

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE 2025 AGM

13TH NOVEMBER 2025



Working together to make
children's rights a reality

www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

 @childrightsunit



OUR VISION

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

OUR VALUES

Board Members and staff believe in:

- a 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- equal opportunities for all
- becoming the best that you can be
- partnership and holistic working
- empowering and transforming attitudes

OUR STAFF

Jannine Smith | Director/Company Secretary

Victoria Owen | Training and Support Officer

Clare Pritchard | Children's Rights Project Development Officer

OUR BOARD

Mark Dacey | Director/Chair

Pat Dunmore | Director

Susan Anne Jones MBE DL | Director/Treasurer

Sophie Millar | Director

Mari Shufflebotham | Director

Phil Treseder | Director (up to 24.10.24)

FOREWORD

At the Children's Rights Unit we believe that every child and young person deserves to grow up safe, happy, healthy, and empowered to be heard. Our mission is to promote, and protect the rights of children and young people - no matter their background, circumstances, or challenges they face.

It is with great pride that I present this year's Annual Report on behalf of our Board of Trustees and staff for the period April 2024 to March 2025. In this report, we reflect on a year of great progress and powerful partnerships. From our community outreach and education to supporting professionals and organisations to ensure the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are prioritised in everyday practice.

From amplifying youth voices to ensuring vulnerable children have a say in the services they need, our team has remained committed to protecting and promoting children's rights. Central to our work lies a simple but powerful belief: that every child and young person has the right to be safe, respected and heard and we remain committed to putting children and young people at the heart of everything we strive to accomplish. Their views, voices and stories are key in shaping what we do, allowing us to advocate for them and challenge barriers and inequalities in our communities.

Thank you to our funders, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea Bay University Health Board, and Pen Y Cymoedd Wind Farm Community Fund CIC for believing in us. We would also like to note our gratitude to Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service who continue to provide support and guidance.

This year we bid a fond farewell to long standing trustee Phil Treseder, Phil has been with us from the very beginning of our journey as a loyal, passionate and steadfast advocate for children's rights. Phil's unwavering dedication and tireless efforts to advancing children's rights have made a meaningful difference to the lives of many children and young people. His work as a trustee is not only deeply appreciated - it is truly inspiring.

Together, with the support of our partners, dedication of our trustees and staff, and children and young people themselves, we are striving to build a fairer, more inclusive future where every child's voice counts. To each of you: thank you. Your belief in our mission allows us to keep pushing boundaries and striving for a future where every child's rights are recognised and realised.

With gratitude

Mark Dacey
Chair



Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit | Ty Margaret Thorne | 17-19 Alfred Street | Neath | SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"The CRU have worked closely with Children's Services throughout the year to support us to embed children's rights into practice, this has ensured that we are working towards integrating children's rights into every aspect of policy and practice. In addition, the CRU have supported BAYouth to have their voices heard and undertake many activities including exploring paediatric environments through a young person's lens to ensure things are working well from a patient experience perspective. All of this work is helping to ensure that children's rights are embedded at the core of our service planning, empowering children to participate in many initiatives and ensuring we take their views explicitly into account."

Vicki Burrridge, Head of Nursing and Janet Millward, Deputy Head of Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"Over 40 professionals including Registered Nurses, Health Care Support Workers and Clinical Nurse Specialists attended the training. staff reported that they enjoyed the training and requested a longer session than was initially timetabled. We accommodated this request. This year the training will focus on putting their ideas into reality."



Rachel Isaac, Practice Development Nurse, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"NPT Child Services has a close working relationship with Jannine Smith - Director, Children's Rights Unit. The CRU plays a key role in ensuring we champion the voice of the child and embed children's rights into our daily work. The charity works tirelessly to support our care experienced children and young people through weekly groups, social action projects, residential, trips and so much more."

Darren Bartley, Engagement and Participation Officer, Neath Port Talbot Council.

"Jannine from the Children's Rights Unit has been instrumental in helping us focus on our duty-bearing responsibilities as Children's Rights Champions. Thanks to Jannine's unwavering support, we have significantly improved our service delivery by making essential changes to our working practices that address the needs and rights of children under Social Services. We are proud to have a dedicated group of Children's Rights Champions who have developed a set of "Promises" to our Care Experienced Children and our Care and Support population. Jannine is always available to provide the support we need in relation to Children's Rights, ensuring that we can continue to uphold and advocate for the rights of the children we serve."



Mel Weaver, Performance/Quality and Practice Manager, Neath Port Talbot Council.

"The best thing about Hope is that I can have an impact on the fostering system."

Hope member



"We can talk openly and no one feels left out."

Hope member

"I enjoy having new experiences."

YoVo member



"The group has made me feel comfortable and it feels like home."

YoVo member

"The knowURights project educates us about our rights and helps us to use our voice."

"I think other schools should have Children's Rights workshops because it is an interactive way of learning the importance of Children's Rights."

