

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity Number 1165642

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the financial statements of North Benwell Youth Project CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 30 to 40.

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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to 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 my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My 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 examiner's statement

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

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



Linda Ellerton-Goldsmith
Business Matters Accounting Services
153 Kenton Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3QB

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	6	2,531	-	2,531	739
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	-	168,976	168,976	115,057
Other trading activities	8	6,122	-	6,122	7,351
Investments	9	1,058	-	1,058	741
Total income		9,711	168,976	178,687	123,888
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	10	918	164,677	165,595	147,753
Total expenditure		918	164,677	165,595	147,753
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds		8,793	4,299	13,092	(23,865)
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		4,145	102,935	107,080	130,945
Total funds carried forward		12,938	107,234	120,172	107,080

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 32 to 40 form an integral part of these accounts.

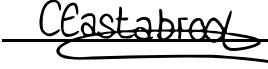
BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	£	Total 2024 £
Current assets					
Debtors	18	1,433		2,895	
Cash at bank and in hand	19	124,568		108,159	
Total current assets		126,001		111,053	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	20	(5,828)		(3,973)	
Net current assets			120,172		107,080
Total assets less current liabilities			120,172		107,080
Total net assets or liabilities			120,172		107,080
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			12,938		4,145
Restricted income funds			107,234		102,935
Total funds			120,172		107,080

The notes on pages 32 to 40 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 3rd December 2025

and are signed on its behalf by: Chloe Eastabrook
Treasurer 

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These 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 accounts have been prepared 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 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

North Benwell Youth Project CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £12,938 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.7 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.8 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of trips and events and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, the charity does not currently have any tangible fixed assets:

Equipment	25% Straight line over four years
-----------	-----------------------------------

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
6 Donations and legacies				
Donations received	2,531	-	2,531	739
	<u>2,531</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,531</u>	<u>739</u>
7 Charitable activities				
<u>Income from grants and contracts</u>				
NCS	-	17,200	17,200	-
Newcastle City Council	-	17,000	17,000	31,341
Newcastle City Council Warm Spaces	-	3,250	3,250	250
46 Wearside Group	-	-	-	402
Street Games	-	2,926	2,926	3,902
County Durham Community Foundation	-	-	-	300
Hat Trick	-	-	-	8,450
Community Foundation Milburn	-	6,030	6,030	6,321
Briel Fund				
Community Foundation - Wellesley Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-
Key Fund	-	-	-	1,347
Garfield Weston	-	15,000	15,000	15,000
Henry Smith	-	50,550	50,550	34,000
The National Lottery - Million Hours	-	6,955	6,955	5,796
The National Lottery - Awards for All	-	28,105	28,105	-
William Leech	-	1,960	1,960	-
LGA Foundation	-	8,000	8,000	7,948
Other small grants	-	2,000	2,000	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>168,976</u>	<u>168,976</u>	<u>115,057</u>
8 Other trading activities				
Room hire	73	-	73	1,900
Fundraising events	-	-	-	17
Other income	6,049	-	6,049	5,434
	<u>6,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,122</u>	<u>7,351</u>
9 Income from investments				
Bank interest	1,058	-	1,058	741
	<u>1,058</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,058</u>	<u>741</u>

Income was £178,687 (2024: £123,888) of which £9,711 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £8,831) and £168,976 was restricted (2024: £115,057)

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
10 Charitable activities				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Wages and salaries	-	101,142	101,142	86,190
Staff other costs	-	2,224	2,224	915
Other project activities	-	29,415	29,415	28,419
Transport costs	-	2,756	2,756	2,500
Volunteers	-	2,429	2,429	20
<u>Support costs</u>				
Rent and rates	-	4,764	4,764	5,850
Utilities	-	4,924	4,924	5,302
Telephone and fax	-	659	659	680
Printing, postage & stationery	-	1,366	1,366	320
IT costs	-	1,058	1,058	1,196
Subscriptions and membership	-	2,529	2,529	1,176
Repairs and maintenance	-	1,956	1,956	3,291
Professional fees	-	6,539	6,539	4,321
Cleaning & hygiene	-	689	689	3,116
Other office expenses	-	2,228	2,228	2,268
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	700	-	700	946
Bank Charges	218	-	218	280
Trustee expenses and AGM	-	-	-	966
	<u>918</u>	<u>164,677</u>	<u>165,595</u>	<u>147,753</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £165,595 (2024: £147,753) of which £918 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £5,558) and £164,677 was restricted (2024: £142,195)

