

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Charity number 1161291

Company number CE003912

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025



Greater Merseyside Community
Accountancy Service

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025

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Prepared by the Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Trustees' report

The Trustees during the year were:

Name	Position
H Ahmed	Trustee
Cllr D Anderton	Trustee
N Fallows	Trustee
N Ratcliffe	Trustee
A Sharrock	Trustee

Method of appointment of trustees

The trustees are appointed by resolution of the trustees for a term of four years.

Principal address

129 Walmesley Road
Leigh
WN7 1XN

Bankers

Co-operative Bank Virgin Money

Governing document

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission, governed by its foundation model

Constitution dated April 15 2015, as amended on April 30 2020.

Objects of the organisation

Charitable objects The charitable objectives are:

The promotion, for the benefit, of the public, of urban regeneration in the area of Leigh bounded by Twist lane, Atherleigh Way, Kirkall Lane and Leigh Road/Market Street/King Street by the following means:

(a) The advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people, and providing unemployed people with work experience:

(b) The provision of financial assistance, technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need, through help: (i) in setting up their own business, or (ii) to existing businesses:

(c) The provision of housing for those who are in conditions of need and the improvement of housing in the public sector or in charitable ownership provided that such power shall not extend to relieving any local authorities or other bodies of a statutory duty to provide or improve housing:

(d) The provision or assistance in the provision of recreational facilities for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial; hardship or social and economic circumstances, have need of such facilities;

(e) The promotion of public safety and the prevention of crime.

Independent examiner

on behalf of:

Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service

St Marie's
Lugsdale Road
Widnes
WA8 6DB

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Trustees' report continued

Activities

The charity undertakes a wide variety of activities in order to achieve its objectives.

Primarily these include:

- ☐ The purchase and refurbishment of residential housing
- ☐ Promoting community spirit through events and activities
- ☐ Supporting local schools
- ☐ Helping local people be active by supporting bike repair workshops and walking initiatives
- ☐ Helping improve community health through mindfulness workshops

Public benefit

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. As described briefly earlier, Trustees have delivered a range of events and activities which deliver a public benefit for the specific area of Leigh where the charity operates. These have included:

- ☐ The continued development of a community garden on Gordon Street. This is a green community space which provides a haven for local residents. The garden is managed by local resident volunteers. It is used for community events and activities.
- ☐ Financial support for primary age children to attend the Sacred Heart Summer School - a learning week for local children during the summer holidays designed to minimise the effects of the 'Summer Dip'. Twenty children from the area who wouldn't ordinarily qualify for the scheme are sponsored and enjoy the educational and social benefits of the scheme.
- ☐ The distribution of funds for local projects. These have included environmental improvements, the refurbishment of the Kingsleigh Community Centre and Christmas donations for those in need to local schools

Achievements and performance

The charity has completed the delivery of the 2022 – 2024 Community Plan. This has a focus on physical and mental health for both adults and children.

Active Travel

- The charity has held a number of Dr Bike workshops. These provide free bike safety and repair workshops where people of all ages have their bikes repaired and receive safety advice, lights and other safety equipment. These have been held for a number of years now and continue to prove popular.
- The charity has worked with local schools to encourage them to deliver the 'Daily Mile' on a half termly basis. This is one of the most joyous of the events that the charity supports, with hundreds of children chattering and laughing.
- The charity continues to lobby the local authority to make improvements to active travel infrastructure in the local area.

Housing

- The two terraced houses that the charity owns have been leased to Wigan Council via the Wigan Ethical Lettings Agency. The houses provide affordable accommodation to two local families.
- The charity works in partnership with the local authority to identify suitable houses to purchase and refurbish and lease to local families

Physical and Mental Health

- The maintenance of the community garden has been taken on by a team of local volunteers
- Planting workshops were delivered for residents and for local schools. These gave over 100 children an out of classroom learning experience.
- Funded the delivery of a series of Mindfulness workshops for local people who aren't 'okay' but who don't need medical interventions.

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Trustees' report continued

Young People and Education

- Financial support has been provided so that local pupils could attend the Sacred Heart Primary Summer School
- Held school holiday art and craft clubs
- Provided funding to enable local schools to engage Play Therapist and Sensory Workers.

Partnerships which are strong and productive

- The charity has continued to work with a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners, including Princes Trust, the Turnpike Gallery, Gearing Up, Wigan Council, local schools and Atherton & Leigh Foodbank.

External Funding

- The charity has continued to explore alternative grant funding for charity projects and events.

Marketing and Publicity

- The charity has maintained a permanent web presence through a website
- The charity promotes its own events and activities, as well as those of other local organisations, through Facebook posts.

