

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
FOR
BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**



Ainsworths Limited
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Charter House
Stansfield Street
Nelson
Lancashire
BB9 9XY

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

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**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

08737838 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

01158520

Registered office

St Peters Centre
Bank Parade
Church Street
Burnley
Lancashire
BB11 2DL

Trustees

Mrs D Livesey
Mr Ryan Bradley
Dr S Minten
Mrs S Haworth-Pearson
Mr B Butterworth
Mr N Tranmer (resigned 12th June 2024)
Mrs H Tyson
Mr W Rashid (resigned 12th April 2024)
Mr C J Barnes
Cllr A C Lewis
Cllr M Hurt (appointed 22nd April 2024)
Mrs J Caine (appointed 9th September 2024)
Mrs U Raziq (appointed 28th October 2024)

Role

Chair & Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Community Nominee
Employee Nominee
Community Nominee
Council Nominee
Council Nominee
Employee Nominee
Community Nominee

Key Management Personnel

Mr P Foster
Mr M Dempsey (resigned 1st March 2025)
Mr S Bryce
Mrs C Goodman
Mr M Dixon
Mrs C Steels

Role

Chief Executive
Head of Hospitality & Culture
Chief Operating Officer
Head of Community & Wellbeing
Head of Finance
Head of Culture

Auditors

Ainsworths Limited
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Charter House
Stansfield Street
Nelson
Lancashire
BB9 9XY

Bankers

HSBC Bank PLC
12 Manchester Road
Burnley
Lancashire
BB11 1JH

Solicitors

Winckworth Sherwood LLP
Minerva House
5 Montague Close
London
SE1 9BB

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company was incorporated on 17th October 2013 and registered as a charity on 10th September 2014. The charity is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. 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 Board shall consist of at least three and not more than eleven individuals, comprised as follows:

- One Employee Trustees;
- up to two Local Authority Trustees; and
- up to eight Community Trustees.

The Community Trustees shall at all times be in the majority. These trustees shall be elected with necessary expertise co-opted where appropriate by the existing trustees. When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

Risk management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to ensure regular reports are produced and that the necessary steps can be taken to address any issues arising.

Burnley Leisure and Culture is a registered charity operating within a company limited by guarantee. The board of trustees has the authority to co-opt individuals with relevant expertise where appropriate.

Organisation structure

The Board currently consists of eleven trustees and is responsible for key policy decisions and the effective governance of the organisation overall. The Board has a minimum of six meetings per financial year.

The day to day operations of Burnley Leisure and Culture are managed by the charity's senior management team (the Executive) made up of the Chief Executive and Service Managers. The Executive is given strategic direction by a Board of Trustees (the Board) regarding the provision and operation of the services in accordance with the contracts, leases and funding agreements made with Burnley Borough Council. The Board has ultimate responsibility for the governance of the charity, and directs, supports and challenges the Executive in its work.

Related parties

Trustees are required to declare an interest if they are involved in any activities which may compromise their role as a trustee and a monitoring mechanism is in place. The related party transactions during the past year have been disclosed below in the notes to the financial statements.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Burnley Leisure and Culture has been established for Public Benefit:

- To provide or assist in the provision of both indoor and outdoor facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such by reason of their youth, age, infirmity of disability, financial hardship or social circumstances or to the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life; and/or
- To promote community participation in Healthy Recreational Activities; and/or
- To provide or assist in the provision of community facilities to be available to all sections of the community without distinction, including the use for meetings, lecture and classes and/or other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for all those who use the facilities; and/or
- To advance the education of the public in all aspects of dramatic art through the provision of a theatre; and/or
- Such other charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion may determine

Public benefit

The trustees are confident that the charity offers services of real and practical use to the local population and therefore complies with the responsibility placed on all charities under the Charities Act 2011 to demonstrate a public benefit.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Introduction

The 2024/25 financial year has been a pivotal chapter in the ongoing evolution of Burnley Leisure and Culture. It was a year marked by strong growth, significant organisational change, and a renewed sense of ambition for the future. With the appointment of a new Chief Executive and Head of Community and Wellbeing, we have entered a new phase of leadership that builds upon the legacy of the past decade while setting the course for long-term innovation and impact.

