



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
The Blue Slate Foundation

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 January 2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1159659

**Set out on pages**

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 01 / 2025.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act and that the accounts accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

10/02/2026

**Name:**

Michael Harle

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

HMRC AML Supervision - XKML00000158885

**Address:**

Suite 8, Premium Inn, Altofts Lane, Castleford, WF10 5PZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

Whilst we consider our appointment to be independent it should be noted that Prosper Accountancy also acts as accountants for Judge Electrical Limited – of which a director Chris Judge is also a trustee of The Blue Slate Foundation.

Both appointments are conducted on an arm's length transaction basis.

During the year the foundation grew in size (incoming resources up by 392%) and it is positive to see that the trustees recognised the need to increase governance throughout as a result of this growth.

The board of trustees should continue to focus on utilising funds in the most thorough way possible to ensure the long term sustainability of the foundation.

## **The Blue Slate Foundation**

*(Operating as The New Ways Foundation)*

Registered Charity Number: 1159659

Registered address: 15 Mulberry Court York YO32 9TU

Working Address: 63 Lawrence Street, York, YO10 3BU

Bank: Santander UK plc

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## **Trustees' Annual Report**

For the year ended 31 January 2025

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## **Reference and Administrative Details**

The Blue Slate Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a written constitution adopted in 2024 and updated in December 2025.

Trustees during the year:

- Chris Judge – Trustee, Chair and Finance Lead
- Charlie Malarkey – Trustee and Safeguarding Officer
- Jamie Warters – Financial signatory and Boxing Development Lead
- Lewis Gell – Chief Strategy Officer (executive role, non-trustee)

Principal Bankers: Santander UK plc

Independent Examiner: To be appointed in 2026

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## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The charity operates in accordance with its constitution and Charity Commission guidance. Trustees are appointed under the rules of the constitution following eligibility, safeguarding and declaration checks.

The Board meets quarterly to oversee governance, finance, safeguarding, and delivery outcomes. Extraordinary meetings are held as required. The trustees maintain proper minutes, resolutions, and action logs to ensure transparency and accountability.

In 2025 the trustees introduced a new Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) role to provide leadership on funding, compliance, and partnership growth. The CSO reports directly to the Board and supports its strategic and operational development.

The charity is currently progressing a formal name change to The New Ways Foundation to reflect its wider remit in trauma-informed recovery and wellbeing work.

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## **Charitable Objectives and Public Benefit**

The Blue Slate Foundation exists to:

1. The advancement of health and wellbeing: To promote the physical and mental health of children, young people, and adults, particularly in Yorkshire and the North East, by using positive activities as a tool of engagement to help them overcome personal barriers, foster resilience, and develop the life skills necessary for sustainable independent living.
2. The relief of those in need: To assist children, young people, and adults experiencing adversity, such as poverty, trauma, homelessness, addiction, or abuse, by providing the mentoring and support needed to close the barriers that stop them from moving forward in life.

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when carrying out the charity's aims and activities.

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## **Review of the Year 2025**

### **Overview**

2025 was a year of major progress and renewal for the Foundation. Governance, structure, and accountability were strengthened, core programmes grew in reach, and the organisation took decisive steps toward establishing a permanent base for its work, the New Earswick Boxing and Wellbeing Hub.

The charity's trauma-informed programmes have supported survivors of abuse, men in recovery, and young people seeking safe, structured opportunities for personal growth. It continues to operate with a strong ethos of lived experience, compassion, and professional integrity.

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## **Governance and Organisational Development**

- Adoption of a revised constitution bringing governance in line with CIO requirements.
- Introduction of a structured quarterly meeting cycle with clear reporting and follow-up.
- Appointment of a Chief Strategy Officer to coordinate compliance, partnerships, and funding.
- Strengthened relationships with York CVS and local statutory partners to embed best practice and transparency.

- Began formal preparation for the charity's public rebrand to The New Ways Foundation.
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### **Trauma-Informed and Mental Health Programmes**

The Foundation continued to develop and deliver trauma-informed projects throughout 2025:

- The Forgotten Boys partnership – a pioneering initiative supporting men who have survived abuse, helping them to rebuild confidence, address trauma, and connect with peers through practical support and mentoring.
- Inside Out Project – publication and community distribution of a lived-experience booklet highlighting real stories of recovery and resilience, produced with input from service users and partner organisations.
- Community Mental Health Transformation Grant – multi-year funding awarded to embed trauma-informed support and mental health recovery within local community provision.

These programmes demonstrate how the Foundation's lived experience and professional expertise combine to deliver genuine, measurable impact.

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### **The New Earswick Boxing and Wellbeing Hub**

A central focus of 2025 was planning and development for the new New Earswick Boxing and Wellbeing Hub, the charity's first permanent base.

The Hub will combine a fully equipped boxing gym with private counselling rooms, group spaces, and offices, creating a trauma-informed environment that integrates physical activity, mentoring, and emotional support.

