

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1167816



**Report of the Trustees and  
Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025  
for  
Ambition Aspire Achieve**

Accountax Auditing Ltd  
Unit 8, Dock-Offices,  
Surrey Quays Road,  
London  
SE16 2XU

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**TRUSTEES**

Ms Christine Bowden  
Mr Colin Andrew Grainger  
Ms Ildiko Melba Palhazy  
Mr Haydn Powell  
Mr David Burns  
Ms Sarah Ruiz  
Mr Eustace Belle-vue (resigned 30.4.24)  
Ms Karen Ay  
Ms Sharon Kaur  
Mr Steve Cameron  
Mr John Bergin  
Mrs Helen Page  
Mrs Carleene Lee-Phakoe (resigned 30.4.24)  
Mr Mark Perkins

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

Terence Brown Arc in the Park  
Hermit Road Park  
Bethell Avenue  
Canning Town  
London  
E16 4JT

**REGISTERED CHARITY  
NUMBER**

1167816 (England and Wales)

**AUDITORS**

Accountax Auditing Ltd  
Unit 8, Dock-Offices,  
Surrey Quays Road,  
London  
SE16 2XU

**LEGAL ADVISOR**

SA Law LLP

**KEY MANAGEMENT**

Mr Jonathan Boux (Chief Executive)  
Ms Tracey Pease (Deputy Chief Executive  
and Finance Manager) (Starting 1 October  
2025)  
Ms Paula Blake (Operations Manager)

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The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Our Vision**

For all children and young people, regardless of background, ability or disability to reach their full potential, to build the esteem to have Ambition, the confidence to Aspire and the skills and self-belief to Achieve.

**Our Mission**

To provide children and young people in Newham and neighbouring areas with fully inclusive experiences and opportunities to flourish, with support to help them overcome any challenges they experience, leading to positive outcomes that make a difference and change their lives.

**Our Aims**

- To work with children and young people who are disadvantaged and experiencing multiple problems and difficulties due to their personal and/or family situation
- To enable and support each young person to recognise and understand their personal barriers to progression, helping them to overcome these barriers
- To offer short, medium and long-term interventions and support to enable each young person to achieve their full potential socially, personally and educationally

**Our Approach**

Providing opportunity for all - we believe every child and young person has great potential and deserves every chance to succeed. Our programmes engage children and young people from all backgrounds, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

**Working in partnership** - we believe in the power of working together to achieve the best possible success for children and young people. We work closely with businesses, schools, surrounding specialist services and other local charities to help us achieve our objectives.

**Promoting early intervention** - we believe in acting early to make the greatest difference. Our programmes and services start early, engaging and supporting children from the age of 5, helping to equip them with the confidence and belief to flourish in the longer-term.

**Strategic Plan 2024-2027**

This year marked the first year of our new three-year Strategic Plan (April 2024-March 2027). The plan reaffirms our vision, mission, aims and values and outlines our key priorities, core principles and enabling factors for the next stage of our growth and development. It also reflects learnings from our development over the past four years and sets out how we will monitor progress, measure impact, and remain accountable to the communities we serve. The strategy focuses on five key objectives:

**Strategic Objective 1 'New Beginnings'**

Opening doors, expanding horizons, providing long-term support to help children and young people to grow in confidence, self-esteem and wellbeing, overcoming challenges, to reach their full potential and achieve positive progression.

**Strategic Objective 2 'No Mountain Too High'**

Providing young people with additional needs and Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) with new experiences and opportunities, helping them to overcome challenges, to build their independence and flourish.

**Strategic Objective 3 'Growing Together'**

Providing places of safety and belonging for children, young people and families to come together, to learn through play and wider activities, to grow and build stronger bonds with one another and the wider community.

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#### **Strategic Objective 4 'Reaching Out'**

Working in the heart of local communities, widening our reach across Newham where it's most needed, improving youth safety, supporting young people to make positive choices, including those at risk of Serious Youth Violence.

#### **Strategic Objective 5 'Building Bridges'**

Levelling the playing field and reducing the effects and impact of poverty for local children, young people and their families, by opening up access to more targeted support, for those we engage who are most in need.

#### **Strategic Goals for 2024-2027**

- Increasing the number of children and young people we engage through programmes at our existing delivery hubs
- Expanding our focus on children and young people most in need
- Delivering multiple interventions that lead to a growing number of positive outcomes for children and young people
- Further developing outdoor learning opportunities using our woodland space
- Increasing the range of experiences and activities for children, young people and families
- Expanding provision for children and young people with SEND
- Exploring options to open an additional hub in an area of high need
- Growing our collaboration with schools in Newham, delivering targeted outreach programmes (e.g., youth safety, transition support)
- Securing new funding to develop our youth safety work and initiatives
- Sustaining the strong impact of our annual appeals (Christmas and Easter)

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## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure Ambition Aspire Achieve (AAA) continues to further its charitable purpose for the public benefit. This section provides an overview of our key achievements in 2024-2025, summarising the work delivered.

Our core focus remains unchanged: supporting children and young people who are disadvantaged, vulnerable and/or at risk due to their personal or family circumstances. All achievements reported below sit within the framework of our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, and our five key delivery areas:

1. New Beginnings - Targeted Youth Work and Progression Support
2. No Mountain Too High - Specialist Support for Young People with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)
3. Growing Together - Play and Community
4. Reaching Out - Outreach and Youth Safety Work
5. Building Bridges - Family Support and Targeted Appeals

### **Monitoring our Achievements**

We continue to use our cloud-based monitoring and evaluation system, 'Upshot', to record, track and evidence outcomes across all activities. Introduced in 2022, Upshot is now fully embedded across the charity and enables the systematic collection of referral information, attendance data, service-user demographics and progress measures.

Alongside Upshot, we use a suite of established tools to assess children and young people's development and ensure programmes remain responsive to need. These include:

- Staff observation and progress reports
- Outcome wheels and distance-travelled measures
- Regular feedback forms completed by children, young people and parents/carers

This combination of quantitative and qualitative monitoring allows us to review outcomes, adapt practice and continually strengthen programme delivery.

### **Overview**

The operating environment for grassroots charities remains challenging, with rising levels of need and an increasingly competitive funding landscape. Despite these pressures, 2024-2025 was a year of many highlights, development and impact for AAA.

We maintained and expanded a secure funding base, delivered a broad programme of activities from our established hubs and deepened outreach across the wider community. Alongside our existing work, several new initiatives were introduced to enhance engagement and support for children and young people with the greatest and most complex needs.