Throughout the year, we continued to strengthen our role as a leading provider of wellbeing, cultural, and leisure services across East Lancashire. Our commitment to delivering high-quality, accessible programmes has enabled us to serve our communities more effectively—whether through record-setting attendance in our leisure centres, expanding cultural engagement across the borough, or pioneering inclusive health and wellbeing initiatives.

This report captures a year of dynamic progress, driven by collaboration, investment, and a shared vision for Burnley as a vibrant, healthy, and connected place to live, work, and thrive. As we look ahead, we remain firmly focused on sustainability, growth, and deepening our partnerships to deliver even greater value for our community.

Facilities

We have achieved significant growth across all aspects of operations within the last 12 months and continue to be recognised as the leading provider for wellbeing, health, cultural and hospitality experiences across East Lancashire.

Our Leisure Centres have witnessed outstanding growth, in particular the fitness membership with growth of 34%, and Swim Academy, with over 3500 children benefitting from our school swimming programme and learn to swim growth by 19%. We continue to excel in working in partnership with all stakeholders and making a real impact across the borough, our present UCLan partnership has 980 local students regularly taking part in health and fitness activities. BLC's golfing operations continue to be a great success with increased participation, record attendances on the 18-hole golf course and driving range with over 3 million balls hit on the range alone, alongside record sales at our golf shops. Our football pitches have also achieved record attendances with nearly 40 football teams participating weekly.

Burnley Mechanics Theatre has experienced another positive year, demonstrating growth in ticket sales with an ever-increasing diverse programme, and positive growth in functions and private hire events. We do still encounter challenges within the present economic climate and operational costs associated but are in a strong position and our programming reflects affordable diverse cultural experiences. We continue to engage with a significant number of partners and organisations in ensuring increased community use for the theatre.

Our integrated food and beverage offerings have witnessed further growth across all sites with a reputation for quality and outstanding customer service, whilst still impacted with challenges of ever-increasing cost of goods and staffing. The team continue to deliver leading event experiences both within our venues and externally, with many events such as festive and pre-theatre dining sold out. Due to better weather in the last quarter of the year, we witnessed increased footfall and sales within our park venues and continue to explore new opportunities. Down Town Kitchen & Café continues to thrive, demonstrating even stronger partnership and collaboration working with several impactful projects such as paid on meals, free breakfasts for children and cookery schools.

We continue to reinvest in all our facilities, operations, and technology in ensuring we continue to innovate and provide premium services, some examples being significant investment in Prairie Sports Village's conferencing facilities, Mechanics' artists and sanitary provision, leisure centre gyms, viewing galleries, accessibility and point of sales, kitchen equipment and BLC App.

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

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Facilities (continued)

We are committed to reducing our carbon footprint and net zero targets to ensure operations are sustainable and have obtained Bronze status for Carbon Literacy across the Trust. We have significant reductions and good practices demonstrated across all areas, such as micro-filtration, waste recycling, composting, packaging, reuse of food waste, recycled products, local product sourcing and energy saving management systems.

We continue to invest heavily in our people and provide job opportunities,, ranging from our successful apprenticeship and intern schemes to upskilling our existing workforce, benchmarking with quality assurance and mystery visit schemes.

Culture

Following the launch of Burnley's Cultural Framework at the end of the 2023/24 financial year, cultural development plans have continued to grow towards Burnley 2027 Year of Culture and its legacy. The Culture Burnley networking group has expanded significantly over the year with a successful programme of events attracting people from across a range of sectors and organisations (approximately 120 network members), resulting in the establishment of a series of working groups to take ownership of thematic areas including music, placemaking, heritage, outdoor town, community engagement and more.