"The knowURights workshops help us to understand the things young people go through all over the world."

"We now get asked about our views in the youth forum."

"I enjoyed the 15 steps challenge, seeing that children are prioritised in their healthcare even in the ED. Ensuring that they are comfortable and calm even in the most stressful moments."

BAYouth member

"The best part was talking to staff and patients about their experiences in the department."

BAYouth member



"I joined because I wanted to volunteer in my community and understand health services for children and young people. I'm considering a career in health and thought joining BAYouth would give me the opportunity to be part of making a change."

BAYouth member

"I joined BAYouth to help people understand how to make hospitals better for children and young people who need extra help to understand things around them."

BAYouth member

"Something I love about being a part of BAYouth is that I feel part of a community. Despite being a new member, I feel that BAYouth is a very inclusive environment and I feel listened to."

BAYouth member

"Working with Clare and the Children's Rights Unit has proven to be an enlightening and incredibly rewarding experience. The charity's efforts, spearheaded by Clare, have made a significant impact, especially through the range of workshops conducted in school. These sessions have not only raised awareness but also empowered pupils with the knowledge to engage in important social issues."

Louise Morgan-Doyle, School Senedd, Ysgol Cwm Brombil

"The KnowURights project educates us about our rights and helps us to use our voice."

"I think other schools should have Children's Rights workshops because it is an interactive way of learning the importance of Children's Rights"

"I now understand my children's rights."

"We now get asked about our views in the youth forum."

KnowURights



"Our longstanding partnership of over six years with the NPT Children's Rights Unit continues to empower our learners in student voice roles through a rights-based approach."

James Morris, Senior Student Involvement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer, NPTC Group of Colleges.



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

"It is truly satisfying to work with a Local Authority who values the rights of the child to the same extent as the Children's Rights Unit and shares our aim of making the rights of the child a reality for our communities. We look forward to continuing our work in protecting and respecting children's rights in Neath Port Talbot now and in the future."

Mark Dacey, Chair, Children's Rights Unit.

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales



**Comisiynydd
yr Heddlu a
Throsedd
De Cymru**
South Wales
Police
and Crime
Commissioner

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions.

YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Article 24
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO LIFE AND
TO GROW UP TO BE
HEALTHY

Article 12
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO A VOICE
AND TO BE
LISTENED TO

FOSTER CARER PANEL QUESTIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

MEMBERS OF YOVO AND HOPE GOT TOGETHER AND DREW THE PERFECT FOSTER CARER. THEY THEN THOUGHT ABOUT THE QUESTIONS THEY WOULD ASK POTENTIAL FOSTER CARERS AT PANEL INTERVIEW.....

- ? WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A FOSTER CARER?
- ? HOW WOULD YOU ADAPT TO ENSURE THE CHILD/YOUNG PERSON FELT WELCOME IN YOUR HOME?
- ? WHAT ARE THE TOP 3 QUALITIES A FOSTER CARER NEEDS?
- ? HOW WOULD YOU GIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR A CHILD/YOUNG PERSON TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS?
- ? WHAT DO YOU DO TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF?
- ? HOW WOULD YOU DEAL WITH DIFFICULT QUESTIONS FROM A YOUNG PERSON?
- ? WHAT WOULD YOU TO BUILD TRUST WITH A CHILD/YOUNG PERSON?
- ? HOW WOULD YOU RESPECT A CHILD/YOUNG PERSON'S INDIVIDUALITY?





Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN SHOULD DO WHAT IS BEST FOR EACH CHILD

Article 29
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.



HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS



Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.



Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

"It washed all my worries away"

"I totally switched off"

Article 24
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND TO GROW UP TO BE HEALTHY



The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

Article 12

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO A VOICE AND TO BE LISTENED TO



Working together to make children's rights a reality



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.



"When in care, don't treat them differently to other kids in the house like they are not worthy of love."

"What made it worse was the moving, seeing all your things in the car and not knowing what was in there."

"It's really frustrating because when you say this is what I need or this is what I want to be more comfortable and they don't help you with it then sometime it can mess with your brain and then when you react in a way they don't like they can get all angry and frustrated with you when it's not your fault."



As part of a creative project with Rewise, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Article 30

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR CULTURE

Article 2

ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 HAVE THESE RIGHTS



Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Article 20

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE LOOKED AFTER IF YOU CAN'T LIVE WITH YOUR FAMILY

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol



Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots



Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs



Article 31
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO RELAX
AND PLAY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE



Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project – a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.



Thank you to MS Dawn Bowden for visiting the group.

Thank you to the NPT Youth Fund for awarding the grant for this project.



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.