Progress this year included:

- Completion of building layout and operational design.
- Partnership discussions with The Salvation Army for tenancy and joint delivery.
- Early-stage costings and funding strategy produced.
- Inclusion of the project in the charity's 2025–2028 development plan.
- Positive community consultation confirming strong local support.

The Hub will become a cornerstone of the Foundation's work, a visible, practical commitment to helping people recover, belong, and thrive.

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## **Boxing and Wellbeing**

Boxing remains central to the Foundation's ethos of strength through structure and community.

- New Ways Boxing Club continued to grow, delivering trauma-informed boxing and fitness sessions for adults and young people.
- Safeguarding, England Boxing affiliation, and coaching compliance were all implemented.
- Trustees supported the creation of a pathway from participation to mentoring and volunteering.

These activities continue to attract participants seeking safe, supportive, and purposeful engagement.

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## **Partnerships and Collaboration**

The Foundation deepened its collaborative work across York and the wider region:

- Drafted a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with The Salvation Army for joint delivery and shared use of facilities, still in development.
- Completed an organisational Charity Health Check with York CVS.
- Maintained close links with community mental health networks, lived-experience groups, and youth services.

These partnerships ensure that the Foundation's services remain credible, accountable, and connected to wider community priorities.

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## **1. Funding and Income**

During the financial year, the trustees successfully implemented a new Funding and Sustainability Strategy, transitioning from local gym-based income to strategic grant funding and corporate partnerships.

Key Income Secured in the Period:

- North Yorkshire Police: £15,454 secured for community safety and trauma-informed project development.
- Red C Ltd: £10,000 corporate sponsorship dedicated to the structural development of the New Earswick Hub.
- City of York Council: £1,000 for operational transition support.

Post-Year-End Success (February 2025 onwards): Following the success of the 2024/25 strategy, the charity has recently secured a further three major funding streams to be deployed

in the 2025/26 year: Awards for All (£14,400), Community Mental Health Transformation Grant (£35,320), and Two Ridings Community Foundation (£2,200). Additional fundraising for the New Earswick Hub is ongoing, with capital applications in development for 2026.

## **2. Financial Review**

The charity's financial statements for the year ending 31 January 2025 have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

**Performance and Investment:** The Foundation significantly improved its financial position this year, increasing total incoming resources to £44,707 (up from £11,389 in 2024). A major portion of this income was immediately reinvested into the charity's infrastructure, with £28,200 expended on structural fabrication for the new premises at the New Earswick Hub.

**Position at Year-End:** The charity ended the year in a strong position with a cash reserve of £14,381.70. The Foundation has no borrowing and operates within its means. To support this growth, the trustees are implementing a formal reserves policy and an external bookkeeping arrangement, including independent examination, to commence from the 2026 reporting cycle.

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## **Risk Management**

The trustees maintain a live risk register, reviewed quarterly.

Key risks identified during 2025 included:

- Funding continuity – mitigated by diversifying grant applications and developing multi-year funding.
- Safeguarding and compliance – addressed through updated policy, external guidance, and ongoing training.
- Capacity and governance – strengthened through CSO oversight and trustee recruitment planning.

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## **Plans for 2026 and Beyond**

- Complete and register official name change to The New Ways Foundation.
- Begin fit-out and phased opening of the New Earswick Boxing and Wellbeing Hub.
- Deliver the second year of the Community Mental Health Transformation project.
- Expand trauma-informed mentoring, training, and volunteer development.
- Strengthen governance with independent financial review and impact reporting.
- Develop brand identity and communications strategy to increase visibility and reach.

The trustees remain committed to building a strong, transparent, and sustainable organisation that changes lives through trust, recovery, and inclusion.

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### Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing this report and the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the charity's constitution.

They confirm that they have:

- Kept proper accounting records;
- Safeguarded the assets of the charity;
- Applied funds only for their intended charitable purposes;
- Complied with statutory obligations and guidance from the Charity Commission.

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Approved by the Board of Trustees on [insert date] and signed on its behalf:

Chair:

Trustee:

Date 24/01/2026

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## Financial Appendix for The Blue Slate Foundation

**Reporting Period: 1 February 2024 – 31 January 2025**

### 1. Introduction

This report provides a comprehensive account of all financial activity for The Blue Slate Foundation (operating as The New Ways Foundation) for the fiscal year ending 31 January 2025.

The primary focus of this period was the transition toward a trauma-informed service model and the development of the New Earswick Boxing and Wellbeing Hub. This report reconciles all bank transactions against the opening balance carried forward from the previous financial year to ensure a complete audit trail of the charity's growth.

### 2. Executive Summary

- **Opening Cash Position:** The year commenced with a brought-forward balance of £8,656.00.
- **Income Performance:** Total receipts for the year reached £44,707.26, driven largely by successful grant applications and corporate support.
- **Expenditure:** Total payments amounted to £38,981.56, with the most significant investment directed toward structural fabrication and equipment.
- **Closing Cash Position:** The charity concludes the period with £14,381.70 in liquid assets.

