

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1172924

Details

Other names	NORTH EAST YOUNG LADS AND DADS PROJECT CIO
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-05-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts South Shore Road Gateshead Gateshead NE8 3BA
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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE IN LIFE AND RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF YOUNG MEN AND BOYS UNDER THE AGE OF 26 IN THE UK IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY YOUNG FATHERS, FATHERS TO BE AND MALE CAREGIVERS, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT AND ACTIVITIES WHICH DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS

Activities: To advance in life and relieve the needs of young men and boys under the age of 25 who live, work or study in the North East of England in particular, but not exclusively young fathers and fathers to be, through the provision of support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£560,653	£608,323	£619,798	14
2024-04-30	£646,591	£407,282	£667,469	9
2023-04-30	£547,743	£286,403	£428,160	8
2022-04-30	£300,013	£232,526	-	-
2021-04-30	£245,422	£237,981	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
STEVEN BRAMWELL	Chair	2024-07-09
Callum Fay		2025-04-08
Chris Humba		2023-12-13
Colin Workman		2023-07-11
Dylan Peggs		2025-08-19
James Withycombe		2024-07-09
Jennifer Goldstein		2020-07-09
Lillie Hebbon		2025-07-01
Mark Hutchinson		2023-07-11
Olusola Adebisi		2025-10-27
Sarah Oliver		2020-07-09

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1172924

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Covering the period from 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023
Winner

THE YOUTH WORK AWARD

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023
Winner

THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE AWARD



"A blueprint for supporting dads, the ambitions achieved in this niche field and the encouragement for dad workers far and wide to do more... Thanks team NEYDL!"

(Errol Murray, Charity Manager, Leeds dads following attendance at 'A Natter with NEYDL' stakeholder event showcasing the charity's work)

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"Hey Doug, hope all is well... I wanted to say a massive thank you! When I was living up north, honestly if it wasn't for you, I know genuinely I would have (taken my own life)... You was the only person who never judge me... You truly are an amazing person! An amazing dad and I never grew up with a dad myself, but you are what dads should aspire to be!"

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"I'm so glad we came. Meeting other mams and dads our age is so cool. Thanks for inviting us."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

FOREWORD

Callum Fay, Trustee, Social Worker and former service beneficiary of NEYDL

My name is Callum, and it is truly an honour to be asked to write the Foreword for this report, sharing the incredible work that NEYDL staff, volunteers and young dads in our region have done in the past year.

I am a young dad and former beneficiary of the charity, and now proudly a Trustee for NEYDL. I was 18 when I found out I was going to be a dad and 19 when my beautiful son was born. During my partner's early pregnancy, I felt scared, alone, confused and thought my dream of going to university and graduating as a Social Worker was derailed. My son was born in the January after beginning my first year at university and I can honestly say that it was one of the most difficult periods of my life, working an average of 70 hours per month, and balancing a difficult university course, as well as supporting my partner who at the time was experiencing post-natal depression. Most importantly, I was also caring for my son.

Often when you're supporting those around you, and are busy, you forget to take care of yourself, and I was guilty of that. I reached a critical point in my life where I was crying out for support myself but didn't know where or who to turn to.

I messaged my health visitor, and she put me in touch with Doug from NEYDL. I had never spoken to Doug before, but I finally felt like I was talking to someone who understood me and I opened-up. Within a week, I began working with Rob and he helped me to regain my confidence in life and made me realise that I was not on my own. I started attending the Stay and Play groups NEYDL offered and they were amazing! I went on bike rides with other young dads and families and was able to take my son with me on the trailer. Looking back, those early days working with Rob (Senior Young Dads Project Worker at NEYDL) and the other young dads, gave me a sense of belonging and hope, which in turn gave me the platform to keep going. I was given the opportunity to take part in the 'Reframing Young Fatherhood' photography project, and that gave me an immense sense of pride, looking at my son and me in the photos.

Although my life's direction had changed course, the support I received gave me a new motivation to give my son and my partner the life we wanted, and so giving up my university wasn't an option!



In my second year at university the laptop I used for my studies broke and without hesitation Rob gave me one from the charity. I also received stationary, giving me the tools I needed to continue to work towards my degree. Some days I was ready to give up, and take some time away from my course, but Rob was always just a phone call away, and he helped me to stay on course and continue working towards my goals.

NEYDL doesn't just provide you with a day out, NEYDL provides so much more. Friends, social networks, confidence, hope, a sense of identity and pride.

In summer 2025, I graduated from university, and I knew from that moment that I wanted to give something back to the charity that gave me so much. I am committed to working hard for other young dad's and families in the region both in my job as a Social Worker and as a Trustee of North East Young Dads and Lads. Without NEYDL, I don't know where I would be!

From the bottom of my heart, I can say that this charity means the world to me and so many other young dads in our region, providing a lifeline when they feel the world is against them. Young dads often face significant barriers and challenges and NEYDL provide them with an opportunity to shine and play proactive and meaningful roles in their children and family's lives. Many of the staff have been young dads themselves, and this shines through. They care, they understand, they root for you, and for many young dads, this is invaluable.

I have no doubt that the charity will continue to grow and thrive, supporting many more young dads in our region and beyond. Congratulations to the staff, volunteers, Trustees and young dads for another incredible year.

Thank you for reading, and I hope that you enjoy this report!

Callum Fay
Trustee, Social Worker and former service beneficiary of NEYDL

"If you're a young dad thinking about joining the NEYDL service, I would highly recommend it. Even if it's just to make friends with other local dads and their children, or if you're wanting someone to push you to your absolute limits and help mould yourself into the best version of yourself. The lads at NEYDL are the most patient, respectful and trusting people you'll ever come across, and they listen to everything you say and help you in every way they can. Massive thank you to everyone at NEYDL for helping me become the dad I've always wanted to be."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"I couldn't thank you all at NEYDL enough for all the hard work everyone has put in for me and how much everyone has backed me to get to where I am today."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)



CHAIR'S REPORT

By Steven Bramwell

I am delighted to welcome you to this year's North East Young Dads and Lads Annual Report, my first since returning as Chair of Trustees. What a year it has been! NEYDL continues to make a profound difference to young dads, young lads and families across the region and this report will give you a flavour of the fantastic work we are involved in. It has not been an easy year. I am sure colleagues across the voluntary sector will share my view that these are incredibly challenging times. However, at NEYDL we have remained true to our mission, and I am proud to say that we have not only endured but truly thrived.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Professor Anna Tarrant for her outstanding contribution to NEYDL as outgoing chair. Anna has served as both the Chair of the Board and as a trustee, and her long-standing career to ensure young fathers flourish and are given every opportunity they deserve has been instrumental to our work. Her passion and dedication have helped shape our success, and on behalf of everyone at NEYDL, I extend a heartfelt thank you for her continued support.

As you read this report, I am confident you will agree that we do an incredible amount of work. We are no longer a small charity. Our growth in recent years has been significant, both in our physical presence and through our digital e-learning platform (DigiDAD). Despite this expansion, I am proud that we have stayed true to the mission we began many years ago: supporting young dads and lads with compassion, care, time and genuine understanding following youth work principles.

Reflecting on the past year, it is difficult to choose just one highlight. With so many projects, developments and achievements, narrowing it down feels almost impossible. However, one statistic truly stands out: 100% of the young dads we work with would recommend our service. For me that is the highlight. Being invited into young men's lives and trusted to support them is an honour and knowing that every young man we work with values our support so highly is deeply moving. Regardless of what we do or how we do it, knowing that we make a difference and have an impact is the highlight for me.

None of this would be possible without our supporters, funders, commissioners, partners, friends, our exceptional staff team, volunteers and our dedicated board of trustees. Thank you all. A special thank you goes to Kev for his leadership, humour and unwavering passion. Kev is an inspirational sector leader and it's a privilege to work alongside him.

Enjoy this report. I invite you to reach out to us, talk to us, link in with us. I really look forward to the year ahead and beyond, confident that even more exciting times lie ahead for NEYDL.

We hope you enjoy reading the charity's annual report for 2024-25.

Best wishes

Steven Bramwell

Chair of Trustees 15th June 2017 – July 2023

Vice chair of Trustees from 9th July 2024

Chair of Trustees from 1st July 2025

"In my capacity as interim Chair of the Charity Commission for England and Wales, I spent this morning with Kevin Stoodley and the team at North East Young Dads and Lads. NEYDL's work with young dads is impressive: practical, impactful and driven by a belief in what's possible...Seeing really is believing and their DigiDAD project is taking that belief into the digital world with outstanding quality and creativity. It was a privilege to spend time with such a skilled and determined team. We spoke about trusteeship, skills and the challenge of finding them, but mostly about the resolve young men show once someone helps them see what's possible – not just what they've been told is inevitable. A unique project, one which I hope thrives and delivers the ambition we all have for dads everywhere."

(Mark Simms OBE)

"Kevin, I've been in awe of you and the team at NEYDL since I first heard about you and I was in the privileged position to support you with a grant. Watching you grow over the years and see the incredible impact you are having on not only the young dads and lads, but wider society does make me smile and excited me for your future!"

(Jacqueline Robson, former Grants Officer, BBC Children in Need)



CEO's Report

By Kevin Stoodley

Dear Friend,

A very warm welcome to this, our eighth Annual Report, covering the charities endeavours and achievements from 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025. NEYDL is 8 years old, how did that happen?

I find myself writing this report on a frosty January morning in early 2026 at the start of what already promises to be our busiest and most exciting year yet. As a charity leader I rarely find the time to pause and look back on the year that was and so deeply value the opportunity to compile and edit our annual reports each winter in order to pause, reflect and appreciate all the accomplishments of the hardest working young dads charity in the universe.

What can I say about 2024/25? Well, we worked with more young dads than ever before, both in person (217) and online (603 registered DigiDAD users and a whopping 53,848 YouTube views), launched a dedicated service for young dads in Hartlepool, welcomed more young dads minoritised by ethnicity, sexuality and disability than ever before and delivered so many outstanding projects, including the awe-inspiring 'Source to Sea,' which empowered young dads to take on an epic 85 mile cycle ride from the Scottish Border (source of the River North Tyne) to North Shields (mouth of the River Tyne) to investigate the health of the river, its flora and fauna.

2025 was also the year that NEYDL returned to pre lockdown traditions and invited young dads, their children and families to join us for a series of awards ceremonies/celebration nights held in County Durham and Gateshead to recognise the outstanding achievements of all the young dads we support, culminating in the giving of a regional trophy recognising one very special young man who has gone above and beyond to support his peers and educate the public and professionals alike – congratulations to Dylan Peggs. Both events were extremely well attended, and it was evident from all the smiles, cheers and hugs I witnessed that these awards and this charity mean a great deal to the many young fathers and families we support. This observation was brought home to me by the father of a young dad we support, who shook my hand with tears in his eyes before announcing:

"You know, the things you and your team have done for my son are lifechanging, lifechanging," he said, "(named young dad) is a completely different person now because of you lot and my wife and I are so proud of him. I really can't thank you enough!"

Needless to say, we intend to continue to deliver events of this kind on a yearly basis going forward, welcoming an ever-expanding community of young dads from across the North East region and beyond, whose lives and relationships have been enriched by the incredible work delivered so effortlessly by the dedicated, determined, caring and compassionate team of skilled staff and volunteers who front the 'hardest working young dads charity in the universe'.

In addition, NEYDL and this report would not exist without the generosity, support and encouragement shown by our amazing funders, service commissioners, sponsors and organisational partners, the all too often unsung heroes that form the charity's board of trustees (45% of whom have lived experience of young fatherhood) and of course young dads and their families. It is because of you that we look forward to another highly productive and successful year in support of young dads, their children, and families.

Before I go, I will leave you with the words of a former trustee and long-term champion of NEYDL - Dr Phil Heslop:

"NEYDL works with young men on the cusp of adulthood and fatherhood. Their futures are not yet written in stone, and we still don't know who or what these young men will become. Doctors, politicians, social workers, charity leaders? And that's what makes this charity so exciting."

What more can I say... 'up the NEYDL' and enjoy this report.

Peace and love.

Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)



"Love your work Kevin and will always support it when I can. Up the NEYDL!"

(David McCreedy, CEO, Youth Focus North East)

IMPACT DATA

(Covering the period from 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025)

OUR VISION:

For young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.