Article 28
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO AN
EDUCATION

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

INTRODUCTION

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

"We are privileged to now be in the position to be providers for the next 3 years in this essential area of the health board's work. Going forward we are ambitious and eager to continue to support and work closely with all relevant staff across all areas of the health board that children and young people either directly access or indirectly encounter. We look forward to continuing to work in close partnership initiating, planning and delivering new and innovative initiatives and bespoke training to meet the CRU's stated aims and the health board's commitment to meeting children and young peoples' rights in line with the UNCRC."

Susan A Jones MBE DL, Treasurer, Children's Rights Unit.



Article 24
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO LIFE AND
TO GROW UP TO BE
HEALTHY

BAYOUTH – YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board. BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

Eight BAYouth meetings were held this year

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.



Ten new members joined

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Working together to make children's rights a reality

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.



@BAYouthNHS



BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.



Article 12

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO A VOICE AND TO BE LISTENED TO

Article 19

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED

Article 13

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.



New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.



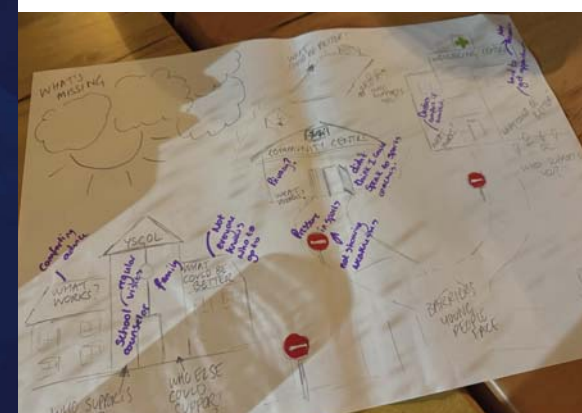
Article 24

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND TO GROW UP TO BE HEALTHY



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and well-being.



BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

"Thank you again to yourself for supporting our service to ensure the voices of young people are very much heard and put into use."

Joanne Jones, Operational Team Manager for School Nursing and Looked After Children (NPT), SBUHB.



15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.



"I like talking to staff about their experiences and passion for maintaining efficient and effective patient care."

"The atmosphere in the department was welcoming, all staff were friendly."

Article 19
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
PROTECTED

Article 12
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO A VOICE
AND TO BE
LISTENED TO

Article 13
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO
INFORMATION

TRAINING

Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

"Throughout the training experience I thoroughly enjoyed developing my understanding of the core elements and responsibilities of being a board member. Information has been presented in a way that promotes an in depth, genuine understanding of each of the key areas - this proved particularly helpful when covering topics that were new to me, such as content relating to the potential financial aspects of trustees' responsibilities. Discussion with others, followed by self-reflection, has also been enlightening - I feel more equipped for future team work settings."

BAYouth member.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.

Article 29

YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
THE BEST YOU
CAN BE



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.



Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.



"Over 40 professionals including Registered Nurses, Health Care Support Workers and Clinical Nurse Specialists attended the training. Staff reported that they enjoyed the training and requested a longer session than was initially timetabled. We accommodated this request. This year the training will focus on putting their ideas into reality."

Rachel Isaac, Practice Development Nurse, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"Good discussions. Thought provoking."

"Great session, made you think about what more could be done."

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

"We now have a group of informed Children's Rights Champions in our service and a plan that will enable us to embed Children's Rights into our everyday health care practice."

Sarah Griffith, Art Psychotherapist, Swansea Bay Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

KnowURights



Cronfa Gymunedol Fferm Wynt
PEN Y CYMOEDD
Wind Farm Community Fund CIC

Article 15
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO MEET
FRIENDS AND JOIN
GROUPS.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Article 15
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO MEET
FRIENDS AND JOIN
GROUPS



Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.



GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment.

Article 12
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO A VOICE AND TO
BE LISTENED TO



We had a blast at the Glyncorrwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!



Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.



The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships

Article 29
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
THE BEST YOU
CAN BE



Article 8
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO AN
IDENTITY

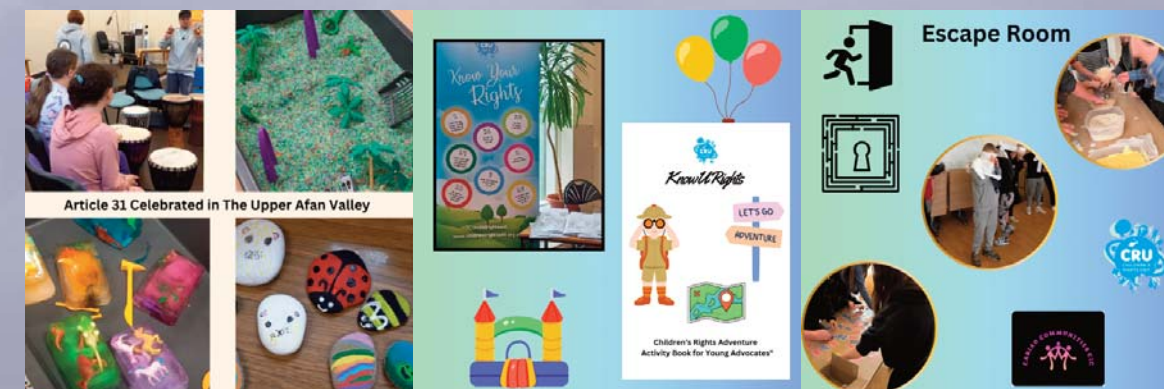
SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

Article 31
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO RELAX
AND PLAY



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- **Share their voices:** contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- **Access information:** learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- **Celebrate achievements:** highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

Article 13
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO
INFORMATION

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.



