



SUPPORT TRAINING ACTIVITIES & RESPITE SERVICES

(Trading as WIGAN STARS)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2024 TO 2025

Charity Number 1134552

Contents

- 1. Charity's Objectives**
- 2. Objectives**
- 3. Vision**
- 4. Volunteers**
- 5. Trustees**
- 6. Financial**



Objectives (the Objects)

1. The relief for the public benefit, of people with learning disabilities and their carers, dependents and families by provision of facilities for respite, recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of enhancing their quality of life.
2. The advancement of education and training of people with learning disabilities and their carers, dependents and families, but not exclusively, to develop their work and life skills by developing, delivering and evaluating accessible learning opportunities.

Wigan STARS believe the organisations our motto **Wigan Ability not Disability** has been developed by the personal advancement and personal development of people with a learning disability through greater leisure opportunities. The opportunities have come about by promoting choice and independence to people with a learning disability, and encouraging full participation, integration and involvement within the community.

In April 2021 due to the pandemic and lack of funding and dwindling membership Wigan STARS and the Hallgate house Project merged into one Charity with Wigan Stars becoming the lead charity and are now solely responsible for the running, maintaining and management of the town centre community building known as Hallgate House.

ACTIVITIES and OBJECTIVES In the Year

The continuation of the provision and maintenance of the facilities for the social welfare for people with a learning disability

Evidence suggests the lives of Learning-disabled people continues to be disproportionately affected both through the coronavirus pandemic and economic pressures. We have and are continuing to provide and maintain a specialist building, with services operated through a team of dedicated volunteers and the hire of our community building from a small number of community groups throughout the year.

Wigan Stars services, first and foremost provide our members with opportunities to fulfil their aspirations and potential, but our members contribute to the local economy, the services enable parents and carers to have some valued respite knowing that the members are safe but having a fantastic time, and also the services take pressures off of the very stretched services provided by the local authority and other statutory organisations.



We have accessed community venues within the Wigan borough including meals at the local pub, Ten pin bowling, using a local narrow boat company to enhance further community experience. a fundraising evening at a local social club and using the same venue for our Christmas Disco / Party. We have introduced live music acts into our activity programme by developing friendships with the artists from our fundraising evening,

Vision

Embracing ability. Empowering lives

Our vision is to empower people with learning disabilities to achieve their full potential, by working with them to focus on their abilities, supporting them to take part in a programme of activities and by spending time in an environment that is comfortable, safe and secure enabling them to feel a part of their community, to be valued, to build confidence, feel challenged and take risks.

We want to break down barriers and remove any social discrimination, to empower people with a learning disability to develop plans and aspirations, and to achieve all their ambitions

Wigan Stars achieve this by providing support, encouragement and services embracing the following values:

SAFE

Activities are fully risk assessed and using appropriate equipment and resources.

Volunteers act with professionalism and are vigilant at all times.

Venues and Activities meet our members needs

Trusted

Positive relationships are evidenced.

We deliver on our promises.



Adaptable

Fun activities, fully inclusive and person-centred.

We involve, listen and respond to the needs of our members.

Resilient

We listen and respond to change in legislation, economic circumstances and individual need and aspiration, whilst maintaining focus on the aims and objectives.

We listen and learn from any mistakes.

Success

Our Volunteers will go the extra mile to consistently meet our high standards

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION

The charity is fully dependent on volunteers and the contributions they make to ensure our that the Members Activity Programme along with the administration of the Wigan STARS charity and the care of the building continues in line with the charitable objectives. The Voluntary contributions equate to approx. 30 hours each week.

In February 2025 we were nominated for the Kings Award for Voluntary Services this is equivalent to our charity receiving a MBE but we will not find out the outcome until November 2025.



The Honorary Officers (Chair, one or more vice-chairs, a treasurer and secretary and other such officers as the Charity may decide) together with trustees are appointed at the annual meeting.

Trustees	Position
OFFICERS	
Karon Swinburn	Chairperson
Stephen Ramage	Vice Chair
Joyce Davies	Secretary
Maureen Ramage	Treasurer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Margaret Bird
Suzanne Bird
Scott Ramage
Marie Walsh
Angela Wood

We are actively recruiting younger volunteers and are seeking to introduce younger people on to our management committee to ensure the long term sustainability of Wigan STARS.



FINANACIAL REPORT 2024 – 25

We have increased our user groups hiring our community building from 5 regular user groups to 8 along with other community groups who use our facilities when required, the income from our user groups contributes towards our running cost.

Wigan STARS also received funding from the YAPP Charitable Trust. This has secured the planned activity Programme for the STARS membership.

Wigan STARS have established an excellent working relationship with Wigan Council Communities Team which has resulted in STARS to obtain small grants from local Wigan Council. The Communities Team has also been instrumental in helping STARS to identify pots of funding and other local resources to enable the Management Committee of Wigan STARS to move the organisation forward and look forward to future success.

The Management Committee, the volunteers and the members would like to extend a huge thank you to Wigan Council for all the support that the Communities Team have given Wigan STARS in the last financial years, and we look forward developing our working relationship going forward

The Board of Trustees

January 2026

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

Wigan Stars
2024 TO 2025

DATE	DESCRIPTION	INCOMES	OUTGOING	ACCOUNT BALANCE
3/31/2024	Balance brought forward			£10,928.06
	CASH IN HAND	£155.00		
	SUBSCRIPTIONS & TUCKSHOP	5,225.00		
	USER GROUP INCOME	8,839.00		
	MEMBERSHIP FEES	415.00		
	FUND RAISING	1,100.00		
	XMAS ACTIVITIES	1,031.00		
	DONATIONS	77.40		
	GRANTS	3,600.00		
	TRIPS & MEALS OUT	1,285.00		
	LOTTERY	5,872.00		
	TOTALS	27,599.40		
	ADD BALANCE	38,527.46		
	NEW TOTAL			
	PHONES/ INTERNET WEBSITE QUICKBOOKS		£2,840.17	
	GAS ELECTRIC WATER		£3,709.55	
	COVID BOUNCE BACK REPAYMENTS		£753.54	
	INSURANCE		£2,782.00	
	TUCKSHOP /MEALS PRIZES FOR ACTIVITIES		£2,294.08	
	CLUB & XMAS ACTIVITIES		£4,655.99	
	PAY OUT TO LOTTERY FUNDRAISING		£2,573.40	
	WINNERS AND FUNDRAISING		£2,573.40	
	REPAIRS / SERVICES AND LICENCES		£4,073.55	
	BUSINESS RATES & LICENSE MISC		£333.90	
	STATIONERY		£116.47	
	EQUIPMENT		£864.42	
	CLEANING		£83.85	
	LESS OUTGOING	25,081.44		
3/31/2025	NEW BALANCE AT BANK TO CARRY FORWARD			£13,446.02
	SIGNED : Maureen Ramage			
	10th January 2025			
	Counter Signed : Joyce Davies			
	10th January 2025			

Examiner's unqualified report (for a non-company charity preparing accruals accounts) with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year 2023 to 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Support Training Activities and Respite Services trading and known as Wigan Stars Charity

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for Wigan Stars for the year ended 31st March 2025.

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 Supporolowed 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Name: NATALIE TURNER MSc ACMA CGMA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS

Address: 6 HORSELEY AVENUE, WALKDEN, MANCHESTER, M28 3YA

Date: 16TH JANUARY 2026