### **Reach and Engagement**

Across our three delivery hubs in the London Borough of Newham the **Terence Brown Arc in the Park** (Canning Town), the **Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub** (Stratford) and the **Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre/Woodland** (Stratford) reached and supported a total of **966** unique children and young people this year (**680** Arc in the Park, **239** Abbey Hub and **47** Woodland), representing a growing number when compared to the previous year (**911**). This growth reflects rising demand locally and the continuing need for safe, supportive spaces for vulnerable children and young people.

Importantly, **83%** of all service users engaged were identified as vulnerable, disadvantaged and/or at-risk (broadly consistent with **82%** in 2023-2024). This included:

- Children and young people living below the poverty line in areas of high deprivation
- Children and young people with additional needs including emotional, behavioural or mental health needs
- Children and young people at risk of exploitation, Serious Youth Violence or gang involvement
- Children and young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)

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Our outreach programme engaged nearly **4,000** children and young people, which included:

- Regular detached streetwork sessions delivered by our youth workers in local neighbourhoods
- Targeted youth safety interventions
- School-based youth safety workshops and interventions delivered in partnership with primary and secondary schools

This strand of our work has been central to preventing harm, diverting young people from risky situations and providing early support in the places where they need it most.

#### **Partnerships and Collaboration**

Collaboration remains central to our approach and we have worked closely with a growing number of key stakeholders, to join-up services and support and maximise the impact of our work. This has included local schools and colleges, voluntary and community sector organisations, Newham Council services, social care teams and youth safety partners, health providers and specialist SEND services.

During the year, our work was also made possible through the generosity of a wide range of funders, partners and supporters. Key grant funders have included:

Children in Need, City Bridge Foundation, Greater London Authority (GLA)/Propel London, Royal Docks Trust, East End Community Foundation, Berkeley Foundation, London Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit, The Childhood Trust, Story of Christmas Fund, London Borough of Newham, NCEL CAMHS Collaborative/Compass Wellbeing, National Citizenship Service (NCS), Sport England, Fight for Peace, UCL, National Citizenship Service (NCS), Groundwork UK, King Charles Charitable Foundation, London Youth, Lantern CIC and the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Many corporate and business supporters have also provided direct funding, in-kind support and donations to support our various programmes of work and annual Christmas and Easter appeals including:

BAIN Capital, the LEGO Group, Thames Water, Glyn Hopkin, BGC Partners, Sahara Homes, Waltham Forest Community Transport, Axis Europe, MACE Construction Ltd, John Lewis/Waitrose, Co-op, Tate & Lyle, Aspers, Bank of New York (BNY), Investec, Valero, Thought Machine, Janus Henderson, All Funds, Viking Global Investors and BCLP Law and many others.

We are also grateful for the generosity of individual donors, local groups, churches, schools and organisations who supported our fundraising events, initiatives and annual appeals, including our Christmas and Easter campaigns, and contributed to the ongoing success of our annual benefit evening, generously supported and hosted by the Brick Lane Music Hall in Silvertown.

We were privileged to work with delivery partners such as Newham Music, RIP Fitness, City of London Open Spaces, Outward Bound Trust, East Mersea Adventure Centre and Atlantic College, who helped us widen opportunities and enable new experiences for local children and young people.

#### **Key Achievements, Activities and Events 2024-2025**

The trustees are pleased to highlight a wide range of key achievements, highlights, activities and successes over the course of the year, delivered across our strategic priority areas.

##### **'New Beginnings'**

Targeted Youthwork and Progression Support

##### **1. Children in Need - Wellbeing Groups**

We completed the final year of our multi-year Children in Need project, delivering 'Wellbeing Group' sessions at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park for vulnerable children and young people with additional needs, including those experiencing rising mental health challenges and multiple disadvantages.

- 47 children and young people with additional needs were supported
  - Activities included group sessions, creative projects, active sessions, life skills, trips to parks and green spaces and a residential experience
  - Over **85%** achieved a positive outcome, including improved wellbeing, confidence and skills development
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#### **2. Youth Clubs and Holiday Activities - Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub**

Thanks to funding from key corporate supporter BAIN Capital, we delivered a programme of youth clubs and holiday activities for young people aged 8-12 at the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub.

- 165 children benefited from activities, 85% identified as vulnerable and/or disadvantaged
- Children taking part attended an average of 10 sessions during the year
- Over 80% demonstrated positive outcomes including improved confidence, improved wellbeing, peer relationships and new skills/abilities

#### **3. Girls' Group - Good for Girls Programme**

A new girls group was introduced at the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub, funded through London Youth's Good for Girls programme.

- Delivered over 24 weekly group sessions
- 15 girls (ages 10-14) recruited
- Activities included sports, dance, movement and creative activities, a social action project and opportunities to develop as peer mentors and young leaders

#### **4. Youth Clubs/Evenings - Terence Brown Arc in the Park**

Weekly youth clubs continued at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, funded by the Royal Docks Trust, LB Newham and a National Citizenship Service (NCS) targeted grant.

- 3 x term-time groups were delivered on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, for ages 8-12, 12-14 and 15-17.
- Sessions, regularly welcomed up to 25 young people per group
- Reaching a total of 264 children and young people during the year
- Clubs and activities offered safe, regular youth provision, life skills development and youth-led social action projects

#### **5. Newham Kailo Research Project - UCL**

AAA continued its role as a Navigator partner in the Newham Kailo research initiative, led by University College London (UCL).

- 6 young people attending AAA youth clubs took part and were closely supported by our Youth Coordinator
- Joining regular weekly 'small circle' sessions with researchers at local venues in Canning Town (including Arc in the Park)
- Helping to inform the development and design of youth provision and support for young people in the borough

#### **'No Mountain Too High'**

Specialist Support for Young People with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)

##### **1. Positive Transitions - City Bridge Foundation**

Our Positive Transitions programme, extended for a further two years by the City Bridge Foundation, supported young people with SEND (ages 16-25) moving into early adulthood.

- 65 SEND young people were engaged, with 32 attending for at least 3 months
- 81% of regular attendees achieved positive outcomes, including increased confidence, self esteem, resilience, improved health and new skills
- 10 young people achieved accredited Arts Explorer Awards
- Regular workshops, creative activities life skills sessions, trips, excursions and residential experiences (with regular attendees attending at least 1 experience)

##### **2. Short Breaks and Specialist Holiday Provision - LB Newham**

Commissioned by the London Borough of Newham, we delivered tailored holiday activities and experiences for children and young people with SEND and complex needs (including those requiring one-to-one support).

