

THE PROGRESS FOUNDATION

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

Charity number - 1123219

Company number - 6515146

The Progress Foundation

Report and Accounts – year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative information

Trustees and Directors

The following Trustees and Directors have served throughout the period:

Roger Pilgrim, Chair

Nigel Hamway

Nadine Majaro, Secretary

Registered Office

c/o New Quadrant Partners

25 Bury Street

London SW1Y 6AL

Charity Number

1123219

Company Number

6515146

Independent Examiner

Andrew Churchill Stone, Mercer Lewin

6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House

234 Botley Road

Oxford OX2 0HP

Solicitors

c/o New Quadrant Partners

25 Bury Street

London SW1Y 6AL

Bankers

CAF Bank

25 Kings Hill Avenue

Kings Hill, West Malling

Kent ME19 4TA

Website

www.progressuk.org

Email

info@progressuk.org

The Progress Foundation

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Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Directors present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025

Structure, governance and management

The Progress Foundation (the “Company” or the “Charity”) was formed on 27 February 2008 as a private company limited by guarantee (company number 6515146) and registered as a charity (charity number 1123219). It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, company and charity law. It seeks to undertake its chosen charitable work through the deployment of its existing funds (both income and capital). It has three directors, who act as trustees of the Charity and who served throughout the period:

Roger Pilgrim, Chair

Nigel Hamway

Nadine Majaro, Secretary

New directors will be appointed by the existing directors as needed to complement the skills available to the board. The Memorandum and Articles of Association require a minimum of three directors, with no maximum number. As required by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the directors must retire by rotation at each general election; Nigel Hamway will retire at the annual general meeting of the Company held to consider these accounts and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. New directors are provided with information on their responsibilities as directors and trustees and are briefed on the areas of activity of the Charity.

Directors’ meetings are held to discuss strategy, policy and major grants. Day-to-day administration, such as reviewing grant applications, monitoring grants, bookkeeping, finance and general administration is handled by the Chair and the Secretary. All the Directors give their time and are not paid. None of the Directors has claimed any expenses.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The objects of the Charity are to pay or apply the income and capital to or for the benefit of any charity or charitable purpose or purposes as the Directors shall in their discretion think fit. In determining how to apply these objectives, the Directors have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Directors have decided to focus their attention on giving grants to:

- Organisations working with young people, normally in the age range 14 – 21, though we will also look at projects helping younger children or young people up to age 25
- Organisations which help young people to become fully involved with society, particularly through education, assistance with finding work or involvement with social enterprise
- Organisations working in the UK and, in particular, within Greater London.

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Grant making policy

The Directors consider applications from charities and other social enterprise bodies which meet the criteria set out above and which are further explained on our website. After an initial review to determine whether the applicant appears to meet the Charity's requirements, the Directors meet to select a short list of possible recipients of grants from the main grant fund. Following this meeting, at least one of the Directors will normally visit or speak to the applicant to understand the nature of the work being done in more detail. A further meeting of the Directors is then held to allocate the available grant funds. Review criteria are built into the agreement for grants, and these are normally assessed annually prior to the approval and payment of subsequent tranches of grant.

The Charity will not normally give grants from the main grant programme of more than £25,000 per annum or for periods of more than 3 years. We encourage recipients to consider innovative approaches, in the form of new activities, new partnerships or new funding approaches. We also give unrestricted core grants to some charities with which we have worked closely over an extended period. We do not accept applications for this element of funding as it is based entirely on the assessment by the Directors of the quality of work and management of potential recipient charities. We also occasionally make small grants of less than £5,000 to charities which do not fully qualify under the main grant programme but which any two of the trustees consider to be worthy of support.

Our general preference is to fund independent voluntary organisations and not to replace or subsidise statutory funding. In addition, we will not make grants to organisations which promote a particular religious belief but will consider applications from faith-based organisations where the work is not for religious purposes and clearly fits our funding guidelines. These criteria and further guidance to charities who wish to apply for funding are clearly set out on our website along with details of how to apply. We do not encourage applications outside the process outlined on our website.

Achievements and Performance

During the year, the Directors approved grants totalling £385,483. The principal recipients of grants are set out in Note 4 of the accounts. We received a very high number well-qualified applications and were able to approve grants to 27 organisations, of which one was the second year of a three-year core grant, thirteen were follow-on grants, five were one-off grants, seven were potentially multi-year grants and three were small grants.

We normally ask organisations to which we give project grants to provide us with ways of measuring whether a project has been successful. Over the years, we have supported several projects which have developed during our period of support and which we consider have made a significant contribution to the wellbeing of young people in this country.

Financial review

In the period under review the Charity received no donations.

