

Registered Charity no. 1114773

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH NOVEMBER 2024
FOR THE
THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT**

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

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THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity number

1114773

Principal address

24 Bank Street
Brierley Hill
DY5 3DA

Trustees

Adrian Lowe - Chairman
John Cook (resigned May 2024)
Christopher Swaithe (retired December 2024)
Judith Forster
Anna Fellows

Independent examiner

Sally-Ann Reeves FCCA

**THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 November 2024.

Organisational structure

The Brierley Hill Project is constituted by a Deed of Trust and is a registered charity, No. 1114773.

Governance and Management

New trustees are appointed by existing trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are supported by a management team to whom the administration of the practical issues arising from the daily activities is delegated. The board of trustees aims to have a broad range of skills represented, in particular finance, business management, organisational development, training and education, social work and service to the community through other charity trusteeships.

Objectives and activities

- (I) TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, MORAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A FRAMEWORK OF CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES SO AS TO DEVELOP THEIR FULL CAPACITIES AND ENABLE THEM TO BECOME RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY SO THAT THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE MAY BE IMPROVED.
- (II) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF BRIERLEY HILL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE BLACK COUNTRY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE FOR THE SAID INHABITANTS.
- (III) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN BRIERLEY HILL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE BLACK COUNTRY BY PROVIDING ESSENTIAL ITEMS, RESOURCES AND SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OR TO OTHER CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY.

Achievements and Performance

As in many areas across the country the economic conditions are hard, systems are failing and structures are crumbling. This has left many people marginalised, vulnerable and needing support. We play a small part in being a lighthouse of hope! Demand for our services is still extremely tight and our hard working team continue to go above and beyond to meet the various needs that get presented to us.

The stats below give you a flavour of our work, but as always stats only show you an element, there are many stories to be told.

A small caveat with these stats. We changed recording platforms during the year and faced some initial challenges, this will be reflected in some of these stats, mainly the detached work.

- We gave out 1695 (1113 in 2023) foodbank vouchers during our drop-in service to people in crisis
- We delivered 621 (1007 in 2023) adult one to one support sessions
- We delivered 161 (175 in 2023) one-to-one support sessions to young people
- We have faced some problems recording detached youth work sessions this year unfortunately.
- We delivered 48 football sessions which were attended by 551 (430 in 2023) young people.
- Over the last year we had volunteers time of 912 hours which equals £13,680. This is so important for a small charity like ourselves and we value each and every volunteer.

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

Achievements and Performance (cont.)

Our holistic approach and seeing people as “whole people” with at times multiple issues leads us into needing a very robust partnership model, we are very aware we can’t do it all on our own.

We continue to have strong relationships with Black Country Foodbank, Dudley MBC Welfare Rights and Dudley MBC Homeless Team, alongside Kid’s Clothes Project, Brierley Hill Baby Bank, Provision House and the West Midlands Combined Authority (to name a few) we also sit on some strategic boards and have become advocates for a number of clients that couldn’t do it on their own. With this partnership approach and grass route information it enables us to lobby in numerous areas.

Over the past year we have continued to play out, and tweak the staffing model with more sessional workers rather than employed staff. This has worked well and we have seen some good quality and varied work being produced. However we will continue to monitor this.

We continue to monitor and refine both sides of the charity (Adult & Youth) Adult is far more established and so over this past year we have spent some more time doing a deep dive into the youth side. This has led to some more financial investment in staffing and we are monitoring closely the impact of this.

Funding remains a challenge and we need some concentrated effort next year to try and secure some larger grants.

We are over the moon that this year we won the Dudley Borough Community Awards “Health Professional” of the year award, this encouraged all of our staff, volunteers and supporters of the work we are doing.

Financial review

The net incoming unrestricted and designated resources before transfers for the year amounted to -£13,928 (2023: net outgoing £20,617), and net incoming restricted resources amounted to £3,832 (2023: net incoming £11,963). See note 3 for transfers between funds.

At 30 November 2024 the unrestricted and restricted funds after transfers total £73,325 (2023: £55,565) of which £20,740 in designated funds (2023: £21,245) and £47,284 in general funds (2023: £32,647) Restricted fund balances after transfers total £5,301 (2022: £1,673).