OUR MISSION:

To enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

Reason for referral	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	Individual contact time (hrs)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Young father / expectant dad	208	139	105	68	63	46	Dads and Toddlers groups	158	142	32	12	0	106
Non birthing people	9	10	10	4	2	1	1:1 support (face to face)	1,849	960	850	408	440	350
Total:	217	149	115	72	65	47	1:1 support (telephone & social media)	933	650	572	234	450	140
Engagement by young men							Joint meetings with other professionals	450	370	350	460	250	190
New referral	164	111	48	25	33	25	Peer supported group work	1,150	586	480	202	850	959
Ongoing support	53	38	67	47	32	22	Training delivered to professionals	250	316	150	51	40	56
Total:	217	149	115	72	65	47	Research activities	300	265	400	451	254	134
Locality							Campaigning, media, and film-work	300	453	350	257	428	142
Sunderland	28	26	34	23	26	22	Community beekeeping	280	252	268	196	131	250
Gateshead	34	25	20	26	32	20	Peer mentoring & volunteering	3,145	3,086	2,625	1,491	280	230
South Tyneside	6	2	9	6	6	2	Training and education to young dads	980					
Newcastle upon Tyne	17	11	5	7	1	3	Other activities	45	72	50	17	20	36
North Tyneside	8	6	14	3	0	0	Total:	9,840	7,152	6,127	3,779	3,143	2,593
Durham	55	41	15	6	0	0	Average individual contact time (hrs)	45	48	53	52.5	48	55
Northumberland	16	1	0	1	0	0	Key outcomes						
Middlesbrough	41	37	18	0	0	0	CP Plans downgraded or completed	35	22	22	18	9	5
Hartlepool	3	0	0	0	0	0	CIN plans downgraded or completed	7	5	9	10	3	3
Redcar & Cleveland	4	0	0	0	0	0	Progressed into full time work/study	38	22	18	9	10	5
Stockton on Tees	5	0	0	0	0	0	Accessed specialist medical help	62	52	45	15	2	5
Total:	217	149	115	72	65	47	Total:	142	101	94	52	24	18
Age at entry point							Social Media Metrics	2025	2024	2023	2022		
Under 16	4	3	16	4	8	4	YouTube Channel – launched 6th April 2021						
16-18	26	28	28	18	8	28	Views:	53,848	42,533	30,598	12,400		
19-25	182	118	71	50	49	15	Watch time (hours):	1,700	1,600	1,049	903		
Not given	5	0	0	0	0	0	Organic subscribers:	149	135	106	80		
Total:	217	149	115	72	65	47	Impressions:	202,000	174,167	97,700	41,600		
Referral pathway							Facebook						
Youth work charities	2	14	10	8	11	11	Followers:	1,448	1,191	806	624		
Social services	78	48	23	21	18	11	Instagram						
Early Help Teams	7	5	10	3	0	1	Followers	702	455				
Family Nurse Partnership	10	11	18	18	16	17	DigiDAD E-learning Platform						
Self-Referrals	44	20	5	6	5	4	Registered users:	603	266	110	43		
School & Education	7	0	8	1	2	1							
Housing	10	7	6	8	4	2							
Health	50	34	25	6	0	0							
Criminal Justice	4	2	0	1	0	0							
Other	5	8	10	0	9	0							
Total:	217	149	115	72	65	47							
Individual help received													
Child Protection proceedings	69	48	30	24	23	12							
Child/Team around the family	9	5	10	1	1	3							
Family law proceedings	10	8	5	5	5	0							
NEET status	180	80	30	17	14	13							
Career progression	20	22	15	11	5	4							
Housing, homelessness & benefits	101	50	25	16	9	4							
Completing essential paperwork	120	45	30	16	13	5							
Poverty & debt management	180	75	55	9	17	10							
Domestic abuse	32	25	15	21	12	7							
Offending behaviour	20	43	25	6	16	3							
Mental & emotional wellbeing	160	90	45	23	30	26							
Substance misuse & addiction	56	22	15	7	8	6							
Sexual health	45	23	18	5	3	5							
Other physical health conditions	27	10	10	6	4	4							
Learning difficulties	77	50	10	3	8	5							
Social isolation and loneliness	175	125	101	72	60	47							
Parenting skills	123	45	50	35	34	20							
Relationship skills	50	65	40	23	27	24							
Bereavement & loss	66	22	15	8	4	6							
Volunteering*	220	108	105	74	3	8							
School exclusion	6	7	8	6	5	3							
Total:	1,746	968	657	388	301	215							

*This figure represents the total number of young men who volunteered at NEYDL this year.

"I don't think I'd be at the stage I am now without North East Young Dads and Lads."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"Without the service [NEYDL] we would have nowhere to get help for the dads we work with."

(Social Worker)



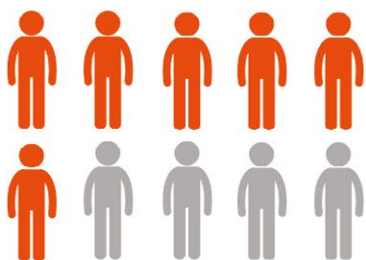
NEYDL IMPACT REPORT MAY 2024-APR 2025

208
young dads
reached



DIVERSITY

3.3% ethnically diverse
35.6% disabled including
mental distress/mental health
problems for 12+ months
1.9% LGBTQ+



62%

had improved mental
wellbeing compared to
baseline (Adapted version
of Warwick-Edinburgh
Mental Wellbeing Scale)

41%



had improved their
relationship with the mother(s)
of their child(ren) compared to
baseline (Modified version of
the ENRICH scale)



59%

had reduced anxiety compared to
baseline as measured by the
Generalised Anxiety Disorder scale
(GAD-7)

88%



self reported a reduction in
loneliness



felt closer to their child



100%

would recommend NEYDL
to other young dads

Data sources: GAD-7 & UCLA Survey, completed at first session (baseline) and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=39;
Outcome Tree distance travelled tool completed at baseline, mid-intervention and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=37;
Satisfaction survey (post-intervention), n=59; and Point in Time survey, n=43; NEYDL Database for equalities data.

"My observation has been that NEYDL's just been really innovative and got this group of lads...meeting each other, talking with each other about wellbeing without saying, 'right, you've got to come here and talk about your feelings'."

(Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Perinatal Community Mental Health Team)

"If I ask the question and then they can give me the answer and I'll say right, okay, that's what I need to do and that's what I need to be aware of, and then that's me, like me stress, like, calms down. I say right, there's nothing to stress about. I need to just look at the texts just in case I forget, so I know what I'm doing. So that's the best thing about it."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

EXAMPLES OF PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1.

Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.

Supporting young dads in the Family Hubs: A profile of Middlesbrough Young Dads Service

(part of Middlesbrough's Family Hub and Start for Life programme)

By Paula Davidson (Senior Young Dads Worker)

Over the past year, 49 young dad beneficiaries have engaged in the Middlesbrough service. I'm pleased to report that self-referrals accounted for nearly 1 in 5 referrals (9) in Middlesbrough, demonstrating our high visibility and credibility within communities.

Our hugely popular peer supported group work offers to young dads, their children and families included:

- Stay and play sessions at Thorntree Family Hub.
- Fortnightly and daytime young dads' drop-in sessions at the Boro Bar, including pool, darts, soft drinks and snacks.
- Monthly twilight young dad's drop-in at Park End Family Hub.
- Weekly gym sessions coached by qualified and experienced NEYDL staff members.
- Bi-monthly whole family events, including visits to Tweddle Farm and Stewarts Park.
- Improving social networks when new dads sign up with NEYDL through introductory events including Go-karting, paintball and Level X.
- Birds Bees Bikes and Trees (BBBT) activities including a walk to the top of Roseberry topping Guisborough Woods cycling sessions and Forest School sessions.
- Paediatric first aid training has been offered to all young dads.
- Mental health and masculinity workshops have also been delivered to 7 young dads.

We have also provided intensive, face to face and one to one support to young dads to address their self-identified support needs. Over the last 12 months this support has included:

- Parenting skills
- Relationships skills and support
- Support to navigate Private and Public Family Court proceedings
- Support in statutory meetings (including Public Law Outline, Child Protection and Child in Need proceedings)
- Job searches and preparing for interviews
- Budgeting and access to emergency food and care packages
- Housing support
- Mental health support and signposting.

In addition, 5 of our young dads became members of the charity's AmbassaDADS programme, 1 young dad and 1 young Mam from Middlesbrough are now trustees of the charity and 3 young dads actively volunteer as peer befrienders.



Case study of a Sunderland young dad: supported by NEYDL as part of Sunderland's Family Hub and Start for Life programme

By Jonny Conn (Senior Young Dads Worker)

Kyle (not his real name) was referred to NEYDL by his social worker shortly after completing a positive parenting assessment. At the time, his paternal child was in the care of the maternal grandmother, and Kyle was preparing to attend court in the hope of being awarded full custody. From the very beginning, it was clear that Kyle was a confident and attentive young father who always puts his child's needs first. He consistently demonstrated commitment, patience, and care throughout what was a very challenging period.

NEYDL supported Kyle every step of the way through court proceedings, providing travel assistance, attending court proceedings with Kyle and offering time to talk (pre brief and debrief) each day. After an intense week in court, Kyle was awarded full custody of his child as recommended both by social services and CAFCASS, pending suitable housing.

Following this ruling, NEYDL has provided over 100 hours of individual support to Kyle, including advocacy and guidance, emotional reassurance and practical help. Kyle secured suitable housing and now cares for his child on a full-time basis.

Father and child now regularly attend NEYDL's stay and play sessions and other father and child focused activities.

Most recently Kyle has become a member of the charity's AmbassaDADS programme, informing national research into social work practice and acting as a positive role model for other young dads.



"Since I started working with Jonny, he has supported me throughout the court process and I won custody of (named child), even though I initially thought the outcome would be different...I've also gained a lot more confidence since collaborating with him. It's reassuring to know that he is always just a phone call away if I need advice. I couldn't put into words how thankful I am."

(Young dad featured in this case study)

Supporting minoritised young dads in our region

By Fred Suadwa (Minoritised Young Dads Officer)

Over the last year, I have travelled from Berwick to Teesside, introducing myself to professionals, community leaders and minoritised communities. This introduction has taken the form of explaining my job role, getting involved in community events, doing presentations, speaking at team meetings and community gatherings. Alongside the delivery of presentations at 'A Taste of Africa' annual event in Middlesbrough, North East African & Caribbean Association in Newcastle and Ethnic Minority Forums in Sunderland and Middlesbrough, I have also linked in with a Nigerian Church in Sunderland, Newcastle Central Mosque, Middlesbrough Mosque, HAREF, the Sunderland Bangladeshi Association and Ghana Union North East.

The approach I have adopted is 'Being Local', a youth work term, popularised by the well-known Youth Work Theorist Mark Smith. The 'Being Local' method sees me being around minoritised communities, so they get used to me as a trusted person. This is so that all the people within the communities that I am targeting young and old, understand what my role is, and helps me to become part of the 'fixtures and fittings'.



“

"I think the work you have done for me has helped me a huge amount. It's brought me out of my shell a lot...and it has made me feel comfortable talking to you about stuff I wouldn't normally share with people. It has made me make some friends, especially with all the groups and events you have been putting on. I have met some interesting people and some people who are funny and easy to get along with, and you have helped me through some tough times of my life."

(A minoritised young dad supported by NEYDL)

”

"Fred has been professional, supportive, and understanding, helping me build confidence and focus on making positive changes in my life...I've taken part in activities like badminton, jiu jitsu, and the Youth Works program, which have helped me improve my wellbeing, discipline, and teamwork skills. These sessions have also given me the chance to meet other young dads and share experiences in a safe, encouraging environment. I've learned a lot about communication, responsibility and personal growth, and I feel more motivated to keep moving forward. Overall, the program has been a valuable step in helping me build stability and make better choices for myself and my family."

(A minoritised young dad supported by NEYDL)

Whilst early identification and referral of minoritised young dads into NEYDL by professional stakeholders and community leaders was initially slow, new referrals have improved significantly over the last 12 months, with 74 young dads (36%) now identifying as disabled, 7 (3.3%) identifying as minoritised by ethnicity, 4 (1.9%) identifying as LGBTQIA, and 1 (0.5%) identifying as gender queer / non binary.

The afore mentioned minoritised young dads have benefitted from engagement in a diverse range of peer supported group work sessions, including emergency first aid, paediatric first aid, rock climbing, youth work practice, father and child focused stay and play, dedicated young dads drop-ins, mountain biking, forest schools, jiu-jitsu, football, Thai boxing, boxing, fitness sessions and weight training.



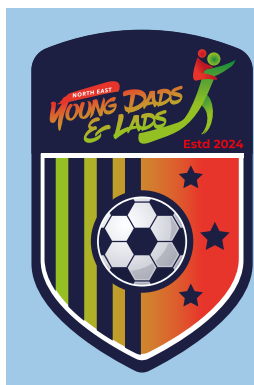
In addition to the provision of peer supported group work, the dads are offered regular one to one sessions, creating opportunities to talk about their lives and provide direct support in a solution focussed way. In the past year, my support to young dads has covered a range of themes including help to find work, racial identity, racism, housing, court appearances, gang culture, domestic violence, mental health, neurodiversity, education, social services involvement, religion, relationships, immigration, form filling, parental rights and custody. NEYDL has also given the Minoritised young dads a safe environment to talk about current events such as the recent riots.

As a result of the support provided, two of the dads have chosen to play a more active role within NEYDL through participation in the Ambassadors community leader's programme. In addition, two young dads have co-created a forthcoming father inclusive toolkit for professionals focusing on Minoritised young dads. Minoritised young dads have also contributed to national research focusing on social work practice and hosted information stalls at professional and community stakeholder events.

”

"I have learnt a lot from Fred. He has made me reflect on my practice and I will share it with the Team."

(Social Worker)



"Honestly, without the support from the guys here I don't want to know where I probably would've ended up."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"I loved going to Baltic with NEYDL to watch the England match and meeting young dads. They've invited me out to a snooker club which is nice as I don't have any friends."

(A minoritised young dad supported by NEYDL)

OBJECTIVE 2.

Enable young dads to engage in activities:

(i) where they can share experiences and support with other young dads.

DigiDAD Gaming: A safeguarded, peer-led digital community for young dads

By Dr Nick Williams (DigiDAD Project Manager)

While DigiDAD's digital content helps inform and reassure young dads, we have also prioritised creating spaces for connection, belonging and peer support. DigiDAD Gaming – an online video gaming service, has grown into a safe, moderated online community of over 90 young dads from across the North East, offering regular opportunities for connection on Discord, a platform already familiar to and widely used by participants.

This work is ambitious and reflects a conscious decision to engage young dads in the digital spaces they already use. At a time when there is widespread concern about young men meeting and socialising online, DigiDAD Gaming takes a careful and evidence-informed approach. This approach recognises the risks inherent in digital environments, while also acknowledging that online spaces can offer meaningful connection, particularly for young dads who may be isolated, time-poor, or unable or reluctant to access in-person support, including those who lack confidence or feel unwelcome in traditional service settings.

From the outset, DigiDAD Gaming has been designed with safeguarding at its core. The initiative operates through a safeguarding-first model supported by a trained senior moderation team, clear policies and protocols, and an on-call system involving members of the charity's staff team, who actively support moderators throughout gaming drop-ins. Alongside this formal structure, a strong culture of shared responsibility has developed within the community itself, with young dads looking out for one another and actively contributing to a respectful, supportive environment. These safeguarding arrangements are continually reviewed and refined, recognising that safeguarding in digital spaces is complex and evolving.

During 2025, DigiDAD Gaming developed into a structured and reliable offer, with sessions now taking place five days a week. Within this framework, the emphasis is on creating a calm, inclusive and pressure-free space where young dads can socialise safely, talk openly and build trust with peers who share similar experiences of fatherhood. Moderation records highlight recurring peer-to-peer discussion around parenting challenges, employment and financial pressures, mental health and wellbeing, housing and navigating family relationships. Alongside moments of difficulty, the community also regularly shares positive milestones – from celebrating new pregnancies and



births to supporting one another through difficult days and recognising the value of simply having a place to unwind and be understood.