Work continued across the full financial year to deliver the Arts Council England funded Hug Burnley (Mechanics Theatre Presents) programme of outreach and community focused activity, bringing theatre, comedy, storytelling, crafts and other activities to community spaces. This partnership with cultural programmer Culturapedia, engaged 148 creative practitioners across the project, with 688 active participants taking part in activities and 2,622 audience members.

The Caravan Gallery Burnley Pride of Place Project, also funded by Arts Council England concluded in September 2024 with 19 creative practitioners engaged, 898 active participants, 3,578 audience members and 7 volunteers. The town centre pop up was incredibly successful and built relationships with communities, created many new links with artists and makers and opportunities for collaboration.

£15,550 was secured through Burnley's Shared Prosperity Fund scheme towards preliminary activity feeding into Burnley Words Festival 2025, with funding running to 31 March 2025. 50 activities were delivered across the period.

Across the 3 programmes, we developed partnerships and significantly increased the connectivity between communities and BLC. This has laid the groundwork for a further successful application to Arts Council England for £43,650 towards Burnley Words Festival 2025 and legacy activity in partnership with festival producer Culturapedia.

The learning has also supported the development of programming in the Mechanics Theatre, one example of note being that we have formed a new relationship with Dance Syndrome to deliver programmes of inclusive dance which are open to all, regardless of physical ability.

In September 2024 we held the first Culture Burnley Awards, a highly successful event attended by around 180 people and 9 awards categories. The event elevated the profile of Burnley's cultural sector and has strengthened local relationships. This event will be held again in 2026.

Collaboration with Burnley College continues to develop through the Mechanics hosting events, exhibitions and work placements. We also collaborated on bringing a performance focused on youth mental health to the college, attended by around 100 students.

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

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Community and Wellbeing

Over the past 12 months, Community and Wellbeing projects, initiatives, and programmes have continued to expand and evolve. Among the key achievements is the successful completion and launch of Padiham Hive—a transformed bowling club and green that now operates as a community hub, encouraging outdoor activity, social engagement, and local pride. Another major milestone is the introduction of the 10-year Outdoor Town Vision; a long-term strategy aimed at embedding physical activity into daily life across the borough. Developed in partnership with the Active Burnley Forum and supported by Together an Active Future (TaAF), this vision reflects a shared commitment from a wide network of local organisations, health leaders, and community partners to foster a more active, connected, and healthier Burnley.

Over the past 12 months, we've undergone several staffing changes, presenting a valuable opportunity to realign our focus and redefine our priorities. We've welcomed a new Health Development Manager, Specialist Health Programme Manager, and Community Development Manager, and we are currently in the process of recruiting two new Sport and Play Activators. These additions will enable us to strengthen our outdoor and nature-based initiatives, expand family-oriented activities, and enhance our specialised health programmes targeting specific long-term conditions.

Looking ahead, the next phase of Together an Active Future (TaAF)—known as the Deepening phase—brings a great opportunity for Pennine Lancashire. With more investment coming into the area, the focus will be on tackling physical inactivity in three key areas: Health in Primary Care, Active Environments, and Education settings. Burnley Leisure and Culture (BLC) has been identified as a key partner in this work and will play an important role in helping to deliver these priorities over the next two years.

Conclusion

As we reflect on a year of growth, innovation, and strengthened community ties, Burnley Leisure and Culture stands poised for an exciting future. Through strategic partnerships, investment in people and places, and a commitment to sustainability and inclusivity, we have laid firm foundations for the next phase of our journey. We are proud of the progress made and energised by the opportunities ahead as we continue to develop the organisation to support the health, wellbeing, and cultural life of our community.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The attached statement of financial activities shows how our funds were raised and applied during the year.

This statement separates funds, which the charity itself controls – unrestricted funds, from funds which have to be spent in a manner determined by the donor – restricted funds. In this year restricted funds have been received from various grant making bodies.

Looking to the future we will continue to maintain a tight control over costs, monitor income closely, and strive to identify future funding streams. We aim to ensure that we are well placed to react to any further negative or indeed positive impact of the economy.

