

Charity report January 2023 - January 2024

SPRINGWELL COMMUNITY HUB
Springwell Community Centre
Lanchester Avenue
Gateshead
NE9 7AL

ANNUAL REPORT: JANUARY 2023 - 2024

The aims of Springwell Community Hub are to provide a safe environment for the Springwell Estate community where they can meet, find friendship, and receive help and support with a wide range of problems and enquiries.

Springwell Community Hub is situated within a highly deprived area of Gateshead in the county of Tyne & Wear.

We provide activities, events, and educational and vocational opportunities to all who engage with the center. Taking each area of our charitable work, we provide activities to help us achieve our mission. Specifically:

Responsible for planning / organizing and coordinating the daily professional operations of the community hub. Our community Center is located in the top 10% deprived areas of the UK. Our estate has an estimated population of 1681 living in 662 residences, 488 are council rented properties. 43% of these households are on low income, 26% in fuel poverty and 37% on out of work benefits and 12% suffer with overcrowding. 11. 3% of the community are from a minority / ethnic background the Gateshead average is 5.9%

Unites the community:

A place that people can connect and socialize, a multi purpose hub that offers different things for different people. A place where the community can work together, come together and be valued for their own individuality. We have a number of residents from the youngest to the oldest attending the building. We also make a number of home visits to some of the residents that we know are isolated or suffering depression. These individuals are known to us and we keep in contact on a regular basis.

Provides volunteer opportunities:

An opportunity to give something back and to do great things. A way of getting work experience and supporting a good cause. As part of our commitment to the community we have Safeguarding trained staff (Level 3). The trained staff have a vast amount of experience working with vulnerable children and adults and have strong links to the local authorities Safeguarding team. We have updated our safeguarding policy and this was adopted by the trustees. We also have our own safeguarding training for all trustees due in Spring 2024.

Support for community projects:

Springwell Hub has been working on a number of community based projects such as engaging with community clean ups and improving garden spaces. It's all about the inside and the outside of the centre and how it's all brought together. Our building is used by a Special Needs College on a regular basis, we work quite closely with them to engage the community and the centre plus part of their curriculum involves meeting / working with the community and we regularly have coffee mornings and pop up shop events where the community come in and are served by the students.

Combating loneliness:

Our centre is a vital place to visit for older members of the community or for people that are feeling isolated. Statistics show that 1 in 5 of the population feel lonely always or often. Having a place to visit on a regular basis is vital. It provides a routine, something to look forward to and new opportunities. 5% of the pensioners on our estate are living alone, Gateshead high is 24%. In December 2023 we introduced a Cake and Bake session for residents to attend and make cakes with one of our volunteers. This session is open to all and is part of our Warm Space project.

Positively impacts the lives of younger people:

Youths need access to a safe space to visit and take part in new activities. We provide in partnership with Youth Focus NE a youth club that is designed to bring the children of the estate together for activities and events surrounding knife crime. This session was set up after the fatal stabbing of one of our young people from the estate. We have a range of classes and events such as Dance, Gym, physical, creative or social activities arranged for the young people. This is a programme that offers countless opportunities for the young people to make friends and learn new skills. Giving the younger generation a healthy outlet for their energy will help us towards preventing anti-social behavior and nurture the individuals most positive attributes instead. In partnership with Gateshead Council The Department for Education and Dance Fusion Extreme we provide a HAF School Holiday programme for the younger children from the estate. This is usually 3 -4 days per week over the school holidays where the children come and access activities and events with a hot meal.

Of the children living on the estate 38% are living in child poverty, this could be significantly more now due to the cost of living crisis. Domestic abuse affecting children 155 with high risk domestic abuse victims 26. Domestic related crimes 34 Gateshead high is 49. Victims of crime 71 with a Gateshead high of 116 with total crime 113 Gateshead low 6 and Gateshead high 138. Young people are living in and around abuse and violence on a daily basis.

Promotes healthy living:

Offering healthy activities, dance classes and fitness classes tailored to various age groups that encourage the whole community of different age groups to come out, engage and get healthy. Our community hub puts socializing at the forefront of all we do to make fitness fun. We are in the process of applying for grants so we can include nutritional health by offering courses in cookery, food handling and holiday activities where children can get a regular meal when schools are closed. 46% of the adults on the estate smoke, highest in Gateshead. 50% carry excess weight at age 6 and 28% in reception class. Alcohol related hospital admissions 3848 over half of the total Gateshead admissions of 6869. Women drink over 3 units per day 29%, Gateshead high is 39%. Men drink over 4 units per day, 47%,

Gateshead high is 52%. Depression is 9% which is a Gateshead high. Unpaid carers 5% and the Gateshead high is 6%.

Creativity and culture:

Arts and crafts classes and cultural activities are key to engaging new members from the community. The more options available the more people will come along. We will be creating a culture of wellbeing across the social, mental and physical health of the community while linking with other social services and facilities will make a huge difference. Art classes are in the early stages of development.

Share valuable information:

What's on - provide valuable information on events, programmes and other activities going on in the centre and the community. Advertising classes, groups, events and activities all community information can be found here. We are looking to create a website for our centre where guides, brochures, flyers, newsletters, social media posts and a bulletin board will easily be accessible. Also a link where other services, organisations and operators can advertise and promote their events and stay connected with what's going on within our community.