Building on this strong foundation, we are now onboarding our first young dad volunteer moderators from within DigiDAD Gaming itself. This marks an important step in strengthening peer leadership and enabling young dads to take greater ownership of the community they have helped shape. Volunteer moderators are supported through clearly defined roles, supervision and ongoing safeguarding oversight, ensuring responsibility is shared safely and appropriately. This progression also creates meaningful development opportunities, allowing young dads to contribute positively while building confidence and employability skills.

Alongside video gaming sessions, *Dungeons & Dads* has emerged as a popular and creative peer-led offer within DigiDAD Gaming. These sessions combine collaborative storytelling, problem-solving and structured play (think *Dungeons and Dragons*) and are moderated and facilitated by a trained external volunteer moderator. The sessions further strengthen confidence, communication skills and a sense of belonging, while maintaining the same safeguarding standards that underpin all DigiDAD Gaming activity.

DigiDAD Gaming demonstrates how digital spaces – when intentionally designed, robustly safeguarded and shaped by participants – can play a vital role in peer support and community building for young dads.

Putting the peer in the pool: Peer support for young dads in Hartlepool

By Andrea Waterson (Senior Young Dads Worker)

"My case worker is Andrea from Hartlepool. She is possibly the best worker there is. She's supportive but also keeps us on the straight and narrow as well, as she's the first to jump to action when help is needed. My opinion she needs employee of the year." (A young dad supported by NEYDL).

"Since becoming a dad, my friends have dwindled." Sadly, this is a phrase I hear all too often from young dads in Hartlepool. To address the challenges of social isolation, loneliness and stigma felt by young dads, we now offer a weekly drop-in, from various locations across the town on a Wednesday evening – anecdotally, when NEYDL started in 2017, Kev ran the first ever young dads' group on the same night of the week in Gateshead.

Featuring a raft of activities from pool, darts, ten-pin bowling, gym sessions, cycling excursions to paediatric first aid and mental health first aid training, we regularly welcome a core group of 6 young dads, who organise and plan the programme of activities we run, accumulating in 442 hours of peer supported group work activities in the past year.



Delivered in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, we offer a non-judgmental space where young dads can share stories, offer encouragement, gain self-confidence and ultimately develop a strong sense of belonging. Where necessary, transport support can also be offered to ensure that no one is left out.

Oh, I forgot to mention food! In keeping with the original Gateshead group, cooking and eating together has become a mainstay of the Hartlepool drop-in, uniting people, breaking cultural barriers and creating lasting friendships. What better way to celebrate parenthood...now, can someone please pass me the ketchup?

"It's been nice to have a good feeling and no judgement from anyone, which is a change."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

OBJECTIVE 2.

Enable young dads to engage in activities: (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.

Why Mams matter too

By Paula Davidson (Senior Young Dads Worker)

Whilst NEYDL is first and foremost a young dad's charity, we have always adopted a whole family approach which actively encourages estranged dads to seek and maintain positive relationships with the mother/Mam of their children. In the words of NEYDL's CEO Kev, "NEYDL is not an angry man's charity".

Our commitment to young Mothers is evident in the make-up of the charity's board, which welcomed our second young Mam (Lillie) this year, following the departure of Destiny Greenwood – welcome Lillie and thank you for your support, Destiny. In addition, I was a young Mam myself and draw on this lived experience in supporting young dads to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children.

Beyond trusteeship, staff make-up (29% of the charities Senior Young Dads Workers are women) and attendance at our hugely popular annual awards and celebration events for young dads, NEYDL recognised the importance of involving both young Mams and maternal family members in our 'stay and play' sessions early in the charity's evolution, both to address their fears and concerns and enable young dads to progress towards meaningful and crucially independent parenting. In response, our Friday afternoon 'stay and play' sessions delivered from Thorntree Family Hub, Middlesbrough continue to welcome young Mams alongside dads and children as part of an induction process which ultimately seeks to build trust and reduce anxiety.

Moreover, in response to requests from young parents for more 'whole family' opportunities to address the sense of social isolation experienced by both parents, NEYDL hosts a series of family outings which this year has included trips to Newham Grange Farm, the SeaLife Centre (Tynemouth), Kielder Bird of Prey Centre, alongside pumpkin picking and picnics in the park. Let's be honest, a family day out can be expensive, and this offer provides young families with opportunities to both meet and mix with other families and share their experiences of parenthood.

Here is some feedback from the young Mams we meet, who have benefitted from our whole family service offer:

"My partner has been with NEYDL for almost a year now and it has made a big difference to his life. He would always stay indoors and keep away from other people because he wasn't comfortable or confident enough to speak to others. NEYDL has changed all of that and made him a better dad. I am



very grateful to young dads and lads (NEYDL) for helping him be the man he always should have been."

"When it comes to me as a Mam, I have found all staff nice, friendly and welcoming to everyone."

"They have included me as needed about the path (named young dad) has gone on with them."

"My kids love family events and weekly 'stay and play' is a big thing for my kids. They really enjoy coming. Paula and Andy are really loved in my family."

"I wish we had known about NEYDL a long time ago. You help so many young men and it's nice to see something out there for young dads to help them when they need it."

"Thank you for being there for my family but mostly thank you for all the work you do in helping young dads feel that they belong somewhere."

"NEYDL has been a very important and very beneficial part of my and my partners life."



"Because of lads and dads (NEYDL), I can finally start taking my children alone to Family Hubs, which I am so grateful and excited for. I know Jonny is always a phone call away if I need him and is the person I can openly speak to no matter how I feel."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"We were watching the (DigiDAD) videos together not too long ago and it was quite funny, and then obviously I had a reminder of the examples and the answers of things, like what the things obviously you can do, or you can't do. And I still watch them still, just obviously to get reminded."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

OBJECTIVE 3.

Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.



"The (DigiDAD) courses...they helped me very much and I got more active and got more, like, very comfortable with what I'm doing as a dad."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

DigiDAD by dads for dads Building a national online community, with and for young dads.

By Dr Nick Williams (DigiDAD Project Manager)

During 2024-25, DigiDAD entered an important new phase, expanding delivery beyond the region and strengthening its digital offer. Representing the first of a 3-year grant funded project supported by The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities, DigiDAD has demonstrated strong progress across content creation, digital infrastructure, community-building and professional engagement – exceeding overall participation targets and laying robust foundations for future growth.

At the heart of DigiDAD's success is co-creation with young dads. This year, young Dad volunteers continued to play a central role in shaping DigiDAD content, DigiDAD Gaming, outreach activity and platform development. This included the first inter-regional and multi-agency e-course production with young dads in the North East, Cumbria, Salford, and Southeast London. These film making workshops enabled dads in each region to co-produce the course content, shaping scripts, visuals, animation assets and voiceovers to ensure it reflected lived experience in tone, content and delivery.



Scan the QR code to watch a short film made by young dads introducing DigiDAD.



Alongside this work, we produced a range of additional films and series that further amplify young dads' voices and experiences. These include 'What I Wish You Knew', a series developed in partnership with Following Young Fathers Further and now available on DigiDAD; 'Liam's Story'; and the forthcoming 'Grief & Loss and Birthing Trauma' series.

While this content helps inform and reassure young dads, we have also prioritised the co-creation of spaces where young dads can build connections, a stronger sense of belonging and peer support, most notably through DigiDAD Gaming and 'Dungeons & Dads'.

As participation and peer-led activity grew, we also strengthened how DigiDAD is shared, represented and amplified across our social channels. Social media capacity was significantly strengthened

through the onboarding of Digital Media Officer Lucy Curry, resulting in increased output and steady growth across all channels.

Behind the scenes, major progress was made in data and evaluation. For the first time, data from DigiDAD and DigiDAD Gaming now flows into NEYDL's Data Management System, improving insight into participation, engagement and safeguarding oversight across the organisation.



DigiDAD film-making workshop • Gateshead



Salford



Sunderland



"The videos (DigiDAD) were fun and made me feel more confident that I can do all the things that new dads need to do."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

DigiDAD has also continued to build its profile with professionals through presentations and events including a DigiDAD 'takeover' of the Sunderland Expo, a presentation to volunteers at Game of Two Halves, and numerous sessions with health, social care and family services – often co-delivered with young dads themselves.

Looking ahead to Year 2, we will deepen inter-regional collaboration through a new e-course and expand in-person video gaming (DigiDAD Gaming) and outreach activity across the North East and our partner regions. We will also formalise volunteer moderator training, launch the DigiDAD podcast, further optimise platform accessibility and UX, and continue to strengthen data integration, ensuring that young dads remain at the helm of this groundbreaking platform.

Birds, Bikes, Bees and Trees.

By Jonah York (BBBT Project Manager) with Tom Jamieson (Community Beekeeper) and Jordan Pike (Cycling and Beekeeping Project Worker)

Through environmental play, action and training, this year the Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees project (BBBT) has provided an extensive range of opportunities for young fathers and their families to engage, learn, and enhance their skills, resulting in engagement by over 40% of the charity's total service beneficiaries in 2025.

The BBBT staff team which includes young dads has actively showcased their learning and achievements through presentations, engagement events and

activities involving other organisations (including Gateshead Food Partnership, Northumberland National Park and Tees Wildlife Trust), voluntary and community groups and members of the public.

Further, we have focused on upskilling and empowering young dads to facilitate activities that help to reclaim and enhance the environment. For example, young dad Jordan has now completed Level 3 Forest School training and is finalising his coursework through the facilitation of sessions with young dads and families. Other young fathers have completed training as bike-ride leaders, community beekeepers, conservationists and tree planters. One project that truly embodies the ambition and potential of BBBT is the Source to Sea project described in greater detail opposite.

This project is delivered in partnership with the Baltic.



"I just want to say a big thank you for supporting (named young dad), one of my clients. He really enjoys working with you all, and I believe he is doing extremely well"

(Housing Support Officer)

"It gets me out of the house and doing stuff... Sometimes I bring (named daughter) and (named partner) as well, if she's not working. I like meeting new people, playing football, talking to the other lads about what it's like for them and what they do, and I tell them about me."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

From Source to Sea.

By Jonah York (BBBT Project Manager)

"It was an experience I never thought I'd get. Testing the water and seeing the changes made me realise how important this river is, and how much we need to look after it." (Young dad, Wheelie Good Dad and Source participant).

Day 1 – It's early morning at Deadwater, source of the River North Tyne, tucked away in Kielder Forest, Northumberland, a stone's throw from the Scottish Border. A group of young dads are preparing to embark on a gruelling 85-mile journey following the course of the river to the coast at North Shields. Combining cycling, environmental education, artistic expression and community spirit, the lads will seek to explore and understand the mighty River Tyne.



Before delving into the journey itself, it's important to understand how this project came about. Jordan, a young dad and employee of NEYDL became interested in the quality of the river after attending a Climate Club session with The Anglers Society. They discussed the importance of testing the water quality to understand how pollutants can affect its health and the wildlife that depends on it. Inspired, we brought in experts from the Tyne Rivers Trust who taught us how to test the river water for phosphates and nitrates and gave us vital information about the habitats and species that live in, on and along its banks. They also encouraged us to think about our own relationships with the Tyne, helping us to personalise our journey. We continued this work with artist Dr Michelle Allen, attending three artistic workshops exploring ways to capture our journey through film and photos. The project quickly grew, as did the ambitions of the young dads who chose to complete the gruelling journey in 2 days by pedal power alone.

And what a journey it proved to be! On the border of England and Scotland, we embarked in bright sunshine, trekking up a boggy hill to where the North Tyne begins. It would be fair to say that the source of the River Tyne is underwhelming. Just a trickle of water that flows into the ground. We took the opportunity to bottle and test the water quality at the source - not a hint of any phosphates or nitrates.

After a flying start from Deadwater to Kielder Water, our intrepid cyclists fought their way along 13 miles of hilly tracks through Kielder Forest, before resting at the Dam for a picnic lunch and our second water test. From there we made our way through the undulating hills of Northumberland, completed another test 10 miles later where the water quality remained exceptionally good, before heading to Bellingham. Interestingly we found that the levels of pollution had increased at Bellingham, most probably due to farm run-off. After recording our data and slurping our ice creams, we returned to the saddle. Before we reached our bunkhouse 20 miles away, we stopped at Chollerford near Hexham where the quality of the water had improved somewhat. A final hill to our Bunkhouse and by 9pm the sound of snoring filled the dorms.

Day 2 – Leaving Newbrough before 9am with stiff legs, sore bottoms and high spirits, thanks in part to a hearty full English breakfast prepared by young dad Dylan, we took to the bikes once more, leaving the untamed beauty of scenic Northumberland behind and entering busy towns and villages.



Our first water test of the day was a magical experience, venturing onto the banks where the North River meets the South. It was a beautiful spot, and we took a moment to reflect on the transformation of the river from its unassuming source to this vast expanse of water. Hearts full, we set off on the unpaved tracks to Hexham.

As the river widened and the human population increased, our water tests revealed rising levels of nitrates and phosphates, a clear sign of pollution.

Artist Michelle joined the convoy at Wylam. Our water test, just upstream of Wylam bridge, showed a slight increase in pollutants, but the river was still healthy. Beyond the bridge the river tumbles to its tidal and salt-water reach. From Wylam, we travelled to the Baltic, crossing the Millennium Bridge to conduct a water test on Newcastle's quayside. A sharp rise in phosphates and nitrates was recorded and then we were off on our final leg.

Arriving at North Shields 13 miles later, the salty sea air and Mr Whippy ice cream were a welcome reward. For the young dads who completed the journey, Source to Sea was more than just a cycling challenge - it was a voyage of discovery, learning and camaraderie. A quick paddle in the sea for a final water test – probably not the best place to take a dip given the high levels of pollution we recorded, and our epic journey was over.

Legacy – Featuring photography, collage, mapping and video, the young dads worked with Baltic staff and Michelle to curate an exhibition which presents our findings, maps the route and test sites, features creative collages of the changing landscape and even includes a family-friendly reading and sensory pit for visitors to enjoy. Highlighting the power of community climate activism, the Source to Sea exhibition has been a resounding success and will be immortalised within the BalticS online Archive for posterity. Flow well, great river, flow well!