11 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	700	696
Other accountancy services paid to the examiner	-	3,336
	<u>700</u>	<u>4,032</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

12 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	92,496	81,050
Social security costs	7,013	5,457
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	1,633	1,437
	101,142	87,943

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the charity manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £40,334 (2024: £37,544).

13 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 6 staff (2024: 5 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work		
Charitable activities	3.0	3.0
	3.0	3.0

14 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

15 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charitable company contributes to individual private staff pension schemes. The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity.

16 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

17 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
Balance brought forward	10,321	10,321
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Balance carried forward	10,321	10,321
Depreciation		
Basis	SL	
Rate	25%	
Balance brought forward	10,321	10,321
Depreciation charge for year	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Balance carried forward	10,321	10,321
Net book value		
Brought forward	-	-
Carried forward	-	-

18 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	1,433	2,895
	1,433	2,895

19 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank current account	124,336	107,970
Cash in hand	232	189
	124,568	108,159

20 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	315	-
PAYE & NI	1,395	1,152
Pension	314	296
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	700	696
Other accruals	1,104	988
Deferred income		
Catherine Cookson	1,000	-
Community Foundation	1,000	-
Other creditors	-	841
	5,828	3,973

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

21 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

22 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

For the year ending 31 March 2025

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	4,145	9,711	(918)	-	12,938
Totals	4,145	9,711	(918)	-	12,938

For the year ending 31 March 2024

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	872	8,831	(5,558)	-	4,145
Totals	872	8,831	(5,558)	-	4,145

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' of the charity

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

22 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Analysis of movement in restricted funds For the year ending 31 March 2025

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Healthy Communities	102,935	-	(24,401)	-	78,534
NCS	-	17,200	(17,200)	-	-
Newcastle City Council	-	17,000	(17,000)	-	-
Newcastle City Council Warm Spaces	-	3,250	(3,250)	-	-
Street Games	-	2,926	(2,926)	-	-
Community Foundation Milburn	-	6,030	(6,030)	-	-
Briel Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Community Foundation - Wellesley Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Key Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Garfield Weston	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Henry Smith	-	50,550	(28,350)	-	22,200
Hours	-	6,955	(6,955)	-	-
All	-	28,105	(28,105)	-	-
William Leech	-	1,960	(1,960)	-	-
LGA Foundation	-	8,000	(1,500)	-	6,500
Other small grants	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Totals	102,935	168,976	(164,677)	-	107,234

For the year ending 31 March 2024

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Core costs	1	-	(1)	-	-
Senior Worker	1	-	(1)	-	-
Healthy Communities	124,049	113,710	(134,824)	-	102,935
Key Fund	1,105	1,347	(2,452)	-	-
Willan trust	4,917	-	(4,917)	-	-
Totals	130,073	115,057	(142,195)	-	102,935

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

Core costs	Support and governance
Senior Worker	To fund the salary and on costs of the Senior Worker
Healthy Communities	To fund other salaries and activities
Key Fund	To fund specific Key Fund projects
Willan trust	To fund music resources

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

23 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024 -£nil)

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	17,334	107,234	124,568	108,159
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(4,396)	-	(4,396)	(1,078)
	12,938	107,234	120,172	107,080

