

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

**ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH APRIL 2025**

Charity Registration No. 1161738

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees’ Annual Report	2
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30th April 2025 for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

CHAIRPERSON'S SUMMARY

This year has been one of significant growth, resilience and community spirit for Liverpool Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Support Group. We continue to provide vital support to individuals and families affected by Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia across Liverpool and the wider Merseyside region.

Despite ongoing pressures on local health services, our group remained a reliable source of advocacy, emotional support and practical guidance.

We strengthened relationships with NHS Trusts, community health teams and voluntary organizations, ensuring our members' voices were heard at every stage of service planning and delivery. Our outreach activities expanded, and attendance at support meetings increased steadily, reflecting the growing need for safe spaces and culturally appropriate support.

We are proud of what has been achieved and remain committed to improving the quality of life for those living with Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Liverpool Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Support Group aims to:

- 1. Provide Emotional and Practical Support.*

Offer a safe, confidential and culturally sensitive environment where individuals and families affected by Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassaemia can access support, shared experience and guidance.

- 2. Promote Awareness and Education.*

The Trustees acknowledge that the Charitable Incorporated Organisation complies with Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit.

increase understanding of Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia within the community, healthcare settings, schools and workplaces through education, outreach and advocacy

- 3. Empower Patients and Families.*

Equip those living with these conditions with knowledge and resources to manage their health, navigate services and advocate for their needs.

- 4. Collaborate With Health and Social Care Services.*

Strengthen partnerships with NHS services, specialist clinicians, community organizations and local authorities to improve care pathways and support provision.

- 5. Support Early Diagnosis and Prevention.*

Raise awareness of screening, genetic counselling and early intervention to reduce complications and support informed decisions.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

6. Promote Wellbeing and Community Inclusion.

Encourage social participation, reduce loneliness and support overall quality of life through holistic wellbeing initiatives and group activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the reporting period, the group engaged in a range of activities aligned with its objectives:

1. Monthly Support Meetings.

Regular in-person and virtual support sessions were held for adults, parents and young people to discuss challenges, share experiences and receive emotional support.

2. Health Education Workshops

Delivered Workshops led by Specialist nurses and haematologists covering topics such as pain management, crisis prevention hydration, mental health, and fatigue and medication adherence.

3. Community Awareness Events

Participated in local health fairs, Africa Oye, Black History Month events and community outreach programs to raise awareness of Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia. THE SCORE project was organized by Liverpool Tropical School of Medicine who want to create a sickle cell Hub in Liverpool.

4. Advocacy and Liaison with NHS Services

We continued to advocate for improved service provision, faster emergency care pathways, and cultural competence training for health care staff. Provide patient feedback to Liverpool Royal and Alder Haye NHS Trusts and contribute to service improvements.

5. Family and Youth Support

Organized school liaison meetings to support young people with sickle cell and Thalassaemia, providing letters, educational materials and advise to teachers and pastoral staff. Coordinated activities for children and their families during holidays.

6. Screening and Carrier Awareness Promotion

Supported efforts to increase awareness of newborn screening, antenatal screening and carrier testing within high-risk communities.

7. Wellbeing and Social Events

Hosted social gatherings, wellness sessions, peer support walks online check-ins and cultural celebrations to reduce isolation and build a supportive network,

8. Information and Resource Distribution

Circulated education leaflets, newsletters, signposting information and updates on research, clinical trial and available services.

9. Crisis Support and Navigation.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

Assistance offered one to one assistance for individuals in crisis, helping with hospital liaison, benefits advice, employment support and referral to appropriate services.

10. Secured small grants and donations

Enabling continuation of outreach and wellbeing activities

11. Participated in regional and national Sickle Cell advocacy discussion.

Ensuring local voices contributed to wider policy work.

Challenges Faced

Whilst progress has been strong, several challenges remain

- Limited funding for sustained community projects and capacity building
- Increased demand for emotional and crisis support
- Delays and disparities in urgent care, particularly around pain management and hospital treatment.
- Barriers to accessing specialist care, especially for individuals or families recently relocated
- Impact of cost-of-living pressures, which intensified stress and reduced attendance for some families.
- Variations in school awareness and support for children with chronic illness, requiring advocacy.