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our partners who made this epic journey possible: **Jenny Alderson, Dr. Michelle Allen, The Tyne Rivers Trust, Earthwatch UK, The Anglers Society, Baltic** and most importantly, the **young dads** who completed this remarkable journey and those that helped to make the impossible possible.

▶ Scan the QR code to watch a short film about the Source to Sea project.



Celebrating their success: The NEYDL Awards.

By Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)

Five years on from our inaugural awards ceremony for young dads and their children and three years since we last came together to celebrate the outstanding achievements of young dads – blame Covid, in November 2024 we shined our shoes, brushed the cobwebs from our suits and took to the stage once more for a series of evening events held at County Durham Cricket Club and Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts.

Featuring balloon artists, magicians, bubble artists, food and refreshments, the two events welcomed 161 guests, including 44 young dads, 20 children, 38 partners/family members and 59 professionals and local dignitaries.

Alongside a rich and varied supply of certificates, qualifications, framed photos, medals and trophies which culminated in a regional award for young dad and new trustee Dylan Peggs in recognition of his outstanding contribution to young fatherhood – the first of many I hope, the events featured two new photography exhibitions (Portrait Youth and Reframing Young Fatherhood) featuring images and words captured and share by the AmbassaDADS.

It was great to see so many young Mams there too. Here's my favourite feedback from one of the Mams in attendance:

"North East Young Dads and Lads Awards Night 2024...if you're a young Dad under the age of 25 definitely get yourself involved. I'm not even a dad and I've met some of the most loveliest people ever and the opportunities you get with them are endless. Can't recommend them enough."



"I couldn't thank the lads and dads (NEYDL) service enough for everything they've helped me with, from the end of the pregnancy with my daughter where I was very nervous and unsure, to now where I feel so confident and reassured."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"I myself am part of a minority ethnic community and being able to give people like me a voice about what kind of support we would like to see... This project is a great way for me to do so."

(A minoritised young dad supported by NEYDL)

OBJECTIVE 4.

Empower young dads to have a voice and influence father inclusive practice.

By Kevin Stoodley

Meet the AmbassaDADS

By the AmbassaDADS supported by Jonah York and Kevin Stoodley

This year has marked a significant period of growth and visibility for the 28 former service beneficiaries of NEYDL who form our community leaders programme (AmbassaDADS). Representing the different communities of identity and geography supported by the charity, the AmbassaDADS draw on their own lived experiences to advocate for a more father-inclusive society, as defined by the following manifesto ambitions:

1. Challenge stigma about young fatherhood
2. Showcase positive young fatherhood
3. Influence positive social change for young dads
4. Promote inclusivity, equality and equity, for young dads
5. Share and inform best practice for supporting young dads



In line with these ambitions, over the past 12 months the AmbassaDADS have achieved the following:

Challenge stigma about young fatherhood

The AmbassaDADS have contributed to 3 national research studies in the past year, including Following Young Fathers Further (FYFF) at The University of Lincoln, Evaluation of Multi-agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) led by Newcastle University and the University of Central London and INCLUDE: Understanding and Developing Father-Inclusive Practice in Children's Social Care led by Newcastle University with co-applicants including University of Lincoln and Northumbria University. In addition, the AmbassaDADS have contributed to a range of local and national news stories via TV, Radio, social media and print media and supported the dissemination of the Reframing Young Fatherhood poster pack to all Family Hubs within our region. Featuring photos and stories shared by the AmbassaDADS, the posters and postcards serve a dual purpose of being thought provoking to professionals and the public whilst welcoming to young dads and young parents.

Showcase positive young fatherhood


The AmbassaDADS co-developed and delivered 2 awards ceremonies in November 2024 to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young dads in our region, also attended by children and families, professional stakeholders and local dignitaries. Through the delivery of conference plenaries, presentations and information stands/stalls held at wider workforce and community events, the AmbassaDADS have effectively represented young fathers in a positive light.

Influence positive social change for young dads

As detailed earlier in this report, members of the AmbassaDADS community were involved in the planning and delivery of a climate action project (Source to Sea), culminating in the launch of a family-focused exhibition at Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts. Moreover, the AmbassaDADS have worked closely with external experts in policy and campaigning to develop an ambitious 10-year Social Action and Systems Change Strategy to be launched next year.

Promote inclusivity, equality and equity for young dads

After completing cultural competencies training focusing on neurodiversity and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic cultural competencies, the AmbassaDADS worked closely with Founder of the North East Anti Racism Alliance and EDI expert Ngozi Lyn Cole to develop a young father-friendly leaflet given to all young dads, which outlines the charity's commitment to EDI.



Our Values Statements:
Supporting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for Young Dads, Lads and Families.



In addition, the AmbassaDADS have worked closely with the University of Roehampton and NEYDL's Minoritised Young Dads Officer Fred to develop a new 'Think Dad toolkit' providing practical resources and insights to professionals seeking to improve support for minoritised young fathers.

Share and inform best practice for supporting young dads

Alongside our delivery partners at the North East Youth Alliance, the AmbassaDADS were actively involved in the planning and delivery of the 'Let's Hear it For the Boys' conference for professionals held at Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts. Through presentations and workshop facilitation, the AmbassaDADS raised awareness of the stigma and challenges faced by young dads, whilst showcasing and defining father inclusive best practice. Further, AmbassaDADS have actively supported Family Hub and Start for Life programmes in County Durham and Middlesbrough through their participation in Parent and Carer panels as experts by experience.

In addition, we are grateful to Youth Focus North East for providing training in youthwork practice to the AmbassaDADS.

"I feel really proud that these films will help other young dads too and I want to be involved in making more DigiDAD films."

(A young dad content co-creator for DigiDAD, supported by NEYDL)

"Your team are amazing Kevin."

(Dianne Mackay, Trustee for LGA Foundation)

OBJECTIVE 5.

Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

This year NEYDL said goodbye to staff member and former service beneficiary Nathan Noble, who left the charity on good terms to pursue his other work interests. Nathan was replaced by young dad Josh Wiborg, who stepped down from his role as a charity trustee to take on the role of Peer Enabler on a full-time basis. As a result of this appointment, NEYDL continues to employ 4 young dads. In response to new 3-year voluntary grant funding, NEYDL appointed Dr Nick Williams as DigiDAD Project Manager with additional digital media support provided on a freelance basis by Lucy Curry. Finally, NEYDL welcomed Andrea Waterson as Senior Young Dads Worker for Hartlepool in response to additional voluntary grant funding over 3 years. New staff and freelancers brought significant expertise in family support, criminal justice, youth and community work, local geographic knowledge, social media and co-creation in the use of digital technologies and have quite literally 'hit the ground running', closely supported by our existing and highly dedicated staff members.

In addition to annual safeguarding training, professional training attended by all staff in the current year has included:

- Trauma Informed Practice Training
- Autism Awareness Training
- ADHD Awareness Training

Moreover, responding to the need for greater safeguarding oversight relevant both to DigiDAD and the charities regional service expansion, Senior Young Dads Workers Andrea Waterson and Fred Suadwa were appointed as Duty Safeguarding Leads, closely supported by Doug Laidlaw (Regional Programme Manager and Safeguarding Lead) and Sarah Oliver (Trustee and Safeguarding Advisor).

Other key achievements relevant to this charitable objective have included:

- Production of a young father-friendly leaflet given to all young dads which outlines the charity's commitment to EDI, led by the AmbassaDADS with support from topic expert Ngozi Lyn Cole (named in the 2016 New View 50 list as one of the top 50 most influential Black and Minority Ethnic people working in the public sector).



Our Values Statements:
Supporting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for Young Dads, Lads and Families.



- Continued refinement of the charity's cloud-based data management system in line with our Evaluation Framework and with greater DigiDAD integration, supported by Throneware.
- Completion of an Organisational Health Check supported by KEDA Consulting, covering the following elements:
 - Service delivery
 - Learning and evaluation
 - Fundraising
 - Finance and HR
 - IT
 - Governance
- In addition, we continue to support and learn from external academic evaluations of the charity's work and projects. In the current charity year this has led to the production of the following reports;

Young-Father Inclusive Support
Commissioned by the County Durham Family Hubs, University of Lincoln, 2025.
View online:

The National Lottery Community Fund
Dad2Dad Peer Support
independent evaluation report, University of Lincoln, 2024.
View online:

- Congratulations to the team of runners (including our CEO Key, Trustee Anna and young dad Rob who raised essential funds for the charity by completing the 2024 Great North Run and Kev who went one step further, completing the London Marathon (April 2025) in the very respectable time of 4 hours and 40 minutes, raising over £1,500 for NEYDL in the process.

In conclusion, we remain deeply grateful to the staff, volunteers, trustees, project partners and passionate supporters who work so tirelessly on behalf of the charity, leading to the outstanding achievements and outcomes detailed in this report.

Future plans

By Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined in our 3-year strategic plan (2024-2027) and set out below.

1. Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
2. Enable young dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
3. Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
4. Empower young dads to have a voice and influence father inclusive practice.
5. Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

Relevant to Objective 5, the charity is currently:

- Revising its charitable objects to provide greater support to young fathers, fathers-to-be and male caregivers under the age of 26, both within our region and UK wide,
- Reviewing and refining the charity's overarching 3-year strategy (which currently ends in 2027) and DigiDAD strategy (last updated June 2023) supported by KEDA Consulting.
- Developing an ambitious 10-year Social Action and Systems Change Strategy supported both by the AmbassaDADS and external experts in policy and campaigning.
- Conducting a comprehensive cloud migration project across the organisation to:
 1. Improve data security and compliance (GDPR, safeguarding)
 2. Enable remote access to email, files and Teams collaboration tools
 3. Simplify user management, backups and device control

We look forward to updating you on our progress in future editions.

"Thank you all for the brilliant welcome and conversations during my visit to NEYDL last week. The honesty, integrity, and humour, along with your clear sense of purpose are so powerful – making an enormous difference to young men to build stronger, healthier lives. DigiDAD's and the future you've got planned is really exciting... you're doing amazing work!"

(Mark Simms OBE, interim Chair of the Charity Commission for England and Wales)

"Where do you think you'd be right now if it wasn't for this charity?" Joe Swash (TV Presenter and young father)
"I wouldn't want to answer that because I don't know where I'd be." Young dad supported by NEYDL

NEYDL IN THE NEWS

Mirror
 NEWS CELEBS FOOTBALL LIFESTYLE
 Jeff Brazier makes fan cry as he describes being young dad after having kids with Jade Goody

The Northern Echo
 News Sport Nostalgia BUSINESSIQ Opinion
 County Durham dad to appear in Joe Swash BBC documentary

Sunderland Echo
 THE CONVERSATION
 I'm in Joe Swash's new documentary the realities of young fatherhood



BBC NEWS
 Young dad stereotypes tackled by postcard campaign

THE CONVERSATION
 Why modern masculinity is a climate issue

Mirror
 NEWS CELEBS FOOTBALL LIFESTYLE
THANKS A BILLION



Mirror
 NEWS CELEBS FOOTBALL LIFESTYLE
EXCLUSIVE: Dad who is tackling toxic masculinity nominated for Pride of Britain award

BBC NEWS
 Spotlight on young men: First 'Let's Hear it for the Boys' conference held in Gateshead

BBC Factual
 BBC Factual announces Joe Swash: Britain's Young Dads (w/t) for BBC Three and iPlayer

BBC NEWS
 Becoming dad at 18 'felt like world had stopped'

BBC NEWS
 'I felt really lonely': Joe Swash on being a young dad

THE SUNDAY TIMES
 'It changed my life': North East charity unites young dads to gain skills

Newcastle University Press Office
 Top theatre award for play based on Newcastle academic's research

BBC NEWS
 Shared parental leave skewed against lower earning families, analysis shows

"Good morning, Kev and Doug. We hope you enjoyed the show. It's been so well received, and we've had lots of positive feedback from viewers. Once again, thank you so much for all the help and assistance you gave us during the production."

(Sue Agyeman, Series Producer, BBC Studios, 'Joe Swash: Forgotten Young Dads')

"The charity's ethos, coming from a youth service approach, always starts with engagement. They recognise engagement can take many forms and it does not start with an assessment which requires a conversation about what might be making a dad feel vulnerable. They acknowledge these conversations happen over time."
 (Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Perinatal Community Mental Health Team)

SKETCHING OUR SUCCESS

Over the past 8 years we've been lucky enough to work with some wonderfully creative people. One such person is Claire Stringer (More Than Minutes), a visual artist and illustrator who has spent many memorable days in our company, capturing our work, its impact and meaning in bold and vibrant illustrations. Here is a flavour of Claire's work with NEYDL to date.



Description: In 2019, Claire joined us at our ancestral home of Dunston Young People's Drop-in, Gateshead for a day of activities and discussions with young dads from Sunderland, Gateshead and Newcastle exploring young men's experiences of social isolation and loneliness. Delivered with colleagues from Newcastle University, the findings informed new research supported by the Greggs Foundation.

Description: In 2020, Claire joined us at our second ever annual celebration and awards evening for young dads held at the Dryden Centre in Gateshead. Young dads from across Tyne and Wear took to the stage to showcase their incredible achievements, which included the launch of new DigIDAD films and stories from our growing community of young bee keepers.



Data sources: GAD-7 & UCLA Survey, completed at first session (baseline) and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=39; Outcome Tree distance travelled tool completed at baseline, mid-intervention and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=37; Satisfaction survey (post-intervention), n=59; and Point in Time survey, n=43; NEYDL Database for equalities data.

"Great to be with Andy and Paula from North East Young Dads and Lads – a brilliant organisation looking out for young dads across the region."

(Luke Myer MP – Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland)

"This group of staff and young dads humble me. Working alongside you since its inception and seeing the growth, the impact and some outstanding young dads who months earlier had no confidence and self-esteem and now have support and a purpose. Well done to everyone of you."
 (Carole Hewison, Director for Child Safety UK)



Description: 5 years on from her first 'awards night', Claire joined us for a much grander evening of celebrations in the company of 58 young dads plus children and family members. Over the course of 3 hours, we welcomed every young dad to the stage for applause, praise, certificates, medals, trophies and treats, whilst their families enjoyed a raft of festive entertainment from magicians to fire artists, face painters to balloon sculptures, plus the sight of Doug in an inflatable snowman costume. Happy days!