Article 15
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO MEET
FRIENDS AND JOIN
GROUPS.

AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!



Article 42
EVERYONE SHOULD
KNOW ABOUT
CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

We travelled to the federation of primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley to help children learn about their rights. We used games, crafts, and interactive storytelling to bring rights to life. Pupils developed a strong understanding of how they can enjoy and protect their rights and the rights of others.



Cymer Afan pupils explored different emotions and activities to be more mindful, alongside ways to keep our body and mind healthy.

Article 2
ALL CHILDREN
UNDER THE AGE OF
18 HAVE THESE
RIGHTS



Pupils from Cymer Afan Primary School became official Kindness Ambassadors during Anti Bullying week. They made a plan to take action and spread kindness and positivity.



Exploring article 29 pupils from Croeserw Primary used their map reading skills and explored their talents together.



Celebrating children's right to play highlighted that play is a fundamental right that supports learning, wellbeing, and healthy development.



Primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley celebrated what makes each child unique with our Your Name, Your Identity sessions where children designed their personal shields.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - CURIOSITY QUEST: ENGAGE, EXPLORE, LEAD!

Our innovative 'Curiosity Quest' programme empowered secondary school pupils to engage in critical discussions about mental health, inclusion and healthy relationships. Activities included Lego challenges, debates, and creative projects that built leadership skills and promoted empathy and resilience.

Ysgol Cwm Brombil Senior School Senedd had deep conversations about 'Privilege' and how we can build empathy and raise awareness around inequality.

The Junior School Senedd shared their views on screen time, the session raised awareness of the impact that excessive screen time can have on stress levels, and pupils discussed ways to promote healthy digital habits to manage stress effectively.

The Junior and Senior Senedd explored Human Rights Day and Children's Rights, they talked about the importance of having a voice in their communities and the world, and the incredible changes that can happen when those voices are heard. Pupils embraced the concept of being 'Torchbearers of Change', lighting the way for generations to come.

The School Senedd explored navigating Healthy Relationships, working together to discuss respect, communication, and building positive connections.

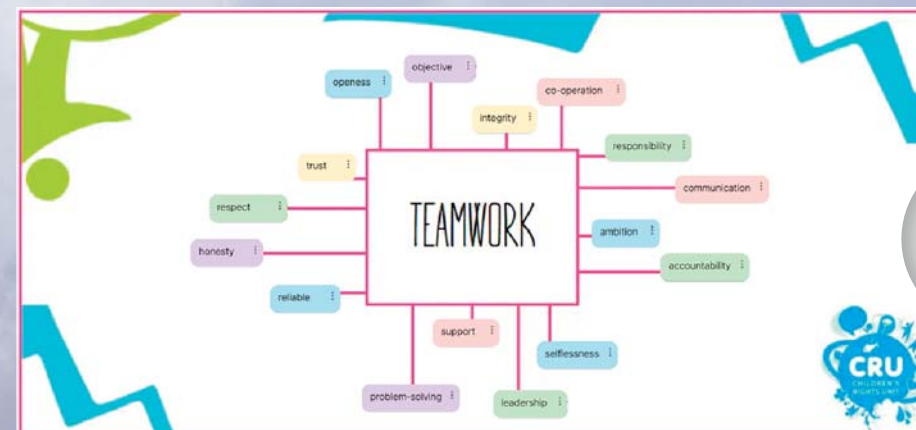
Pupils had a great time playing digital Guess Who, they gained the skills to take control of their digital experiences while understanding their rights & responsibilities.