These challenges highlight the importance of continued community engagement, training and partnership.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to

- The individuals and families trust us with their stories and continue to support one another.
- Our dedicated volunteers who give their time, energy and compassion
- NHS clinicians, specialist nurses, hematologists and allied health professionals who collaborate with us.
- Community organisations, faith groups and schools help to amplify awareness.
- Our funders and donors whose contributions enable us to continue our work
- Partners in Liverpool City Council and local health networks who support our advocacy efforts.
- Your continued support strengthens our mission and allows us to reach more people in need.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income for the year was £9,779 (2024: £13,914), of which £Nil (2024: £10,000) related to funding for projects upon which restrictions are placed.

Total expenditure for the year was £12,687 (2024: £5,937), leaving a deficit for the year of £2,908 (2024: surplus £7,977).

At 30th April 2025 the Charitable Incorporated Organisation's reserves stood at £6,160 (2024: £9,068) of which £Nil (2024: £8,862) represented restricted funds.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

RISK MANAGEMENT

The main risks to which the Charitable Incorporated Organisation's is exposed as identified by the trustees have been considered and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation to maintain unrestricted funds at a level to cover three months' running costs should no further funding be received.

As at the end of the financial year the unrestricted funds totalled £6,160. The Charitable Incorporated Organisation requires £956 for three months' running costs.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Looking ahead, the group aims to:

- Expand our peer-support network and train more volunteer facilitators.
- Launch a family support Programme with structured sessions for parents and young people.
- Develop emergency care awareness materials for local A&E departments and ambulance services,
- Provide more consistent advocacy support for individuals experiencing challenges in accessing appropriate care.
- Strengthening links with local schools to ensure tailored support plans for children and adolescents
- Exploring opportunities for a community drop-in Centre (HUB) in partnership with local organisations. (Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine SCOPE PROJECT.
- To apply for a grant to employ a part-time secretary.

Our Long-Term vision remains to ensure that every person affected by Sickle Cell or Thalassaemia in Liverpool feels supported, empowered and understood.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Liverpool Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Support Group is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), number 1161738 formed on 19th May 2015, under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 15th April 2007 and amended 29th June 2012.

The Board of Trustees also forms the Executive Committee which appoints officers who are responsible for planning and implementing group activities.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name Liverpool Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Support Group

Charity number 1161738

Address & Office Abercromby Health Centre
Liverpool
L7 7HG

Trustees The members of the Board of Trustees are as follows:

Olufunke Adeleke
Funmi Dairo
Juliana Hassan (Resigned 23rd April 2023)
Aishat Odunowo
Venencia Cleopatra Rayson
Alfred Zack-Williams
Dorothy Zack-Williams

Accountant LCVS
151 Dale Street,
Liverpool,
L2 2AH

Bankers HSBC Bank PLC
99-101 Lord Street
Liverpool
L2 6PG

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

DocuSigned by:

.....5603E50818EE462.....
Venencia Cleopatra Rayson, Trustee

25 February 2026
.....
Date

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments from					
Donations	2a	7,520	-	7,520	3,702
Charitable activities	2b	2,259	-	2,259	10,212
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total income		9,779	-	9,779	13,914
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	3	3,825	8,862	12,687	5,937
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total expenditure		3,825	8,862	12,687	5,937
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net (expenditure)/income, net movement in funds		5,954	(8,862)	(2,908)	7,977
Total funds brought forward	8, 9	206	8,862	9,068	1,091
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total funds carried forward	7 - 9	6,160	-	6,160	9,068
		=====	=====	=====	=====

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form part of these accounts.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charity.


LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH APRIL 2025

	Notes	30 th April 2025 £	30 th April 2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	4	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	5	-	331
Cash at bank and in hand		7,169	9,615
		-----	-----
		7,169	9,946
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(1,009)	(878)
		-----	-----
Net current assets		6,160	9,068
		-----	-----
Total assets less current liabilities		6,160	9,068
		=====	=====
Funds:			
Unrestricted funds	7, 8	6,160	206
Restricted funds	7, 9	-	8,862
		-----	-----
		6,160	9,068
		=====	=====

25 February 2026

Approved by Trustees on

DocuSigned by:

 5603E50818EE462...