Description: In 2025, NEYDL took over the Durham Centre for a professional stakeholders event to showcase the incredible work of our now 14 strong staff team and 28 strong community of young dad volunteers (AmbassaDADS) in supporting a staggering 217 young dads and families across the North East region and many more beyond.



"The hospital provided information about NEYDL. It took me a few weeks to like reach out, but I'm stoked to be able to be a part of it now."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

"You were the only one that I could ask for help and you were always there for me."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

MEET THE TEAM



Andy Appleyard
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Middlesbrough)



Amy Bowman
(Finance Officer)



Jonny Conn
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Gateshead and Sunderland)



Colin Cowings
(Senior Young Dads Worker
– County Durham and
Northumberland)



Lucy Curry
(Digital Media Officer)



Paula Davidson
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Middlesbrough and Sunderland)



Tom Jamieson
(Community Beekeeper)



Doug Laidlaw
(Programme Manager and
Safeguarding Lead)



Robert Oughton
(Senior Young Dads Worker-
County Durham)



Will Patterson
(Young Dads Support Worker –
Tyne & Wear)



Jordan Pike
(Cycling and Beekeeping
Project Worker)



Nikki Rummer
(Fundraiser)



Kevin Stoodley
(Founder and CEO)



Fred Suadwa
(Minoritised Young Dads Officer
and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)



Andrea Waterson
(Senior Young Dads Worker
– Hartlepool and Deputy
Safeguarding Lead)



Josh Wiborg
(Peer Enabler)



Dr Nick Williams
(DigiDAD Project Manager)



Jonah York
(Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees
Project Officer)

"Thank you for that! I think you're the only person he's (named young dad) met, and he's said you're alright and he's happy to do different things with you which is a massive thing for him. Really appreciate it."

(A young mam and partner to a young dad supported by NEYDL)

"I don't know how I'm going to feel when I'm 26 and can't come here anymore... it's the first time in my life I've had stability."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

None of the outcomes or achievements detailed in this report would have been possible without the continued support, kindness, encouragement, friendship, and generosity offered by so many people, groups, projects, organisations, services, foundations and institutions, who have given NEYDL so much and asked for so little in return. Though far from exhaustive, we believe the following individuals and organisations deserve an extra special thank you for their huge contribution to NEYDL over the past 12 months. Up the NEYDL!

Board of Trustees

Olusola Adebiji
appointed 27th October 2025

Steven Bramwell (Chair)
appointed 9th July 2024

Callum Fay (young dad)
appointed 8th April 2025

Jenny Goldstein (Treasurer)
appointed 9th July 2020

Destiny Greenwood
retired 9th July 2024

Lillie Hebborn (young Mam)
appointed 1st July 2025

Chris Humba (EDI Advisor)
appointed 13th December 2023

Mark Hutchinson (Secretary)
appointed 11th July 2023

Sarah Oliver (Safeguarding Advisor)
appointed 9th July 2020

Dylan Peggs (young dad)
appointed 19th August 2025

Jordan Pike (young dad)
retired 9th July 2024

Tyler Reed (young dad)
retired 9th July 2024

Professor Anna Tarrant (Chair)
retired 20th August 2025

Joshua Wiborg (young dad)
retired 1st July 2025

James Withycombe
appointed 9th July 2024

Colin Workman (GDPR Compliance Advisor)
appointed 11th July 2023

DigiDAD Advisory Group

Amy Berry
Colin Cowings
Ella Fielding
Jenny Goldstein
Chris Humba
Mark Hutchinson
Adam Johnson
Doug Laidlaw
Sarah Oliver
Robert Oughton
Jan Rigby
Margherita Rovida
Kevin Stoodley
Angela Ward
Dr Nick Williams (Chair)

DigiDAD Delivery Partners

Tom Cole, Salford Young Fathers Project
Lyndsey Smith, Cumberland Council
Owen Thomas, Future Men
Paige Thomason, Cumberland Council

DigiDAD Gaming Steering Group

Jon Goddard - Volunteer Moderator
Doug Laidlaw – Safeguarding Lead
Gareth Malcolm - Volunteer Moderator
Robert Oughton – Senior Moderator
Will Patterson – Senior Moderator
Fred Suadwa – Safeguarding Officer
Andrea Waterson – Safeguarding Officer
Josh Wiborg – Senior Moderator
James Withycombe - Volunteer Moderator

AmbassaDADS;

Petra Bowes
Callum Brown
Marshall Brown
Callum Clarkson
Alfie Cox
Cameron Davison
Ethan Dolan
Owyn Dunn
Callum Fay
John Goddard
Anthony Hopgood
Ben Horniman
Elliott Hunter
Trystan Jackson
James Jones
Samuel Leone
Andrew (Drew) McNally
Robert Oughton
Will Patterson
Dylan Peggs
Jordan Pike
Bradley Sayers
Leslie Smith
Alex Tarling
Josh Wiborg
Joe Willis
Robert Wilson
James Withycombe

Our volunteer beekeepers

Adam Johnson
Dylan Peggs
Dr Michael Richardson
Mark Ridden
Josh Wiborg

Our friends and project partners, some of whom are listed below:

Dr Andrew Richardson – gambling related harms advisor
Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art
Benjamin Michael Smith (film maker)
Brown March and Bowman Ltd Accountants
Chopwell Officials Club
Chopwell Regeneration Group

Durham Family Hubs
Following Young Fathers Further at The University of Lincoln
Forestry England
Gateshead Family Hubs
Gateshead Food Partnerships
KEDA Consulting
Kingsmeadow Community Comprehensive School
Middlesbrough Family Hubs
Motif Pictures
NE Youth
North East Anti-Racism Alliance
North East Youth Alliance
Northumberland Family Hubs
Northumberland National Park
Ngozi Lyn Cole
Pixel Buddy
Staithes Café
Sunderland Family Hubs
Tees Wildlife Trust
The Comfrey Project
The Family Nurse Partnership (Sunderland and Gateshead)
Thread Media
Throneware Ltd
Youth Focus North East

Our current funders and sponsors

BBC Children in Need
Ballinger Charitable Trust
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
Community Foundation North East
Cycling UK
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project
Henry Smith Foundation
John Armitage Charitable Trust
LGA Foundation
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East
OurGateshead The Borough Council of Gateshead
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
ShareGift
Sir James Knott Trust
Sunderland City Council
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough
The County Council of the County of Durham
The Henry Smith Foundation
The Imagine Foundation
The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities
The Netherton Park Trust
The Tudor Trust
The William Leech Charity
Warburtons Project Grant

Our Inspiration

Last but not least, thank you, thank you, thank you to all the utterly brilliant young men and families we have met so far and those we have yet to meet. This charity and this report exist because of you! Up the NEYDL!

"I've been working with a dad... He said he had really enjoyed the DigiDAD parenting course. He sent me two certificates, appeared really proud of achieving them, which supported raising his confidence around parenting... He said, 'the courses were amazing!' Thanks, and thought you needed to be aware of the lovely, positive feedback you've been given."

(Senior Resource Worker, Middlesbrough Council)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2025, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

In the year ended 30th April 2025, North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO continued to work on projects, which during the current year were funded largely by the following foundations and organisations with our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks:

- BBC Children in Need
- Ballinger Charitable Trust
- Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
- Community Foundation North East
- Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project | OurGateshead
- Henry Smith Foundation
- John Armitage Charitable Trust
- LGA Foundation
- North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation
- ShareGift
- Sir James Knott Trust
- Sunderland City Council
- The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund
- The Borough Council of Gateshead
- The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough
- The County Council of the County of Durham
- The Imagine Foundation
- The National Lottery Community Fund Awards For All
- The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities
- The Nethererton Park Trust
- The Tudor Trust
- William Leech Charity
- Warburtons Project Grant

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO will carry forward £395,316 of restricted funds to be spent in the 2025-2026 financial year and £224,482 of unrestricted funds.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds) is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2025 would be between £152,081 and £304,161 which is equivalent to between three to six months operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2025 amounted to £224,482, which are considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants to support the charity's CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the

Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number: CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number: 1172924

Registered office

c/o Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Steven Bramwell (Chair) (Appointed 09/07/2024)

Olusola Adebisi (Appointed 27/10/2025)

Dylan Peggs (Appointed 19/08/2025)

Lillie Hebborn (Appointed 01/07/2025)

Callum Fay (Appointed 08/04/2025)

James Withycombe (Appointed 09/07/2024)

Chris Humba (Appointed 13/12/2023)

Colin Workman (Appointed 11/07/2023)

Mark Hutchinson (Secretary) (Appointed 11/07/2023)

Jennifer Goldstein (Treasurer) (Appointed 09/07/2020)

Sarah Oliver (Appointed 09/07/2020)

Destiny Greenwood (Retired 09/07/2024)

Jordan Pike (Retired 09/07/2024)

Tyler Reed (Retired 09/07/2024)

Professor Anna Tarrant (Former Chair) (Retired 20/08/2025)

Joshua Wiborg (Retired 01/07/2025)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

"[I'm now] embracing being a young dad and feeling proud of my little boy. There's no better feeling in the world."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

NEYDL is a unique youth support service that is dedicated to helping young men and young fathers to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, within families and wider society.

Mission and Vision

- Our vision is for young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.
- Our mission is to enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives, by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



S Bramwell – Chair to Trustees



J Goldstein – Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

"I'm becoming a more positive dad."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640		7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation		30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation		50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500		12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000		20,000
BBC Children in Need		25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust		7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000		15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000		7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough		32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council		52,434	52,434
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East		2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000		5,000
John Armitage Charitable Trust		65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity		5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000		40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead		9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund		57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)		70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)		46,440	46,440
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE ON			
Marketing and Advertising	4,249	3,744	7,993
Raising Funds	4,800	16,000	20,800
Charitable activities			
Other	20,818	558,712	579,530
Total	29,867	578,456	608,323
NET INCOME	77,273	(124,944)	(47,670)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	147,209	520,260	667,469
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	224,482	395,316	619,798

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

"I'm able to trust people more than I could before. Not having to keep things bottled up."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Balance Sheet

At 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank	224,482	395,316	619,798
Cash in hand	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<hr/> 224,482	<hr/> 395,316	<hr/> 619,798
NET ASSETS	<hr/> 224,482	<hr/> 395,316	<hr/> 619,798
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			224,482
Restricted funds			395,316
TOTAL FUNDS			<hr/> <hr/> 619,798

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Bramwell – Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements.

"I've been able to get out of bed and do more with my life, meeting new people and gaining an excellent support network from excellent people. Cannot wait to see what the future holds."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Balance Sheet

30/04/2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2025.

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 30.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.25 £
Unrestricted funds	147,209	77,273	224,482
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	7,695	7,695
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	30,628	(14,766)	15,862
The Council of the County of Durham	220,256	(83,535)	136,721
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough	103,486	(77,771)	25,715
Sunderland City Council	11,628	15,579	27,207
The Borough Council of Gateshead	79,280	(53,360)	25,920
Henry Smith Foundation	10,355	(4,928)	5,427
John Armitage Charitable Trust	-	53,635	53,635
William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	-	63,148	63,148
The Netherton Park Trust	-	7,102	7,102
The National Lottery (Awards for All)	11,016	(11,016)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	26,191	(13,007)	13,184
Warburtons Project Grant	267	(267)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	6,413	(6,193)	220
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	500	(500)	-
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	1,100	1,100
Community Foundation North East	9,917	(9,917)	-
BBC Children in Need	10,323	(2,943)	7,380
TOTAL FUNDS	667,469	(47,670)	619,798

"Great to get this work started and to collaborate with long time colleagues at NEYDL and DigiDAD."

(Owen Thomas, Head of Programmes at Future Men)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	107,140	(29,867)	77,273
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	9,441	(1,746)	7,695
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	57,402	(72,168)	(14,766)
The County Council of Durham	-	(83,535)	(83,535)
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	32,784	(110,555)	(77,771)
Sunderland City Council	52,434	(36,855)	15,579
The Borough Council of Gateshead	-	(53,360)	(53,360)
Henry Smith Foundation	30,000	(34,928)	(4,928)
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	2,100	(1,000)	1,100
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	70,117	(6,969)	63,148
John Armitage Charitable Trust	65,000	(11,365)	53,635
The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All	-	(11,016)	(11,016)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	(63,007)	(13,007)
Warburtons Project Grant	-	(267)	(267)
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	46,440	(52,633)	(6,193)
The Netherton Park Trust	7,500	(398)	7,102
The William Leech Charity	5,000	-	5,000
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	(500)	(500)
Community Foundation North East	-	(9,917)	(9,917)
BBC Children In Need	25,295	(28,237)	(2,942)
TOTAL FUNDS	560,653	(608,323)	(47,670)

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2025 other than those disclosed in note 2.

"I wanted to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to you guys for all your help and support last year. We love having you guys at Wrekenton Family Hub. I also wanted to thank Josh from your team. What an amazing young man, who is truly a credit to your service."

(Kelly Goring, Parent Outreach Worker, Gateshead Family Hubs)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640	-	7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation	-	30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500	-	12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust	-	7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000	-	15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000	-	7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough	-	32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council	-	52,424	52,424
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000	-	5,000
John Amitage Charitable Trust	-	65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	-	40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	-	57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	-	70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	-	46,440	46,440
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies	4,249	3,744	7,993
Marketing and advertising	4,800	16,000	20,800
Raising Funds			
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	325	383,931	384,256
Independent Evaluations	1,200	11,300	12,500
Cycling Equipment	-	2,937	2,937
Staff Training & Welfare	227	9,624	9,851
Governance Costs	88	882	970
Event Costs	2,100	7,407	9,507
Group work & Project Expenditure	1,567	59,791	61,358
Postage & stationery	-	416	416
Consultancy fees	-	18,970	18,970
Telephone	-	1,120	1,120
Client & staff travel	-	31,684	31,684
Accountancy/Finance Officer	8,300	11,176	19,476
Insurance	-	2,270	2,270
Subscriptions	693	301	994
Office/Admin Expenses	4,758	5,354	10,112
Recruitment Costs	-	1,071	1,071
Repairs & Renewals	1,560	6,480	8,040
Rent	-	3,998	3,998
Total resources expended	29,867	578,456	608,323
Net income	77,273	(124,943)	(47,670)

"I always talk to people who ask me about my son about how 'Young Dads and Lads (NEYDL) helped me grow into more of a father figure and seeing other dads do the same."