25 Guarantee

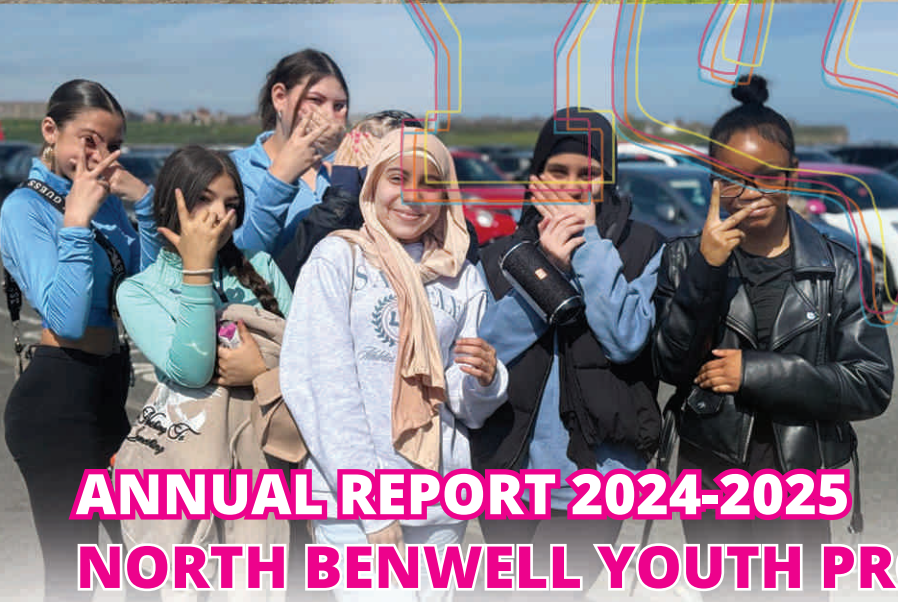
There have been no guarantees given by the charity at 31 March 2025.

26 Debt

There is no debt outstanding which is owed by the charity and which is secured by an excess charge on any of the assets of the charity at 31 March 2025.

27 Governing document

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation registered on 18 February 2016 as a body corporate under part 11 of the Charities Act 2011.



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

NORTH BENWELL YOUTH PROJECT CIO

80 - 84 Ellesmere Road
Benwell
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 8TS.

t: 0191 2983201
e: nbyp1000@btconnect.com
w.northbenwellyouthproject.co.uk
Charity Number: 1165642



Community
Foundation



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Andrea Spowart - Chairperson

2025 has truly been a landmark year for North Benwell Youth Project a year marked by celebration, achievement, and continued dedication to supporting young people and families in the West End of Newcastle.

This year, NBYP proudly celebrated its 25th anniversary, a milestone that brought together past and present participants, staff, volunteers, and supporters for a vibrant community event. The day was filled with joy and energy. There was live music, creative activities, games, and a timeline exhibition that beautifully showcased the journey of the project over the past two and a half decades. The atmosphere was inclusive and uplifting, a true reflection of the deep roots NBYP has established in the community.

We were honoured to receive an invitation to the King's Garden Party at Holyrood Palace in July 2025. This prestigious event recognised organisations making a meaningful difference in their communities, and NBYP was proud to be among them. It was a moment of national recognition that highlighted the growing reputation and impact of our work.

Throughout the year, young people have continued to play a central role in shaping the project. The Young People's Committee has been actively involved in decision-making panels, helped design new initiatives, and lead seasonal projects with great success. Their work on Christmas Eve boxes, winter packs, and soup kits was thoughtful, practical, and deeply appreciated by families across the area.

Our summer programme was another highlight. Young people took part in beach trips, paddleboarding, horse riding, and residencies in Beadnell. A community coach trip and participation in a local cook-off added to the fun, with young people engaging confidently and enthusiastically throughout.

NBYP has also continued to support young people in expressing

themselves through music, art, and performance. This year's music showcase at DiverCity was a proud moment, and the Holocaust memorial artwork displayed in local libraries showed the depth of thought and creativity within our groups. Community craft events have brought families together in celebration, strengthening bonds and building new friendships.

We have also deepened our partnerships with schools and local organisations. These relationships are vital to our work, and we're grateful for the collaboration and shared commitment to young people.

Financially, NBYP has secured significant funding from the Henry Smith Foundation, DCMS, the Willan Charitable Trust, and others. This support has ensured the sustainability of our key programmes and opened the door to new opportunities.

INTRODUCTION

Another year has flown by which has been as busy as ever.

Our group sessions remain popular, we remain open on a Saturday, and we have had great holiday activities during school holidays. We even received an invite to the Kings Garden Party in the summer.

