members of our community who were supporting people on the frontline, for a moment of reflection and planning for next steps. They were co-delivered with These Walls Must Fall campaigners who shared their experiences and insight into reporting and detention: the participants' feedback overwhelmingly pointed out the impact of these real voices and how they opened their eyes to the reality of the hostile environment and galvanised them into more solidarity actions.



On 3 May, These Walls Must Fall called for and organised a solidarity vigil, 'Not Rwanda, Not Anywhere!' in Manchester city centre to oppose the Rwanda plan. Despite a very short notice, several hundred people gathered in solidarity, and spontaneously and peacefully marched to the Immigration Tribunal in a powerful display of strength. There, the marchers heard speeches by people with lived experience of the asylum and migration system and sang and danced demanding freedom and dignity, asserting their belonging to Manchester. This was a much needed tonic for our community, frightened and scared about their fate.

We followed this with an online Solidarity Session with These Walls Must Fall for those based in Manchester and Liverpool. This was attended by around 50 people including campaigners, members of newly formed support and anti-raids groups, healthcare practitioners, and others. The session provided urgently needed legal education on reporting and detention equipping communities with knowledge to protect themselves and each other.

On 22 May, we hosted a responsive Solidarity Session specifically for people and groups across the UK who had quickly organised to support people who were reporting at the immigration reporting centres during this time, creating a peer-led learning space to share their experiences and knowledge. Much of the material came from These Walls Must Fall's experience of reporting and supporting others who are reporting.

On 18 June, we also conducted an outreach session at Open Door North East in Middlesbrough to disseminate our learning from this reporting support practice across the country. We followed this with another online session on 24 June, for groups and individuals who mobilised to support people who were reporting, facing a prospect of detention for the Rwanda flight. These interventions grounded many groups, who struggled during these highly stressful and worrying months.

I found the Toolkit and support from Right to Remain so helpful during an incredibly stressful situation – thanks so much for being a group that we could bounce ideas off from and share thoughts/concerns with and for sharing and updating the information as quickly as possible. Good to hear the experiences of others too!

Feedback from the 24 June online session

Even though the Rwanda Act, Treaty, and general plan became effectively defunct (no longer functioning), many of the people who were detained under Rwanda powers remained in detention, despite the fact that their removal was not going to happen. This was illegal – which led us to start #FreeTheRwandaDetainees campaign.



The 2024 summer of race riots shattered our community and These Walls Must Fall campaigners' spirit. Right to Remain hosted another online 'Solidarity Session: Organising Amidst Racist Violence' for our campaigners and allies in Manchester and Liverpool. The workshop brought together impacted communities to build collective safety strategies. While preparing for the workshop, our allies individually helped each of These Walls Must Fall campaigners, restoring their sense of belonging.

We understood this mass mobilisation of communities to protect asylum seekers to be the movement moment. We co-produced the annual demonstration against the Derwentside/Hassockfield Detention Centre in October, with the No To Hassockfield Campaign in Newcastle. After much preparation, including an online rally (2 October) led by people with lived-experience of detention from four other groups, These Walls Must Fall led a successful demo on 19 October. Unlike many of the demos, in true These Walls Must Fall style, the vast majority of speakers were live-experience campaigners, creating a uniquely moving occasion that celebrated their power and courage.

We have continued to maintain support relationships with a number of groups involved during Operation Victor and the Derwentside/Hassockfield demo and used our collective experience to shape reporting, detention and deportation workshops in Birmingham (November 2024), Nottingham (November 2024), Sheffield (January 2025, in collaboration with SYMAAG) and Newcastle (May 2025 – in collaboration with No To Hassockfield Campaign and Refugee Futures Stockton); the last two were co-delivered with These Walls Must Fall campaigners.



National Demonstration to Shut Down Derwentside (Hassockfield) Detention Centre, County Durham, October 2024. Photo credit: Simone J. Rudolphi

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ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE

Right to Remain Toolkit leaflets have been distributed to many groups across the UK

Our total income for 2024/25 was £327,809, 16% decrease from the 2023/24 income of £392,019. We rely largely on grants from charitable foundations, which made up 86% of our income in 2024/25. Our two largest, multi-year grants supporting the work of These Walls Must Fall came to an end. We continue to seek dedicated funding to support the full cost of our campaigning and organising work. We are grateful for the support from charitable foundations as well as the generosity of many individuals who make one-off and monthly donations to support our work.

