Surrey Youth Focus

Annual Report and Financial Statements, 2024-25

For year ending: 31st March 2025

Registered charity no. 1140934

Independent Examiner:
Nick Weller
Simmons Gainsford
Professional Services
Limited
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Surrey Youth Focus - Annual Report & Financial Statements 2024-25

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Surrey Youth Focus - Annual Report & Financial Statements 2024-25

From our Chair, Allister McGowan:
The year has seen a significant consolidation of Surrey Youth Focus's role as a systems change advocate and facilitator in the provision of support for young people and their families.

There will be challenges ahead as the environments of both local government and health services experience fundamental change and turbulence in the coming years. Those challenges will also provide opportunities for a team that has strengthened and developed its skill set and grown in confidence as it has adapted to new operational imperatives.

I am impressed by, and grateful for, the creativity and innovation which the staff of Surrey Youth Focus continue to demonstrate in delivering for the benefit of young people and youth support organisations in Surrey.

From our CEO, Cate Newnes-Smith

This was a significantly better year than the previous year for Surrey Youth Focus.

Everyone has pulled together to take Surrey Youth Focus in a new direction, and we are now bringing in most of our funding on a project-by-project basis, rather than being mostly in single grants.

We have learnt new skills and ideas around how to achieve real change in complex systems and have developed marketable 'products' which potential customers can grasp and see the benefit in funding.

Several years into 'complex system change' work, we continue to gain new insights and ways of approaching this work with a view to achieving better outcomes for children and families.

We have considerable ideas about how we can extend our influence across Surrey and beyond. A key criteria for success is how we balance project delivery with developing new ideas and concepts. In order to maximise our impact we are looking at how we can help others to use our complex system change methodologies and approaches as well as delivering them ourselves.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Surrey Youth Focus is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The CIO operates under an Association model constitution with voting members other than the trustees.

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. This financial year was significantly better than last year with a series of project based revenue streams coming on line, albeit still mostly from Surrey County Council and Surrey Heartlands. In practical terms, our unrestricted funding increased substantially as did our restricted funds.

Revenue in this year was £460, 609 as compared to £194, 494 for the previous year. This was largely due to receipt of multi year restricted funds and substantial funds which were largely passed through. There was a surplus of £32, 113 on unrestricted funds and £43, 850 on restricted funds. The former being due to good management of consultancy funds and the latter reflecting multi-year funds received.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their financial statements under FRS102.

Surrey Youth Focus has income between £25,000 and £500,000 and so is subject to Independent Examination, conducted by Simmons Gainsford Professional Services Limited.

The Charity's objects are to benefit young people in Surrey by:

- Promoting good practice and the efficiency and effectiveness of its member organisations;
- Supporting and strengthening the work of its members;
- Helping members to support young people to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities to help them mature and have a good quality of life and
- Ensuring that young people's voices, concerns and issues are represented wherever it is most appropriate.

Governance

The Directors shall comprise:

- at least three and not more than ten independent individuals and
- at least three and not more than ten persons who are representatives of member organisations.

within overall limits of a maximum of fifteen and a minimum of six directors. A Director shall be appointed either:

- by ordinary resolution of the members at a general meeting;
- or by the Board of Directors.

Four meetings of the Trustee Board were held during 2024-25.

The Board receives standing quarterly reports on the financial position and on the performance against targets in the business plan. Our internal management controls (time

and expense collection, monthly reporting) allow us to maintain tight control over all expenditure and to reconcile funds and monitor project progress monthly.

Apart from the main Board of Trustees, we hold meetings of our Management and Finance (M&F) Subcommittee on a quarterly basis. The M&F Committee receives detailed monthly financial management accounts from the Treasurer, and it is here that detailed discussions take place about issues relating to the business plan, governance, risk management and management. Reports and recommendations are then made to the full Board meeting as necessary.

SYF is a membership organisation. Full membership shall be open to any registered charity, voluntary youth organisation, youth social enterprise or sports bodies that are providing services for young people primarily within Surrey, which furthers the objectives of SYF and which has paid the annual subscription for full members.

Risk Management

A review of the Risk Register is a standing item on the M&F Committee with each of the risk areas being addressed on an annual basis. The risk register is then reviewed by the Board as a whole annually.

