



Annual Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity number 1028632

Company number 2869470

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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1. Introduction

Riverside Community Health Project Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Directors' Report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

2. Chairperson's Welcome

April 2024 to March 2025 has been another busy year for Riverside Community Health Project as our team have worked hard to offer a varied programme of activities that engages the local community and meets the needs of the people we support. As trustees we express our thanks to the staff and volunteers of Riverside for their hard work and dedication.

The activities offered by Riverside at the Carnegie hub have engaged and benefited lots of people in the inner west of Newcastle throughout the year. Family groups and sessions have been well attended throughout term time. Holiday activities have included local festivals, family trips and a savings club to help families save up for special days out together. Our busy programme of training activities and employability support has continued with positive feedback from participants. People in our community face an increasing range of challenges, including rising food prices, housing, youth services, rubbish in the area and anti-social behaviour.

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The Carnegie Building remains a busy, vibrant hub for Riverside work and a host of partner organisations who lease space in the building. This year, with the support of Carnegie Building Directors, we have explored options to improve the long-term sustainability and strength of the building. Newcastle City Council which owns the building, commissioned a building condition survey in January 2025. This information will support us with planning for building improvements and maintenance.

In March 2025, our Chief Executive of three years, Kate Mukungu left Riverside, and we welcomed a new Chief Executive, Lou Horsefield. We would like to thank Kate for all her hard work and dedication during her time with Riverside, particularly on developing our new strategic plan, and on Riverside's future sustainability, including securing funding and work to help us understand the condition of Carnegie building and improvements needed. I have no doubt that Lou will build upon this success as we continue to explore new ways to support and help the people who rely on us.

Reflecting on the last year, I am proud of the impact that Riverside has had on the local community, we have continued to demonstrate our strength in understanding and responding to local needs. A huge thank you to the Riverside team and volunteers who have helped make everything we've done possible.

With best wishes

AJ White

Chair of the Board of Trustees

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3. Riverside's Mission, Values and Strategic Objectives

The objects of the charity are set out in the Charity's trust deed and are summarised as: to preserve and protect the health of persons in Newcastle particularly by advancing the education of the public in the promotion of health awareness, health related issues, and health problems.

3.1 Mission Statement

Riverside's vision is for West Newcastle to be "a healthy and thriving community". We work towards our vision through our mission which is: "to improve the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged communities in West Newcastle by working to community development principles and collaborating with others to respond to need."

3.2 Strategic Objectives 2023 to 2028

To help us deliver our mission, we set out six strategic objectives:

1. To support families to enable their children to have the best possible start in life
2. To assist adults to counter disadvantages they and their families experience
3. To facilitate women coming together to explore and influence factors affecting their lives
4. To maintain Carnegie Building's role as an accessible community hub for local residents and organisations
5. To work with local residents to achieve positive change through community action
6. To support community members to combat isolation, as well as improving wellbeing and community cohesion

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3.3 Social Business Objectives 2023 to 2028

Our strategic objectives are underpinned by six social business objectives to work towards so that Riverside is successful long-term.

1. To ensure Riverside works in response to the identified needs, assets and perspectives of the local community
2. To be strategically placed to champion health needs of residents, particularly families with children, women and people from migrant communities
3. To support and maintain a staff team with the skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to achieve our strategic objectives
4. To develop a Board of Trustees with the skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to provide robust organisational governance and leadership
5. To achieve a long-term, sustainable mix of public and charitable donations and earned income
6. To improve the financial and environmental sustainability of Carnegie Building

3.4 Our Values

- **Empowerment:** We commit to working in ways that increase the power people in local communities have over their own lives and in their wider environment.
- **Equality:** We commit to work that contributes to eradicating inequalities, through valuing the diversity of our community and practicing equity. Equity recognises that people experiencing inequalities need to be treated according to circumstances to be able to achieve equality.
- **Participation:** We commit to working with people in communities in ways that encourage their maximum participation in the decisions and actions that affect them.