The Directors have approved the use of both income and capital for grant-making purposes and a main grant programme of approximately £150,000 each year. In addition, the Directors have approved the use of

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both income and capital for the payment of unrestricted grants of up to £75,000 per annum payable over up to three years for a maximum of two charities each year.

Investment policy and performance

The Progress Foundation holds its assets in a combination of bank accounts and money market funds – to cover at least eighteen months of outgoings – while money to be deployed in the longer term is invested in units of the Lundy Fund, an Open-Ended Investment Company with total assets of approximately £45.9 million. The management of Lundy's assets is divided between three investment managers, Goldman Sachs Asset Management, Cazenove Capital Management and Ruffer LLP. All managers follow an active management approach aimed at capital growth and, overall, the portfolio is divided between holdings in quoted equities, bonds, cash and gold related investments. Further information on the Fund is available upon request from Yealand Fund Services at info@yealand.com.

Market yields on cash and near cash investments have improved during this year and the Company's return on its cash assets was 3.7 per cent during the year (2024: 4.8 per cent). The Company acquired its investment in Lundy units at an average value of £10.83 per unit. At the Company's year end, the units were valued at £17.52, below last year's closing price of £17.67; the total return (income and capital) for the year to 31 March was 0.9 per cent (2024: 4.8%). The ARC Balanced index showed 2.7 per cent on a median total return basis over the same period (2024: 5.8%).

The Company's holdings at the period end were as follows:

	£
Cash and equivalent	
Cash at bank	95,388
Money market funds	532,498
Investments in Lundy Fund	1,103,633
	<u>1,731,519</u>

Reserves policy

The Company's policy is to invest its income and capital to achieve its charitable objectives by giving grants at a rate of approximately £150,000 - £200,000 per annum in the main grant programme and up to £150,000 of unrestricted grants. The Directors are satisfied that there are sufficient resources within the Company to maintain this donation rate and are satisfied that we will be able to find appropriate organisations to receive grants of this level each year.

Risk management

The Directors have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established to manage those risks. This review is updated annually.

Plans for the future

We intend to continue our work in identifying and supporting organisations, whether charities or not, who work with young people in innovative and effective ways to integrate them with society. As well as making

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additional payments to those charities with which we are already working, we continue to look for similar organisations to support.

Auditors

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. We are also not required by the Charities' Commission to have an audit, but we are required by them to have an independent examination. Andrew Churchill Stone of Mercer Lewin has examined these accounts and reported accordingly.

Directors' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

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

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Directors on 3 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Roger Pilgrim
Chair of Directors

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PROGRESS FOUNDATION (CHARITY NUMBER – 1123219) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The Charity's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Company's Directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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 Directors 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

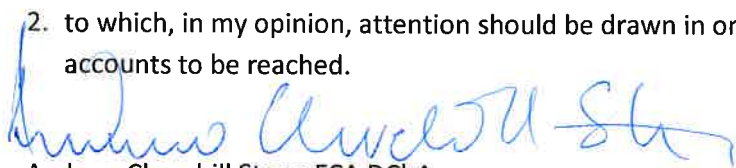
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Andrew Churchill Stone FCA DChA
Mercer Lewin Ltd, Chartered Accountants
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House
234 Botley Rd
Oxford
OX2 0HP

4 June 2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including the income and expenditure account)

	Note	Year to 31 March 2025	Year to 31 March 2024
Income			
Donations		-	87,750
Investment income	3	43,582	45,172
		43,582	132,922
Expenditure			
Charitable activities:			
- Grants and programme related expenditure	4	385,483	302,322
- Other	5	1,082	1,129
Total expenditure		386,565	303,451
Net income		(342,983)	(170,529)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		(5,242)	54,719
Net Movement of Funds		(348,225)	(115,810)
<i>Reconciliation of Funds</i>			
Total Funds brought forward		2,052,644	2,168,454
Total funds carried forward		1,704,419	2,052,644

All funds are unrestricted

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Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025

	Note	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Fixed assets			
Investments	6	1,103,633	1,358,875
Total fixed assets		<u>1,103,633</u>	<u>1,358,875</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	7	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		627,886	734,369
Total current assets		<u>627,886</u>	<u>734,369</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors falling due within one year	7	27,100	20,600
Net current assets		<u>600,786</u>	<u>713,769</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,702,373	2,072,644
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	20,000
Net assets		<u>1,704,419</u>	<u>2,052,644</u>
The funds of the Charity:			
Unrestricted funds	9	1,704,419	2,052,644
Total Charity funds		<u>1,704,419</u>	<u>2,052,644</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025, the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to the small companies' regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Directors on 3 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