Investment policy

The trustees regularly monitor the available cash reserves of the charity and seek to maximise the interest earned on such funds.

Reserves policy

The charity has insufficient reserves to ensure that it can deal with major unexpected adverse developments without direct support from Burnley Borough Council. The trustees maintain a regular dialogue with the Council to ensure that, should major unexpected adverse developments arise, any difficulties that require attention are addressed in a mutually agreeable manner.

The trustees are confident that the charity has established diversity of operations, sufficient versatility and control of expenditures of such nature that it is able to adapt to changing circumstances that will arise from time to time under normal business circumstances.

The trustees have considered the current adverse economic climate when reviewing their reserves policy and are confident, in light of the changes planned, that the charity is sufficiently robust and able to continue operating normally whilst it seeks to achieve these targets.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted reserves of £491,661 and restricted reserves of £264,096. In addition to these reserves the pension scheme was in surplus by £4,957,000.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the surplus or deficit of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP and FRS 102;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS


So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Ainsworths Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


.....
Mrs D Livesey
Chair

Date: 20th October 2025

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Burnley Leisure and Culture (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusion relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the Report of the Trustees, but does not include the financial statements and our Report of the Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees, which includes directors' report and strategic report for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report included within the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees; or
- Material misstatement in the strategic report or directors' report included within the trustees report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page seven, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance;
- results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having made enquiries of management about their policies and procedures relating to:
 - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate.

Audit response to risks identified

As a result of performing the above our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statements disclosure and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of management about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risk of material misstatement due to fraud;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in a Report of the Auditors and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mark Sunter (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Ainsworths Limited
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
Charter House
Stansfield Street
Nelson
Lancashire
BB9 9XY

Date: 20th October 2025

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
INCOME					
Income from charitable activities:					
Grant income	2	80,008	409,683	489,691	694,749
Operation of leisure and arts facilities	3	7,278,400	140,785	7,419,185	6,448,077
Investment income		<u>16,566</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,566</u>	<u>14,512</u>
Total income		<u>7,374,974</u>	<u>550,468</u>	<u>7,925,442</u>	<u>7,157,338</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	4	781,486	-	781,486	645,522
Charitable activities:					
Operation of leisure and arts facilities	5	6,497,570	535,833	7,033,403	6,492,712
Other					
Balance of pension scheme operating charge	19	(20,000)	-	(20,000)	40,000
Net interest on pension scheme liability	19	<u>(158,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(158,000)</u>	<u>(94,000)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>7,101,056</u>	<u>535,833</u>	<u>7,636,889</u>	<u>7,084,234</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>273,918</u>	<u>14,635</u>	<u>288,553</u>	<u>73,104</u>
Other recognised gains and losses					
Pension scheme actuarial gains	19	<u>1,811,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,811,000</u>	<u>1,143,000</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>2,084,918</u>	<u>14,635</u>	<u>2,099,553</u>	<u>1,216,104</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,363,743</u>	<u>249,461</u>	<u>3,613,204</u>	<u>2,397,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>5,448,661</u></u>	<u><u>264,096</u></u>	<u><u>5,712,757</u></u>	<u><u>3,613,204</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2025


	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	<u>369,634</u>	<u>268,570</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock	11	147,441	139,726
Debtors	12	236,315	260,766
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>715,680</u>	<u>611,287</u>
		1,099,436	1,011,779
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(713,313)</u>	<u>(595,325)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>386,123</u>	<u>416,454</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>755,757</u>	<u>685,024</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due after one year	14	-	39,820
NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION SCHEME		<u>755,757</u>	<u>645,204</u>
PENSION SCHEME SURPLUS	19	<u>4,957,000</u>	<u>2,968,000</u>
NET LIABILITIES INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME		<u>5,712,757</u>	<u>3,613,204</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	17	491,661	395,743
Restricted funds	18	264,096	249,461
Pension scheme surplus/(deficit)		<u>4,957,000</u>	<u>2,968,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>5,712,757</u>	<u>3,613,204</u>