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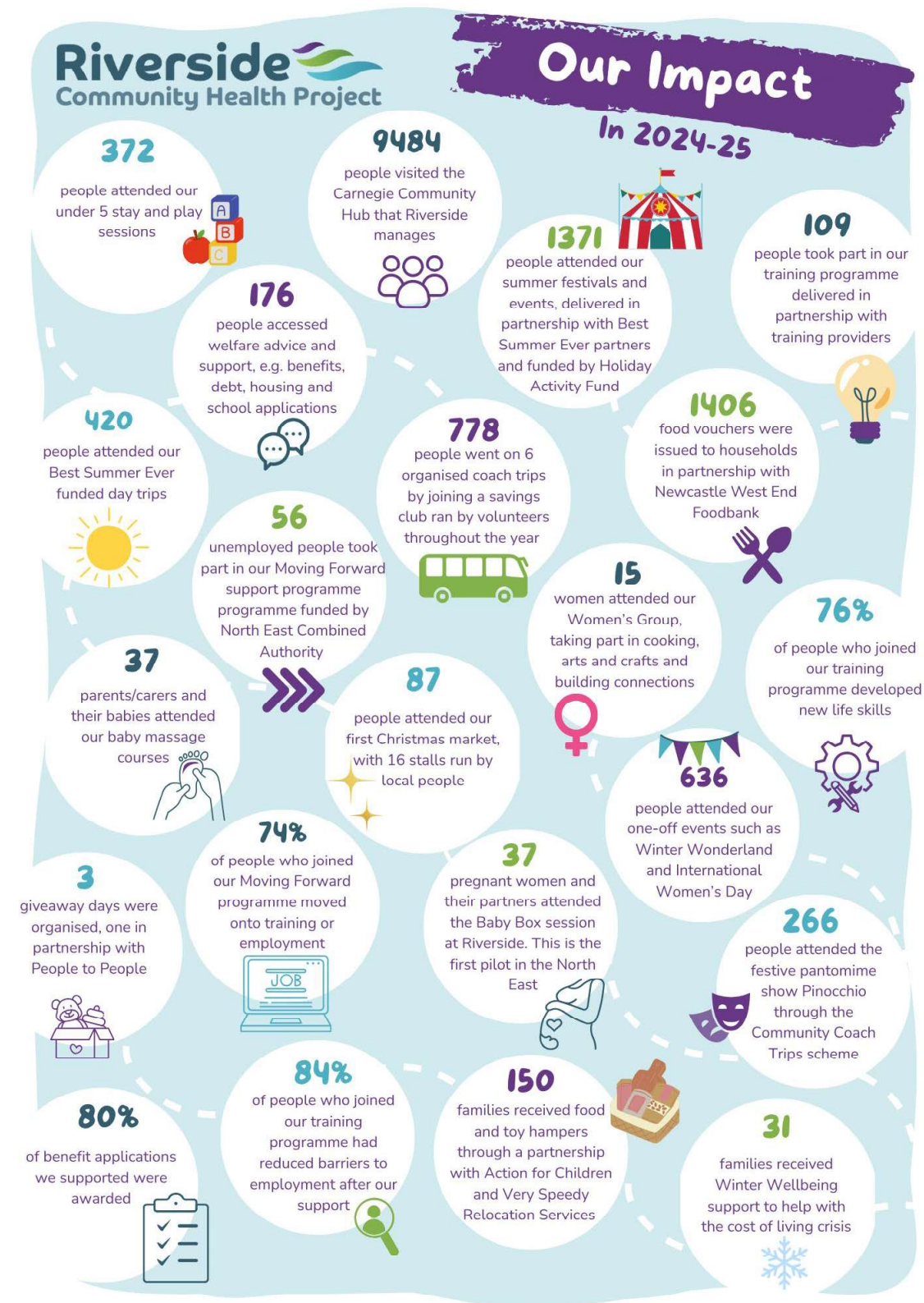
- **Partnership:** We commit to collaborating in the spirit of partnership with groups and individuals whose values align with ours, for the benefit of local communities.
- **Social Justice:** We understand social justice as being the fair and equitable status of all individuals and groups in society. Our commitment to empowerment, equality, participation and partnership are how we strive to contribute to social justice.

4. Ensuring Our Work Delivers Our Aims

4.1 Our Programme of Activities

During the year we have delivered a programme of activities aligned to Riverside's strategic objectives. The picture on the next page gives a snapshot of activities organised by Riverside throughout the 2024-25 year and peoples' engagement with them. In the remaining sub-sections, we provide a more detailed account from each of the programme areas at Riverside.

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4.2 Children and Family Support

Riverside facilitates several parent/carer and child sessions, from birth until the child starts nursery, which we strongly believe help lay the foundations for children to get the best possible start in life. During the year, 372 people accessed our children and family support activities. An overview of the activities we delivered is provided below. All of our activities are designed to strengthen parent and child relationships at this critical stage of a child's life.

Baby Massage

Baby Massage is aimed at families with children aged under 12 months. This group helps to promote parent-baby bonding, promotes positive communication, eases constipation and colic symptoms and helps improve parents understanding of their child. Baby Massage is a 5-week course and parents are provided with a certificate upon completion. We delivered Baby Massage courses to 37 families throughout the year.

"I have really enjoyed coming to this baby class. I have noticed that my child is always so relaxed after this session, and it's been lovely having one to one time with my baby."