### 3. Itemized Transaction Log (Full Audit Trail)

Date	Description / Reference	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)
01/02/2024	Opening Balance Carried Forward	8,656.00	
01/02/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/03/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
15/03/2024	2024 Gym Use (Blueberry)	100.00	
22/03/2024	North Yorkshire Police (Ref: 108540)	15,454.00	
02/04/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.75
02/04/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00

Date	Description / Reference	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)
12/04/2024	Cash Deposit (Post Office)	1,390.00	
17/04/2024	City of York Council (Ref: 00945376)	1,000.00	
01/05/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/05/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
10/05/2024	TSL Electrical (Donation)	2,000.00	
12/05/2024	Boxing Club (C Malarkey)		162.00
12/05/2024	Returned Transfer (C Malarkey)	162.00	
13/05/2024	Mandate 9 (C Malarkey)		162.00
13/05/2024	Returned Transfer (C Malarkey)	162.00	
14/05/2024	Gym (Blueberry)	100.00	
16/05/2024	York Masters (C Malarkey)		162.00
31/05/2024	BSAP Boxing Event (Building Services)	300.00	
03/06/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
03/06/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
04/06/2024	McClarrons Limited	300.00	
06/06/2024	Boxing (Bellwood MD)	300.00	
10/06/2024	York Print Company		79.20
18/06/2024	Howl Fundraiser (Malarkey S&D)	420.00	
24/06/2024	York Masters (C Malarkey)		8.00
24/06/2024	Transfer (Judge Electrical Ltd)	300.00	
26/06/2024	Masters Boxing (New Earswick SPO)		50.45
01/07/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/07/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00



Date	Description / Reference	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)
01/07/2024	SumUp Payments	59.98	
05/07/2024	Donation (Lisa Kerry)	5.00	
06/07/2024	Tyson Shorts (Scarisbrick RG)	260.00	
15/07/2024	BSAP Dividend (Building Services)	2,000.00	
18/07/2024	Building Service (Simon Malarkey)		2,000.00
29/07/2024	Masters Boxing (New Earswick SPO)		200.00
29/07/2024	Transfer (Mr Christopher Judge)	83.30	
01/08/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/08/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
02/09/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
02/09/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
05/09/2024	Noel Malarkey Gift (Malarkey S&D)	250.00	
11/09/2024	Red C Ltd (Ref: Rednoy)	9,999.00	
11/09/2024	Red C Ltd (Ref: Rednoy)	1.00	
14/09/2024	York Masters (C Malarkey)		500.00
14/09/2024	Transfer (Judge Electrical Ltd)	144.00	
16/09/2024	Boxing (Malarkey C)	500.00	
26/09/2024	Transfer to Business Account	1.85	
01/10/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/10/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
14/10/2024	Transfer (Mr Christopher Judge)	31.48	
01/11/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
01/11/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00

Date	Description / Reference	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)
01/11/2024	Morning Subs (C Leathley)	158.00	
02/11/2024	Portal Plan Ques (PP13487590V1ZTH)		648.00
03/11/2024	Card Payment (Morrisons York)		7.66
21/11/2024	Cheque Deposit	38.44	
21/11/2024	Cheque Deposit	7.50	
28/11/2024	BS Fabrication (York Masters Boxing)		9,400.00
29/11/2024	York Masters (C Malarkey)		138.00
02/12/2024	Gym Rent (Blue Slate)		600.00
02/12/2024	City of York Council Rates		212.00
09/12/2024	York Masters Boxing (M Esposito)	2,270.00	
17/12/2024	Cheque Paid In (York CS)	6,000.00	
20/12/2024	Charity Donation (Britcab Limited)	300.00	
24/12/2024	Charity Donation (Connor Warren GPH)	500.00	
02/01/2025	City of York Council Rates		212.00
18/01/2025	Masters Boxing (New Earswick SPO)		100.00
20/01/2025	Lewis Gell (Ref: Blue Slate)		59.40
22/01/2025	BS Fabrication (York Masters Boxing)		18,800.00
	TOTALS	£44,707.26	£38,981.56

#### 4. Financial Reconciliation Summary

- Total Receipts (Income): £44,707.26
- Total Payments (Expenditure): (£38,981.56)
- Net Movement in Period: £5,725.70
- Add: Opening Balance (01/02/2024): £8,656.00



- Closing Bank Balance (31/01/2025): £14,381.70

#### 5. Closing Statement of Assets

As of 31 January 2025, the charity holds the following assets:

1. Cash at Bank: £14,381.70 (Santander Business Current Account).
2. Project Assets: £28,200.00 (Investment in fabrication for York Masters Boxing).
3. Fixed Assets: £4,684.00 (Gym fixtures and fittings brought forward).

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Report Prepared By: Chris Judge, Trustee and Chair

Date of Review: 28/12/2025

Approved by the Board of Trustees on [insert date] and signed on its behalf:

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 29/01/2026 \_\_\_\_\_

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