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

The trustees have prepared the accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 138 of the Charities Act 2011. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (effective 1st January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 20th October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs D Livesey
Chair

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from charitable activities			
Cash generated from activities	1	<u>335,816</u>	<u>198,516</u>
Net cash from charitable activities		<u>335,816</u>	<u>198,516</u>
 Cash flows from financing and investing activities			
Fixed asset additions		(195,998)	(198,840)
Interest received		16,566	14,512
New loan in the year		-	51,991
Loan repayments in the year		<u>(51,991)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash from financing activities		<u>(231,423)</u>	<u>(132,337)</u>
 Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>104,393</u>	<u>66,179</u>
 Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2	<u>611,287</u>	<u>545,108</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	2	<u><u>715,680</u></u>	<u><u>611,287</u></u>

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

1. RECONCILIATION OF SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) TO CASH GENERATED FROM ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Surplus for the year	2,099,553	1,216,104
Interest received	(16,566)	(14,512)
Depreciation	90,008	74,138
Loss on disposal of assets	4,926	-
	2,177,921	1,275,730
Increase in stocks	(7,715)	(14,761)
Decrease in trade and other debtors	24,451	73,326
Increase in trade and other creditors	130,159	61,221
(Increase) in pension scheme surplus	(1,989,000)	(1,197,000)
Cash generated from charitable activities	335,816	198,516

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The amounts disclosed on the Cash Flow Statement in respect of cash and cash equivalents are in respect of these Balance Sheet amounts:

Year ended 31st March 2025

	31.3.25	1.4.24
	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	715,680	611,287

Year ended 31st March 2024

	31.3.24	1.4.23
	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	611,287	545,108

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company information

Burnley Leisure and Culture is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page. Each member's personal liability is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The related party, Burnley Borough Council, have confirmed their support to the charity by the offer of financial support in the following financial year. They have continued the provision of grant support and continued support of the charity in its cash flow requirements. Accordingly, the trustees have concluded that it is appropriate for these financial statements to be prepared on the going concern basis.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Burnley Leisure and Culture meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is the amount derived from ordinary activities, and stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Grants receivable are accounted for when due. Income is deferred when it is received in advance of the period to which it relates.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Resources expended

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.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management and administration of the charity.

All support costs are allocated between the activity expenditure categories on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resources. Support costs are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent, floor areas, or estimated usage.

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

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings - 10%-33% on cost

The financial statements do not include the cost of land, buildings and equipment used at nominal rent by Burnley Leisure and Culture, whose title rests with Burnley Borough Council. It is not practicably possible to attribute a value to this benefit.

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

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.

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

The charity participates in a defined benefit scheme. Although the scheme is a multi-employer scheme it is possible to allocate a share of the assets and liabilities to the charity and hence contributions are accounted for as a defined benefit scheme in accordance with FRS 102.

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowances for slow and obsolete items.

Stock is valued on a first in first out basis on historical cost.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price.

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements and estimates. The major item in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates must be made is in relation to the pension scheme. Management consult with experts to provide appropriate assumptions on which to calculate projected funding position for the scheme. Details of the assumptions within the calculations to derive the net value of the pension fund are shown within note 19.

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Significant judgements and estimates (continued)

There has been substantial volatility in financial markets over recent years due to global wars, and their subsequent impact on global supply chains and inflation. These have consequences for asset and liability values, and this is reflected in the 2024/25 accounting figures.

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - GRANT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Sport England	168,562	239,979
Lancashire County Council	80,626	69,882
HAF	77,328	111,058
Active Lancashire	68,000	29,400
Words Festival	40,525	-
Cardiac Rehabilitation	29,384	27,000
Burnley Borough Council	18,223	25,196
Arts Council England	10,450	83,690
Stocks Massey	8,600	4,000
Partner contributions	1,567	-
Business Health Matters	1,333	59,637
Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS	-	30,000
Climate Action Fund	(14,907)	14,907
Total	<u>489,691</u>	<u>694,749</u>

In 2024, of the total grant income, £611,229 was restricted and £83,520 was unrestricted funds.