Surrey Youth Focus - Annual Report & Financial Statements 2024-25

Administrative Information 31st March 2025
Registered charity no. 1140934

REGISTERED ADDRESS
Astolat, Coniers Way
New Inn Lane Burpham
Guildford Surrey GU4 7HL

PRESIDENT
Michael More-Molyneux, Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey

VICE PRESIDENT
Lesley Myles MBE JP DL

TRUSTEES

Independent Trustees
Allister McGowan – Chairman
Alec Sanderson
Paul Cliff
Cindy O'Sullivan
Holly Mobbs (from 25/4/24)

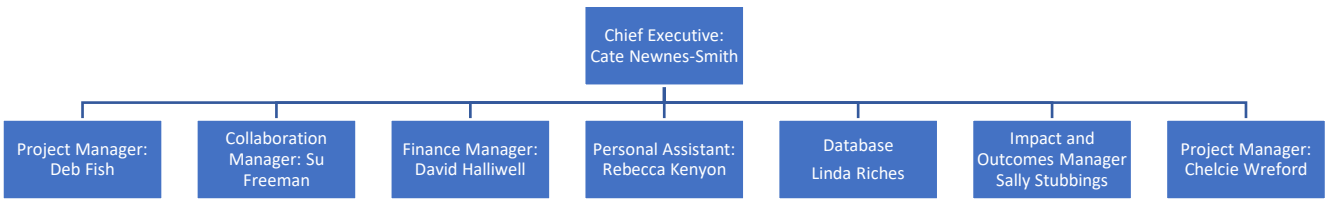
Member Trustees
Sarah Ings (Girlguiding Surrey West) (from 5/2/25)
Lawrence Santcross (Transform Housing)
Jude Crome (LYP)
Paul Farthing (Shooting Star) (from 25/4/24)

Chief Executive: Cate Newnes-Smith

Staff Team

As the organisation continues to punch well above its weight and achieve a huge amount of work, we have taken on extra staff and are now at the equivalent of approximately 5 FTE worth of staff.

The team now comprises:



During the year we were sorry to say farewell to Anika Wilson who left for a new role at Surrey County Council. She was ably replaced by Chelcie Wreford (permanent) and Deborah Fish (fixed term contract). Our team administrator Sophie Baldwin was on maternity leave for the year.

It is key to working in complex system environments that we develop and maintain a learning culture – where a key focus of the organisation is ongoing improvement and where it is acceptable to 'fail'. We encourage all team members to take time to learn and explore.

Marketing and Communications

Most of our communications work is part of our service to charities and the public sector – and is not really marketing with an aim to sell our services.

Our primary marketing approach is through relationships, bulletins and email contact. We also use LinkedIn.

Funders

During the year, aside from our contract funding from Surrey County Council, The Community Foundation for Surrey and member dues, we received grant funding from the following:

- Surrey County Council
- The Coleman Trust
- NHS Surrey Heartlands
- Active Prospects
- NAVCA

for which we would like to record our thanks.

Looking forward to 2025-26

Surrey Youth Focus has uncertain prospects for 2025-26. Due to our trusted relationships, networks and knowledge, Surrey Youth Focus continues to play a unique collaborative leadership role to encourage relationships, collective action and system change by bringing people and organisations together to serve babies, children, young people and families.

However, we now live in a time of great uncertainty with wholesale changes in both local government (affecting funding possibilities from Surrey County Council) and the NHS (affecting funding possibilities from Surrey Heartlands and Surrey and Borders Partnership). Thus we may see a substantial reduction in income for the next financial year while these re-arrangements proceed.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the guidance provided by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and its impact on the charity's work, and in particular the requirement that

Balance Sheet

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11		1,507		0
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at Bank		137,995		99,845	
Debtors		33,100		0	
		171,095		99,845	
CREDITORS					
Falling due within one year	12	(11,204)		(14,410)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			159,891		85,435
NET ASSETS			161,398		85,435
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds			47,446		15,334
Restricted funds			113,951		70,101
			161,397		85,435

The financial statements on pages 10 to 15 were approved by the Trustees on 22nd July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Allister McGowan
Chairman
Surrey Youth Focus