- Provision operated at Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays and the October, February and May half-term breaks
- Based at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, 75 children and young people benefited from structured activities and support
- The programme provided much-needed respite for both young people and their parents/carers during school holiday periods

### **3. SEND Youth Zones - LB Newham Youth Empowerment Team**

Our SEND Youth Zones programme entered its fourth year, thanks to extended commissioning by LB Newham's Youth Empowerment Team.

- Daily after-school youth clubs and holiday activities were delivered at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub and other Newham based venues (e.g., St Luke's Community Centre and Newham College in East Ham)
- **104** SEND children/young people with SEND, engaged in a wide range of fun, engaging and inclusive activities
- High levels of attendance and engagement, with individual young people attending an average of **22** sessions during the year
- Sessions focused on building confidence, skills development, and improving wellbeing and physical health, supporting each participant to flourish

### **4. Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) - SEND Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub**

With funding from the DfE's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, we delivered school holiday programmes (Easter, Summer and Christmas 2024) for children and young people with SEND at the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub.

- **52** individual young people once again participating during the year
- Sessions provided fun, engaging and healthy school holiday activities and trips for young people (ages 5-16) alongside healthy daily breakfasts and lunches for all attending, helping to combat holiday hunger

### **5. Multi-Sports Clubs and Physical Activity - Compass Wellbeing**

A new grant awarded by Compass Wellbeing as part of the North Central East London CAMHS Provider Collaborative scheme, enabled us to expand multi-sport provision for young people with additional needs, in partnership with our charity partner Fight for Peace.

- **139** children and young people took part, nearly half of whom with SEND
- **144** sessions were delivered, led by youth workers and qualified sports instructors
- Activities included football, basketball, cricket, badminton, pickleball, netball, volleyball, boxing, Muay Thai, MMA and Capoeira
- **86%** demonstrating improved confidence, mental health/wellbeing and **83%** learning new skills

### **6. SEND Family Fun Day - Terence Brown Arc in the Park**

In September 2024, with funding from LB Newham, we hosted a dedicated family event at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, for families with SEND children.

- Over **50** SEND children and their families attended
- Activities included accessible games, rides, inflatables and activity stations, providing a fun filled day for all attending

### **'Growing Together'**

Play and Community

#### **1. LEGO After-School Clubs and Therapeutic Play**

With renewed annual funding from the LEGO Foundation, we ran LEGO after-school clubs and tailored therapeutic play sessions at both the Terence Brown Arc in the Park and the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub.

- **81** children took part, **84%** of whom were identified as having indicators of need (e.g., SEND, residing in areas of high deprivation)
- In 2024-2025 the grant also enabled the expansion of LEGO clubs into local primary schools in Newham
- In January 2025, AAA was awarded a new LEGO Foundation grant as part of the 'Power of Play' consortium, with the Institute of Imagination, Save the Children, EasyPeasy and Young V&A, extending play opportunities for children and caregivers in Tower Hamlets

#### **2. Family Days and Community Activities**

With repeat support from Lantern CIC, we continued to deliver family days and community activities at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park and in Stratford.

- Families enjoyed a wide variety of sessions throughout the year, including themed events celebrating key seasons, festivals and local heritage

#### **3. Playwheels - Mobile / Pop-Up Playschemes**

Funding from the DfE's HAF programme supported further development of our Playwheels project. This year:

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- Our play van, filled with games and play resources (kindly loaned to AAA by Glyn Hopkin Ltd), delivered mobile play sessions in 4 local parks across Canning Town, Custom House and Beckton
- 73 local children and young people took part in play sessions, many with limited access to leisure opportunities
- With the news of a new grant from the LEGO Foundation in January 2025, the programme will be expanded to parks and greens spaces in Tower Hamlets next year, opening up new play opportunities for children in the borough as part of the 'Power of Play' programme

#### **4. School Holiday Playschemes**

With funding from the East End Community Foundation (EECF), we delivered holiday playschemes at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park and Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub during Easter, Summer and October half-term.

- 218 children attended 50 sessions across both delivery venues
- Over 80% of participants were identified as vulnerable and/or disadvantaged, including children growing up in poverty and those with additional needs
- Programmes included structured and unstructured play activities, games, sports, trips and excursions, with lunches provided during each session

#### **5. Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre - Woodland Play and Learning**

We delivered outdoor learning and adventure play sessions at our recently established woodland venue in Stratford, the Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre. After extensive clearing and development of the site, outdoor 'woodland adventurers' school holiday sessions led by our newly established Outdoor Learning Coordinator were delivered from Easter 2024 with a 'woodland warrior' weekly after school club introduced shortly after, thanks to funding provided by LB Newham's People Powered Places fund.

These sessions, along with children attending our surrounding clubs and activities ensured.

- 196 children enjoyed the brand-new woodland facility this year, including those attending woodland clubs and children participating in our wider programmes
- Engaging outdoor activities focused on health, outdoor learning and nature themed sessions, while improving wellbeing, confidence and connection to nature for local children

#### **6. Weekend Cycling Clubs and Garden Rangers**

A wide range of weekend activities took place at The Terence Brown Arc in the Park and Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub, including our regular cycling clubs, supported by a TfL Walking and Cycling Grant (for sessions at the Arc).

- 77 children were engaged in cycling clubs, with many learning to ride for the first time and developing bike maintenance and road awareness and taking part in regular cycle ride outs, to local spaces (e.g., the Olympic Park)
- Saturday activities included the continuation of a regular 'Garden Rangers' club at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, with 14 local children enjoying growing, gardening and outdoor play activities during session

#### **'Reaching Out'**

Outreach and Youth Safety Work

##### **1. Detached Street-Based Youth Work**

We continued to deliver regular detached youth work sessions, though at a reduced volume following the conclusion of the 'Act As One' consortium funded by the Mayor of London's My Ends fund and delivered in partnership with Fight for Peace, Rights & Equalities in Newham and the Exit Foundation).

- Funding from the Royal Docks Trust enabled the delivery of our Project BLUNT initiative, including detached street based sessions in Canning Town, Custom House and Beckton along with youth safety sessions in local primary schools
- Additional funding provided during the final quarter of the year supported additional detached outreach sessions and youth safety work in Stratford
- An average of four detached sessions per week were delivered in priority areas with high levels of Serious Youth Violence
- A total of 3,233 young people were engaged by our detached youth workers during the year as a result of the funding

##### **2. Whole School Youth Safety Programme - Beckton**

Thanks to new funding awarded in October 2024, by LB Newham and the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), we launched a new whole school youth safety programme in Beckton, led by our Outreach Coordinator and delivered in partnership with Rights & Equalities in Newham.