Venencia Cleopatra Rayson, Trustee

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared 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) (SORP 2019) (effective 1st January 2019) and Charities Act 2011.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable Incorporated Organisation has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have therefore adopted the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are the Charitable Incorporated Organisation free reserves available for the trustees to apply in accordance with the charity's objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purposes is charged to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, there is sufficient certainty of receipt and so it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accruals basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Fixed Assets

Capital expenditure is stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual's basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual's basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions, as specified by the donor.

Cost of charitable activities relates to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charity. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charity

Taxation

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. The charity is not able to recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

2. Income and endowments from:

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
a. Donations and legacies				
Donations	7,520	-	7,520	3,702
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Income from donations and legacies for 2024 related wholly to unrestricted funds.

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
b. Charitable activities				
Activities income	2,259	-	2,259	212
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	10,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	2,259	-	2,259	10,212
	=====	=====	=====	=====

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

3. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct charitable Expenditure £	Support & Governance Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
We aim to educate and give information to public in order to create awareness about Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia disorder.	4,309	8,378	12,687	5,937
	=====	=====	=====	=====
a. analysed as follows:				
	2025	2024		
	£	£		
<i>Direct Charitable Expenditure:</i>				
Activities and events	2,724	2,534		
Sessional fees	1,535	200		
Donations	50	-		
	-----	-----		
	4,309	2,734		
	-----	-----		
	2025	2024		
	£	£		
<i>Support and governance costs:</i>				
Subscriptions	156	10		
Insurance	165	168		
Bank charges	62	66		
Accountancy fees	549	460		
Travel and accommodation	2,199	78		
Room Hire	100	-		
Refreshments	1,355	1,117		
Catering	1,212	-		
Sundries	159	-		
Investments	-	21		
Gifts	526	420		
Printing and stationary	471	119		
Telephone and internet	10	109		
Computer software	994	156		
Equipment	420	479		
	-----	-----		
	8,378	3,203		
	-----	-----		
Total expenditure on charitable activities	12,687	5,937		
	=====	=====		

£8,862 (2024: £1,138) of the above expenditure relates to restricted funding.

b. Particulars of employees:

There were no employees as at 30th April 2025 (2024: nil)

The trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

No out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2024: £nil).

4. Tangible fixed assets

There were no tangible fixed assets as at 30th April 2025 (2024: nil)

5. Debtors

	2024 £	2024 £
Prepayments	-	331
	=====	=====

6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	1,009	878
	=====	=====

7. Analysis of net assets between funds

2025	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	-	6,160	6,160
Restricted Funds	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----
Totals	-	6,160	6,160
	=====	=====	=====

2024	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
Unrestricted Funds	£	£	£
General Fund	-	206	206
Restricted Funds			
National Lottery Community Fund	-	8,862	8,862
	-----	-----	-----
Totals	-	9,068	9,068
	=====	=====	=====

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

8. Unrestricted funds

2025	Reserves at beginning of year £	Movements in the year		Reserves at End of Year £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
General Fund	206	9,779	(3,825)	6,160
	=====	=====	=====	=====

2024	Reserves at beginning of year £	Movements in the year		Reserves at End of Year £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
General Fund	1,091	3,914	(4,798)	206
	=====	=====	=====	=====

General Fund

This fund is used to finance the charity's general activities and core costs as outlined in the Trustees' Report.

9. Restricted funds

2025	Reserves at beginning of year £	Movements in the year		Reserves at End of Year £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
National Lottery Community Fund	8,862	-	(8,862)	-
	=====	=====	=====	=====

2024	Reserves at beginning of year £	Movements in the year		Reserves at End of Year £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
National Lottery Community Fund	-	10,000	(1,138)	8,862
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Description of Funds

These are monies given to the organisation to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes:

National Lottery Community Fund – Contribution towards special activities programme

10. Guarantees and Other Financial Commitments

There are no financial commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as at 30th April 2025 (2024: nil)

LIVERPOOL SICKLE CELL AND THALASSAEMIA SUPPORT GROUP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2025

11. Related Parties

There were no material related party transactions during this period which require disclosure.

12. Limited liability of Members

In the event of winding up, the members of the CIO has no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.