Baby Social

Baby Social is for parents and babies from birth up to 12 months. Parents are supported to explore new ways to play with their child, strengthen their knowledge of how positive interaction supports their babies brain development, focus on parent/child relationships and helps parents build social friendships with other families. It is an open space for parents and carers to come and interact with their babies and practitioners. Baby social runs alongside the well-baby and family drop-in clinic which supports parents further to access the right services for their child.

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“She loves forwards and backwards, we sing it all of the time at home. The song time in baby social is her favourite part. We both like to come here to see other babies and socialise”



Boogie Bairns

Boogie Bairns is a sensory play session for families with children under 2 years old. Parents, carers and children are encouraged to learn and sing songs, use musical instruments and puppets to express themselves and build on positive relationships with each other. Boogie bairns helps to support early communication and language skills and enhances children's social skills. Boogie bairns can also make a positive impact on the development of children's motor skills due to the types of puppets we use and musical instruments that are available.

“My baby loves the lights in boogie bairns. It's like he is mesmerized by all the different colours and lights in here. At home we use a projector at night, and he likes to watch that too. He seems very content here”

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Breakfast Stay and Play

Breakfast Stay and Play is aimed at families with children aged between 6 months and 4 years. A nutritious breakfast is offered to parents/carers and the children, encouraging the children to eat at the breakfast table, in preparation for nursery. The indoor and outdoor area will be set up specifically to promote children's social, communication and language and physical development.

"We have really enjoyed coming to Breakfast Stay and Play. It has helped me gain so much confidence with weaning, as well as providing me with the opportunity to meet other parents/carers."



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Toddle Time

This session is aimed at Children aged 12months to 3 years. Each week there will be a range of activities including a sensory area, small-world play, physical play and arts and crafts. The children will be provided with the opportunity to play both indoors and outdoors. The session is concluded with a nutritious snack and singing.

“We have enjoyed coming to this group as the staff are really welcoming and friendly. The groups have provided my child with the opportunity to make new friends and learn key skills such as sharing.”



Well Baby and Family Drop in

Riverside Community Health Project supports the Well-Baby and Family Drop-In that runs weekly at Carnegie Building. This drop-in was set up in partnership with Health Visitors following feedback from new parents at the baby clinic. Parents felt it would be easier if they could access different services under one roof. The drop-in now has at least twelve different services attending from Parent Support, Family Health, Breastfeeding Support, Mental Health, Welfare Rights, Housing Support, Early Help Support, School Admissions and Education and so on. The idea is to ensure that whatever support parents need after

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having a new baby can be accessed through the drop-in. This drop-in runs alongside Riverside's My Baby and Me group. Throughout the year, 347 people visited our Well Baby and Family drop-in sessions.

School Holiday Activity Programme

59% of children in the area Riverside works are living in poverty, and the school holidays can mean increased costs for low-income families, finding extra money for meals, activities and childcare. To support families, we regularly organise school holiday activities so families can enjoy fun experiences together. We work with lots of other community organisations under the goal of providing the Best Holiday Ever. The Family Festivals we organised at Hodgkin Park during the summer holidays were a great success. We provided over 800 packed lunches during our Family Festivals and Family Trips to contribute to combating holiday hunger. 1371 people accessed our holiday activities and our Best Summer Ever programme for 2024 was nominated by the people in the local community as an Outstanding Holiday Activities Project in the StreetGames Sport for Development Awards 2024.



Early Help

Riverside Community Health Project is a delivery partner in the Inner West of Newcastle for the Community Family Offer through Children and Families Newcastle. We work

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collaboratively with other charities, Newcastle City Council and other organisations as part of a network that supports families. When family members talk to us about needing support, we have conversations with them to help work out how to get support as early as possible and who else needs to be involved. We also receive enquiries about supporting families through Children and Families Newcastle.

4.3 Training and Employability Support

Training

We know from census data that there is a higher percentage of economically inactive people living in the Benwell & Scotswood and Elswick wards than rest of UK (44.18% of those aged 16-64). There is also a diverse range of communities who face social isolation, experience barriers such as language differences, social isolation.

Riverside organises a comprehensive training programme that is delivered by a range of training organisations. We engage with the community to find out what courses they want, find trainers to deliver them and host this training in our centre, Carnegie Building. We also recruit and help register people on to the courses. Our training programme is not only focused on employability, but also on wellbeing, by giving people space to come together to do something they enjoy and learn new skills. We respond to this interest in the courses we put together. We organised a new providing learner with the skills and knowledge needs to work within the maternity profession including on maternity wards, delivery suites and in the community with midwives and health visitors. It was so popular that we have more another course planned to start in September 2025. During the year, 109 people attended our training courses, engaging with us 751 times which is an average of 6.8 attendances per person. As a result of the training and support programme that we

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delivered during the year, 76% of attendees felt they were supported to develop new life skills, and 84% stated they had reduced barriers to employment.