A massive thank you to our incredible staff and dedicated board of trustees: thank you for your unwavering commitment, compassion, and tireless efforts in supporting children and young people of North Benwell.

Your belief in their potential, your resilience in the face of challenges, and your generosity of spirit make a huge difference every day. Your teamwork, integrity, and leadership are at the core of NBYP. I am deeply grateful for your vision, passion, and care.

Because of you, lives are changed.

None of the success we've seen this year or over the past 25 years would have been possible without the unwavering commitment of our staff and volunteers. Their passion, resilience, and dedication are the heartbeat of North Benwell Youth Project. Whether planning activities, supporting young people through challenges, or simply being a consistent and caring presence, they go above and beyond every single day. It's their hard work that has shaped NBYP into the trusted, vibrant, and impactful organisation it is today, and we are deeply grateful for everything they do.

NBYP has had an outstanding year celebrating its legacy while continuing to innovate and inspire. With strong leadership, committed staff, and empowered young people, the project is well-positioned to build on its success and continue making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

Margaret Ridley - Project Coordinator

Remembering Sue Leeder

Sadly, Sue, who was our administrator for many years, died suddenly in June. She will be missed by all of us at NBYP.

She always had an interest in the young people and what they were doing, and would always support us at our community events.



25TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

In November last year, we celebrated 25 years of North Benwell Youth Project.

With the support of the Young Peoples Committee, we held a community event on a Saturday afternoon. It was well attended by families, service users and ex-service users who wanted to celebrate with us.

We created a visual timeline of the project's history up to the present day and displayed all our annual reports since 1999.

The YPC organised an array of activities, including a bouncy castle, basketball challenge, face painter, crafts such as designing a canvas bag, and raffles. Some of our young musicians and a local band performed songs and music.





GROUP WORK

Group sessions remain one of our most popular services. We offer various sessions each week to suit different ages. We currently run 3 junior sessions, 4 inter sessions and 2 senior sessions (with different participants).

We also run 2 music sessions and a mum's group. An open session every Saturday. Alongside having fun, there is an informal educational element to all the sessions.

Juniors age 8-11

- Social skills - new friendships, communication, self-confidence.
- The environment, - understanding recycling, reducing waste
- New opportunities - local places of interest, skills like swimming or cooking.

Inters age 12-15

- Raising awareness, like knife crime, joint enterprise, hate crimes
- Community - engaging in community activities, help with Project giveaway days

- Empowerment - understanding they have a voice, self-awareness, and making decisions.

Seniors age 16+

- Preparing for the future - employability, college or job applications, writing a C.V., training courses.
- Community - supporting the Project to organise community activities, attend local meetings to have their opinion heard.
- Social action - volunteering, mentoring others.





SATURDAYS

Group sessions remain one of our most popular services.

We offer various sessions each week to suit different ages. We currently run 3 junior sessions, 4 inter sessions and 2 senior sessions (with different participants).

We also run 2 music sessions and a mum's group. An open session every Saturday.

Alongside having fun, there is an informal educational element to all the sessions.