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- 4 primary schools (North Beckton, Gallions Reach, Winsor and Ellen Wilkinson) and Kingsford Secondary School were targeted
- Youth safety workshops (e.g., online safety, stranger danger, street awareness) reached 406 children and young people, with over 90% confirming a better understanding of youth safety and how to stay safe as a result of attending sessions
- Targeted small group work and mentoring provided tailored support to 29 at-risk children
- The programme will continue to March 2026, with plans to expand similar work across the borough depending on future funding

#### **3. Prevent Programme - Targeted Sessions for Schools**

With funding from LB Newham's Prevent Team, we delivered targeted programmes for young people with additional needs, referred by Rokeby School in Canning Town.

- Two 12 week programmes for Year 9 and Year 10 students were delivered during the second half of the year, engaging and supporting 30 vulnerable young people
- Sessions combined engagement activities (e.g., music, sports, outdoor learning) with confidence-building, life skills, awareness of personal safety and risks of radicalisation and extremism, plus opportunities for self-reflection

#### **4. Transition Support - Rosetta Primary School**

Building on successful work in the previous year, we delivered two primary transition programmes at Rosetta Primary School in Plaistow, funded by LB Newham.

- Two groups of 15 children (total 30) received targeted support around Year 6 to Year 7 transition
- Sessions developed teamwork, positive peer relationships, youth safety awareness and confidence, supporting at-risk pupils to make successful transitions into their chosen secondary schools

#### **5. Parent and Carer Youth Safety Sessions**

Throughout the year, our Outreach Coordinator delivered small-group youth safety awareness sessions for parents and carers in community venues and schools, in response to identified needs and requests.

#### **'Building Bridges'**

Family Support and Targeted Appeals

##### **1. Kevin Jenkins OBE Newham Christmas Toy Appeal 2024**

Our annual Christmas Toy Appeal, delivered in partnership with the Newham Recorder, supported over 2,000 disadvantaged children referred by schools, social workers, children and family services and local agencies. The appeal was generously supported by business partners, schools, charities/charitable trusts, churches/fait-based groups, local organisations and groups and many more generous individuals, raising donations of over 10,000 new toys. As part of the appeal 80 seasonal food hampers were also delivered to families in need in time for Christmas Day.

##### **2. Annual Easter Egg Appeal**

Our seventh Easter Egg Appeal, saw over 2,000 donated eggs distributed to local children and young people living in poverty, collected from a growing network of local businesses, churches, schools, groups and individuals.

##### **3. Wider Family Support**

Throughout the year we provide ongoing information, advice and resources for parents/carers and families of children and young people attending our clubs, activities and family days at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park and Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub. Support included information handouts, budget recipe cards for families accessing our HAF activities, youth safety handouts for local children and their families and regular signposting to services offering specialist advice on debt, welfare, housing and children's services. We also maintained a store of donated food, clothing and essential resources at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, to provide additional support to families of children attending our activities and services, when needed.

#### **Wider Achievements and Activities 2024-2025**

In addition to these achievements, we are pleased to report the following wider developments, achievements and initiatives this year:

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#### **1. Residentials, Outward Bound Experiences and Trips**

With additional funding from supporters including Glyn Hopkin Ltd, Valero, Royal Docks Trust and John Lewis/Waitrose, we delivered a full programme of residential experiences and trips for children and young people accessing our various clubs and services this year, which included:

- Two week-long residentials in Wales (delivered in partnership with Atlantic College and the Outward Bound Trust)
- Four residentials in Essex (Essex outdoors East Mersea Island and Stubbers Adventure Centre)
- A repeat week long Ocean Youth Trust sailing trip around the Isle of Wight during May half-term
- 85 children and young people participated, with many taking part in their first outdoor residential and experience of this kind
- A wide range of off-site day trips and experiences, with destinations including outdoor learning centres (e.g., Creekside), local parks and green spaces, central London attractions and experiences, Zippos Circus and a major 'Big Day Out' to Thorpe Park for local children and their families

#### **2. Mentoring Programme - New Deal for Young People (GLA)**

New funding from the Greater London Authority's New Deal for Young People (NDYP) programme awarded at the start of the year enabled us to introduce a structured mentoring programme.

- Six staff members/AAA youth workers completed accredited L3 Mentoring Awards
- Targeted mentoring support was provided to 103 vulnerable children and young people attending our various clubs and services and partner schools
- As the project enters its final year, we aim to embed mentoring across our programmes in the long-term and further develop our mentoring provision

#### **3. Development of the Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre/Woodland**

Significant progress was made on developing our woodland/outdoor learning space in Stratford, supported by funding from BAIN Capital, LB Newham's People Powered Places fund, Woodroffe Benton Foundation and BUPA Community Fund.

- Works included major landscaping and ongoing site clearance, new fencing, tree planting and the creation of new pathways and zones, and the design of a woodland adventure playground
- Nature-themed resources (e.g., bird boxes, bug houses) installed across the site
- Further funding secured from BAIN Capital, the Story of Christmas Fund and Thames Water, enabling ongoing development next year including the completion of a new play area and final build of the woodland adventure playground

#### **4. Building/site Improvements - Terence Brown Arc in the Park/Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub**

Building and site improvements continued this year and included:

- A full sensory room upgrade at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, improving facilities for SEND children and young people, following a grant received from the B&Q Foundation. Works covered redecoration, new carpet and brand new sensory equipment (e.g., fibre optic lighting, beanbags, light panels)
- Additional structural works and improvements at the Arc including mezzanine floor and kitchen improvements and drainage improvements in the Annex space
- The design and installation (completed in June 2025) of a new sensory secret garden in an underused space at the back of the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub site, along with landscaping work across the green spaces
- Ongoing minor improvements to the outside green spaces at both venues (e.g., new murals, weatherproofing play structures) thanks to regular corporate volunteer support delivered throughout the year

#### **5. Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)**

We continued to build on our work as a licensed DofE provider, enrolling and supporting young people from across our programmes to begin and complete their DofE Bronze Awards.

#### **6. AAA Annual Awards Evening - Children and Young People**

In November 2024, we held our second annual awards evening at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, recognising the progress and achievements of children and young people attending our clubs, services and activities across all sites.