(A young dad supported by NEYDL)



THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS OUR EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

For further information, please visit our website and social media feeds, or just send us an email.

Email: info@neydl.uk
 Charity website: www.neydl.uk
 DigiDAD e-learning platform: www.digidad.uk
 Facebook: facebook.com/the.neydl
 X (formerly Twitter): @NEYDandL
 Instagram: neyoungdadsandlads
 Instagram: digidaduk
 YouTube: @DigiDAD



To donate to NEYDL and help us to improve the lives and prospects of many more young dads, children and families, please use the weblink and QR code provided below.

Thank you for your support.

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3617049>



Scan. Pay. Go.

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS & LADS
 Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts
 South Shore Road
 Gateshead
 NE8 3BA

Tel: Kevin Stoodley,
 07846 989750

Registered in England
 Charity No: 1172924
 Company No: CE009920



	SUPPORTED BY 			

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Brown, March and Bowman Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOContents of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 April 2025

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Balance Sheet	10
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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	14 to 15

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOReport of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**Charity Name**

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Steven Bramwell (Chair) (Appointed 09/07/2024)
Olusola Adebisi (Appointed 27/10/2025)
Dylan Peggs (Appointed 19/08/2025)
Lillie Hebborn (Appointed 01/07/2025)
Callum Fay (Appointed 08/04/2025)
James Withycombe (Appointed 09/07/2024)
Chris Humba (Appointed 13/12/2023)
Colin Workman (Appointed 11/07/2023)
Mark Hutchinson (Secretary) (Appointed 11/07/2023)
Jennifer Goldstein (Treasurer) (Appointed 09/07/2020)
Sarah Oliver (Appointed 09/07/2020)
Destiny Greenwood (Retired 09/07/2024)
Jordan Pike (Retired 09/07/2024)
Tyler Reed (Retired 09/07/2024)
Professor Anna Tarrant (Former Chair) (Retired 20/08/2025)
Joshua Wiborg (Retired 01/07/2025)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

NEYDL is a unique youth support service that is dedicated to helping young men and young fathers to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, within families and wider society.

Mission and Vision

- Our vision is for young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.
- Our mission is to enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives, by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young Dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young Dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2025, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

In the year ended 30th April 2025, North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO continued to work on projects, which during the current year were funded largely by the following foundations and organisations with our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks:

The County Council of the County of Durham
 North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East
 ShareGift
 The Netherton Park Trust
 Paul Hamlyn Foundation
 The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough

The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund
 The National Lottery Community Fund Awards For All
 Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project | OurGateshead
 Warburtons Project Grant
 Henry Smith Foundation
 Sunderland City Council
 BBC Children in Need
 Ballinger Charitable Trust
 The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities
 The Borough Council of Gateshead
 The Imagine Foundation
 The Tudor Trust
 Sir James Knott Trust
 Community Foundation North East
 Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
 William Leech Charity
 John Armitage Charitable Trust
 LGA Foundation

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO will carry forward £395,316 of restricted funds to be spent in the 2025-2026 financial year and £224,482 of unrestricted funds.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds) is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2025 would be between £152,081 and £304,161 which is equivalent to between three to six months operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2025 amounted to £224,482, which are considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants to support the charities CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

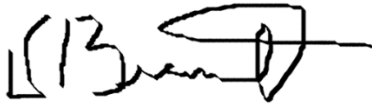
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Bramwell', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

S Bramwell – Chair to Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Goldstein', written in a cursive style.

J Goldstein- Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640		7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation		30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation		50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500		12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000		20,000
BBC Children in Need		25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust		7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000		15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000		7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough		32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council		52,434	52,434
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East		2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000		5,000
John Armitage Charitable Trust		65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity		5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000		40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead		9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund		57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)		70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)		46,440	46,440
	-----	-----	-----
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE ON			
Marketing and Advertising	4,249	3,744	7,993
Raising Funds	4,800	16,000	20,800
Charitable activities			
Other	20,818	558,712	579,530
Total	29,867	578,456	608,323
	-----	-----	-----
NET INCOME	77,273	(124,944)	(47,670)
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	147,209	520,260	667,469
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	224,482	395,316	619,798
	-----	-----	-----

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOBalance Sheet
At 30 April 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		224,482	395,316	619,798
Cash in hand		-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		224,482	395,316	619,798
NET ASSETS				
		224,482	395,316	619,798
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds				224,482
Restricted funds				395,316
TOTAL FUNDS				
				619,798

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2025.

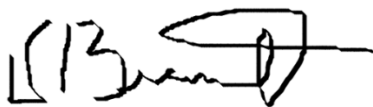
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Bramwell – Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2025.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 30.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.25 £
Unrestricted funds	147,209	77,273	224,482
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	7,695	7,695
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	30,628	(14,766)	15,862
The Council of the County of Durham	220,256	(83,535)	136,721
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough	103,486	(77,771)	25,715
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William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
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The National Lottery (Awards for All)	11,016	(11,016)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	26,191	(13,007)	13,184
Warburtons Project Grant	267	(267)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	6,413	(6,193)	220
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	500	(500)	-
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	1,100	1,100
Community Foundation North East	9,917	(9,917)	-
BBC Children in Need	10,323	(2,943)	7,380
TOTAL FUNDS	667,469	(47,670)	619,798

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
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The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	32,784	(110,555)	(77,771)
Sunderland City Council	52,434	(36,855)	15,579
The Borough Council of Gateshead	-	(53,360)	(53,360)
Henry Smith Foundation	30,000	(34,928)	(4,928)
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	2,100	(1,000)	1,100
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	70,117	(6,969)	63,148
John Armitage Charitable Trust	65,000	(11,365)	53,635
The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All	-	(11,016)	(11,016)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	(63,007)	(13,007)
Warburtons Project Grant	-	(267)	(267)
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	46,440	(52,633)	(6,193)
The Nethererton Park Trust	7,500	(398)	7,102
William Leech Charity	5,000	-	5,000
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	(500)	(500)
Community Foundation North East	-	(9,917)	(9,917)
BBC Children In Need	25,295	(28,237)	(2,942)
TOTAL FUNDS	560,653	(608,323)	(47,670)

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2025 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIODetailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640	-	7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation	-	30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500	-	12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust	-	7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000	-	15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000	-	7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	-	32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council	-	52,424	52,434
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000	-	5,000
John Amitage Charitable Trust	-	65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	-	40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	-	57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	-	70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad 2 Dad)	-	46,440	46,440
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	4,249	3,744	7,993
Raising Funds	4,800	16,000	20,800
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	325	383,931	384,256
Independent Evaluations	1,200	11,300	12,500
Cycling Equipment	-	2,937	2,937
Staff Training & Welfare	227	9,624	9,851
Governance Costs	88	882	970
Event Costs	2,100	7,407	9,507
Group work & Project Expenditure	1,567	59,791	61,358
Postage & stationery	-	416	416
Consultancy fees	-	18,970	18,970
Telephone	-	1,120	1,120
Client & staff travel	-	31,684	31,684
Accountancy/Finance Officer	8,300	11,176	19,476
Insurance	-	2,270	2,270
Subscriptions	693	301	994

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Brown, March and Bowman Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOContents of the Financial Statements
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North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOReport of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**Charity Name**

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Steven Bramwell (Chair) (Appointed 09/07/2024)
Olusola Adebisi (Appointed 27/10/2025)
Dylan Peggs (Appointed 19/08/2025)
Lillie Hebborn (Appointed 01/07/2025)
Callum Fay (Appointed 08/04/2025)
James Withycombe (Appointed 09/07/2024)
Chris Humba (Appointed 13/12/2023)
Colin Workman (Appointed 11/07/2023)
Mark Hutchinson (Secretary) (Appointed 11/07/2023)
Jennifer Goldstein (Treasurer) (Appointed 09/07/2020)
Sarah Oliver (Appointed 09/07/2020)
Destiny Greenwood (Retired 09/07/2024)
Jordan Pike (Retired 09/07/2024)
Tyler Reed (Retired 09/07/2024)
Professor Anna Tarrant (Former Chair) (Retired 20/08/2025)
Joshua Wiborg (Retired 01/07/2025)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

NEYDL is a unique youth support service that is dedicated to helping young men and young fathers to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, within families and wider society.

Mission and Vision

- Our vision is for young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.
- Our mission is to enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives, by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young Dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young Dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2025, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

In the year ended 30th April 2025, North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO continued to work on projects, which during the current year were funded largely by the following foundations and organisations with our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks:

The County Council of the County of Durham
 North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East
 ShareGift
 The Netherton Park Trust
 Paul Hamlyn Foundation
 The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough

The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund
 The National Lottery Community Fund Awards For All
 Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project | OurGateshead
 Warburtons Project Grant
 Henry Smith Foundation
 Sunderland City Council
 BBC Children in Need
 Ballinger Charitable Trust
 The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities
 The Borough Council of Gateshead
 The Imagine Foundation
 The Tudor Trust
 Sir James Knott Trust
 Community Foundation North East
 Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
 William Leech Charity
 John Armitage Charitable Trust
 LGA Foundation

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO will carry forward £395,316 of restricted funds to be spent in the 2025-2026 financial year and £224,482 of unrestricted funds.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds) is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2025 would be between £152,081 and £304,161 which is equivalent to between three to six months operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2025 amounted to £224,482, which are considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants to support the charities CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

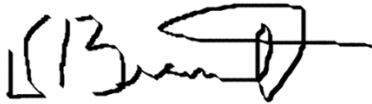
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Bramwell', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

S Bramwell – Chair to Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Goldstein', written in a cursive style.

J Goldstein- Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640		7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation		30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation		50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500		12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000		20,000
BBC Children in Need		25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust		7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000		15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000		7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough		32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council		52,434	52,434
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East		2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000		5,000
John Armitage Charitable Trust		65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity		5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000		40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead		9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund		57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)		70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)		46,440	46,440
	-----	-----	-----
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE ON			
Marketing and Advertising	4,249	3,744	7,993
Raising Funds	4,800	16,000	20,800
Charitable activities			
Other	20,818	558,712	579,530
Total	29,867	578,456	608,323
	-----	-----	-----
NET INCOME	77,273	(124,944)	(47,670)
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	147,209	520,260	667,469
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	224,482	395,316	619,798
	-----	-----	-----

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOBalance Sheet
At 30 April 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		224,482	395,316	619,798
Cash in hand		-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		224,482	395,316	619,798
NET ASSETS				
		224,482	395,316	619,798
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds				224,482
Restricted funds				395,316
TOTAL FUNDS				
				619,798

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2025.

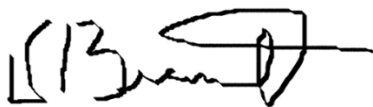
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Bramwell – Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2025.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 30.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.25 £
Unrestricted funds	147,209	77,273	224,482
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	7,695	7,695
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	30,628	(14,766)	15,862
The Council of the County of Durham	220,256	(83,535)	136,721
The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough	103,486	(77,771)	25,715
Sunderland City Council	11,628	15,579	27,207
The Borough Council of Gateshead	79,280	(53,360)	25,920
Henry Smith Foundation	10,355	(4,928)	5,427
John Armitage Charitable Trust	-	53,635	53,635
William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	-	63,148	63,148
The Netherton Park Trust	-	7,102	7,102
The National Lottery (Awards for All)	11,016	(11,016)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	26,191	(13,007)	13,184
Warburtons Project Grant	267	(267)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	6,413	(6,193)	220
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	500	(500)	-
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	1,100	1,100
Community Foundation North East	9,917	(9,917)	-
BBC Children in Need	10,323	(2,943)	7,380
TOTAL FUNDS	667,469	(47,670)	619,798

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	107,140	(29,867)	77,273
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	9,441	(1,746)	7,695
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	57,402	(72,168)	(14,766)
The County Council of Durham	-	(83,535)	(83,535)
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	32,784	(110,555)	(77,771)
Sunderland City Council	52,434	(36,855)	15,579
The Borough Council of Gateshead	-	(53,360)	(53,360)
Henry Smith Foundation	30,000	(34,928)	(4,928)
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	2,100	(1,000)	1,100
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	70,117	(6,969)	63,148
John Armitage Charitable Trust	65,000	(11,365)	53,635
The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All	-	(11,016)	(11,016)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	(63,007)	(13,007)
Warburtons Project Grant	-	(267)	(267)
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad2Dad)	46,440	(52,633)	(6,193)
The Netherton Park Trust	7,500	(398)	7,102
William Leech Charity	5,000	-	5,000
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	(500)	(500)
Community Foundation North East	-	(9,917)	(9,917)
BBC Children In Need	25,295	(28,237)	(2,942)
TOTAL FUNDS	560,653	(608,323)	(47,670)

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2025 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIODetailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	7,640	-	7,640
Charitable activities			
Henry Smith Foundation	-	30,000	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	50,000	50,000
ShareGift	12,500	-	12,500
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
BBC Children in Need	-	25,295	25,295
The Netherton Park Trust	-	7,500	7,500
The Imagine Foundation	15,000	-	15,000
Sir James Knott Trust	7,000	-	7,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	-	32,784	32,784
Sunderland City Council	-	52,424	52,434
North East Youth Alliance c/o Youth Focus North East	-	2,100	2,100
LGA Foundation	5,000	-	5,000
John Amitage Charitable Trust	-	65,000	65,000
William Leech Charity	-	5,000	5,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	-	40,000
Gateshead Council: Small Grants Project OurGateshead	-	9,441	9,441
The Baltic Centre of Contemporary Arts supported by the National Lottery Climate Action Fund	-	57,402	57,402
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (DigiDAD)	-	70,117	70,117
The National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities (Dad 2 Dad)	-	46,440	46,440
Total	107,140	453,513	560,653
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	4,249	3,744	7,993
Raising Funds	4,800	16,000	20,800
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	325	383,931	384,256
Independent Evaluations	1,200	11,300	12,500
Cycling Equipment	-	2,937	2,937
Staff Training & Welfare	227	9,624	9,851
Governance Costs	88	882	970
Event Costs	2,100	7,407	9,507
Group work & Project Expenditure	1,567	59,791	61,358
Postage & stationery	-	416	416
Consultancy fees	-	18,970	18,970
Telephone	-	1,120	1,120
Client & staff travel	-	31,684	31,684
Accountancy/Finance Officer	8,300	11,176	19,476
Insurance	-	2,270	2,270
Subscriptions	693	301	994

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1172924

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Covering the period from 1st May 2023 to 30th April 2024

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023

Winner

THE YOUTH WORK AWARD

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023

Winner

THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE AWARD



PROUDLY DELIVERING



Registered in England
Charity No: 1172924
Company No: CE009920

"The difference this charity has made to my life is amazing."