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

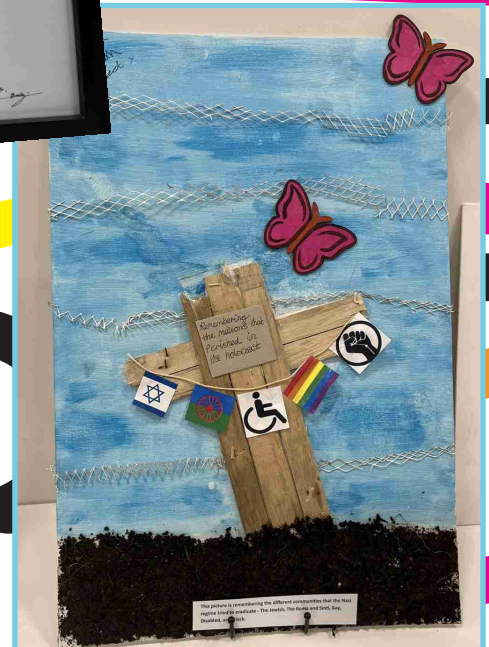
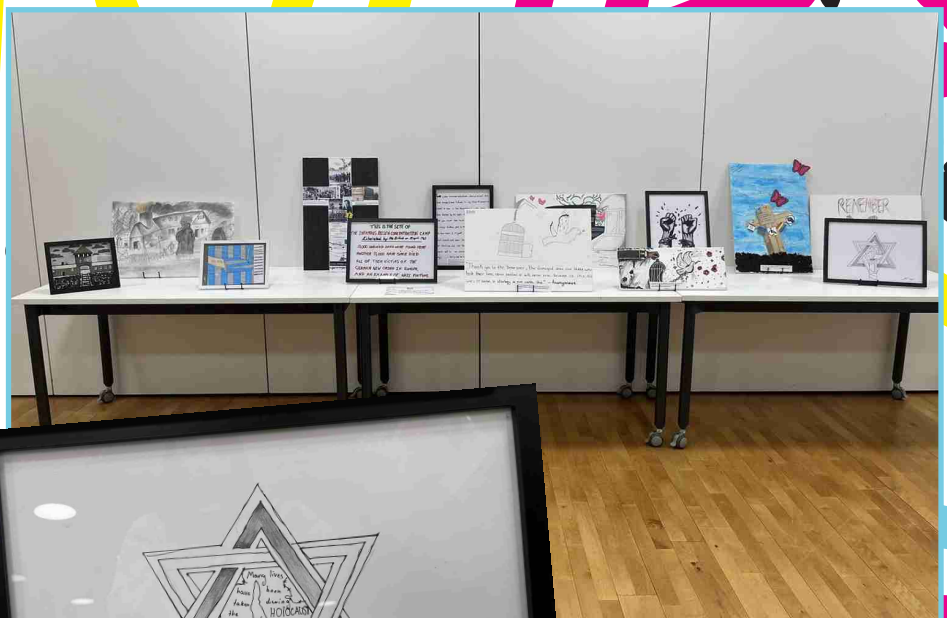
The young people who attend NBYP wanted to contribute in some way to the Holocaust memorial event organised by Peter Sagar from A Living Tradition. Workers discussed with them ways in which they could contribute; they decided to do this via artwork, they drew and painted pictures.

The sessions have encouraged conversations about the holocaust and the dreadful treatment of so many in the concentration camps.

Some pictures represent the horrors of the concentration camps; most of them depict freedom and how it must feel after being a prisoner for so long. Some of the young people are Czech Roma and understand that many people murdered during the war were Gipsy /Roma. It was difficult to find a total number it is estimated 250,000 but could be as many as 500,000.

After both World Wars, doves emerged as emblems of peace and reconciliation. Because doves are so firmly associated with peace, they often serve as an international symbol for cooperation and hope.

The young people have met this project with compassion and respect.



MUSIC SESSIONS

Music sessions at NBYP
A huge thank you to GemArts, who have continued to support music sessions at NBYP.

These sessions give children and young people a vital outlet for creativity, self-expression, and emotional well-being. It builds their confidence, builds social skills, and provides a sense of achievement, which is often missing in their daily lives.

Music can bridge cultural divides, nurture talent, and inspire hope.

In communities facing hardship, these sessions become safe spaces where young people feel valued, heard, and empowered to dream beyond their circumstances and shape brighter futures.

Many children have had the opportunity to perform at local events, sharing their skills and talent.

They have taken part in:

- Songwriting
- Writing lyrics for raps
- Learning to play an instrument
- Perform as part of a band
- Perform solo
- Arts Awards



YOUNG PEOPLES COMMITTEE

Our YPC have had another productive year. They are an asset to NBYP and enhance the work we do. In the last 12 months they have organised and delivered the following:

- With funding from LGA 12 days of Christmas, they made 50 Christmas Eve boxes, 30 winter soup packs containing a ham joint, vegetables, stock cubes, dumpling mix, in bespoke hand-designed canvas bags with a recipe (translated into appropriate languages), 40 sets of hats, scarves and gloves for local children.
- After the success of last year's community coach trip, they organised another 75-seat coach trip to South Shields during the Easter holidays. They made packed lunches for everyone and supplied families with tokens for the fair. It was lovely to see families from different cultural backgrounds enjoying a trip out together. Financially, many families would be unable to do this.
- Last December, they worked with Annemarie from Hatrick on a 'NE girls' sports project. The funding they received allowed 10 young women to have 6 private swimming lessons at Elswick pool.