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – OPERATION OF FACILITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Burnley Borough Council annual contract fee	1,129,315	951,063
Income from the operation of leisure and arts facilities	6,289,870	5,497,014
	<u>7,419,185</u>	<u>6,448,077</u>

In 2024, of the total charitable activities income, £278,874 was restricted and £6,169,203 was unrestricted funds.

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

4. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.3.25 £	Total 31.3.24 £
Staff costs and allowances	450,272	-	450,272	377,231
Premises expenses	27,049	-	27,049	17,935
Supplies and services	271,816	-	271,816	220,188
Transport expenses	1,059	-	1,059	818
Business and technical support (see note 6)	31,290	-	31,290	29,350
	<u>781,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>781,486</u>	<u>645,522</u>

In 2024, of the total costs of charitable activities, £nil was restricted and £645,522 was unrestricted funds.

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.3.25 £	Total 31.3.24 £
Staff costs and allowances	3,623,228	429,216	4,052,444	3,838,859
Premises expenses	235,937	7,505	243,442	162,463
Supplies and services	2,341,174	98,516	2,439,690	2,212,678
Transport expenses	8,936	596	9,532	8,417
Business and technical support (see note 6)	281,645	-	281,645	264,145
Governance costs (see note 6)	6,650	-	6,650	6,150
	<u>6,497,570</u>	<u>535,833</u>	<u>7,033,403</u>	<u>6,492,712</u>

In 2024, of the total costs of charitable activities, £958,129 was restricted and £5,534,583 was unrestricted funds.

Included in the above are governance and support costs. These costs have been allocated using an element of judgement as the charity has had to consider the cost/benefit of detailed calculations and record keeping. Therefore, support costs have been allocated accordingly to proportion of direct costs incurred within each charitable activity.

6. GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Business and technical support	312,935	-	312,935	293,495
Audit services	5,700	-	5,700	5,250
Non-audit services	950	-	950	900
	<u>319,585</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>319,910</u>	<u>299,645</u>

In 2024, of the total governance and support costs, £nil was restricted and £299,645 was unrestricted funds.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

7. NET OUTGOING RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	6,650	6,150
Depreciation	<u>90,008</u>	<u>74,138</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' Remuneration

During the year remuneration of £18,852 (2024: £43,995) was paid to two (2024: one) employee trustees, in relation to their employment duties. These payments are authorised by the Articles of Association. No trustees received remuneration for their roles as trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees' Expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

9. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,759,010	3,755,429
Social security costs	271,408	263,650
Other pension costs	<u>472,298</u>	<u>445,157</u>
	<u>4,502,716</u>	<u>4,464,236</u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Employees	<u>201</u>	<u>188</u>

Employees earning more than £60,000 during the year:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
£60,001 - £75,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The above staff member participated in the defined benefit pension scheme. Contributions of £11,070 (2024: £10,800) were made in relation to this individual.

The total remuneration paid to Key Management Personnel was £334,118 (2024: £237,186).

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1st April 2024	423,689
Additions	195,998
Disposals	<u>(7,976)</u>
At 31 st March 2025	<u>611,711</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2024	155,119
Charge for year	90,008
Eliminated on disposal	<u>(3,050)</u>
At 31 st March 2025	<u>242,077</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 st March 2025	<u>369,634</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>268,570</u>

11. STOCK

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Leisure centre stock	15,292	13,895
Towneley golf stock	63,251	46,769
Bar and catering	<u>68,898</u>	<u>79,062</u>
	<u>147,441</u>	<u>139,726</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Trade debtors	202,301	235,791
Prepayments and accrued income	34,014	24,975
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>236,315</u>	<u>260,766</u>