Future Plans

The charity has drafted a Business plan which is being reviewed before being formally signed off. Trustees will continue to focus on delivery on the plan, which includes the following priorities:

- **Housing** – continuing working with the Council and others to raise the standard of housing in the area. Our properties in Selwyn Street properties, leased to the Wigan Council via Wigan Ethical Lettings Agency, provides affordable housing for local resident families.
- **Physical and Mental Health** – working with partner organisations, including local schools and other organisations to support the physical and mental health of residents.
- **Young People and Education** – to provide support for young people both in formal education settings and as residents. This includes funding for specialist support workers in local primary schools
- **Active Travel** – encouraging local people to walk and cycle more as one part of the mental and physical health wellbeing jigsaw. Engagement with the Local Authority around active travel and the introduction of an Active Travel Neighbourhood
- **Partnerships which are strong and productive** – working with the many partners that the project has now to support local residents, to improve relations and to make the area a better place to live
- **External funding** – sourcing external grants and sponsorship which will help deliver the project outcomes through the project activities

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Trustees' report continued

Financial Review

Overview The charity had a surplus, before transfers, on unrestricted funds of £10,721 for the year, as the charity continues to be able to add to its unrestricted funds to ensure that there are funds available to enable it to operate beyond the life of the current funding regime.

Reserves Because of the nature of the lottery grant funding which the charity receives it doesn't have a formal reserves' policy - because unspent monies at the end of a funding cycle have to be returned. The charity has established a 'Legacy Fund' which contains funds which have been generated. This fund will be used once the lottery grant fund has been exhausted.

Free reserves, unrestricted funds not invested in fixed assets or otherwise designated, stood at £129,361 at the year end.

Going concern The trustees have no concerns about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern as it continues to enjoy the benefit of the lottery funding and has established the Legacy Fund.

Structure Governance and Management

Members of the charity The only members of the charity are its trustees.

Appointment of trustees The trustees are appointed by resolution of the trustees for a term of four years.

Trustee induction and training The charity has an established process whereby prospective members are screened and make a formal written application to join. A secret ballot is held and those successful applicants receive an induction pack which includes documents such as the Code of Conduct and Values

Organisation The charity meets on a quarterly basis and deals with a range of strategic and operational matters at these meetings. It contracts officers to help deliver the Community Plan and to provide professional expertise and advice with regard the management of funds and the delivery of a Communications and PR strategy. Scrutiny of applications for funding.

Related parties There are no related party transactions that are required to be disclosed.

Co-operation with other organisations/charities The charity works closely with other organisations in the area such as the foodbank and local residents' groups.

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Trustees' report continued

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS 102) (second edition – October 2019);
- ☐ 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 charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

APPROVAL

Approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Helen Ahmed

Helen Ahmed
Trustee

29th January 2026

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Independent examiner's report on the accounts of LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT for the year ending 31 March 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity set out on pages 8 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Jane Williams

Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
St Marie's
Lugsdale Road
Widnes
WA8 6DB

29th January 2026

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025	2025	2025	2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Grants and donations	(2)	95	-	95	80
Charitable activities	(3)	9,867	28,187	38,054	63,228
Investment income - bank interest		3,107	-	3,107	1,993
Total receipts		13,069	28,187	41,256	65,301
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities		2,348	40,317	42,665	75,977
Total payments		2,348	40,317	42,665	75,977
Net receipts / (payments)		10,721	(12,130)	(1,409)	(10,676)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Cash fund balances brought forward		318,976	45,826	364,802	375,478
Cash fund balances carried forward		329,697	33,696	363,393	364,802

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2025

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Assets	200,336	-	200,336	200,336
Total fixed assets	<u>200,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,336</u>	<u>200,336</u>
Current Assets				
Debtors and prepayments	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	130,111	33,696	163,807	175,644
Total current assets	<u>130,111</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>163,807</u>	<u>175,644</u>
Current liabilities:				
amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals	750	-	750	11,179
Total current liabilities	<u>750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>11,179</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)	<u>129,361</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>163,057</u>	<u>164,465</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>329,697</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>363,393</u>	<u>364,801</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets	<u>329,697</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>363,393</u>	<u>364,801</u>
Funds				
Restricted Funds		33,696	33,696	45,826
Unrestricted funds	329,697		329,697	318,976
Total Funds	<u>329,697</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>363,393</u>	<u>364,802</u>

The financial statements were approved at a meeting of the trustees held on 29th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Helen Ahmed

Helen Ahmed
Trustee

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Notes to the accounts

for the year ending 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared: under the historic cost convention; in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective January 1 2019 (second edition – October 2019); FRS102; and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The accounts are prepared in £ sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. The following applies to particular types of income:

Grants, whether of a capital or revenue nature, are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met and it is probable that the income will be received.

Donations from individuals and other bodies (not being of the nature of a grant) are recognised when receivable.

Deferred income

Income is only deferred and included in creditors when:

- The income relates to a future accounting period
- A sales invoice has been raised ahead of the work being carried out and there is no contractual entitlement to the income until the work has been done
- Not all the terms and conditions of the grant have been met, including the incurring of expenditure and the grant conditions are such that unspent grant must be refunded

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Notes to the accounts

for the year ending 31 March 2025

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Costs of raising funds including those associated with fundraising activities, managing investments and commercial trading by the subsidiary company.

Charitable activities costs of undertaking the work of the charity.