Offer educational opportunities:

One of our main projects for 2024 is to create an adult education programme, this is mainly for the refugee population on our estate but is open to all the community. We will establish the centre as a venue for GCSE, skills, training and advice while also creating a community space for refugees to engage with other members of the community. Springwell Estate has the largest population of refugees in Gateshead. We will be working with this group and a number of departments from the council to establish routes into employment or self employment.

We plan to offer basic adult education opportunities as well as developmental opportunities such as dance or crafts. A safe place to learn a new skill and further an individual's education is a fantastic resource. 40% of the Springwell estate have no qualifications, 30% of the children are persistently absent from school. 57% have good development at age 5 with 31% requiring early help. 46% of children are classed as vulnerable.

Our centre hosts a Special Needs college during term time putting our building to good use during our quiet time. This partnership allows the students to gain valuable experience and work experience by hosting coffee mornings, arranging events, creating pop up shops and gardening all in conjunction with the community. This project demonstrates the impact that community centres have on every life stage of the community from the infants right through to the adult education and activities for the elderly.

Provide unique and much needed facilities:

Hire of the centre for family activities, birthdays and events continue and this is at a reasonable rate due to the financial crisis. Other groups and organisations are able to rent a space on a more regular basis. This service is invaluable for people who want to organise social events and activities and need a base in which to do this. We are also a Polling Station and provide the local authority with a centre where the community can come and vote in local and general elections.

In 2023 Springwell appointed new trustees as a number of members resigned.
New Trustees: Natalie Story / Shellie Simpson / Kayleigh Newton / Danielle Gradner

Resignations: Malcolm Graham / Marian Baker / Brian Turnbull / Eric Baker / Glenn Turnbull

Safeguarding training: Lisa Loan / John Gibson Level 3 Designated Safeguarding Leads. All trustees are to complete a safeguarding course Spring 2024.

Updated safeguarding policy updated and accepted by the trustees September 2023. All trustees are aware of our recording and reporting process if a safeguarding issue is raised.

Banking and Signatories

Due to the resignation of Eric Baker, Springwell Community Hub has removed Eric Baker from the Charity bank account and replaced him with Lisa Loan (chair).

We are pleased to report that we remain financially viable. Our accounts are independently reviewed overseen and prepared by Hurren and Jubb accountants Ltd

Activities (New) Cedars College / Youth Focus Youth club / Cake Baking reducing isolation and mental health support / Warm space / Bingo (financial support from our local councillors)
Activities (Continue) HAF project, Dance Fusion Extreme dance school / refugee support / EMZ's Hair and Beauty (Community Hair Salon)

Grants (secured)

£9,800 The National Lottery (Utilities and maintenance) May 2023
£10,000 Ballinger Trust (December 2023) Unrestricted funds December 2023
£1,000 Ballinger Trust (December 2023) New cooker December 2023
£2000 Gateshead Council Warm Space Grant December 2023
£500 Suez (December 2023)
Pool table (Donated July 2023)

Events:

Macmillan Coffee morning and Springwell estate clean up event
Birthday parties
Vigil and memorial events for Thomaz Olashk (Victim of knife crime)
HAF activities (Easter / Summer / Christmas school holidays)

Room rents:

Youth Focus, knife crime awareness youth club
EMZ's Hair and Beauty
Cedars College
Dance Fusion Extreme

Management, activities, legalities, cleaning and security of the Springwell Community Hub are managed by 19 plus cic. A monthly management fee is paid to cover the above requirements.

We are pleased to report that we remain financially viable. Our accounts are independently prepared and overseen by R. A. Hurren Accountants Ltd. Our volunteer Accountant continues to advise on general financial matters.

We continue to meet our financial obligations to the Council, together with all necessary expenses incurred in order to maintain the operation of the Centre for the community. All accounts, including bank statements are available for inspection on request if required.

L.Loan
Chair of Trustees
January 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
springwell community hub

No (if any)
1171744

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2022		31/03/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
room rent	9,460	-	-	9,460	6,399
grant income	8,283	-	-	8,283	18,000
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,743	-	-	17,743	24,399
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,743	-	-	17,743	24,399
A3 Payments					
rent and rates	6,892	-	-	6,892	2,879
telephone	399	-	-	399	450
insurance	488	-	-	488	505
accountancy fees	1,192	-	-	1,192	1,252
heat and light	7,394	-	-	7,394	2,396
print, post and stationery	590	-	-	590	344
repairs and maintenance	13,761	-	-	13,761	6,871
charitable donations	-	-	-	-	400
licences	258	-	-	258	222
equipment hire	580	-	-	580	580
sundry expenses	1,146	-	-	1,146	259
cleaning	-	-	-	-	289
Sub total	32,700	-	-	32,700	16,447
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
loan 19 plus c.i.c.	-	-	-	-	-
computers and other equipment	-	-	-	-	850
Sub total	-	-	-	-	850
Total payments	32,700	-	-	32,700	17,297
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 14,957	-	-	- 14,957	7,102
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	17,774	-	-	17,774	10,672
Cash funds this year end	2,817	-	-	2,817	17,774

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	funds at bank	2,817	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,817	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	computers and other equipment		4,258	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	