- Children, young people and their families along with AAA staff and trustees attended a special celebration recognising achievements such as Young Leadership, Sports Excellence, Being a Positive Role Model and Demonstrating Kindness
- Additional recognition included the presentation of certificates for young people achieving Jack Petchey Awards and Young Person of the Month awards

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- We also presented Volunteer of the Year awards to celebrate the contribution of dedicated young and adult volunteers.

**7. Christmas Activities and Community Christmas Trees**

Alongside our annual Christmas Toy Appeal, our festive activities this year included:

- Organising Christmas parties and pantomime visits for children and young people across our services to enjoy
- The return of our Community Christmas Trees enterprise, successfully delivering nearly **200** real Christmas trees, purchased by organisations, schools, churches and individuals to raise unrestricted funding to support our work in 2025

**8. Annual Benefit Evening - Brick Lane Music Hall**

Our seventh annual benefit evening and fundraiser at the Brick Lane Music Hall in Silvertown took place in April 2024. The event was a great success, welcoming over 150 supporters, with additional donated seats enabling AAA volunteers, young people and members of 'The Time Together Club' (for isolated older local residents) to attend with supporters. Combined ticket sales, auction, raffle and donations raised over £15,000 for our work next year, all made possible thanks to Vincent Hayes MBE and the Brick Lane Music Hall Team.

**9. Staff Development and Training**

We continued to invest in staff training and development, strengthening our team of experienced and qualified permanent workers, sessional staff, youth workers and play workers, to oversee and deliver an increasingly wide range of programmes safely and effectively. Alongside accredited mentoring training, this included a wide range of safeguarding training, first aid, safer recruitment, project management and specialist qualifications (e.g., working with SEND young people).

**10. Diversifying Our Funding Base**

We further diversified our income this year, securing new grants and expanding corporate support through direct giving, regular donations, sponsorship and employee volunteering. This included securing new partnerships to support our annual appeals and campaigns and maintaining a consistent level of donated income to help further our work in 2025-2026.

**11. Sector Engagement and Networks**

The Chief Executive continued to maintain a presence across key local and regional networks, including the Newham Youth Partnership, One Newham, Compost, youth safety networks, VCS leadership forums, LB Newham groups and regional forums (e.g., London Youth, GLA/VRU, wider funder networks), ensuring AAA contributes and benefits from wider strategic collaboration. The second and final year of funding from Berkeley Foundation, focused on strengthening AAA's organisational resilience and back-office functions, also enabling participation at regional networking and information sharing events.

**Key Challenges and Risk Management**

The operating environment for charities, particularly those working with disadvantaged children and young people, remains increasingly challenging. While AAA has continued to maintain a broad and committed funding and supporter base, the wider context is placing additional pressure on both service delivery and long-term sustainability.

The external funding landscape continues to shift towards shorter, smaller and more competitive grants, with limited availability of multi-year funding that is vital for planning and sustaining core services. At the same time, Local Authority budgets remain under significant pressure, increasing the likelihood that non-statutory provision, including some of the services we deliver or complement, may face further reductions.

These challenges sit against a backdrop of rising need in Newham, where many families continue to experience the compounded effects of poverty, the cost of living crisis and wider social and economic inequalities. Demand for safe, inclusive, high-quality youth, play and SEND provision continues to rise, and AAA faces growing pressure to expand programmes and deepen support for those with the most complex needs. The development of our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan provided an opportunity for trustees and senior leaders to reassess key organisational risks, consider emerging challenges and establish priorities for the coming years. The principal risks identified include:

## **Ambition Aspire Achieve**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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#### **1. Financial Sustainability**

Despite a stable year overall, the outlook for funding remains uncertain. The continued shift towards short-term, restricted and competitive grants increases financial risk. Larger, multi-year funders remain limited, reducing long-term income security. Rising overheads (including inflation, staffing costs, energy and insurance) place further pressure on financial resilience. Mitigation includes ongoing diversification of income, continued focus on unrestricted fundraising, strengthening corporate partnerships and enhancing financial monitoring and forecasting.

#### **2. Over-Reliance on Key Funders**

Although AAA has a broad funding base, a proportion of our income continues to come from a smaller number of significant supporters, including Local Authority and statutory bodies. These funders face budget constraints and increased demand, which heightens the risk of reductions or changes to commissioning arrangements. Our strategic focus includes widening the mix of funders, increasing medium and long-term supporters, and growing sustainable corporate and individual giving.

#### **3. Rising Demand and Service Pressures**

With over half of children in Newham living in poverty and many experiencing complex challenges, the demand for our targeted youth, play, SEND and family support services continues to increase. This creates a risk of service strain, waiting lists and reduced capacity to meet community need. There is also a risk that increasing complexity in the needs of beneficiaries may require additional specialist support and infrastructure. AAA is responding through careful programme planning, use of evidence-based monitoring, increased collaboration with partners and ongoing review of staffing and volunteer capacity.

#### **4. Staff Capacity, Wellbeing and Retention**

AAA has grown significantly in recent years, resulting in a busier and more complex operational environment. Sustaining high-quality provision requires adequate staffing levels, strong morale and effective succession planning. Pressures created by rising demand increase the risk of staff burnout, reduced wellbeing and higher turnover, particularly across frontline and permanent roles. The charity continues to rely on a small senior team to oversee a wide range of programmes and loss or absence of key staff could impact organisational stability. Mitigation includes ongoing investment in training, support for staff development, strengthening management structures and succession planning, and continued work, to enhance organisational resilience and back-office functions.

#### **5. Compliance and Reporting Requirements**

Charities continue to experience increased compliance expectations from regulators, funders and safeguarding bodies. A growing number of smaller, shorter grants increases administrative burden due to multiple monitoring and reporting cycles. Evolving regulatory and safeguarding requirements add further pressure to organisational systems, policies and capacity. AAA is addressing these challenges through improved internal systems, digital tools (including Upshot), enhanced policy development and planned improvements to risk management processes.

#### **6. Volunteer Capacity and Dependency**

With the expansion of services and our facilities, maintaining significant volunteer numbers, including corporate and community volunteers and ensuring appropriate training, processes and supervision is becoming increasingly important. Fluctuating volunteer availability may present operational challenges while increasing our maintenance and upkeep costs if corporate volunteering reduces in the longer term. AAA is responding by strengthening volunteer management within existing roles, while continuing to reach out to new partners and organisations to grow levels of volunteer recruitment.