The charity is not registered for VAT and cannot recover any input tax charged. Costs are stated inclusive of VAT were charged.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions which assist the work of the charity either by supporting the delivery of charitable activities or by supporting the generation of funds. The basis of allocations is set out in note 5.

Grants

As part of the Big Local funding the charity makes grants to local residents for any purpose that meets the community plan. As part of the Big Local Funding the charity makes grants to local organisations to improve the environment and community facilities and to relieve hardship and poverty.

Grant commitments are recognised when the grant is awarded.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation Individual fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The charity does not currently have any fixed assets.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

The charity has only basic financial instruments which are initially recorded at cost, subsequently measured at their settlement value.

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ending 31 March 2025

2 Donations		2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Donations		95	-	95	80
		<u>95</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>80</u>
3 Income from Charitable Activities		2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Big Local		-	28,187	28,187	51,408
Other Income		-	-	-	220
Wigan MBC		-	-	-	2,000
Rent and Room Hire		9,867	-	9,867	9,600
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>9,867</u>	<u>28,187</u>	<u>38,054</u>	<u>63,228</u>
4 Charitable Expenditure		2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Grants		£	£	£	£
Individuals		-	423	423	2,310
Institutions		-	18,307	18,307	2,500
		<u>-</u>	<u>18,730</u>	<u>18,730</u>	<u>4,810</u>
Consultancy Fees		-	9,799	9,799	21,386
Project Expenses		-	4,868	4,868	36,954
Newsletter & Communications		-	-	-	78
Support Costs		2,348	6,920	9,268	12,749
		<u>2,348</u>	<u>21,587</u>	<u>23,935</u>	<u>71,167</u>
Total Charitable Expenditure		<u>2,348</u>	<u>40,317</u>	<u>42,665</u>	<u>75,977</u>
4a Movements of restricted and general funds	Opening Balance 01/04/2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing Balance 31/03/2025
General Fund	<u>318,976</u>	<u>13,069</u>	<u>2,348</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>329,697</u>
Restricted Funds					
Big Local	44,273	28,187	40,317	-	32,143
Wigan MBC - Active Travel	1,553	-	-	-	1,553
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Restricted fund totals	<u>45,826</u>	<u>28,187</u>	<u>40,317</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,696</u>

It is intended that the restricted fund balances will be expended in 2025/26.

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2025

4b Grants awarded

Individuals: As part of the Big Local funding the charity makes grants to local residents for any purpose that meets the community plan. During the year it made 2 grants (2024 - 3)

Grants to Institutions

As part of the Big Local funding the charity makes grants to local organisations to improve the environment and community facilities, to relieve hardship and poverty, and fund a play therapist. Grants are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Community Garden	423	271
Leigh Central Primary School	7,331	999
Leigh St Mary's Primary School	4,415	500
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	6,561	2,700
St John CE Infant School	-	340
	<u>18,730</u>	<u>4,810</u>

5 Support & Governance Costs

		Other Support Costs	2025	2024
	Governance		Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Finance Services	-	5,989	5,989	10,065
Accountancy	750	-	750	1,200
Insurance	479	1,008	1,487	436
Premises Costs	-	-	-	275
Office costs & Other costs	-	1,042	1,042	773
	<u>1,229</u>	<u>8,039</u>	<u>9,268</u>	<u>12,749</u>

Costs that can be wholly attributed to either support or governance are allocated directly to those functions, and other costs are allocated either on the basis of the estimation of time spent (staff costs) or consumption of resources (office costs).

6 Trustee remuneration and expenses

	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

No trustees received any expenses during the period. (2024: None)

7 Staff Information

The charity does not have any employees.

The key management personnel comprises the trustees and the freelance project manager.

LEIGH NEIGHBOURS PROJECT

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2025

8 Tangible Fixed Assets Cost

	Land & Buildings	Total
	£	£
As at April 1 2024	200,336	200,336
Additions	-	-
As at March 31 2025	<u>200,336</u>	<u>200,336</u>

Depreciation

As at April 1 2024	-	-
Additions	-	-
As at March 31 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Net Book Value

As at March 31 2025	<u>200,336</u>	<u>200,336</u>
As at March 31 2024	<u>200,336</u>	<u>200,336</u>

9 Debtors

Income receivable	-	-
Prepayments & other debtors	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

10 Creditors falling due within one year

Trade creditors	-	7,765
Accruals	750	3,414
	<u>750</u>	<u>11,179</u>

11 Analysis of Company Net Assets between funds

Fund balances at March 31 2025 are represented by:-

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	200,336	-	200,336
Net Current assets	130,111	33,696	163,807
	<u>330,447</u>	<u>33,696</u>	<u>364,143</u>

Fund balances at March 31 2024 are represented by:-

Fixed assets	200,336	-	200,336
Net Current assets	118,640	45,826	164,466
	<u>318,976</u>	<u>45,826</u>	<u>364,802</u>

12 Taxation

The Company is a registered charity and is entitled to claim annual exemption from UK corporation tax.

13 Capital Commitments

At March 2025 the charity had capital commitments (authorised and contracted for)

14 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions that required to be disclosed in this or the previous year.