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Surrey Youth Focus

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Surrey Youth Focus ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 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.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Nicholas Weller FCCA
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14th Floor, 33 Cavendish Square
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Statement of Financial Activities

Surrey Youth Focus

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Charitable Activities					
Subscriptions	2	11,350	0	11,350	12,050
Consultancy Services	3	40,000	96,500	136,500	56,820
Grants Received	4	4,000	308,504	312,504	124,714
Investment Income	5	254	0	254	910
TOTAL INCOME		55,604	405,004	460,608	194,494
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities					
Direct Costs	6	0	100,418	100,418	43,265
Staff costs	7	1,649	260,736	262,385	259,733
Office and property costs	8	16,939	0	16,939	16,840
Sundry expenses	9	3,704	0	3,704	4,052
Legal and administrative costs	10	1,200	0	1,200	1,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		23,492	361,154	384,646	325,090
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		32,112	43,850	75,962	(130,596)
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 APRIL 2024		15,334	70,101	85,435	216,031
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2025		47,446	113,951	161,397	85,435

there must be specific identifiable benefits, and ones applicable to the wider public. Trustees consider that both requirements have been met.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have examined the Charity's need for reserves in the context of planned activities during 2025/26 and the changes in our funding model. This process has included consideration of quantifiable financial risks to the Charity within the context of continued spending cuts by central and local government. This impacts on the charity by way of the loss of income at very short notice.

Reserves are needed to:

- Meet the working capital requirements of the Charity
- Allow for the development of new initiatives
- Provide additional resources which enhance the quality of our delivery
- Meet the Trustees' responsibilities
- Provide against any significant drop in short term funding.

At the year-end the level of unrestricted reserves (current assets) was £47, 446. Based on the above criteria, and noting the change to a predominant restricted funds model, the Trustees aim to achieve a minimum level of reserves sufficient to fund at least 3 months of core operating costs, which approximates to £70,000. The current level of reserves is still below that target. Our plans for the 25/26 year show a small increase in reserves as we continue to work towards a return to the target level.

Approved by the Board on 22nd July 2025, and signed on its behalf:

Allister McGowan
Chairman

Notes to the Financial Statements

Surrey Youth Focus

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charites Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

Incoming Resources

Subscriptions and Consultancy Services are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are receivable. Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable, unless they are time related or contain unfulfilled conditions in which case unutilised grants are carried forward in the Balance Sheet.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and includes irrecoverable value added tax. It has been allocated to the activities of the charity on a direct cost basis. Governance costs are those costs . relating to the running of the charity as an entity

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost and depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

- Office Equipment: 33% straight line

Assets purchased in the year costing in excess of £1,000 are included in the balance sheet

All other assets are written off in the year of purchase.

Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared under the going concern basis as the Trustees believe that the Charity will be able to operate for the foreseeable future due to receipt of anticipated funds in the near future

Surrey Youth Focus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2. Subscriptions

Subscriptions are paid by charities and others who are member organisations and receive benefit.

	2025	2024
	£	£
	11,350	12,050

3. Consultancy Services

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Surrey County Council	40,000	76,200	40,000	13,570
NHS Surrey & Borders	0	0	0	2,900
Community Foundation for Surrey		20,300		
Others		0		350
	40,000	96,500	40,000	16,820

4. Grants Received

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Surrey County Council		127,019		102,369
NHS Surrey & Borders				
NHS Surrey Heartlands		124,300		2,045
Community Foundation for Surrey				10,000
Coleman Trust	4,000		3,000	
Other Sponsors	0	57,185	200	7,100
	4,000	308,504	3,200	121,514

We are grateful for funds received from:
Active Prospects and NAVCA as well as the above named

5. Investment Income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	254	910

6. Direct Costs

These include incurred expenses and third party delivery costs.

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Mscll Small Others		2,083		
VCSE Alliance		15,031		31,490
LDA		1,400		11,024
SCC Smaller Projects		5,982		21
Workforce Innovation		71,020		730
Additional Needs		110		
MHIF		1,526		
CFS/RHUL		3,066		
Inclusion		200		
	0	100,418	0	43,265

7. Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries	186,872	218,055
Social security costs	10,475	12,263
Pension contributions	65,038	29,415
	262,385	259,733
Average number of employees (FTE)		
Administration	1	1
Direct Service Delivery	4	4
	5	5

One member of staff received remuneration in the band £60,000 to £69,999
£260,736 was charged to restricted funds (2023-£28,392)

Surrey Youth Focus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

8. Office and Property Costs

These costs are allocated between core operations and major projects on an actual basis.