#### **Risk Oversight and Management**

The trustees and Chief Executive review key risks throughout the year at Board meetings, with our organisational risk register recently developed and included as a standing item for meetings. Additional scrutiny is applied when new projects, funding opportunities or organisational developments arise. The developed risk register further strengthens the charity's risk management framework, clarifying risk ownership and more regularly reviewing changes in key risks and mitigations.

The Board remains committed to ensuring that AAA not only manages risks effectively but continues to respond proactively to challenges, protecting the charity's long-term sustainability and its ability to deliver high-quality services for children, young people and families.

## Ambition Aspire Achieve

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

We are fortunate to benefit from a growing number of funders and supporters, many of whom have grown their support for the charity. Despite a challenging operating environment, with decline in net income this year we are pleased to report a growth in the total charity funds to £859,930. The overall financial position remains healthy, with the amount of available unrestricted reserves exceeding the 6-month target set in the reserves policy.

Expenditure during the year was focused on delivering the charity's wide range of programmes and services for vulnerable, disadvantaged and at-risk children and young people. The majority of expenditure related directly to frontline delivery, including youth work, SEND provision, outreach and youth safety initiatives, play and community programmes, holiday activities, residentials and targeted support.

Trustees are satisfied with the financial statements as at the year end and are confident that sufficient resources are in place to enable the charity to meet its objectives for the foreseeable future. Trustees are also satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Trustees remain mindful of the financial risks facing the charity, particularly within an environment of increasing service demand, rising operational costs and greater competition for grant funding. A continued focus on diversifying income streams, maintaining strong financial controls and building reserves remains essential.

A summary of the charity's financial position at year ending 31st March 2025, comparatively to the prior period and as more fully detailed in the accounts is as follows:

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
<b>Net Income</b>	£ 34,717	£ 280,137
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	£ 384,626	£ 400,952
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	£ 475,304	£ 424,261
<b>Total Funds</b>	£ 859,930	£ 825,213

#### Fundraising Activities 2024-2025

Whilst the majority of our income is generated from charitable grants and contracted income, we are extremely grateful to the many individuals and supporters who have made donations during the year to support our work. This includes individual one-off and repeat donations, donations from corporate/business supporters and donations made as part of fundraising activities and events organised this year, including our seventh annual benefit night, hosted by long-term supporter the Brick Lane Music Hall.

#### Reserves Policy

In accordance with Charity Commission guidance, the trustees have established a Reserves Policy which is reviewed annually as part of the charity's financial planning and risk management processes. The trustees consider it essential that AAA maintains an appropriate level of unrestricted reserves to safeguard the organisation against financial uncertainty and ensure continuity of vital services. Unrestricted reserves provide a buffer in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as a sudden drop in income, delays in grant payments, unexpected expenditure, or the need to meet staff severance obligations. They also provide flexibility to respond to new opportunities that strengthen the charity's long-term sustainability and support its ability to fulfil its charitable purposes. The trustees have set the reserves target at the equivalent of six months of core running costs. For the purposes of the policy, running costs include:

- Permanent staff salaries and associated on-costs
- Potential liabilities arising from staff severance
- Office, hub and premises costs (including utilities, maintenance and insurance)
- Other fixed commitments required to ensure the charity can continue operating and meet contractual obligations

The trustees believe that holding reserves at this level is prudent and proportionate in light of the charity's size, the breadth of its operations, and the external funding environment. The reserves level is kept under ongoing review to ensure it remains appropriate to the charity's financial risks and strategic plans.

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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## **FUTURE PLANS**

The first year of delivering our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan has strengthened AAA's foundations and provided a clear framework for growth, adaptation and organisational resilience over the next two years. Building on the progress made in 2024-2025, the trustees have identified a number of key priorities that will guide the charity's future direction. These plans reflect both emerging opportunities and the challenges highlighted through our risk management processes, ensuring AAA remains well positioned to support vulnerable and disadvantaged children, young people and families across Newham.

The key priorities for the coming year include:

1. Embedding and advancing our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, ensuring continued alignment of programmes, partnerships and resource planning with our five strategic objectives and ten strategic goals.
2. Strengthening financial management, including enhancements to internal financial systems, project costing, cashflow oversight and organisational budgeting, to support resilience in a challenging funding environment.
3. Expanding fundraising and development capacity, with a continued focus on diversifying income streams, deepening corporate partnerships, increasing unrestricted and multi-year funding, and cultivating new supporters aligned with AAA's mission.
4. Maintaining adequate free reserves, in line with the agreed Reserves Policy, to protect the charity against financial uncertainty and support long-term sustainability.
5. Enhancing governance and board development, including implementing a trustee skills audit, reviewing governance arrangements and strengthening board oversight of risk, impact and organisational performance.
6. Investing in our delivery hubs, facilities and outdoor spaces to meet rising demand, including planned repairs, renewals and site development at the Terence Brown Arc in the Park, the Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub and continued transformation of the Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre.
7. Developing staff capability and strengthening succession planning, supported by a refreshed annual training plan, improved staff supervision structures and ongoing investment in professional development.
8. Further improving monitoring, evaluation and impact measurement, building on our use of Upshot to enhance data quality, outcome reporting and the storytelling of our impact.
9. Working towards organisational accreditations and quality marks, such as Investors in People, London Living Wage accreditation and other charity standards to support organisational maturity and best practice.
10. Deepening partnerships with local schools, colleges, children's services and community stakeholders, to widen referral pathways and ensure more children and young people who need support are able to access AAA's programmes.
11. Continuing the effective delivery and development of all current projects and services, including youth clubs, SEND provision, play and family support, holiday schemes, mentoring, outreach and youth safety work, across all AAA hubs settings.
12. Expanding our outdoor learning offer, fully utilising the developing woodland facility to provide high-quality outdoor education, wellbeing activities and nature-based experiences.
13. Focusing growth in areas of greatest need and service gaps, including:
  - SEND activities and specialist short breaks
  - Early intervention and transition support
  - Provision for 14-19 year olds, including those at risk of exploitation
  - Increased support for families experiencing poverty, hardship and rising social challenges

The trustees remain committed to ensuring that AAA continues to provide inclusive, high-quality and impactful services that respond to the changing needs of the communities we serve. Our future plans will be guided by evidence, lived experience and ongoing dialogue with children, young people, families and partner organisations.

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Ambition Aspire Achieve (AAA) is governed by a Board of 12 trustees, who together hold ultimate responsibility for the general control and management of the charity. The Board ensures that the charity is effectively led, financially sound and delivering on its charitable objectives.

The Board is chaired by Christine Bowden, who has been formally appointed and endorsed by the trustees. Day-to-day leadership and operational management of the charity are delegated to the Chief Executive, Jonny Boux, who is responsible for delivering the strategic and operational plans approved by the Board.