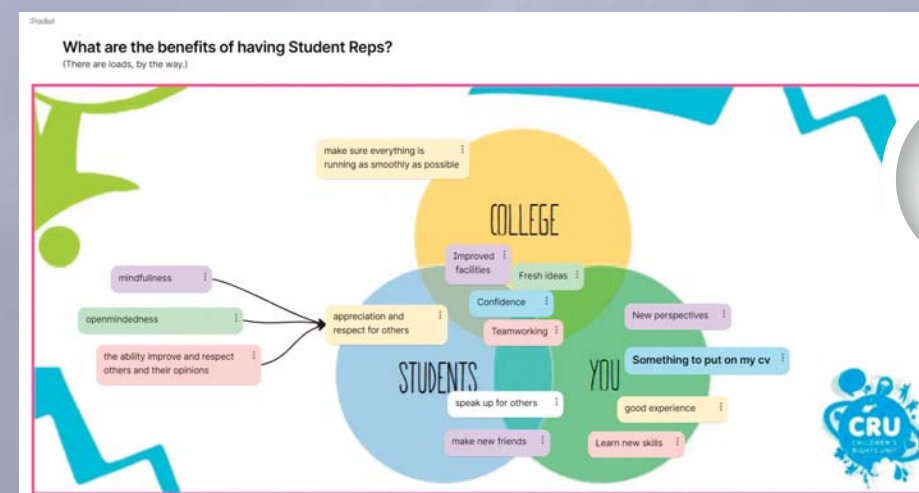
Article 19
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
PROTECTED

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

The Get on Board Cymru project delivered training to young people, empowering them to speak up, be heard, and become active citizens in their communities.



Article 12
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO A VOICE
AND TO BE
LISTENED TO



Article 29
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
THE BEST YOU
CAN BE

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

"Our longstanding partnership of over six years with the NPT Children's Rights Unit continues to empower our learners in student voice roles through a rights-based approach. Students who are new to roles such as class representative, student union member, ambassador, or student governor are supported in building their confidence in meeting settings. They develop essential listening and verbal communication skills, enabling them to actively contribute to discussions and debates. Throughout this process, they are encouraged to apply the Nolan Principles, ensuring they act with integrity, fairness, and in the best interests of their peers."

James Morris, Senior Student Involvement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer, NPTC Group of Colleges.

CONCLUDING REMARKS


As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.



Working together to make
children's rights a reality

www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

 @childrightsunit

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit , Ty Margaret Thorne, 17-19 Alfred Street, Neath, SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions. YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.

HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.

Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

As part of a creative project with Rewise, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

- A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol
- Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots
- Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE

Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project - a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

BAYOUTH - YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board.

BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.

BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.

BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and wellbeing.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.

TRAINING

Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.

GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment

We had a blast at the Glyncornwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!

Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.

The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- Share their voices: contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- Access information: learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- Celebrate achievements: highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.

AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

We travelled to the federation of primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley to help children learn about their rights. We used games, crafts, and interactive storytelling to bring rights to life. Pupils developed a strong understanding of how they can enjoy and protect their rights and the rights of others.

Cymer Afan pupils explored different emotions and activities to be more mindful, alongside ways to keep our body and mind healthy.

Pupils from Cymer Afan Primary School became official Kindness Ambassadors during Anti Bullying week. They made a plan to take action and spread kindness and positivity.

Exploring article 29 pupils from Croeserw Primary used their map reading skills and explored their talents together.

Celebrating children's right to play highlighted that play is a fundamental right that supports learning, wellbeing, and healthy development.

Primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley celebrated what makes each child unique with our Your Name, Your Identity sessions where children designed their personal shields.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS – CURIOSITY QUEST: ENGAGE, EXPLORE, LEAD!

Our innovative 'Curiosity Quest' programme empowered secondary school pupils to engage in critical discussions about mental health, inclusion and healthy relationships. Activities included Lego challenges, debates, and creative projects that built leadership skills and promoted empathy and resilience.

Ysgol Cwm Brombil Senior School Senedd had deep conversations about 'Privilege' and how we can build empathy and raise awareness around inequality.

The Junior School Senedd shared their views on screen time, the session raised awareness of the impact that excessive screen time can have on stress levels, and pupils discussed ways to promote healthy digital habits to manage stress effectively.

The Junior and Senior Senedd explored Human Rights Day and Children's Rights, they talked about the importance of having a voice in their communities and the world, and the incredible changes that can happen when those voices are heard. Pupils embraced the concept of being 'Torchbearers of Change', lighting the way for generations to come.

The School Senedd explored navigating Healthy Relationships, working together to discuss respect, communication, and building positive connections.

Pupils had a great time playing digital Guess Who, they gained the skills to take control of their digital experiences while understanding their rights & responsibilities.

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

The Get on Board Cymru project delivered training to young people, empowering them to speak up, be heard, and become active citizens in their communities.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £117,661 (2024: £96,204) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £96,843 (2024: £81,898) resulting in a net surplus of £20,818 (2024: £14,306).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 were £74,915 (2024: £74,012).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1152471

Registered office
Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE DL
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer
Clare Pritchard	Children's Rights Project Development Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

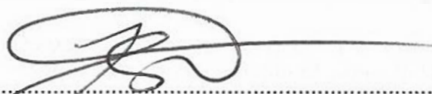
Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on13/11/25..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 13 November 2025