RG Pilgrim



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1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception that investments are included at market value.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

b) Fund structure and activities

The Charity has only one fund, an unrestricted income fund. The Directors may, at their discretion, allocate any part of the fund to the purposes of the Charity. The Charity's sole activity is the making of grants and social investments.

c) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of income resource can be measured with sufficient reliability.

d) Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Grants payable are recognised when they have been approved by the Directors and the beneficiaries have been notified, whether orally or in writing, that the grants have been approved. Where grants are made with associated conditions, such as obtaining matching funding, the grants are nonetheless accrued as the achievement of these conditions fall outside the control of the Charity. Where multi-stage grants are approved and communicated to recipient charities and subsequent stages are dependent on a satisfactory review, the nature of which is defined in the communication to the recipient, only the approved and reviewed stages are accounted for.

e) Allocation of overhead and support costs

Since the Directors are not paid and do not reclaim their expenses for operating as Directors, all administrative costs relate to governance costs. These costs are related to statutory, legal and other fees.

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f) Fixed asset investments

Investments are stated at market value as at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the period.

g) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the statement of financial activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and the opening market value or purchase date, if later. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the period end and opening market value (or cost if purchased after the start of the accounting period). Realised and unrealised gains and losses are not separated in the statement of financial activities.

h) Programme related investments

Programme related investments comprise loans and are included in the balance sheet at the amount invested less any impairments and any amounts repaid. Impairments or outstanding loans converted to a grant are charged to resources expended on charitable activities.

i) Contingent Liabilities

In accordance with the SORP, a contingent liability is disclosed for those grants which do not represent liabilities, where the possible obligation, which arises from past events, will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Directors' control.

2. Related Party transactions and Directors' remuneration

The Directors received no emoluments and reclaimed no expenses during the period.

There were no related party transactions during the period.

3. Investment Income

	2025 £	2024 £
Interest on money market and other accounts	26,697	26,891
Dividend income from investments	16,885	18,281
Total Investment Income	43,582	45,172

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4. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
New grants approved during the year (see details below)	385,483	302,322
Action Tutoring	10,000	
Big House Theatre	10,000	
Body & Soul	21,600	
British Exploring	10,000	
Clement James	15,000	
Exposure	6,000	
Farms for City Children	23,218	
Future frontiers	15,000	
Future Youth Zone	10,000	
Get Further	25,000	
Go Forward Youth	13,000	
Haringey Shed	9,878	
Hounslow Action for Youth	15,000	
Jamie's Farm	25,222	
Katherine Low Settlement	14,720	
Literacy Pirates	20,000	
Mayor's Fund for London – Numbers@Work	15,000	
New Horizons Youth Centre	27,435	
Power 2	10,000	
Refugee Education UK	23,000	
Roundhouse	10,000	
Social Enterprise Academy	17,000	
St Giles Major Trauma Centre	10,000	
Yes Futures	15,000	
Small Grants	14,410	
	<u>385,483</u>	

5. Other charitable expenditure

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's remuneration	600	600
Other expenses	482	529
	<u>1,082</u>	<u>1,129</u>

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6. Fixed Asset Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Market value at 1 April	1,358,875	1,554,156
Additions to investments at cost		-
Disposals proceeds	(250,000)	(250,000)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	(5,242)	54,719
Market value at 31 March	<u>1,103,633</u>	<u>1,358,875</u>

Investments were held primarily in the Lundy Fund, an open-end investment company incorporated in the United Kingdom. The Fund seeks to preserve and grow capital. The Fund invests globally in securities, bonds, collective investment schemes (regulated and unregulated), warrants, money market instruments, cash and deposits.

The historical cost of the investments is £682,032 (2024: £832,456).

7. Analysis of current liabilities and long-term creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants payable within one year	26,500	20,000
Accruals	600	600
	<u>27,100</u>	<u>40,600</u>
Grants payable in more than one year	-	20,000

Movement in recognised grant commitments during the period:

	£
Grant commitments payable at 31 March 2024	40,000
New grant commitments charged to the SoFA in period (see note 4)	385,483
Less: Grants paid during the period	(398,983)
Grant commitments payable at 31 March 2025	<u>26,500</u>

Grant commitments represent amounts which might become payable for future years of multi-year grants which do not relate to specific programmes and where the amounts are quantifiable.

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8. Contingent liabilities

As described in our accounting policy, where the Directors retain discretion as to whether to make subsequent years' payments based on the evaluation of the project performance, amounts related to such payments are not accrued. At 31 March 2025, there were £259,956 of contingent liabilities (2024: £237,438).

9. Analysis of funds

	Total Unrestricted fund £
Fund brought forward at 1 April 2024	2,052,644
Incoming resources	43,582
Resources expended	(386,565)
Gains and losses	(5,242)
Fund carried forward at 31 March 2025	<u>1,704,419</u>