Reserves and reserves policy

The policy agreed by the trustees is to aim to hold in unrestricted reserves not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the ‘free’ reserves) sufficient to cover the general overhead expenses and salary costs not specifically funded by external agencies, for a period of six months. At this level, the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. It would then be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed. The amount of ‘free’ reserves at 30 November 2024 amounts to £68,024 (2023: £53,892), and equates to approximately 15 months expenditure.

Risk policy and review

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and consider that they are adequately mitigated through insurance, strategic planning, policies, systems and procedures.

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

Future developments

We are looking at several priority areas for the future year –

- Continue to monitor how the youth work develops.
- Applying for some larger grants to clear our projected deficit and enable long term sustainability.
- Continue to encourage fundraising and build up our regular givers.
- Working on the board of trustees to gain more people with different skills, and more time to help invest.
- Continuing to sit on local strategic partnerships to be a voice into policy and local decision making.

Trustees

The trustees holding office during the whole year unless otherwise stated were as follows:

Adrian Lowe - Chairman

John Cook (resigned May 2024)

Christopher Swaithes (retired December 2024)

Judith Forster

Anna Fellows

In accordance with the trust deed, trustees hold office for three years, and are eligible to be re-elected. Adrian Lowe and Anna Fellows are due for re-election in August 2025. No other trustees are due for re-election during the forthcoming year.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
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 accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

Approved by the trustees on

6th August 2025

and signed on their behalf by

A Lowe

Chairman of the Board of Trustees



THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

I report on the accounts for the year ended 30th November 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S A Reeves FCCA
Broadway
Worcestershire

14th April 2025

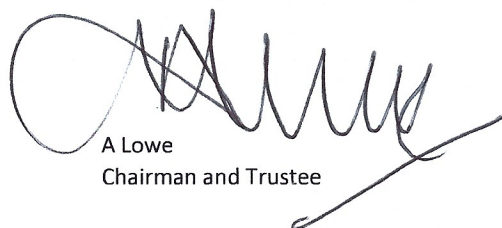
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
RECEIPTS						
Gifts	4a	-	-	-	-	3,934
Donations	4b	36,113	5,780	7,000	48,893	34,754
Gift Aid tax recovered	4c	3,381	1,310	-	4,691	5,346
Grants	4d	16,278	-	21,857	38,135	27,715
Receipts from charitable activities	4e	-	1,710	-	1,710	-
Interest and dividends	4f	792	-	-	792	728
Other income	4g	-	1,260	-	1,260	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS		56,564	10,060	28,857	95,481	72,477
PAYMENTS						
Direct charitable activity	5a	41,834	10,535	25,025	77,394	80,525
Donations and gifts	5b	82	-	-	82	235
Costs of generating funds	5c	245	-	-	245	371
TOTAL PAYMENTS		42,161	10,535	25,025	77,721	81,131
NET OF RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS		14,403	(475)	3,832	17,760	(8,654)
Transfers between funds		234	(30)	(204)	-	-
CASH FUNDS AS AT 30/11/2023		32,647	21,245	1,673	55,565	64,219
CASH FUNDS AS AT 30/11/2024	3	47,284	20,740	5,301	73,325	55,565

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Cash funds						
Current account		1,172	-	-	1,172	7,085
Deposit accounts		46,067	20,740	5,301	72,108	48,316
Petty cash		45	-	-	45	164
	3	<u>47,284</u>	<u>- 20,740</u>	<u>5,301</u>	<u>73,325</u>	<u>55,565</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift aid recoverable		<u>126</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>371</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 6th August 2025
and were signed on its behalf by:


A Lowe
Chairman and Trustee

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

1 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and related parties

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	25,065	28,342
Pension costs	565	581
	<u>25,630</u>	<u>28,923</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2023: 2)

During the year, John Cook, who resigned as a trustee in May 2024, invoiced the charity £ 12,000 (2023: £12,000) for management consultancy fees.