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	327,324	181,511
Accruals and deferred income	314,966	251,411
Other creditors	71,023	150,232
Hire purchase contracts	-	12,171
	<u>713,313</u>	<u>595,325</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Hire purchase contracts	-	39,820
	<u>-</u>	<u>39,820</u>

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The following operating lease payments are committed and fall due as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Expiry date:		
Within 1 year	8,410	8,810
Between one and five years	2,005	9,615
	<u>10,415</u>	<u>18,425</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.3.25 Total funds	31.3.24 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	369,634	-	369,634	268,570
Current assets	835,340	264,096	1,099,436	1,011,779
Current liabilities	(713,313)	-	(713,313)	(595,325)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	(39,820)
Pension scheme surplus	4,957,000	-	4,957,000	2,968,000
	<u>5,448,661</u>	<u>264,096</u>	<u>5,712,757</u>	<u>3,613,204</u>

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Pension surplus £	General funds £	Designated funds £	Total funds £
Balance at 1 st April 2024	2,968,000	283,956	111,787	3,363,743
Net income / (expenditure)	1,989,000	18,005	77,913	2,084,918
	<u>4,957,000</u>	<u>301,961</u>	<u>189,700</u>	<u>5,448,661</u>

Purposes of designated funds

The trustees have designated funds to assist in the future development of the charity and the upgrading of facilities.

General fund

The general fund consists of the total of free reserves available to spend on the objectives of the charity.

18. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1 st April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 st March 2025 £
Project fund				
Active Streets	90,887	47,983	59,495	79,375
Beat the Street	-	36,000	-	36,000
Climate Action Fund	14,907	(14,907)	-	-
Holiday Activities and Food programme	6,975	-	646	6,329
Healthy Lifestyles	100,536	401,088	412,278	89,346
Hug Burnley	31,156	1,729	28,814	4,071
Ernest Trust	-	19,000	-	19,000
Pride of Place	5,000	14,050	19,050	-
Words Festival	-	45,525	15,550	29,975
	<u>249,461</u>	<u>550,468</u>	<u>535,833</u>	<u>264,096</u>

The restricted grants received in the year have been categorised above.

19. PENSION ARRANGEMENTS

The charity participates in the Lancashire County Pension Fund which is a funded defined benefit scheme providing benefits based on final remuneration. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Whilst this is a multi-employer scheme, the actuary is able to segregate the assets and liabilities relating to the charity. During the year, normal employer pension contributions of £472,298 (2024: £445,157) were paid to the scheme.

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

19. PENSION ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following calculations as at 31st March 2025 have been provided by the actuaries, Mercer Limited, using the projected unit actuarial costs method. Principal actuarial assumptions used by the actuary were as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	%	%
Rate of CPI inflation	2.60	2.60
Rate of increase in salaries	4.10	4.10
Rate of increase in pensions	2.70	2.70
Discount rate	5.90	4.90
Life expectancy of a male future pensioner aged 65 in 20 years' time	22.3	22.40
Life expectancy of a female future pensioner aged 65 in 20 years' time	25.40	25.30
Life expectancy of a male current pensioner aged 65	21.10	21.10
Life expectancy of a female current pensioner aged 65	23.60	23.50

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(9,089,000)	(10,261,000)
Fair value of plan assets	14,046,000	13,229,000
Net pension surplus/(deficit)	<u>4,957,000</u>	<u>2,968,000</u>

Analysis of amounts charged to the Statement of Financial Activities:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Operating charge		
Current service cost	435,000	467,000
Administration expenses	19,000	18,000
Total operating charge	<u>454,000</u>	<u>485,000</u>

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Other finance costs		
Expected return on pension scheme assets	(658,000)	(563,000)
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	500,000	469,000
Net (income)/charge	<u>(158,000)</u>	<u>(94,000)</u>

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Total charge to resources expended in Statement of Financial Activities	<u>296,000</u>	<u>391,000</u>

BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

19. PENSION ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Analysis of the actuarial gains and losses shown in the Statement of Financial Activities:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses) on assets	(207,000)	432,000
Actuarial gains/(losses) on liabilities	<u>2,018,000</u>	<u>711,000</u>
Actuarial gain / (loss) recognised	<u>1,811,000</u>	<u>1,143,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Opening defined benefit obligation	10,261,000	9,945,000
Current service cost	435,000	467,000
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	500,000	469,000
Employee contributions	192,000	180,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(2,018,000)	(711,000)
Benefits paid / transfers	<u>(281,000)</u>	<u>(89,000)</u>
Closing defined benefit obligations	<u>9,089,000</u>	<u>10,261,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of plan assets are as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Opening fair value of plan assets	13,229,000	11,716,000
Expected return on plan assets	658,000	563,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(207,000)	432,000
Employer contributions	474,000	445,000
Employee contributions	192,000	180,000
Administration expenses	(19,000)	(18,000)
Benefits paid / transfers	<u>(281,000)</u>	<u>(89,000)</u>
Closing fair value of plan assets	<u>14,046,000</u>	<u>13,229,000</u>

The split of assets between investment categories is as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.25	31.3.24	31.3.24
	£	%	£	%
Equities	13,000	0.10	14,000	0.10
Government bonds	-	-	-	-
Other bonds	14,000	0.10	13,000	0.10
Property	169,000	1.20	172,000	1.30
Cash/liquidity	211,000	1.50	238,000	1.80
Other	<u>13,639,000</u>	<u>97.10</u>	<u>12,792,000</u>	<u>96.70</u>
	<u>14,046,000</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>13,229,000</u>	<u>100.00</u>

**BURNLEY LEISURE AND CULTURE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

19. PENSION ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Amounts for the current and previous periods are as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	(9,089,000)	(10,261,000)	(9,945,000)
Plan assets	<u>14,046,000</u>	<u>13,229,000</u>	<u>11,716,000</u>
Surplus/(deficit)	<u>4,957,000</u>	<u>2,968,000</u>	<u>1,771,000</u>

A full actuarial review of the scheme was undertaken as at 31st March 2025.

Following the full actuarial valuation, employer contributions were agreed to stay at a rate of 8.80% with effect from 1st April 2025.

The current estimate of employer contributions for the year ended 31st March 2026 is £474,000. Implied service cost is estimated at £284,000 and a net interest and administration income at £287,000 resulting in the surplus increasing by an estimated £471,000 to £5,428,000.

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Under an agreement dated 25th March 2014, the charity acquired the use of the community arts and leisure facilities in the Burnley area from Burnley Borough Council, a related party by virtue of its grant funding to the charity. The community arts and leisure facilities include all the equipment at each site and enable the society to operate under its principal activity. The value of the equipment and the potential liability for the consideration are not included in the accounts in order to reflect the substance of the arrangement.

The charity operates from premises owned by Burnley Borough Council.

During the period, the charity received grant funding from Burnley Borough Council of £1,129,315 (2024: £951,063).

Burnley Borough Council also provides professional services to the charity under a service agreement which they were charged £312,935 (2024: £293,495) in the period.

During the year sales of £218,994 (2024: £173,744) were charged to, and expenditure of £203,226 (2024: £121,377) was charged by, Burnley Borough Council.

21. GOING CONCERN AND POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

In preparing this Annual Report and Accounts, the trustees have considered their statement made regarding preparation of the financial statements on a going-concern basis. The financial statements have been produced on a going concern basis as at 31st March 2025 because the trustees are satisfied that the charity will meet all its obligations as and when they fall due over the foreseeable future. In forming this opinion, the trustees have paid particular regard to:

- a) The nature of and future prospects for the economic climate in which the charity operates;
- b) The adequacy of the liquidity in the business demonstrated through the current 12 month forecast;
- c) The continued support of the council;
- d) The remaining term to March 2029 of the management agreement with Burnley Borough Council;
- e) The competencies of the executive staff employed by the charity;
- f) The actual performance to date for the financial year ending 31st March 2026.

The trustees are not aware of any other reportable post balance sheet events at the time of this report.