(young dad)

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FOREWORD

Foreword by Jeff Brazier (TV Personality)

It is my absolute pleasure to write the Foreword for the North East Young Dads and Lads 2024 Annual Report. Within my role as a presenter for BBC's The One Show, this Spring I was lucky enough to visit the staff and young dads at NEYDL and was blown away both by the range and depth of work undertaken by the charity to support young dads and the young dads themselves.

From my conversations with young dads at NEYDL and drawing on my own experience as a young dad to two boys, it is evident that young dads face significant barriers in their efforts to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, made worse by a lack of dedicated help and support. This is why NEYDL's work is so crucial and I look forward to watching the charity go from strength to strength, perhaps one day touching the lives of young dads outside the North East region too.

Congratulations to everyone at NEYDL on another successful and impactful year.

Best wishes,

Jeff



"I feel more secure knowing that support is there for me from NEYDL."

(young dad)

"There isn't anything negative I can say. I know I have support there and it's been great for me to get out of the house and meet new lads in the same situation as me. The lads are great, and the supporters (staff and volunteers) are great. I can't fault anything"

(young dad)



CHAIR'S REPORT

By Professor Anna Tarrant

A huge welcome to our wonderful readers and supporters.

This year has really flown and I almost can't believe this is my second, albeit first full year, of writing the Chair's report! As Chair of Trustees, it remains such an honour to support the charity, to observe and advise on the great work that continues, to think back on the year that has passed, and to highlight just some of the many achievements of the young fathers and staff of this nationally distinctive charity.

2023-24 has certainly been an interesting year! Not only have we seen a new government come into power but growing campaign work nationally about the need for more equitable paternity leave for dads has really put fathering and father support firmly on the national policy agenda. Indeed, our very own Josh, once beneficiary and now a member of staff, and his beautiful twins, did a wonderful piece that helped to make the case on national news.

The charity has also significantly expanded its reach and impact, delivering well-loved and attended services for Family Hubs in the North East region. Delivered by an ever-expanding and committed staff team - and what a fantastic bunch you all are - these services are making a real difference to the young fathers of the North East!

They say that time flies when you're having fun and it has certainly also been a fun filled and productive year again for the North East Young Dads and Lads! There are so many of these from this year, but particular highlights for me? Seeing the AmbassaDADS on The One Show as wonderful representatives, both of themselves, their children and the charity, is right up there. Sharing in the emotions of the awards night in Durham (a huge well done to all the winners!) was also incredibly moving. Kev and Doug did their best as comperes (Ant and Dec springs to mind!?) but it was the dads and your families that really stole the show and made it what it was! I can't possibly conclude without a nod to staff member Will who wore all of the dressing up gear we had that evening and resembled something out of ET!



As we move into a new year, I wish all of our current and future beneficiaries, staff, consultants, Trustees and supporters all the best and I, for one, can't wait to see what happens next!

We hope you enjoy reading the charity's annual report for 2023-24.

Best wishes

Professor Anna Tarrant



UK Research and Innovation

'I feel more confident within myself and with others around me.'

(young dad)

"I don't know where I would have been without the support of NEYDL."

(young dad)



CEO's Report

By Kevin Stoodley

Dear Friend,

A warm welcome to this, our seventh Annual Report covering the charity's endeavours and achievements from 1st May 2023 to 30th April 2024. NEYDL is 7 years old, how did that happen?

I find myself writing this introduction on a cold, wet night in late November in a week that followed the launch of two new exhibitions at BALTIC (Reframing Young Fatherhood and Portrait Youth) featuring photographs of our young dads captured by two talented photographers (Mark Duffy and Adam Johnson), the latter of whom also happens to be a former service beneficiary of NEYDL – get in there Adam!

As if that wasn't enough, we chose to launch these exhibitions on International Men's Day (Tuesday 19th November) at the first of two awards ceremonies we delivered that week in recognition of the achievements of young dads who travelled from as far afield as Northumberland, County Durham, and Middlesbrough.

The last time we hosted an awards ceremony of this kind was in the summer of 2019, a matter of months before the Covid 19 pandemic broke. Held in Gateshead, that ceremony was attended by 11 young dads representing Gateshead and Sunderland, in a year in which the charity supported 46 young dads. By comparison, over the last 12 months our brilliant staff team (which now includes 4 young dads and former service beneficiaries – Will, Rob, Jordan and most recently Josh) have worked directly with 139 young dads, plus 10 non-birthing partners. And that's without counting the 42,500+ young dads, young mams and others who've watched our parenting films and animations via the charity's e-learning platform (DigiDAD).

Whilst I'm on the subject of DigiDAD, this year we scooped three national awards for this unique and ground breaking platform and its content, including Best Online Production for Father Unknown (a play co-created with our young dads and supported by NEYDL team member Jonah York and former trustee Michael J Richardson) at the Off West End Theatre Awards and overall winner in both Youth Work and Advice & Guidance categories at the prestigious Children and Young People Now Awards.

At the time of writing, I'm delighted to report that thanks to an incredibly generous grant from The National Lottery Community Fund, over the next three years, the DigiDAD universe will grow exponentially with new courses, films, animations, podcasts, and video gaming channels delivered in collaboration with our delivery partners and the young dads they support.

Returning to the awards ceremonies, it was amazing to meet so many young dads and family members (I counted 58 partners, children, siblings, and grandparents) whose lives have been transformed thanks to the depth and variety of services now provided by our passionate and dedicated staff and volunteers. Now spanning six and sometimes seven days a week, this offer includes 5-a-side and 11-a-side tournament football, self-defence/martial arts, father and child focused walk and talk and stay and play sessions, the internet famous Wheelie Good Dads Cycling Club, peer support groups, AmbassaDADS meetings, video gaming sessions and community beekeeping, alongside regular training and accredited learning covering themes as diverse as cycle maintenance, paediatric first aid, mental health first aid, parenting and relationship skills. No wonder young dads spend on average 48 hours at NEYDL every year.

Of course, NEYDL is not just about group work and training opportunities and this year our team have worked tirelessly to support individual young dads and families to address a range of personal challenges including loss and bereavement, poor mental health and suicidal thoughts, loneliness and isolation, poverty and debt, homelessness, NEET status, child contact issues, domestic abuse, offending behaviours, and involvement in social care proceedings relating to their children. Thanks to the implementation of a comprehensive evaluation framework, the extensive impact of our work on the lives of young dads, their children and families is being more fully realised. My favourite data from the last 12 months include:

- 100% of young dads would recommend NEYDL to other young dads.
- 82% felt closer to their children following support from NEYDL.

Relevant to this last finding, I was deeply moved by a recent unsolicited social media post from a young mother we were tagged into: "If you're a young dad...definitely get yourself involved. I'm not even a dad and I've met some of the most loveliest people ever and the opportunities you get with them are endless. Cannot recommend them enough!"

High praise indeed for a dedicated young dads charity that recognises the importance of a whole family approach.

The incredible work and achievements celebrated in this report would not have been possible without the generosity, support and encouragement shown by our amazing funders, service commissioners, sponsors and organisational partners, and the determination, skills and expertise shown by of our super talented staff, volunteers, trustees, project consultants and of course young dads and their families. It is because of you that we look forward to another highly productive and successful year.

Best wishes.

Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)

*"The service has been amazing and I am so grateful for the support I have received.
You have helped me adapt and become the Father I want to be."*

(young dad)

IMPACT DATA

(Covering the period from 1st May 2023 to 30th April 2024)

OUR VISION:

For young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.

OUR MISSION:

To enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

Reason for referral	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Individual contact time (hrs)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Young father / expectant dad	139	105	68	63	46	61	Dads and Toddlers groups	142	32	12	0	106	44
Non birthing people	10	10	4	2	1	1	1:1 support (face to face)	960	850	408	440	350	306
Total:	149	115	72	65	47	62	1:1 support (telephone & social media)	650	572	234	450	140	92
Engagement by young men							Joint meetings with other professionals	370	350	460	250	190	119
New referral	111	48	25	33	25	53	Peer supported group work	586	480	202	850	959	912
Ongoing support	38	67	47	32	22	9	Training delivered to professionals	316	150	51	40	56	101
Total:	149	115	72	65	47	62	Research activities	265	400	451	254	134	420
Locality							Campaigning, media, and film-work	453	350	257	428	142	238
Sunderland	26	34	23	26	22	19	Community beekeeping	252	268	196	131	250	98
Gateshead	25	20	26	32	20	31	Peer mentoring & volunteering	3,086	2,625	1,491	280	230	216
South Tyneside	2	9	6	6	2	5	Other activities	72	50	17	20	36	0
Newcastle upon Tyne	11	57	7	1	3	7	Total:	7,152	6,127	3,779	3,143	2,593	2,546
North Tyneside	6	14	3	0	0	0	Average individual contact time (hrs)	48	53	52.5	48	55	41
Durham	41	15	6	0	0	0	Key outcomes						
Northumberland	1	0	1	0	0	0	CP Plans downgraded or completed	22	22	18	9	5	8
Middlesbrough	37	18	0	0	0	0	CIN plans downgraded or completed	5	9	10	3	3	4
Total:	149	115	72	65	47	62	Progressed into full time work/study	22	18	9	10	5	8
Age at entry point							Accessed specialist medical help	52	45	15	2	5	5
Under 16	3	16	4	8	4	5	Total:	101	94	52	24	18	25
16-18	28	28	18	8	28	21	Social Media Metrics						
19-25	118	71	50	49	15	31	YouTube Channel – launched 6th April 2021						
Not given	0	0	0	0	0	5	Views:	42,533	30,598	12,400			
Total:	149	115	72	65	47	62	Watch time (hours):	1,600	1,049	903			
Referral pathway							Organic subscribers:	135	106	80			
Youth work charities	14	10	8	11	11	16	Impressions:	174,167	97,700	41,600			
Social services	48	23	21	18	11	7	X (formerly Twitter)						
Early Help Teams	5	10	3	0	1	1	Followers:	1,232	1,152	887			
Family Nurse Partnership	11	18	18	16	17	17	Facebook						
Self-Referrals	20	5	6	5	4	14	Followers:	1,191	806	624			
School & Education	0	8	1	2	1	2	Likes:	909	684	549			
Housing	7	6	8	4	2	4	Instagram						
Health	34	25	6	0	0	0	Followers:	455					
Criminal Justice	2	0	1	0	0	0	DigiDAD E-learning Platform						
Other	8	10	0	9	0	1	Registered users:	266	110	43			
Total:	149	115	72	65	47	62							
Individual help received													
Child Protection proceedings	48	30	24	23	12	27							
Child/Team around the family	5	10	1	1	3	7							
Family law proceedings	8	5	5	5	0	8							
NEET status	80	30	17	14	13	27							
Career progression	22	15	11	5	4	8							
Housing, homelessness & benefits	50	25	16	9	4	8							
Completing essential paperwork	45	30	16	13	5	19							
Poverty & debt management	75	55	9	17	10	12							
Domestic abuse	25	15	21	12	7	21							
Offending behaviour	43	25	6	16	3	10							
Mental & emotional wellbeing	90	45	23	30	26	31							
Substance misuse & addiction	22	15	7	8	6	12							
Sexual health	23	18	5	3	5	2							
Other physical health conditions	10	6	4	4	6	2							
Learning difficulties	50	10	3	8	5	8							
Social isolation and loneliness	125	101	72	60	47	51							
Parenting skills	45	50	35	34	20	46							
Relationship skills	65	40	23	27	24	25							
Bereavement & loss	22	15	8	4	6	8							
Volunteering*	108	105	74	3	8	25							
School exclusion	7	8	6	5	3	2							
Total:	968	657	388	301	215	363							

*This figure represents the total number of young men who volunteered at NEYDL over a 12-month period

'It's helped us in multiple ways by getting out the house, meeting up with other young dads from around the area and also with my mental health. It's a really good scheme'

(young dad)

"I would defo tell my mates who are about to become or are a dad about NEYDL."

(young dad)



NEYDL ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT MAY 2023-APRIL 2024

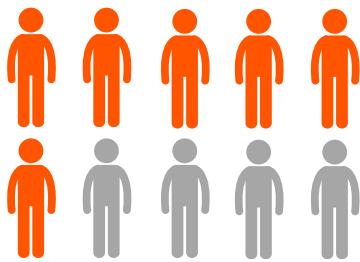
139

young dads
reached



DIVERSITY

2.4% ethnically diverse
26.8% identified as disabled
(13.7% neurodiverse, 0.8% visual,
0.8% physical, 7% learning
difficulties, 3.8% mental
distress/health 12+ months, 0.8%
long term health condition)



60%

had improved mental
wellbeing (Adapted version
of Warwick-Edinburgh
Mental Wellbeing Scale)

40%



felt better able to express
their feelings with the mother
of their child(ren) (Modified
version of the ENRICH scale)



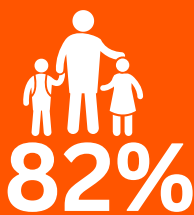
71%

had reduced anxiety
as measured by the Generalised
Anxiety Disorder scale (GAD-7)

57%



had reduced frequency of
loneliness (ONS
recommended measures of
loneliness)



82%

felt closer to their child



100%

would recommend NEYDL
to other young dads

Data sources: GAD-7 & UCLA Survey, completed at first session (baseline) and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=7; Outcomes Tree distance travelled tool completed at baseline, mid-intervention and post-intervention (at least 4 weeks), n=10; Satisfaction survey (post intervention), n=6; and Point in Time survey, n=31; NEYDL Database for equalities data.