Moving Forward Project

The Moving Forward project was delivered by Riverside Community Health Project, funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund Via North East Combined Authority in the Inner West of Newcastle. Riverside offered tailored one-to-one support to economically inactive participants which aimed to engage them in support to develop skills, confidence and remove barriers to employment. Individuals engaged with key workers to identify goals, explore ways to achieve them, and reduce any barriers which they may have faced to engaging in job searching and entering employment.

To support participants to engage in the project, Riverside arranged one-to-one meetings, offering creche to parents with no access to childcare, planned a training programme to offer a range of employability courses, accredited training, and wellbeing activities, which was delivered in collaboration with partner organisations. We also gave participants the opportunity to meet at various activities to offer peer support and advice. We held various events throughout the project to help sustain engagement on the project which were popular amongst the participants. Over the course of the project, we supported 56 participants in total, with 52% enrolled onto training courses and 22% of participants employed by the time the project ended.

Learner Case Study:

Learner M first started coming to Riverside in 2022 to attend the toddler groups with her child. After building relationship with the staff in the centre M embarked on a new learning journey and enrolled for the WEA Maternity Support Worker Level 1 course. After

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completing the Level 1 course she went onto successfully complete the level 2 course in July 2024. During the summer 2024 M applied for the role of a Maternity Support Worker within a local hospital and was successful in gaining the role. M has been working in the hospital for the past 9 months supporting Midwives during labour, delivery and post-natal care.

Comment from M *"If it wasn't for Riverside offering this amazing course, providing support and childcare I wouldn't have a career in which i only thought was a dream!"*

4.4 Welfare Advice, Information and Support

We have provided welfare advice to 176 people during the year. Monitoring information shows the positive impact this support has when it comes to accessing benefits. When benefit applications have been unsuccessful first-time round, we support re-applications. These often lead to a successful outcome, which demonstrates the preventable delays that people often experience. This financial year we also offered a more tailored service by supporting people to complete Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance applications with 80% of applications being awarded.

We are increasingly concerned by the challenges people are facing when it comes to accessing secure housing and how housing problems and benefit delays can exacerbate each other. In addition to welfare advice, we support people to deal with other aspects of life administration, such as registering with a GP, applying for school places, council tax reductions etc. Evaluation of the service shows that people are extremely satisfied with the support they received.

In addition to providing welfare advice, we provided some households we support with essentials such as soap powder and softener, toiletries, baby supplies and shopping vouchers. As mentioned in last year's report, we don't see this type of support as a

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sustainable part what we do. However, we intermittently respond to the financial hardship caused by the ongoing effects of austerity, poverty and the so-called cost-of-living crisis.

4.5 Activities for Women

We strive to support women to come together to identify the issues they are facing and support each other. This year we facilitated a weekly women's group and an International Women's Day event.

Women's Group

The purpose of the weekly women's group is to provide a safe and welcoming space for women to come together, including women referred through the Waiting Well, Preparing Well programme. Women have tried their hands at a range of activities such as embroidery, canvas painting, mindfulness, journaling, seasonal decorations, making jewellery from recycled parts and cooking healthy meals respecting their culture and religion. We also had support from partner organisations to provide advice and information on nutrition, personal safety and employability.



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“I enjoy trying and making new things that I have not done before. And we get to take them home which is nice”.

“I like to spend time with other women who come to the group and have made new friends here”.

International Women’s Day

On Friday 7th March we invited 70 women from the local community to celebrate International Women’s Day. We organised activities on the theme For ALL women and girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment. This included cake decorating, cooking demonstrations self-care, rosette making and dance. We also provided all women with a free personalised book to take home, and a tasty Asian lunch provided by a local caterer. We reflected on the history of International Women’s Day, the importance of women voting and discussed women's ongoing struggles against inequality.

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FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2025

International Women's Day

#FOR ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS:RIGHTS.
EQUALITY. EMPOWERMENT.

Riverside
Community Health Project



4.6 Community Action Projects

In the last year Riverside has continued to work side by side with people in the community that want to help themselves and others. Events such as the Christmas Market at Carnegie Building, which showcased local crafters, are the result of such community action.

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The Community Coach Trips Savings Club is growing each year since starting in 2022. During 2024 there were six trips planned. Two during the Easter Holidays, two during the summer, one at Halloween and one in December. During the Summer holidays three fifty-seven-seater coaches were filled with families on a day trip to Blackpool Zoo in July and another three coaches went to Blackpool Pleasure Beach in August. Community trips are happening during the long summer holiday alongside seasonal trips at Easter to local Farms and Zoo and a festive pantomime trip in December. This year 266 people went to see pantomime performance of The Little Mermaid at the Theatre Royal with even more signed up for the pantomime in 2025. For the first time ever, we planned a trip during December to a local Railway station for their Illuminated Santa Train. 175 people went to see a theatre performance on the train with guest appearances from Santa's little helpers, Mrs Claus and Farther Christmas. These trips were asked for by the community and without them most families wouldn't be able to afford the cost or travel the venues due to a multitude of barriers. The coach trips break down these barriers by allowing families to spread the costs throughout the year, getting discounted price for group booking and transport provided along with support from staff and volunteers. Families and friends get to make memories together at different venues including theme parks, Farms, Zoo's and more.