No other Trustees were paid any remuneration or received benefits during the year (2023 £Nil)

3 Movement in funds

The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd 01/12/2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 30/11/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General (unrestricted)	32,647	56,564	42,161	234	47,284
Designated					
Youth Fund	19,781	8,175	8,341	(30)	19,585
Asda Advertising	-	-	-	-	-
Homeless Fund	1,464	1,885	2,194	-	1,155
	<u>21,245</u>	<u>10,060</u>	<u>10,535</u>	<u>(30)</u>	<u>20,740</u>
Restricted					
WMCA Homelessness	-	2,000	956	-	1,044
Lottery Fund 2024	-	16,122	16,122	-	-
Football fund	-	7,000	2,743	-	4,257
PCC West Midlands	251	2,412	2,693	30	-
Dudley Community Forum	-	2,323	2,323	-	-
Dudley Poverty Fund	1,422	(1,000)	188	(234)	-
	<u>1,673</u>	<u>28,857</u>	<u>25,025</u>	<u>(204)</u>	<u>5,301</u>
Total funds	<u>55,565</u>	<u>95,481</u>	<u>77,721</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,325</u>

Movement in funds for the year ended 30th November 2023

	Balance b/fwd 01/12/2022	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 30/11/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General (unrestricted)	40,358	39,551	48,027	765	32,647
Designated					
Youth Fund	21,459	11,575	13,157	(96)	19,781
Asda Advertising	218	-	-	(218)	-
Homeless Fund	2,023	1,136	1,695	-	1,464
	<u>23,700</u>	<u>12,711</u>	<u>14,852</u>	<u>(314)</u>	<u>21,245</u>
Restricted					
Awards for all - general	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Make It Happen	161	-	80	(81)	-
PCC West Midlands	-	2,412	2,161	-	251
Dudley Community Forum	-	1,803	1,803	-	-
Dudley Poverty Fund	-	6,000	4,208	(370)	1,422
	<u>161</u>	<u>20,215</u>	<u>18,252</u>	<u>(451)</u>	<u>1,673</u>
Total funds	<u>64,219</u>	<u>72,477</u>	<u>81,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,565</u>

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

4 Further analysis of Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts					
a) Gifts					
One off gifts	-	-	-	-	3,934
b) Donations					
Regular donations	32,321	5,780	7,000	45,101	34,754
Fundraising	3,792	-	-	3,792	-
	<u>36,113</u>	<u>5,780</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>48,893</u>	<u>34,754</u>
c) Gift Aid					
Gift Aid tax recovered	3,381	1,310	-	4,691	5,346
d) Grants					
Grants from institutions	16,278	-	21,857	38,135	27,715
e) Receipts from charitable activities					
Mentoring fees	-	1,710	-	1,710	-
f) Interest and dividends					
Deposit account interest	792	-	-	792	728
g) Other income					
Other income	-	1,260	-	1,260	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,260</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>56,564</u>	<u>10,060</u>	<u>28,857</u>	<u>95,481</u>	<u>72,477</u>

THE BRIERLEY HILL PROJECT
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2024

5 Further analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Payments					
a) Direct charitable activity					
Salaries and NI	16,710	-	8,355	25,065	28,342
Pension costs	377	-	188	565	581
Departmental expenses	566	194	-	760	582
Client support gifts	236	2,207	1,745	4,188	4,719
Property insurance	1,040	-	-	1,040	1,042
Repairs & renewals	20	-	-	20	-
Maintenance contracts	550	-	91	641	387
Heat, light and water	1,741	-	544	2,285	2,342
Cleaning	787	-	230	1,017	629
Sessional workers pay	225	7,909	3,718	11,852	11,748
Telephone & Broadband	468	-	312	780	635
Stationery, printing and postage	13	10	-	23	131
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	79
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-
DBS checks	201	63	-	264	225
Travelling & subsistence	-	-	-	-	-
Hire of equipment (3D pitch	-	-	4,041	4,041	3,815
Equipment for activities	-	122	-	122	138
Equipment for general use	252	-	-	252	1,434
Refreshments	-	-	-	-	-
Training and worker development	-	30	601	631	155
Rent and room hire	3,600	-	1,200	4,800	4,800
Consumables	228	-	-	228	397
Sports Coaching	-	-	-	-	1,872
Management consultancy	10,390	-	4,000	14,390	12,000
Bank charges	68	-	-	68	71
IT support and software	555	-	-	555	1,322
Independent examination	485	-	-	485	450
Legal fees	300	-	-	300	-
Accountancy	3,022	-	-	3,022	2,629
	<u>41,834</u>	<u>10,535</u>	<u>25,025</u>	<u>77,394</u>	<u>80,525</u>
b) Donations and gifts					
Other gifts	<u>82</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>235</u>
c) Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	-
Website	<u>245</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>371</u>
	<u>245</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>371</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>42,161</u>	<u>10,535</u>	<u>25,025</u>	<u>77,721</u>	<u>81,131</u>