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	65,669	49,942	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities	4	2,050	-	2,050	3,023
Total		<u>67,719</u>	<u>49,942</u>	<u>117,661</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>66,816</u>	<u>30,027</u>	<u>96,843</u>	<u>81,898</u>
NET INCOME		903	19,915	20,818	14,306
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>74,915</u></u>	<u><u>24,527</u></u>	<u><u>99,442</u></u>	<u><u>78,624</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,867	897	2,764	4,470
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	2,050	180	2,230	300
Cash at bank and in hand		76,295	36,349	112,644	78,519
		<u>78,345</u>	<u>36,529</u>	<u>114,874</u>	<u>78,819</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,297)	(12,899)	(18,196)	(4,665)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>73,048</u>	<u>23,630</u>	<u>96,678</u>	<u>74,154</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				74,915	74,012
Restricted funds				<u>24,527</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:

Susan A. Jones
S A Jones MBE DL - Trustee

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, 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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity continues to maintain a strong financial position with sufficient cash balances and unrestricted reserves to meet its ongoing obligations. The trustees have designated funds for specific future expenditure, ensuring that resources are appropriately allocated to support the charity's objectives.

Bi-monthly management accounts are prepared and reviewed against budgeted figures and scrutinised by the Board of Trustees. An annual budget and financial forecast are also prepared and approved by the Board, incorporating key assumptions about income streams, expenditure, and designated commitments.

The trustees have reviewed the charity's financial forecasts for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These forecasts take into account the current financial position, expected income, and planned expenditure, including any known risks and uncertainties. Based on this review, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Grants	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
SBUHB	32,374	31,129
NPTCBC	33,295	31,800
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	29,452
Other grants	-	800
	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Training	<u>2,050</u>	<u>3,023</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,706</u>	<u>700</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Safeguarding training costs of £88 (2024: £nil) were paid on behalf of 1 (2024: nil) trustee(s) in the year.

7. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Administration & support	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	62,929	30,252	93,181
Other trading activities	3,023	-	3,023
Total	<u>65,952</u>	<u>30,252</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	56,235	25,663	81,898
NET INCOME	9,717	4,589	14,306
Transfers between funds	(23)	23	-
Net movement in funds	<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>14,306</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	64,318	-	64,318
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	863	7,308	8,171
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	863	2,838	3,701
Charge for year	-	1,706	1,706
At 31 March 2025	863	4,544	5,407
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,764	2,764
At 31 March 2024	-	4,470	4,470

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	2,050	300
Prepayments	180	-
	<u>2,230</u>	<u>300</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	312	423
Social security and other taxes	1,316	1,272
Other creditors	518	-
Accrued expenses	3,315	2,970
Deferred Grant	12,735	-
	<u>18,196</u>	<u>4,665</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	23,012	13,848	(26,945)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	12,945	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>74,012</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Pen Y Cymoedd	4,612	19,915	-	24,527
	<u>78,624</u>	<u>20,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	67,719	(53,871)	13,848
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	(12,945)
	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(66,816)</u>	<u>903</u>
Restricted funds			
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	(30,027)	19,915
	<u>117,661</u>	<u>(96,843)</u>	<u>20,818</u>

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	24,479	(14,785)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	14,762	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>9,717</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,012</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,589</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>14,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,624</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	65,952	(41,473)	24,479
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	(14,762)
	<u>65,952</u>	<u>(56,235)</u>	<u>9,717</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,252</u>	<u>(25,663)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,204</u>	<u>(81,898)</u>	<u>14,306</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	38,327	(41,730)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	27,707	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>10,620</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	24,527	-	24,527
	<u>-</u>	<u>24,504</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24,527</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>35,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	133,671	(95,344)	38,327
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	(27,707)
	<u>133,671</u>	<u>(123,051)</u>	<u>10,620</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	79,394	(54,867)	24,527
	<u>80,194</u>	<u>(55,690)</u>	<u>24,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,865</u>	<u>(178,741)</u>	<u>35,124</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

Get On Board

We realise there is a need for young people to be trained in good governance, decision-making and general board member duties. Although not currently funded, our Get on Board project is devoted to developing and delivering training for young people and organisations - both face to face and online we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'. Our project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Restricted Funds

The Changemakers

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo (care experienced group) to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, Jungle Escape at Plantasia and Art Therapy. The sessions empowered and challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness, build their confidence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Pen Y Cymoedd

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund for delivery in the Upper Afan Valley. The KnowURights' project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard. Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds - continued

Community Foundation Wales

The funding will pay towards a part-time member of CRU staff to develop and deliver a programme of workshops for secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot. The member of staff will deliver awareness raising and training opportunities to pupils at secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot who are in Years 7 to 9, aged 11 to 14. The workshops/training will focus on:

- o Understanding of rights (in particular Article 12 of the UNCRC - the right to be heard)
- o Building confidence and skills e.g. teamwork; communication; public speaking etc.
- o Meaningful participation - that participation is not an event; it is a process of listening to young people and encouraging them to contribute their thoughts
- o Pupil voice - concerning specific school issues where learners are invited to engage with school staff and decision-makers
- o How to influence decision making
- o Active citizenship