Give Away Days have been organised at The Carnegie Building by local activist group People 2 People and Riverside. Lots of pre-loved clothing, baby items, toys and household

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goods were brought in by people in the community to be distributed to people in the community. These events have had a huge take up and we are receiving enquiries about when they would run again.



Community Action on Need

Riverside submitted a successful application to the National Lottery Community Fund for a Community Action on Need (CAN) project, which will run for three years from April 2025. This project will see Riverside bring local people together to tackle the important issues in their local community. This project builds on Riverside's strong history of being community-driven, ensuring local voices shape its work.

4.7 Your Health matters Pilot

Your Health Matters is a joint pilot set up with both Riverside and the West Road Medical Practice based in the West end of Newcastle in November 2025 – October 2025. The pilot is aimed at people from the Czech | Slovakian | Romanian communities

The main purpose of the pilot is to encourage screening and immunisation uptake in these groups. As part of the pilot, we are also delivering the following services.

- Information about cancer screening programmes
- Information about immunisations

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- Help to understand what your GP practice can offer
- Benefits advice
- Housing support
- Employability support
- One-to-One Support

We are also providing language support for clients from the Czech | Slovakian | Romanian communities as part of the pilot.

4.8 Managing Carnegie Building

Carnegie Building is a busy community hub, with 9484 people visiting the building during the year. The building is home to several voluntary and community sector organisations and teams alongside Riverside:

- JET - jobs, education, and training for people from diverse BAME communities
- Involve NorthEast – health focused involvement and participation organisation
- Search Newcastle – support for older people
- Side-step - a young peoples' project by Action for Children children's charity
- Success 4 All - homework clubs for children, supported by volunteers

The building is also a space where practitioners from a wide range community, voluntary and statutory organisations come to support people. These partners range from Men's Pie Club to NHS colleagues supporting expectant families with a Baby Box. We also make sure Carnegie Building is available for hire by the local community for children's parties and family events. This network of practitioners and co-located organisations alongside continued community use of the building are fundamental to Carnegie Building continuing as an important community asset.

North East Autism Acceptance Award

Riverside has been awarded the gold standard award for autism acceptance; the reward reflects our commitment to provide an inclusive environment for everyone. As a team we

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have embedded the learning into our everyday practice by making changes throughout our building, we have introduced fidget boxes for adults and children, we use visual signs around the building and have put together visual stories about the building and meet the team, this supports autistic people to prepare themselves before they attend the services.

We have several champions in our team, which are committed to staying connected with NEAS and the autistic community through sharing good practice across other communities and educating society on acceptance.

Riverside Community Health Project charity has a subsidiary company, Carnegie Building, which manages the license agreements with all the organisations based in the building, including Riverside. The subsidiary ensures that any surplus generated from the license arrangements and room hire costs are ploughed back into Riverside's charitable work. During the year, the Carnegie Board of Directors has continued to focus on the maintenance, sustainability and safety of the building. Newcastle City Council which owns the building has commissioned a building condition survey and completed some essential repair work to the building. The condition survey will inform our future planning for the building during next financial year.

4.9 Plans for future periods

During future years we plan to continue to work closely with the local community and be responsive to their needs. Our areas of focus during 2025-26 include:

- Early intervention family support working with closely with partner organisations
- Engaging with new families and increase engagement with new dads
- Delivering the holiday activity programme

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- Designing, delivering and evaluating the impact of our training and employability support programme
- Providing welfare advice
- Launching our lottery funded three-year Community Action on Need project
- Evaluating our Your Health Matters Pilot project and securing funding to extend the pilot project

4.10 Public Benefit Statement

The charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims.

Our activities deliver public benefit by:

- Building on the capacity of individuals to identify and act on issues that impact on their own, and others, lives, health and wellbeing (asset-based approach);
- Assisting people to counter disadvantages that they and their families face
- Providing local, free access to activities for families with children under 5 which build parent and child connection, supporting families to ensure their children have the best possible start in life;
- Encouraging people to engage in a range of other local services which enable them to build connections in their community and learn new skills;
- Listening to and responding to local need, supporting people to access the services they need;
- Recruiting and training a local workforce, investing in upskilling local people;
- Offering volunteering opportunities;
- Engaging with people in communities traditionally seen as 'hard to reach'

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- Buying from local suppliers and producers wherever possible, investing in the local economy;
- Linking into networks in our area to share good practice and avoid duplication; and
- Recognising, valuing and collaborating with other local organisations that deliver services supporting people to manage their lives.