- They have continued to work alongside Annemarie at Hatrick to become NE Girls champions. They have attended various events and sat on judging panels for funding applications. They raised money for young women to take part in various sporting activities during the summer, including canoeing, paddleboarding, bike riding and football.
- They are currently organising a Halloween party for the junior groups. They are turning the gazebo and summer house into a scary walk-through, organising games, and making food.
- The YPC support the free giveaway days the project holds, by sorting through and organising the many clothing donations we receive.
- They made an array of crafts to sell at Riverside's Christmas Fair (see Photo).

The young people gain valuable skills which they can transfer to other areas. These include: Leadership, planning and organising, researching, communication, following and understanding a budget, health and safety, safeguarding, and having responsibilities.



DETACHED WORK

Detached youth work is a form of outreach that engages young people in their own environments—streets, parks, and other public spaces rather than traditional settings like youth centres.

It's vital because it reaches individuals who may feel excluded, distrust institutions, or face barriers to accessing support. Workers build relationships based on trust, respect, and consistency, offering guidance, advocacy, and a listening ear.

This approach helps reduce anti-social behaviour, promotes safety, and connects young people to services they might otherwise avoid. It's especially important in areas like North Benwell, where informal support can be a lifeline.

As well as meeting young people, workers get to know parents and residents, and they can chat about issues they are experiencing in the neighbourhood.

ONE-TO-ONE

At NBYP we offer one-to-one support on an as-and-when-needed basis.

One-to-one support empowers young people by offering personalised guidance and emotional reassurance. It builds trust, boosts confidence, and helps address individual challenges.

Support can vary from practical help, for example, opening their first bank account to emotional support, such as homelessness or issues at school.

MUM'S GROUP

The mum's group has been running for several years now with them regularly attending every Thursday. This is an opportunity for them to take time out of their daily lives, for themselves, away from just being mums.

They can either have a cuppa and chat, take part in activities or cook recipes they can take home for their families. Many of their children now attend school, which gives them more time at the project.

This year they have improved their cooking skills with more complex

recipes plus traditional ones like corn beef pie and lasagne. They've been on trips around the Northeast including Ridely Park in Blyth and Shiremoor adventure playground. Both days were cold but enjoyed by both the mums and the kids.

They are a very bonded group who support each other and strive to see one another achieve the goals they set. Again, due to the number of young people attending and a lack of suitable transport, we have not been able to take them out as much as we would have liked.



PRISON, ME? NOW WAY!

We wanted to run a session about raising awareness about the causes, consequences, penalties and impact of crime.

We organised a visit with Prison Me! No Way! The Trust wants young people to stay safe, aspire and become law-abiding citizens. They visited with prison officers and an ex-prisoner. They brought a life-size replica and fully furnished prison cell to realistically present prisoners living conditions and cell.

'The No Way Trust provides real-life learning experiences for children and young people between 8 and 18, to help reduce risky behaviour and prevent them from becoming involved in crime. We want young people to think carefully about the decisions they make throughout their lives, stay safe, positively manage the temptations of modern society, and increasing risks posed through social media, develop into law-abiding citizens, and achieve their full potential. Collectively helping young people and their communities to reduce crime, reoffending and anti-social behaviour and contribute towards creating safer communities for all.'

It was an excellent day, an open and honest account of the reality of being in prison. The young people were able to ask questions and were listened to.



BOXING SESSIONS

Charlie from Union Jab Boxing club attended the project to deliver boxing sessions to one of the junior boys' groups.

By giving them this opportunity with a boxing coach, they can improve their listening skills, show respect for others, demonstrate commitment, and divert them away from unacceptable behaviour in and outside the project.

A community engagement officer worked alongside the group to talk with them about keeping safe, understanding joint enterprise and hate crimes.