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities		
Training	2,050	3,023
Total incoming resources	117,661	96,204
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	70,531	59,021
Pensions	3,484	2,752
Telephone	673	10
Postage and stationery	2,894	2,079
Accreditation costs	83	399
Travelling	1,621	2,209
Staff Training	328	307
Project Activities	1,297	1,739
Subscriptions	70	45
Insurance	670	635
Marketing & Publicity	113	327
Room Hire	342	235
Recruitment	-	715
Computer Expenses	2,117	1,631
Depreciation	1,706	700
Events	3,274	1,960
	89,203	74,764
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,890	3,142
Legal fees	151	393
Support from NPTCVS	3,599	3,599
	7,640	7,134
Total resources expended	96,843	81,898
Net income	20,818	14,306

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions. YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.

HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.

Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

As part of a creative project with Rewrite, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

- A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol
- Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots
- Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE

Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project - a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

BAYOUTH - YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board.

BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.

BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.

BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and wellbeing.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.

TRAINING

Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.

GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment

We had a blast at the Glyncornwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!

Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.

The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- Share their voices: contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- Access information: learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- Celebrate achievements: highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.

AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

We travelled to the federation of primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley to help children learn about their rights. We used games, crafts, and interactive storytelling to bring rights to life. Pupils developed a strong understanding of how they can enjoy and protect their rights and the rights of others.

Cymer Afan pupils explored different emotions and activities to be more mindful, alongside ways to keep our body and mind healthy.

Pupils from Cymer Afan Primary School became official Kindness Ambassadors during Anti Bullying week. They made a plan to take action and spread kindness and positivity.

Exploring article 29 pupils from Croeserw Primary used their map reading skills and explored their talents together.

Celebrating children's right to play highlighted that play is a fundamental right that supports learning, wellbeing, and healthy development.

Primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley celebrated what makes each child unique with our Your Name, Your Identity sessions where children designed their personal shields.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS – CURIOSITY QUEST: ENGAGE, EXPLORE, LEAD!

Our innovative 'Curiosity Quest' programme empowered secondary school pupils to engage in critical discussions about mental health, inclusion and healthy relationships. Activities included Lego challenges, debates, and creative projects that built leadership skills and promoted empathy and resilience.

Ysgol Cwm Brombil Senior School Senedd had deep conversations about 'Privilege' and how we can build empathy and raise awareness around inequality.

The Junior School Senedd shared their views on screen time, the session raised awareness of the impact that excessive screen time can have on stress levels, and pupils discussed ways to promote healthy digital habits to manage stress effectively.

The Junior and Senior Senedd explored Human Rights Day and Children's Rights, they talked about the importance of having a voice in their communities and the world, and the incredible changes that can happen when those voices are heard. Pupils embraced the concept of being 'Torchbearers of Change', lighting the way for generations to come.

The School Senedd explored navigating Healthy Relationships, working together to discuss respect, communication, and building positive connections.

Pupils had a great time playing digital Guess Who, they gained the skills to take control of their digital experiences while understanding their rights & responsibilities.

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

The Get on Board Cymru project delivered training to young people, empowering them to speak up, be heard, and become active citizens in their communities.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £117,661 (2024: £96,204) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £96,843 (2024: £81,898) resulting in a net surplus of £20,818 (2024: £14,306).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 were £74,915 (2024: £74,012).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1152471

Registered office
Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE DL
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer
Clare Pritchard	Children's Rights Project Development Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

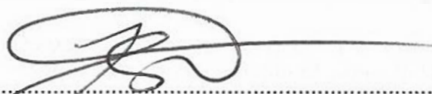
Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/11/25 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 13 November 2025

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	65,669	49,942	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities	4	2,050	-	2,050	3,023
Total		<u>67,719</u>	<u>49,942</u>	<u>117,661</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>66,816</u>	<u>30,027</u>	<u>96,843</u>	<u>81,898</u>
NET INCOME		903	19,915	20,818	14,306
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>74,915</u></u>	<u><u>24,527</u></u>	<u><u>99,442</u></u>	<u><u>78,624</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,867	897	2,764	4,470
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	2,050	180	2,230	300
Cash at bank and in hand		76,295	36,349	112,644	78,519
		<u>78,345</u>	<u>36,529</u>	<u>114,874</u>	<u>78,819</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,297)	(12,899)	(18,196)	(4,665)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>73,048</u>	<u>23,630</u>	<u>96,678</u>	<u>74,154</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				74,915	74,012
Restricted funds				<u>24,527</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:

Susan A. Jones
S A Jones MBE DL - Trustee

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, 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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity continues to maintain a strong financial position with sufficient cash balances and unrestricted reserves to meet its ongoing obligations. The trustees have designated funds for specific future expenditure, ensuring that resources are appropriately allocated to support the charity's objectives.

