

# **LOCAL VILLAGE NETWORK**

**LOCAL VILLAGE NETWORK (FORMERLY LONDON)**

## **AUDITED ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

For the Period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025



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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

**“You can’t be what you can’t see.”**

## **Our Purpose and Theory of Change**

LVN is grounded in the belief that exposure to professionals and workplaces builds the mindset young people need to imagine, pursue, and secure their aspirations.

Our theory of change shows that **ten interactions outside a young person’s immediate sphere of influence**—role models, mentors, workplaces, and peers—can significantly shift confidence, communication skills, and future readiness.

## **Our Impact in 2024–2025**

During the year, LVN expanded both reach and depth of delivery.

- Supported **1275 students**
- Worked across **23 schools and colleges**
- Active in **12 London boroughs**
- Delivered programmes supported by **670 volunteers**
- Launched a **curated work experience programme**

## **Outcomes for Young People**

Because of LVN:

- Students reported raised aspirations and improved communication skills
- Young people became clearer about career pathways and next steps
- Students from underserved communities reported increased confidence to apply for roles, speak to professionals, and prepare for the world of work
- Teachers consistently reported improved maturity, engagement, and self-belief

## **Amplify Me, Amplify Connect & Online Mentoring**

This year we strengthened our **online mentoring and digital delivery**

Online mentoring enables:

- Flexible, accessible volunteering for professionals
- Continued exposure to role models for vulnerable students
- Scalable delivery without compromising impact

Students consistently tell us that meeting professionals reassures them that uncertainty is normal and success is not linear.

## Looking Ahead

The context in which young people are navigating their futures is becoming more challenging. Youth unemployment is rising, competition is increasing, and the workforce is rapidly evolving due to AI and automation.

While technology will replace tasks, it cannot replace **creativity, leadership, compassion, and purpose**—qualities we see daily in the young people we serve.

Our focus for the coming year is to:

- Expand online mentoring
- Continue making work experience equitable and accessible
- Build an alumni network of young people who return as mentors

On behalf of the trustees, I thank our staff, volunteers, schools, funders, and corporate partners for walking this journey with us. Together, we continue to raise self-belief, eliminate fear, and show young people that the future is theirs to shape.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachael Box". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rachael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Box".

**Rachael Box**  
Founder & CEO  
Local Village Network

# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comply with the Charity's governing document and the Charities Act 2011.

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### The Purpose of the Charity.

The objects are, for the public benefit, to advance in life and relieve the needs of young people, particularly but not exclusively, those at risk of being not in education, employment or training (NEET). We do this by providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

### Principle Activity

Local Village Network addresses network poverty - one of the key contributing factors that keeps young people in poverty. Increasingly a lack of networks is being used as a new measure of poverty. Statistics show that good networks significantly increase the chances to finding employment, 85% of vacancies are filled through networks. When you couple this with the fact that 50% of our poorest young people are in 20% of the schools you start to see why providing a platform to increase the likelihood of building positive networks is crucial.

LVN brings the community together to make a real difference in society. We help to bridge the gap between business and education in order to tackle social inequality.

Our model supports youth to change their mindset and broaden their horizons.

### Public Benefit

The Trustees are satisfied that public benefit has been provided in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### Volunteers

The charity deeply values the contribution from all our volunteers. Central to our programme are our volunteers. Our programmes could not happen without them. They give their time to help inspire the hopes of the next generation.

In line with the accounting framework used in this report, the Charity cannot assign any monetary value to donated volunteer time in the financial statements.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

### Programmes

The Amplify Me programme is delivered in 6-week blocks in a school, college or PRU. 20 –25 students attend a one-hour session, once a week, for 6 weeks. 3-4 volunteers attend the programme, and the final week is a trip to the volunteer's office. Evaluation and impact surveys have shown the programme is having a huge impact on the students but is also proving a valuable and inspiring volunteer opportunity. 12 programmes are delivered each half term throughout the academic year, other than

the final term. In the final term, Work Experience programmes were launched, giving the students who have gone through Amplify Me the opportunity to have a week's work experience at some of our corporate partners. These programmes were curated and facilitated by LVN. Our online mentoring goes from strength to strength, with expansion into more schools and colleges.

### **Fundraising**

We have successfully increased our income again. This is largely in part to the winning of City Bridge Trust, an income of £50k per year for 5 years. We also secured a one year extension to the Mayor of London's Propel funding, delivering £100k in the year. Our strategy to diversify our income to attract more corporate funding is also paying off, securing £65k from corporate partners.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves**

LVN has a policy of keeping funds in reserve, equal to 6 months of regular operating expenditure. The expenditure figures are calculated and reviewed quarterly to ensure they stay up to date with current operations. These unrestricted reserve funds cover 6 months of expenses, including expenses which may already have specific funds earmarked to them (restricted funds). This is to protect against any delayed income.

At the end of the period, the Charity held £258,626 in reserves of which £77,588 was restricted. Reserves are held to ensure financial stability and continuity of the Charity's core operations. As the Charity continues to grow and prepare to upscale, with the underpinning of the LVN app, reserves remain a key part of future planning.

### **Going Concern**

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's funding and financial standing and are satisfied that there are adequate resources to meet all operating commitments for a minimum period of 12 months from the date of the accounts.

### **Principle Funding Sources**

Alongside receipt of in-kind support, our main sources of funding are from grants and donations. We would like to thank all our donors past and present for their support and acknowledge the following who provided funding during the financial year:

- Mayor of London – Propel
- City Bridge Foundation
- Deutsche Bank
- Notting Hill Genesis
- Garfield Weston

Signed by Trustee .  \_\_\_\_\_ Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lucy Edwards \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 12/01/2026

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**  
**OF LONDON VILLAGE NETWORK ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 MARCH 2025**

**Charity Number 1161275**

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

**Basis of independent examiners' statement**

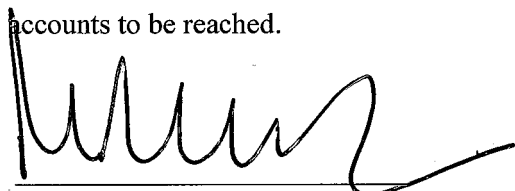
Our examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiners' statement**

In connection with our examination no material matters have come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

We 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.



**BRENNAN PEARSON & CO**  
**Chartered Accountants**

110/112 Lancaster Road  
New Barnet  
Herts EN4 8AL

27 December 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name: London Village Network

No: 1161275

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

Period start date  
1st of April 2024

To

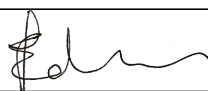
Period end date  
31st of March 2025

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Grants and Donations	£144,594.04	171,443	-	316,037	263,916
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>144,594</b>	<b>171,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>316,037</b>	<b>263,916</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>144,594</b>	<b>171,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>316,037</b>	<b>263,916</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Charitable Expenditure	(119,281.67)	(135,648.11)	-	- 254,930	204,421
Raising Funds	- 4,378	-	-	- 4,378	5,202
Separate material item of expense	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>- 123,660</b>	<b>- 135,648</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 259,308</b>	<b>209,623</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>- 123,660</b>	<b>- 135,648</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 259,308</b>	<b>209,623</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>20,934</b>	<b>35,795</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,729</b>	<b>54,293</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>201,897</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>201,897</b>	<b>147,604</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>222,831</b>	<b>35,795</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>258,626</b>	<b>201,897</b>



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Bank Accounts	222,831	35,795	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>222,831</b>	<b>35,795</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				
Signature		Print Name	Date of approval	
		Lucy Edwards	12/01/2026	