The Board meets quarterly, with an additional extended meeting or annual away day dedicated to key strategic issues such as development planning, budget approval, and review of long-term priorities. Trustees collectively take decisions relating to the governance, direction, and oversight of all programmes and activities delivered by the charity.

More information about Ambition Aspire Achieve's Board of Trustees and staff team can be found on the charity's website [www.theaaazone.com](http://www.theaaazone.com).

**Trustee Recruitment, Induction and Training**

The recruitment of new trustees is overseen by the Chair and supporting Board members. Trustees are typically appointed through either open recruitment, advertised via the charity's networks, or through targeted approaches to individuals within the community who bring relevant expertise and experience. All prospective trustees are interviewed to assess their suitability, alignment with AAA's values, and ability to contribute effectively to the charity's governance.

Successful candidates are formally appointed at a Board meeting. Each new trustee receives a comprehensive Trustee Handbook, which outlines the charity's structure, key policies, governance framework, and trustee responsibilities. New trustees also participate in an induction process that includes:

- An introduction to AAA's programmes, staff, and operational structures
- An overview of the charity's strategic priorities and current challenges
- Guidance on legal duties and regulatory requirements under charity law
- Opportunities to meet key staff and observe programme delivery where appropriate

Trustees are encouraged to undertake ongoing training relevant to their role and field of expertise. The Board is committed to ensuring that all trustees have the knowledge, skills, and understanding necessary to discharge their responsibilities effectively and support the continued development of the charity.

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- c) make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- d) state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- e) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operate.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

This report has been approved by order of the board of trustees on 30 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms Christine Bowden - Trustee

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of  
Ambition Aspire Achieve**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Ambition, Aspire, Achieve (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash flows, Notes to the statements of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of Ambition Aspire Achieve**

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### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 16 the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

-We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the group through our general not for profit and charity sector experience and discussions with management. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: Charities SORP 2019, FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, Charities Act 2011.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charity's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

The engagement partner's assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's:

-Understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation

-Knowledge of the industry in which the client operates

-Understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the entity including:

-The provisions of the applicable legislation

-The regulators rules and related guidance, including guidance issued by relevant authorities that interprets those rules

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of  
Ambition Aspire Achieve**

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There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentation, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Accountax Auditing Ltd  
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006  
Unit 8, Dock-Offices,  
Surrey Quays Road,  
London  
SE16 2XU

30 January 2026

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	190,270	-	190,270	179,025
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
Grants		-	428,606	428,606	870,479
Contracts		335,405	-	335,405	94,199
Other trading activities	3	30,195	-	30,195	24,274
Investment income	4	1,566	-	1,566	1,583
<b>Total</b>		<u>557,436</u>	<u>428,606</u>	<u>986,042</u>	<u>1,169,560</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6 & 7				
Expenditure on charitable activity		<u>573,762</u>	<u>377,563</u>	<u>951,325</u>	<u>889,423</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(16,326)	51,043	34,717	280,137
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>400,952</u>	<u>424,261</u>	<u>825,213</u>	<u>545,076</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>384,626</u>	<u>475,304</u>	<u>859,930</u>	<u>825,213</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	13	26,884	174,748	201,632	193,767
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	14	1,187	64,107	65,294	41,999
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>542,997</u>	<u>344,698</u>	<u>887,695</u>	<u>900,000</u>
		544,184	408,805	952,989	941,999
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(186,442)	(108,249)	(294,691)	(310,553)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>357,742</u>	<u>300,556</u>	<u>658,298</u>	<u>631,446</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>384,626</u>	<u>475,304</u>	<u>859,930</u>	<u>825,213</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>384,626</u>	<u>475,304</u>	<u>859,930</u>	<u>825,213</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	16				
Unrestricted funds				384,626	400,952
Restricted funds				<u>475,304</u>	<u>424,261</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>859,930</u>	<u>825,213</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Ms Christine Bowden - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Statement of Cash Flows  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>44,949</u>	<u>341,172</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>44,949</u>	<u>341,172</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(58,820)	(242,718)
Interest received		<u>1,566</u>	<u>1,583</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(57,254)</u>	<u>(241,135)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		(12,305)	100,037
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>900,000</u>	<u>799,963</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u>887,695</u>	<u>900,000</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	34,717	280,137
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	50,955	48,951
Interest received	(1,566)	(1,583)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(23,295)	33,234
Decrease in creditors	<u>(15,862)</u>	<u>(19,567)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<u><u>44,949</u></u>	<u><u>341,172</u></u>

**2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	900,000	(12,305)	887,695
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>900,000</u></u>	<u><u>(12,305)</u></u>	<u><u>887,695</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Ambition Aspire Achieve meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**Significant accounting policies**

**Preparation of the accounts on going concern basis**

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams.

Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for the next 12 months, the trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Risks and future assumptions**

The funding required for 2024/2025 has been raised and the trustees are confident that there will not be a deficit. Major funding is on 2-3 year contracts; and funding needs for 2025 and beyond have been determined, sources of funds are being identified and applications are being made to secure the necessary funding for 2025/26 and beyond. This should ensure viability beyond 2025/26 and demonstrate that the Charity is a going concern.

**Income recognition**

**Donations & Grants**

Income, whether from exchange or non-exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

**Income from Contracts**

Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service or met the performance related conditions. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose.

**Donations in Kind**

Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.  
Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**Income from interest**

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

**Recognition of liabilities and expenditure**

**Liability recognition**

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated.

**Expenditure**

Charitable expenditures comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be directly allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

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

**Creditors**

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured at fair value, net of transaction costs and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using effective interest method.

**Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

**Significant accounting policies**

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- Over the period of lease
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

**Debtors**

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amount due according to the original terms of receivables.

**Volunteers**

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity. However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note 11.

**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. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Donations	190,270	-	190,270	179,025

This includes services-in-kind comprising the provision of a vacant retail unit at Gallions Reach Shopping Park for one month (December 2024) valued at £10,000. It also includes 28 corporate volunteers utilised at Abbey Hub (28 days at £200 per day) valued at £5,600.

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Fundraising events	16,704	-	16,704	11,521
Xmas trees	13,491	-	13,491	12,753
	30,195	-	30,195	24,274

Income was generated during the year from the charity's annual fundraising event.

Xmas trees represent annual Christmas tree sale, with proceeds applied to charitable purposes.