Bi-monthly management accounts are prepared and reviewed against budgeted figures and scrutinised by the Board of Trustees. An annual budget and financial forecast are also prepared and approved by the Board, incorporating key assumptions about income streams, expenditure, and designated commitments.

The trustees have reviewed the charity's financial forecasts for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These forecasts take into account the current financial position, expected income, and planned expenditure, including any known risks and uncertainties. Based on this review, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
SBUHB	32,374	31,129
NPTCBC	33,295	31,800
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	29,452
Other grants	-	800
	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Training	<u>2,050</u>	<u>3,023</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,706</u>	<u>700</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Safeguarding training costs of £88 (2024: £nil) were paid on behalf of 1 (2024: nil) trustee(s) in the year.

7. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	3	3
Administration & support	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	62,929	30,252	93,181
Other trading activities	3,023	-	3,023
Total	<u>65,952</u>	<u>30,252</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	56,235	25,663	81,898
NET INCOME	9,717	4,589	14,306
Transfers between funds	(23)	23	-
Net movement in funds	<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>14,306</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	64,318	-	64,318
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	863	7,308	8,171
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	863	2,838	3,701
Charge for year	-	1,706	1,706
At 31 March 2025	863	4,544	5,407
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,764	2,764
At 31 March 2024	-	4,470	4,470

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	2,050	300
Prepayments	180	-
	<u>2,230</u>	<u>300</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	312	423
Social security and other taxes	1,316	1,272
Other creditors	518	-
Accrued expenses	3,315	2,970
Deferred Grant	12,735	-
	<u>18,196</u>	<u>4,665</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	23,012	13,848	(26,945)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	12,945	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>74,012</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Pen Y Cymoedd	4,612	19,915	-	24,527
	<u>78,624</u>	<u>20,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	67,719	(53,871)	13,848
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	(12,945)
	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(66,816)</u>	<u>903</u>
Restricted funds			
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	(30,027)	19,915
	<u>117,661</u>	<u>(96,843)</u>	<u>20,818</u>

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	24,479	(14,785)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	14,762	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>9,717</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,012</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,589</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>14,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,624</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	65,952	(41,473)	24,479
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	(14,762)
	<u>65,952</u>	<u>(56,235)</u>	<u>9,717</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,252</u>	<u>(25,663)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,204</u>	<u>(81,898)</u>	<u>14,306</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	38,327	(41,730)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	27,707	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>10,620</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	24,527	-	24,527
	<u>-</u>	<u>24,504</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24,527</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>35,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	133,671	(95,344)	38,327
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	(27,707)
	<u>133,671</u>	<u>(123,051)</u>	<u>10,620</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	79,394	(54,867)	24,527
	<u>80,194</u>	<u>(55,690)</u>	<u>24,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,865</u>	<u>(178,741)</u>	<u>35,124</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

Get On Board

We realise there is a need for young people to be trained in good governance, decision-making and general board member duties. Although not currently funded, our Get on Board project is devoted to developing and delivering training for young people and organisations - both face to face and online we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'. Our project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Restricted Funds

The Changemakers

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo (care experienced group) to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, Jungle Escape at Plantasia and Art Therapy. The sessions empowered and challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness, build their confidence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Pen Y Cymoedd

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund for delivery in the Upper Afan Valley. The KnowURights' project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard. Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds - continued

Community Foundation Wales

The funding will pay towards a part-time member of CRU staff to develop and deliver a programme of workshops for secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot. The member of staff will deliver awareness raising and training opportunities to pupils at secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot who are in Years 7 to 9, aged 11 to 14. The workshops/training will focus on:

- o Understanding of rights (in particular Article 12 of the UNCRC - the right to be heard)
- o Building confidence and skills e.g. teamwork; communication; public speaking etc.
- o Meaningful participation - that participation is not an event; it is a process of listening to young people and encouraging them to contribute their thoughts
- o Pupil voice - concerning specific school issues where learners are invited to engage with school staff and decision-makers
- o How to influence decision making
- o Active citizenship

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities		
Training	2,050	3,023
Total incoming resources	117,661	96,204
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	70,531	59,021
Pensions	3,484	2,752
Telephone	673	10
Postage and stationery	2,894	2,079
Accreditation costs	83	399
Travelling	1,621	2,209
Staff Training	328	307
Project Activities	1,297	1,739
Subscriptions	70	45
Insurance	670	635
Marketing & Publicity	113	327
Room Hire	342	235
Recruitment	-	715
Computer Expenses	2,117	1,631
Depreciation	1,706	700
Events	3,274	1,960
	89,203	74,764
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,890	3,142
Legal fees	151	393
Support from NPTCVS	3,599	3,599
	7,640	7,134
Total resources expended	96,843	81,898
Net income	20,818	14,306