The trustees consider the activities summarised above as providing benefit both to those who directly receive services, and the wider community in the west end of Newcastle upon Tyne. The trustees further confirm they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

5. Financial Review

5.1 Reserves Policy

The Trustees have a policy of holding three to six months running costs in reserves. At 31 March 2025 six months running costs equalling £262,008 (2024: £109,362) was designated to the reserves fund. This leaves an amount of £57,581 in general unrestricted funds (2024: £109,362) to cover short term gaps and shortfalls in funding and provide day to day working capital.

5.2 Principal Funding Sources

Core funding for the work of the organisation came from Newcastle City Council through Action for Children, as well as North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board. Additional funding for particular work was secured from a number of sources including, Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Sir James Knott

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Trust, Virgin Money Foundation, Barbour Foundation, Holiday Activity Fund and various charitable trusts.

5.3 Pay Policy for Senior Staff

Trustees set the pay of the CE and other senior staff by comparing against equivalent roles within the voluntary sector. Inflationary pay awards are periodically approved.

5.4 Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks including the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and for ensuring the consistent quality of the delivery of all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

5.5 Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Riverside Community Health Project
Registered Charity Number	1028632
Company Registration Number	02869470
Operational address	Carnegie Building Atkinson Road Benwell Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 8XS
Trustees	AJ White

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	Suzanne Devlin
	Kuveri Katjangua
	Chris Smith
	Vicki Turnbull
	Laura Dodds (appointed 13 September 2024)
Principal Staff	Kate Mukungu (left on 27 March 2025) and Louise Horsefield (joined on 3 March 2025)
Independent	Jim Dodds FCIE
Examiner	33 The Glebe Stannington Northumberland NE61 6HW
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank PLC Four Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2JB

6. Structure, Governance and Management

The following arrangements are in place at Riverside Community Health Project.

6.1 Governing Documents

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, first registered on 5th November 1993, number 2869470 Registered as a charity on 17th November 1993, number 1028632. The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

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6.2 Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected at the AGM and can serve more than one term. Interested possible new trustees are encouraged to attend trustee meetings and then are elected at the AGM. The organisation has a 'Governance Pack' that gives comprehensive information to Trustees about their roles and responsibilities. All Trustees are subject to a face-to-face meeting and checks at the recruitment stage, followed by induction training.

6.3 Organisation

The Trustees meet at least quarterly and deal with the administration of the charity encompassing the strategic vision, financial accountability, and risk management. The operational management of the organisation is undertaken by the paid staff team.

6.4 Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

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- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By order of the board of trustees

Date: 3 July 2025

and signed on their behalf by: AJ White:
Chair of Trustees

AJ White

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the financial statements of Riverside Community Health Project for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 31 to 44.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Charities Act') and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jim Dodds FCIE
33 The Glebe
Morpeth
NE61 6HW
Date: 5 July 2025



RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	6	11,265	-	-	11,265	15,727
Charitable activities						
Grants and contracts	7	321,187	-	114,652	435,839	432,729
Other trading activities	8	809	-	-	809	1,687
Investments	9	2,865	-	-	2,865	3,417
Total income		336,126	-	114,652	450,778	453,560
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	10	-	-	-	-	2,865
Charitable activities						
Operation of the charity	11	325,658	52,717	118,964	497,339	483,299
Total expenditure		325,658	52,717	118,964	497,339	486,164
Net income/(expenditure)		10,468	(52,717)	(4,312)	(46,561)	(32,604)
Transfers between funds		(111,695)	111,695	-	-	-
Net movement of funds		(101,227)	58,978	(4,312)	(46,561)	(32,604)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		158,808	856,999	16,537	1,032,344	1,064,948
Total funds carried forward		57,581	915,977	12,225	985,783	1,032,344

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 34 to 44 form an integral part of these accounts.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

Charity Number 1028632

Company Number 02869470

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	£	Total 2024 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	19		624,969		670,213
Total fixed assets			624,969		670,213
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	20	37,177		33,048	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	373,332		375,207	
Total current assets		410,509		408,255	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(49,695)		(46,124)	
Net current assets			360,814		362,131
Total assets less current liabilities			985,783		1,032,344
Total net assets or liabilities			985,783		1,032,344
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted income funds			57,581		158,808
Designated income funds			915,977		856,999
Restricted income funds			12,225		16,537
Total funds			985,783		1,032,344