	2025 £	2024 £
Insurance	924	839
Office services/maintenance	7,227	7,760
Printing, postage and stationary	76	49
Telephone and IT	8,712	8,192
	16,939	16,840

9. Sundry Expenses

	2025 £	2024 £
Training	220	74
Travel/subsistence	319	882
Marketing	0	498
Office equipment	280	813
Meetings	527	406
Legal & Professional Costs	0	0
Depreciation	753	0
Other	1,605	1,379
	3,704	4,052

10. Legal and administrative Costs

These include any Trustee expenses and the Independent Examiner's Fee.

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	1,200

11. Fixed Assets

	Office Equipment Cost £	Depreciation £	NBV £
1 April 2024	1,260	1,260	0
Additions	2,260	753	1,507
Disposals	1,260	1,260	0
31 March 2025	2,260	753	1,507

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred Income	0	0
Accruals	5,988	9,684
Examiner Fee	1,200	1,200
VAT	4,016	3,526
	11,204	14,410

13. Trustee Remuneration

No trustee or connected person (who served at any time during the year) received any remuneration or expenses.

14. Independent Examiner's Fee

The fee paid to the Independent Examiner totalled £1, 200 plus VAT

15 Operating Commitments

The Charity has a 3 year lease with Surrey Community Action for the occupation of its office. The cost is a proportion of the building running costs and there is a 6 month break clause after the first year.

At the year end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
	3,595	3,595

Surrey Youth Focus
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

16.Statement of Funds

	Balance 01/04/2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfer* £	Balance 31/03/2025 £
Restricted Funds					
Mscll Small Others	8,632	*1,056*	*-5,830*	-	3,858
VCSE Alliance	2,446	*56,130*	*-28,017*	-	30,559
LDA	15,699	*0*	*-15,699*	-	0
SCC Smaller Projects	10,384	*19,100*	*-29,484*	-	0
Workforce Innovation	32,940	*91,618*	*-124,558*	-	0
Additional Needs	0	*41,500*	*-41,500*	-	0
MHIF	0	*124,300*	*-67,028*	-	57,272
CFS/RHUL	0	*20,300*	*-20,300*	-	0
Inclusion	0	*27,000*	*-27,000*	-	0
Social Workers	0	*24,000*	*-1,739*	-	22,261
Total Restricted Funds	70,101	405,004	-361,154	0	113,951
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted funds	15,334	55,604	-23,492	0	47,446
Total funds	**85,435**	**460,608**	**-384,646**	**0**	**161,397**

Unresticted Funds

The unrestricted funds are used to cover all costs other than those spent on Restricted funds

Restricted Funds

Mscll Small Others	This relates to various small pieces of work for a number of funders. These are generally under £5, 000 in value
VCSE Alliance	This relates to monies received and spent on behalf of the Surrey VCSE Alliance
LDA	This relates to a grant to support the mobilisation of the Key Worker service in Surrey
SCC Smaller Projects	This relates to various small pieces of work for Surrey County Council. These are generally under £10, 000 in value
Workforce Innovation	This relates to a grant to support Workforce Development across the childrens workforce in Surrey
Additional Needs	This relates to monies received and spent on behalf of the Surrey VCSE Alliance
MHIF	This relates to a grant to support the mobilisation of the Key Worker service in Surrey
CFS/RHUL	This relates to various small pieces of work for Surrey County Council. These are generally under £10, 000 in value
Inclusion	This relates to a grant to support Workforce Development across the childrens workforce in Surrey
Social Workers	This relates to a grant to support Workforce Development across the childrens workforce in Surrey

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	**Restricted funds £**	**Total funds £**	**Total funds 2024 £**
Tangible fixed assets	1,507	0	1,507	
Cash at bank and in hand	57,145	113,951	171,096	99,845
Creditors due within one year	-11,204		-11,204	-14,410
Total 2025	**47,448**	**113,951**	**161,399**	**85,435**