We have since secured funding from The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust, which has enabled us to deliver a longer boxing programme.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES

During every school holiday, workers at NBYP plan a range of off-site activities. During the May half-term and summer, we aim for these to take place outdoors. During the winter, ice skating is popular for all ages.

Funding from Streetgames - Holiday Activity Fund has allowed us to deliver a full spring and summer programme and ensure every child is fed

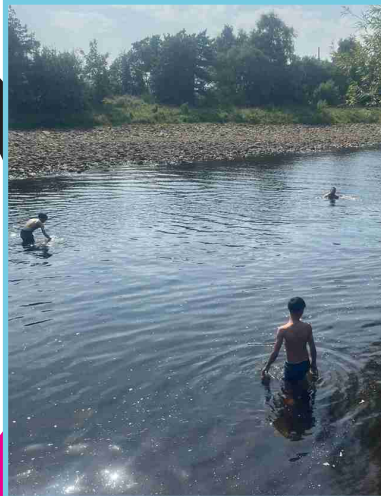
This year, the girls have taken on the challenge of trying as much as the boys, including kayaking, paddleboarding, surfing and bodyboarding at Whitley Bay.

This was a massive confidence boost for them, proving they can do what the boys do. Some groups tried horse riding for the first time, which took place in Northumberland, in the countryside. They did amazingly well, especially as they have previously been around horses. There were several bike rides along the banks of the River Tyne, our annual residential trip to Beadnell and beach days at South Shields.

The activities give vital opportunities for physical health, social interaction, and emotional well-being. The experiences broaden horizons, reduce inequality, and inspire ambition helping children develop skills and aspirations that can positively shape their future, not forgetting, making unforgettable memories they can treasure.







THE KING'S GARDEN PARTY

Invitation to the King's Garden Party

Margaret and Lisa were invited to the King's Garden Party held at Hollywood Palace on 1st July. We had a challenge getting there as the trains from Newcastle to Edinburgh were cancelled at the last minute.

A dash up the motorway got us there, though 2 hours later than we hoped.

It was a lovely afternoon with bands playing and afternoon tea served.

We missed the royal arrival but did get a glimpse of the royal party and enjoyed the surroundings of the palace.



COMMUNITY COOK OFF

We were invited to take part in a community cook-off competition.

12 teams of 6, were competing. It was very competitive! It was organised by the police and was well attended.

It took place next to Westgate police station, it was outdoors, and we cooked on barbecues.



All teams had to cook the same dish of Spatchcock chicken and make two side dishes. Our team made a stuffed pepper and grilled pineapple dessert.



The dishes were judged by a Michelin Star chef from the House of Tides. We didn't win but really enjoyed it.

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

One-to-one support

Over the years, there has been a growing need from residents, mainly parents, asking for our support on various issues.

Financial struggles tend to be at the root of many difficulties, including growing rent charges, increasing fuel bills, and rising costs of food and household necessities.

We have supported families when they have been evicted from their homes and don't know who else to turn to.

At NBYP, we can listen, offer a cuppa and try to link them to the right organisation. Language barriers can cause feelings of isolation and being misunderstood.

Free giveaway days

For the last few years, we have been holding giveaway days at the project.

We receive donations of clothes, shoes, uniforms, winter coats, household items such as towels and duvets, baby equipment, and toys.

When we have an abundance, the staff and volunteers sort it into sizes

and order, then invite people from the community to make an appointment and take what they need. Many residents now donate, supporting each other whilst recycling.

Food parcels

For 5 years now, the project has been supplying weekly food parcels to local families. We started during the lockdown, and there has been a continuous need.

We are a member of the FareShare food donation scheme which saves food from going to waste and

redistributes to frontline charities and community groups across the UK.

For the second time, we received funding from Hill-Dickeson Trust, which meant we could supplement the parcels with extra food such as fresh bread, cereal, milk and extra fruit.

Vodafone SIM cards

Vodafone has kindly donated SIM cards for us to pass on to young people (over 18) and parents. The SIM cards give 6 months of free data, texts and calls, helping to combat data poverty.



COOKING AND CRAFT SESSIONS

All ages and genders enjoy cooking and baking at NBYP. They like to attempt new recipes and challenge themselves.