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 34 to 44 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board 3 July 2025

and are signed on its behalf by: A.J.White
Chair

AJ White

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

A company limited by guarantee

Charity number 1028632

Company number 02869470

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<u>Cash flows from operating activities</u>			
Net movement in funds		(46,561)	(32,604)
Depreciation		49,733	50,298
Investment income		(2,865)	(3,417)
Increase in trade receivables		(4,129)	8,915
Increase in trade payables		3,571	23,604
<i>Cash generated from operations</i>		(251)	46,796
<u>Cash flow from investing activities</u>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(4,489)	-
Interest received		2,865	3,417
<i>Net cash used in investing activities</i>		(1,624)	3,417
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(1,875)	50,213
Cash and cash equivalents at start of year		375,207	324,994
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		373,332	375,207

The notes on pages 34 to 44 form an integral part of these accounts.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Riverside Community Health Project meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year-end of £57,581 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.7 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.8 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of family support and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Leasehold property improvements	Straight line over life of lease (25 years)
Office and computer equipment	Straight line over four years

The charity does not currently own any tangible fixed assets.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
6 Donations and legacies					
Donations and gifts	1,105	-	-	1,105	964
Gift Aid from trading subsidiary	10,160	-	-	10,160	14,763
	<u>11,265</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,265</u>	<u>15,727</u>
7 Charitable activities					
<u>Income from grants</u>					
Asda Foundation	-	-	-	-	300
Children and Family Partnership Room	12,000	-	13,000	25,000	-
Community Foundation Waiting Well - Preparing Well	-	-	-	-	5,500
Food Farming and Countryside Commission	-	-	1,000	1,000	-
Garfield Western Foundation	25,000	-	-	25,000	6,250
Home Office EU Settlement Status Grant	-	-	-	-	5,249
Newcastle Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Newcastle City Council	797	-	1,750	2,547	24,123
NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB	43,642	-	-	43,642	43,382
Sir James Knott Trust	-	-	13,700	13,700	13,700
Street Games	-	-	20,879	20,879	16,049
The Barbour Foundation	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
Virgin Money Foundation	-	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Community Organisation Cost of Living Fund	-	-	-	-	43,354
North of Tyne Combined Authority	-	-	37,574	37,574	6,050
Children and Families Newcastle Partnership Working	-	-	-	-	43,750
West Road Medical Centre	-	-	16,749	16,749	-
Carnegie Development	-	-	-	-	-
Other small grants	2,752	-	-	2,752	-
<u>Income from contracts</u>					
Action for Children	167,256	-	-	167,256	163,340
Use of Riverside resources	-	-	-	-	1,280
Riverside staff charge to Subsidiary	49,740	-	-	49,740	43,926
Other income	5,000	-	-	5,000	6,476
	<u>321,187</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,652</u>	<u>435,839</u>	<u>432,729</u>

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of income continued

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
8 Other trading activities					
Fundraising	809	-	-	809	1,687
	<u>809</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>1,687</u>
9 Income from investments					
Bank interest	2,865	-	-	2,865	3,417
	<u>2,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,865</u>	<u>3,417</u>

Income was £450,778 (2024: £453,560) of which £336,126 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £332,658) and £114,652 was restricted (2024: £120,902).

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Restated Total 2024 £
10 Raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	2,865
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,865</u>
11 Charitable activities					
<u>Support</u>					
Staff salaries	295,624	-	75,570	371,194	362,766
Project costs	5,796	-	38,255	44,051	45,609
Support costs	4,892	2,984	2,688	10,564	10,274
Project contribution to rent	16,659	-	2,451	19,110	11,740
Depreciation	-	49,733	-	49,733	50,298
<u>Governance costs</u>					
Management committee costs	222	-	-	222	147
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	2,465	-	-	2,465	2,465
	<u>325,658</u>	<u>52,717</u>	<u>118,964</u>	<u>497,339</u>	<u>483,299</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £497,339 (2024: £486,164) of which £378,375 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £360,732) and £118,964 was restricted (2024: £125,432).

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

12 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	2,465	2,465
Other accountancy services paid to the examiner	560	560
	3,025	3,025

13 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	327,208	318,834
Social security costs	29,683	23,876
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	15,617	15,150
	372,508	357,860

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: one employee received remuneration between £60,000 and £70,000)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £58,914 (2024: £66,953).

14 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 16 staff (2024: 19 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work.		
Support staff	6.7	9.0
Management / admin staff	2.0	2.0
Recharged to subsidiary	2.0	2.0
	10.7	13.0

15 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

The following detail the expenses incurred by one trustee.

	2025 £	2024 £
K Katjangua: travel expenses	222	66
	222	66

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Transaction(s) with related parties

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

16 Subsidiaries

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 March 2024 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered Office	Nature of business	% Held
Carnegie Building Newcastle	England and Wales	Letting space and community venue	100

17 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £15,617 (2024: £15,926). There was £4,987 outstanding as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £6,272).