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Deposit account interest	1,566	-	1,566	1,583

**5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Grants	-	428,606	428,606	870,479
Contracts	335,405	-	335,405	94,199
<b>Total</b>	<b>335,405</b>	<b>428,606</b>	<b>764,011</b>	<b>964,678</b>

The entity earns income from contracts with the London Borough of Newham, arising from contractual arrangements.

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Wages	297,314	254,899	552,213	516,294
Social security	16,896	16,365	33,261	29,157
Pensions	4,272	3,923	8,195	7,049
Project costs	108,110	40,605	148,715	165,824
Cost of Xmas trees	11,060	-	11,060	9,220
<b>Total</b>	<b>437,652</b>	<b>315,792</b>	<b>753,444</b>	<b>727,544</b>

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.3.25 Total Funds £	31.3.24 Total Funds £
Bank charges	135	-	135	84
<b>Information technology</b>				
License fees and subscription	12,309	1,061	13,370	9,646
<b>Human resources</b>				
Training and welfare- staff	3,735	9,168	12,903	5,139
Travel and subsistence - staff	936	89	1,025	1,169
Admin staff expenses	14,205	-	14,205	7,200
Clothing	3,202	153	3,355	6,947
	22,078	9,410	31,488	20,455
<b>Other costs</b>				
Rates and water	1,901	-	1,901	774
Insurance	16,637	-	16,637	6,491
Light and heat	10,131	-	10,131	13,569
Premises repairs and renewals	22,607	-	22,607	16,549
Cleaning	10,139	-	10,139	5,575
	61,415	-	61,415	42,958
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Auditors' remuneration	14,400	-	14,400	14,400
Marketing and publicity	2,200	662	2,862	5,001
Telephone	6,270	-	6,270	5,952
Postage and stationery	6,957	430	7,387	3,812
Sundries	4,045	671	4,716	6,714
Independent examination fee	-	-	-	1,550
Accountancy fees	4,115	768	4,883	2,356
Improvements to property	-	48,769	48,769	46,914
Fixtures and fittings	1,299	-	1,299	1,082
Computer equipment	887	-	887	955
	40,173	-	91,473	88,736

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>50,955</u>	<u>48,951</u>

**9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION**

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	<u>14,400</u>	<u>14,400</u>

**Non-Audit Services**

Fee paid for non-audit services was £2,400 (2024: Nil).

**10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: Nil).

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: Nil)

**11. STAFF COSTS**

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Salaries and wages	552,213	516,294
Social security costs	33,261	29,157
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	8,195	7,049
Total Employee benefits	<u>593,669</u>	<u>552,500</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Permanent/salaried staff	8	7
Sessional staff	<u>43</u>	<u>76</u>
	<u>51</u>	<u>83</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

## 12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	169,025	10,000	179,025
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Grants	-	870,479	870,479
Contracts	94,199	-	94,199
Other trading activities	24,274	-	24,274
Investment income	1,583	-	1,583
<b>Total</b>	<u>289,081</u>	<u>880,479</u>	<u>1,169,560</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Expenditure on charitable activity	<u>296,841</u>	<u>592,582</u>	<u>889,423</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(7,760)	287,897	280,137
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	408,712	136,364	545,076
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>400,952</u>	<u>424,261</u>	<u>825,213</u>

## 13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2024	234,572	4,328	3,818	242,718
Additions	<u>56,186</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>684</u>	<u>58,820</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>290,758</u>	<u>6,278</u>	<u>4,502</u>	<u>301,538</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2024	46,914	1,082	955	48,951
Charge for year	<u>48,769</u>	<u>1,299</u>	<u>887</u>	<u>50,955</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>95,683</u>	<u>2,381</u>	<u>1,842</u>	<u>99,906</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2025	<u>195,075</u>	<u>3,897</u>	<u>2,660</u>	<u>201,632</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>187,658</u>	<u>3,246</u>	<u>2,863</u>	<u>193,767</u>

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

<b>14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade debtors	55,020	32,912
Prepayments	10,274	9,087
	<u>65,294</u>	<u>41,999</u>
<b>15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,738	42,181
Social security and other taxes	9,830	11,461
Other creditors	30,361	27,650
Accruals and deferred income	233,594	214,147
Accrued expenses	15,168	15,114
	<u>294,691</u>	<u>310,553</u>

Grant & Donations are subject to performance-related conditions received in advance which are accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met. During the current year deferred income amounting to £ 214,147 has been released in the statement of financial activities as income, whereas grants amounting to £ 233,594 has been deferred.

<b>16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		Net movement in funds	At 31.3.25
	At 1.4.24		
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	400,952	(16,326)	384,626
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	424,261	51,043	475,304
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>825,213</u>	<u>34,717</u>	<u>859,930</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	557,436	(573,762)	(16,326)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	428,606	(377,563)	51,043
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>986,042</u>	<u>(951,325)</u>	<u>34,717</u>

**Ambition Aspire Achieve**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	408,712	(7,760)	400,952
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	136,364	287,897	424,261
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>545,076</u>	<u>280,137</u>	<u>825,213</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	289,081	(296,841)	(7,760)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	880,479	(592,582)	287,897
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,169,560</u>	<u>(889,423)</u>	<u>280,137</u>

**17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

The following trustees and staff members have been identified as related parties. Details of their relationships and declared interests are as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Declared Interest</b>
Ms. Christine Bowden	Trustee	Trustee of Newham Music and Brick Lane Music Hall. The total donations received during the year from Newham Music amounted to £165.
Mr. John Bergin	Trustee	Chief Executive of Newham Music. The total donations received during the year from Newham Music amounted to £165.
Ms. Sharon Kaur	Trustee	Director of Sahara Care Limited. Sahara Care Limited made donations of £10,000 during the year to Ambition Aspire Achieve.
Ms. Sarah Ruiz	Trustee	Cabinet Member of LB Newham. The total grants and contracts received during the year amounted to £52,019 & £335,405 respectively.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES - continued

Mr. Jonathan Boux      Chief Executive      Trustee of Newham Music and Brick Lane Music Hall.  
The total donations received during the year from  
Newham Music amounted to £165.

The charity acknowledges these relationships and ensures that all transactions involving related parties are in the best interest of the charity.

No other financial transactions were conducted with related parties.

18. KEY MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION

The charity identifies two individuals as key management personnel. The remuneration of senior leadership for the year is as follows:

Name	Role	Gross Wages
Mr Jonathan Boux	Chief Executive	£58,500
Ms Paula Blake	Operations Manager	£44,622