Our total expenditure for 2024/25 was £378,054, almost exactly the same as the 2023/24 expenditure of £376,992. Since 2022/23, we have increased our expenditure significantly by nearly a third (the 2022/23 expenditure was £283,744). As a result, our outputs and outcomes across the board increased correspondingly in 2023/24 and 2024/25. We hope to secure more funds to maintain and build on this growth.

80% of all our spending in 2024/25 was for staff costs, compared to 84% in 2023/24. Most of these costs are supported by grants from charitable foundations. Our expenditure on some items increased significantly from the previous year's. Facilitated staff team



exercises increased the staff training and development costs. We also spent more on rent for more desk spaces and invested in some new equipment for the office and a new staff member. Increased campaigning and engagement activities also pushed up our project costs. However, we spent much less on governance costs, as we did not have an organisational away day in 2024/25.

To continue to implement our new strategy, we aim to attract and spend increasing funds year on year to create new posts for the organisation, to strengthen our ability to sustain ourselves and to increase our impact. Many charities however struggle in a very competitive fundraising environment and are confronted by increasing costs in all areas of operation. As a small, overstretched charity, Right to Remain still lacks dedicated fundraisers or communications/marketing personnel but must continually seek to attract grants and donations. Securing resources is a challenge. In recent years many large foundations have suspended their programmes while they review their strategies, leaving many charities under ongoing uncertainty.

To maintain some stability under these difficult and unpredictable circumstances and also continue to develop the organisation, Right to Remain's policy is to try to secure a free reserves (unrestricted funds) level of at least six-months' operating costs of the following year's budget. Accordingly, at the end of 2024/25, we aimed to secure around £250,000 of free reserves.

We ended the year with a balance of £333,357. This is made up of £98,198 of restricted funds and £235,159 of unrestricted funds (our free reserves), which was just below our target of £250,000.

Our fundraising priority is to maintain support from the current funders and

cultivate relationships with new funders. Right to Remain's work and Theory of Change is unique, so it can be challenging to communicate. We are focusing on monitoring and evaluating our work so as to be better able to demonstrate our approach and impact.

We also continue to take steps towards adapting a full-cost recovery principle in every aspect of our planning, budgeting and fundraising, to address our chronic shortage of funding for organisational infrastructure.

Our staff team size at the start of 2024/25 was 6 and we ended the year with 5.4. The staff team was made up of Director (FT), These Walls Must Fall Organiser (FT), Senior Legal Education Officer (FT, going down to 0.8 FTE), Legal Education Officer (FT) and Engagement Officer (FT). Other staff during the year also include the Coordinator (full time) who left the organisation in December 2024 and the Finance and Operation Manager (.6 FTE) joined in March 2025. Throughout the year, we were also supported by a series of part-time, paid interns who provided administrative and social media support. The departure of our Coordinator in December 2024 and three staff members taking extended leave during the year created additional challenges for staff.

Right to Remain team members at the Sheffield Solidarity session, February 2025



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SOLIDARITY

We would like to thank everyone who has worked with Right to Remain in 2024/25.

Everyone who came to our workshops, Solidarity Sessions, vigils, demos, Radical Solidarity Hub and other events, used our Toolkit, shared our social media posts, wore our No One Is Illegal T-shirts – everyone one of you helped us reach closer to our goal of creating a world where everyone has the right to remain where they need to be.

We are grateful to the funders who believe in our vision and have supported our work, including A B Charitable Trust, Blue Thread, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Legal Education Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Society of Holy Child Jesus and Treebeard Trust.

In particular, we appreciate individual donors, who make regular and one-off donations to us.

Last but not least, thank you to our community of migrants, refugees, people seeking asylum and everyone else who stands in radical solidarity with us and has joined our journey to create a world where no one is illegal. You gift us with courage, and are the reason we fight on.

In solidarity, always.
From Right to Remain



Toolkit Ambassadors Workshop, Birmingham, November 2024



National Demonstration to Shut Down Derwentside (Hassockfield) Detention Centre, County Durham, October 2024. Photo credit: Simone J. Rudolphi



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