The photos highlight some of their dishes.

Crafts are a great way to test their creativity, develop skills, improve mental wellbeing and create a sense of achievement.









NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - for the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of Income	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £	Analysis of Expenditure on charitable activities	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and Legacies Received	2,531		2,531	739	Charitable activities				
Charitable Activities	2,531		2,531	739	Direct costs		101,142	101,142	86,190
Income from grants & contracts					Wages & salaries		2,224	2,224	915
NCS		17,200	17,200		Staff other costs		29,415	29,415	28,419
Newcastle City Council		17,200	17,200	31,341	Other project activities		2,756	2,756	2,500
Newcastle City Council Warm Spaces		3,250	3,250	250	Transport costs		2,429	2,429	20
46 Wearside Group				402	Volunteers				
Street Games		2,926	2,926	3,902	Support costs		4,764	4,764	5,850
County Durham Community Foundation				300	Rent & rates		4,924	4,924	5,302
Hat Trick				8,450	Utilities		659	659	680
Community Foundation Milburn Briel Fund				6,321	Telephone & fax		1,366	1,366	320
Community foundation - Wellesley Trust					Printing, postage & stationery		1,058	1,058	1,196
Key Fund					IT costs		2,529	2,529	1,176
Garfield Weston		15,000	15,000	1,347	Subscriptions & membership		1,956	1,956	3,291
Henry Smith		50,550	50,550	15,000	Repairs & maintenance		6,539	6,539	4,321
The National Lottery - Million Hours		6,955	6,955	34,000	Professional fees		689	689	3,116
The National Lottery - Awards for All		28,105	28,105	5,796	Cleaning & hygiene		2,228	2,228	2,268
William Leech		1,960	1,960		Other office expenses				
LGA Foundation		8,000	8,000	7,948	Governance costs				
Other small grants		2,000	2,000		Independent examiners fees for reporting on the accounts	700		700	946
					Bank charges	218		218	280
					Trustee expenses & AGM				966
		168,976	168,976	115,057			164,677	164,677	147,753

Expenditure on charitable activities was £165,595 (2024: £147,753) of which £918 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £5,558) and £164,677 was restricted (2024: £142,195)

[illegible]

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)

Income was £178,687 (2024: £123,888) of which £9,711 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £8,831) and £168,976 was restricted (2024: £115,057)

Independent examiner's statement - In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts; or
- The accounts did not give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. I give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Management Committee

Chairperson - Andrea Spowart

Treasurer - Chloe Eastabrook - *joined 12/24*

Trustees - James Garratt, Mike Keller, Kirsty Daniels

Young Persons Representative - Keera Storey

Staff Team

Margaret Ridley - Project Coordinator

Lisa Young - Deputy Coordinator

Malcolm Wharton - Youth Worker

Sarah Howe - Youth Worker

Jennifer Horvathova - Youth Worker

Jan Cina - Saturday Support

Sue Leeder - Administrator

Volunteers

Laura Ward, Kevin Bagar, Filip Sivak, Martina Horvathova

Young Peoples Committee and Young Volunteers

Martina Horvathova

Jennifer Horvathova

Lucy Cinova

Keera Storey
Adela Sivakova



What is Youth Work

Youth workers play a crucial role in the lives of many thousands of young people. They bring fun, a sense of structure and a whole host of new opportunities to the people they work with, broadening their horizons, boosting their social skills and giving them a place to simply be themselves.

By supporting young people at one of the most important periods of their lives they help them learn new skills, embrace their passions and develop a sense of identity and independence. And because youth work is not confined to a single location or structured curriculum, it offers a flexibility that traditional education cannot.

Youth workers build voluntary, trusted relationships with young people, away from many of the other pressures they may be facing in their lives. (National Youth Agency)

What is the North Benwell Youth Project CIO?

The North Benwell Youth Project CIO is a charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a constitution which states every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

The objects of the CIO are to help young people up to the age of 25 living in North Benwell (the area of benefit), especially but not exclusively through leisure time activities so as to develop their capabilities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society.

The trustees have ensured that benefit to the local community has been at the centre of the work of the project.