18 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

	Fixture, fittings and equipment £	Leasehold property improvements £	Total £
19 Tangible fixed assets			
Cost			
Balance brought forward	65,560	901,493	967,053
Additions	4,489	-	4,489
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	70,049	901,493	971,542
Depreciation			
Basis	SL	SL	
Rate	25%	4%	
Balance brought forward	63,761	233,079	296,840
Depreciation charge for year	883	48,850	49,733
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	64,644	281,929	346,573
Net book value			
Brought forward	1,799	668,414	670,213
Carried forward	5,405	619,564	624,969

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

20 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	20,810	18,285
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking	10,160	14,763
Other debtors	2,475	-
Prepayments and accrued income	3,732	-
	<u>37,177</u>	<u>33,048</u>

21 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank deposit account	161,809	158,443
Bank current account	209,993	216,760
Cash in hand	1,530	4
	<u>373,332</u>	<u>375,207</u>

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	3,573	2,940
Taxation and social security	8,130	6,897
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	2,465	2,465
Other creditors	6,551	10,392
Deferred income	28,976	23,430
	<u>49,695</u>	<u>46,124</u>

23 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods.

	2025 £
Balance brought forward	23,430
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(23,430)
Amount deferred in year	28,976
Balance carried forward	<u>28,976</u>

24 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

25 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	158,808	336,126	(325,658)	(111,695)	57,581
Totals	158,808	336,126	(378,375)	(111,695)	57,581

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds.

Analysis of movements in designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Designated funds					
Designated reserves fund	171,786	-	-	90,222	262,008
Designated fixed asset fund	670,213	-	(49,733)	4,489	624,969
Designated Carnegie development budget	15,000	-	(2,984)	2,984	15,000
Designated to activities	-	-	-	14,000	14,000
Totals	856,999	-	(52,717)	111,695	915,977

Purpose of designated funds

Designated reserves fund	To cover 6 months running costs.
Designated fixed asset fund	Represents the net book value of fixed assets which the charity does not consider to be general funds.
Designated Carnegie development budget	Represents monies set aside to contribute towards the development costs of the building.
Designated to activities	Represents monies set aside to contribute towards the activities celebrating the forty fifth anniversary of the Charity.

Transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount £
Between general unrestricted funds and designated reserves fund.	This represents an increase in allocated reserves to cover six months running costs.	90,222
Between general unrestricted funds and designated fixed asset fund.	This represents the value of equipment that was transferred to the fixed asset fund.	4,489
	Sub total	94,711

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

25 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)			Amount
	Reason for transfer	B/fwd	£
			94,711
Between general unrestricted funds and designated Carnegie development budget.	The Trustees have designated a proportion of the Gift Aid for planned maintenance to the Carnegie Building.		2,984
			14,000
Between general unrestricted funds and designated to activities.	The Trustees have designated funds for the planned use of unrestricted reserves for a celebration event.		
		Total	111,695

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

Restricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Community Foundation Waiting Well - Preparing Well	5,500	-	(2,850)	-	2,650
Food Farming and Countryside Commission	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
NCC Supporting CFN meetings	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
NCC Winter Wellbeing	-	1,750	(1,750)	-	-
Sir James Knott Trust	2,689	13,700	(15,999)	-	390
Street Games	7,532	20,879	(23,351)	-	5,060
Virgin Money Foundation	834	10,000	(10,834)	-	-
North of Tyne Combined Authority	(18)	37,574	(37,556)	-	-
West Road Medical Centre	-	16,749	(12,624)	-	4,125
Totals	16,537	114,652	(118,964)	-	12,225

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Community Foundation Waiting Well - Preparing Well	To reduce isolation and improve health and wellbeing.
Food Farming and Countryside Commission	To educate People on Food waste.
NCC Supporting CFN meetings	Contribution towards room hire for partner organisations.
NCC Winter Wellbeing	Support families around food and fuel poverty.
Sir James Knott Trust	Contribution to training project.
Street Games	Providing summer activities for families.
Virgin Money Foundation	Contribution towards the running of the community building.
North of Tyne Combined Authority	Support economically inactive people to move closer to the job market.
West Road Medical Centre	Promote health awareness.

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

26 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024 -£nil).

27 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	624,969	-	624,969
Cash at bank and in hand	70,099	291,008	12,225	373,332
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(12,518)	-	-	(12,518)
	<u>57,581</u>	<u>915,977</u>	<u>12,225</u>	<u>985,783</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	670,213	-	670,213
Cash at bank and in hand	171,884	186,786	16,537	375,207
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(13,076)	-	-	(13,076)
	<u>158,808</u>	<u>856,999</u>	<u>16,537</u>	<u>1,032,344</u>