"I've received more support than I thought I would before I started with them."

(young dad)

"If I need help on something then they just step on the pedal and then talk to us and help me, like, you know, calm the stress, or get more confidence."

(young dad)

PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

OBJECTIVE 1.

Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.

NEYDL is commissioned to deliver dedicated young dads services in County Durham, Middlesbrough, Gateshead and Sunderland as part of Family Hub and Start for Life Programmes which includes the provision of intensive 1:1 support over a 16-week period to address self-identified needs relevant to their role as young fathers and fathers to be. In addition, through our voluntary grant funded programmes, NEYDL continues to offer individual support to young dads living across Tyne and Wear, in addition to a new pilot focusing on key localities in Northumberland. In total, we have provided intensive 1:1 support to 139 young dads / expectant fathers and 10 non birthing partners (e.g., young men who are playing a parenting role in the lives of their partners children and / or kinship carers) covering a wide variety of support needs including children's social care proceedings, poverty and debt management, poor mental health, isolation and loneliness, parenting skills, relationship skills, NEET status, housing issues, homelessness and benefit support.

Thanks to new voluntary grant funding we look forward to establishing a comprehensive support service for minoritised young dads across the region, plus a new 1:1 and peer supported group work provision for young dads living in Hartlepool.

Supporting young dads in the Family Hubs: A profile of Durham Young Dads Service

(part of Durham's Family Hub and Start for Life programme)

By Robert Oughton (Senior Young Dads Worker)

'I didn't know where to start when becoming a dad for the first time. NEYDL helped a lot like with pointing me in the right direction.' (Young Dad)

Over the past year in County Durham, we have supported 41 young dads and expectant fathers, helping them to build stronger connections with their children and navigate the challenges of fatherhood. Alongside intensive 1:1 support to address the key challenges they identify, a key element of our peer support offer has been a dedicated Thursday evening drop-in, providing a relaxed and welcoming environment where young dads can come together for friendship, support, learning and laughs.

Young dads with access to their children are also actively supported through our father and child focused stay-and-play sessions which are held at convenient times and locations within Family Hub venues. These sessions provide a safe space where young dads can practice and share their parenting skills, gain confidence in using Family Hubs and forge new friendships with like-minded young dads and their children. In addition, we have hosted a

number of whole family days out, including a memorable trip to Beamish Museum and a festive restaurant visit.

Beyond the direct support offered to young dads as service beneficiaries, we have also actively supported participation by 7 young dads in the charity's AmbassaDADS programme (see related article in this report) and 4 young dads as members of the Durham Family Hubs Parent Carer Panels.

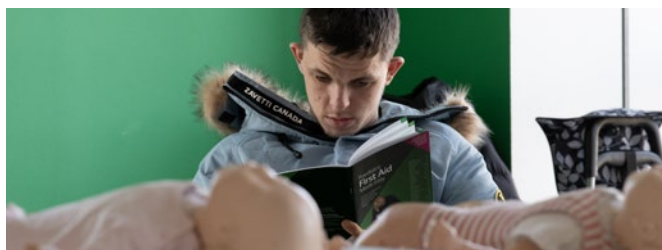
Together, County Durham Family Hubs and NEYDL continue to create impactful opportunities for young fathers to grow, belong and thrive as parents and young adults.



Case study of a young dad supported by NEYDL's Middlesbrough Young Dads Service

(part of Middlesbrough's Family Hub and Start for Life programme)

By Paula Davidson (Senior Young Dads Worker)



David self-referred to NEYDL in August 2023 after finding out he was going to be a young dad for the first time. David told me that he had contacted other services in Middlesbrough for support, but because he was no longer in a relationship with the mother of his child and their baby was unborn, no help was offered. Fortunately, David finally found the support he was looking for at NEYDL.

David identified his support needs as parenting skills, befriending and help to understand private family court proceedings to ensure that he could be part of his unborn child's life.

Since joining NEYDL, David has completed over 200 hours of engagement, covering 6 different programmes including football, beekeeping, AmbassaDADS, father and child focused stay and play sessions, peer support group work activities and intensive one to one support.

Having completed our 'Clarity Through the Court' E-learning course on DigiDAD and with my support (acting as a McKenzie Friend), David applied for private family mediation sessions prior to completing a private family court application (Parental Responsibility and Child Arrangement Order) and is currently representing himself in the family court arena.

David has learnt a lot from the support provided by NEYDL, gaining new skills to manage his own mental health, completing other DigiDAD courses focusing on parenting and paediatric first aid, becoming an accomplished beekeeper, digital content creator and developing practical parenting skills through attendance at stay and play session alongside his baby sibling.

As a member of the charity's AmbassaDADS community leaders programme, David has both shared his lived expertise and represented the charity to professionals and the public alike, including:

- Presentation to the online fatherhood forum Agenda Dad hosted by Future Men
- Presentation to 'Think Dad' conferences.
- Interview with TV personality Jeff Brazier for BBC's The One Show
- Co-presented a series of short films featured on the charity's DigiDAD e-learning platform.
- Active Middlesbrough Family Hub champion
- Steering Group member of Young People, Parents and Carers, a DfE and Home Office funded research study focusing on family focused practice of multi-agency safeguarding hubs (MASH) led by UCL and Newcastle University.

Congratulations David, we are all extremely proud of you and look forward to watching you continue to grow and achieve both at NEYDL and beyond.

"It's not if, it's when! Paula is one of the best."

(young dad)

"Being able to get out of bed and do more with my life. Meeting new people and gaining an excellent support network from excellent people. Cannot wait to see what the future holds."

(young dad)

OBJECTIVE 2.

Enable young dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experiences and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.

Over the past year 85 young dads have participated in our peer supported group work opportunities across the region including Dads and Toddlers groups at Family Hubs, family outings, young dads groups, cycling sessions, football, rock climbing, bee keeping, video gaming and more. The examples below show how these activities help to boost young dads self-confidence, tackle social isolation and loneliness, improve mental and physical health and so much more.



NEYDL United!

By Jonny Conn (Senior Young Dads Worker) and Will Patterson (Young Dads Project Worker)

Whichever team you support, football is a big part of the North East culture and identity, and from the earliest days of the charity, having a friendly kick-a-bout proved to be a great way to introduce new young dads to older members, thus laying the building blocks for lifelong friendships and peer support networks.

Indeed, our outdoor football offer came into its own during the covid related lockdowns, providing a lifeline for many young dads who had no access to non-resident children, may have experienced bereavement, never left the house, spoke to, or met another person outside of these sessions.

Just like the charity, at its core football is about support, whether you turn up on a Saturday afternoon and head through the turnstiles to cheer on your favourite club, enjoy a game of FIFA on the PS5 or play a game of 5-A-side with your mates, its engrossing, consuming and exciting.

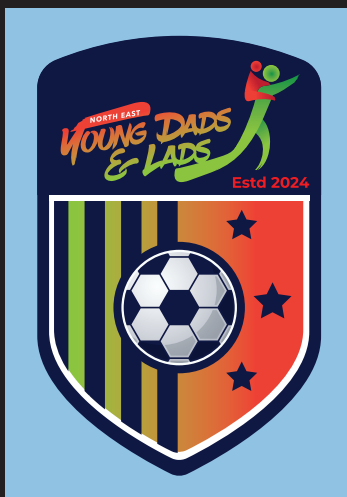
So, what better way to develop a sense of pride, purpose and togetherness amongst young dads who often feel left out, side-lined, or overlooked than by starting our own team – 'NEYDL United'.

Building on our weekly and ever popular 5-A-side football sessions delivered in Sunderland and Middlesbrough, NEYDL United have so far given 28 young dads from as far afield as Gateshead, Sunderland, Newcastle, Middlesbrough, and Durham the chance to play competitive 11-A-side football against multicultural teams representing The Chapel of Light Church in Washington and 'Man versus Fat'.



Whilst we've yet to win a game (5-6, 5-9 and 5-6 so far), watching young dads grow in confidence, form new friendships, meet culturally and ethnically diverse communities, and offer support and encouragement to others has been fantastic.

Going forward, we will introduce training and volunteering opportunities enabling young dads to gain recognised qualifications in sports coaching. We also hope to establish a league for young dads in each locality, culminating in an end of season awards evening in celebration of young dads from across our region and eventually beyond.



"I'm more confident and comfortable with my child."

(young dad)

"Honestly Tom (Community Beekeeper at NEYDL) I have loved today. I couldn't be any happier."

(young dad)

Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees.

By Jonah York, Tom Jamieson and Jordan Pike

Building on the success of NEYDL's Wheelie Good Dads Cycling Club and community beekeeping venture, the Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees project (BBBT) is a collaboration between BALTIC, NEYDL and Newcastle University funded over 3 years by the National Lottery's Climate Action Fund.

The project aims to:

- Build young dads' skills and confidence to become role models, activists and spokespeople for nature and climate.
- Support young dads to positively engage in their communities, within their children's lives and influence local and national environmental policy.

Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees has had an amazing start to life this year, including the honour of being chosen as the feature project to launch the Climate Action Fund nationally. As if one on screen performance wasn't enough, four of our brilliant young dad beekeepers - Corey, Mark, Jed and Jordan, were interviewed and recorded by media students at Newcastle University for a beautiful short film called Honey on the Tyne, which includes footage of a beehive inspection carried out on the roof of the BALTIC (with climbing harnesses and bee suits of course).



Key highlights for BBBT this year have included:

1. A public open day to launch the project, attracting a whopping 1,955 visitors to the BALTIC who participated in honey spinning, tasting and hive building workshops, alongside bike maintenance and learn to ride sessions, all topped off with a trip to the BALTIC cinema to watch a live streamed inspection of our rooftop beehives led by Tom and young dad turned NEYDL employee Jordan. Oh, and the event was featured on ITV Tyne Tees television too!
2. A trip to Kielder Birds of Prey Centre attended by 65 young dads, children and partners which included a bespoke meet and greet with a professional falconer, close encounters with the birds and a flight demonstration.



3. Following a rigorous training regime made up of weekly cycling excursions led by our Community Cycling Leaders (all of whom are young dads), young dads Richie, Curtis and Alex joined NEYDL staff members Kev, Doug and Jonah to take on the Great North Bike Ride, covering 60 miles from Seahouses in Northumberland to Tynemouth in North Tyneside. Despite the challenging conditions, the whole team arrived at the finished line and plans are in place to do it all again next year.



Alongside these big events, BBBT continues to offer weekly bee keeping and cycling sessions, a popular bike loan scheme for dads and children, bike maintenance sessions and workshops.

"I had such a good time today. I learned new skills and got to take things apart to see how they worked"

"I had my own bike with me today and the lads at CK cycles were great at showing me how to fix my bike and let me have a go. I've come away with what looks like a new bike"

"Being able to use all the tools and be in a professional bike workshop was amazing,"

(Quotes from 3 young dads who completed intermediate and advance bike maintenance courses supported by NEYDL).

Going forward, Jordan is working with the AmbassaDADS (a group of 21 young dads and community leaders supported by NEYDL) to plan an adventure-based climate action project ('Source to Sea') to assess the health of the River Tyne, (including the implications of flooding and rising sea levels), culminating in a creative showcase at BALTIC. Interest in this project from young dads is off the scale and alongside the more serious and scientific elements we are looking forward to introducing the young dads to a range of new skills including mountain biking, orienteering, kayaking, rock climbing, camping, photography, film making and Forest Schools.



"I love coming out on the bikes with the lads. It's one of the best things I have done. I feel better about myself physically and mentally."

(young dad)

"I really appreciate the opportunity to learn first aid, which I can now use as a dad."

(young dad)

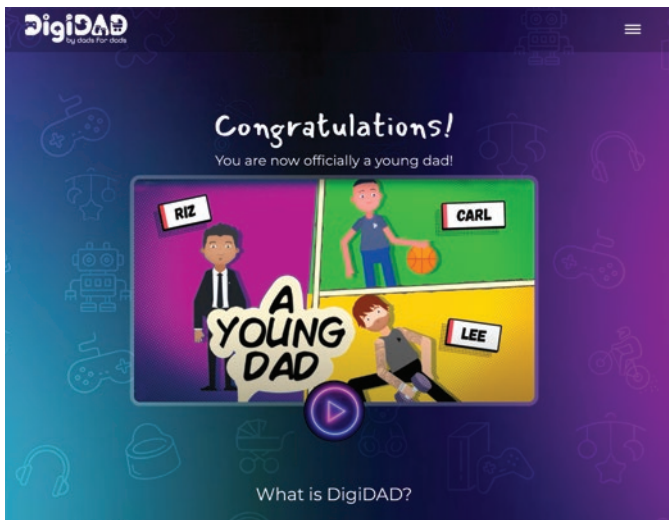
OBJECTIVE 3.

Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.

By Kevin Stoodley

Over the last 12 months, DigiDAD (NEYDL's bespoke e-learning platform co-created with young dads) has gone from strength to strength, thanks in part to the following adaptations and innovations:

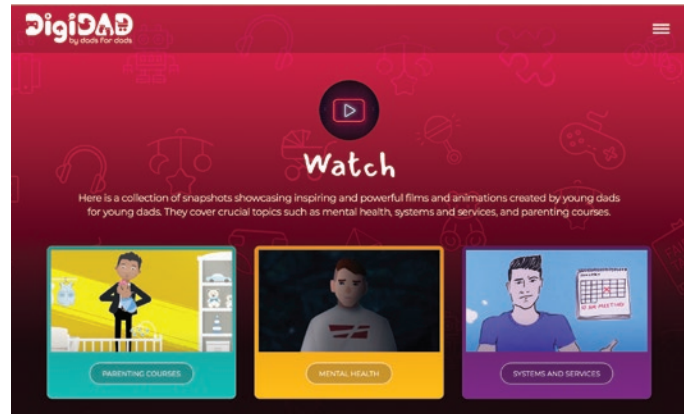
- Release of new animations, video and course content including a Hero film, 6-part Pregnancy, Birth and New Baby course, 3-part Feeding Your Baby course and full revisions to all our existing parenting courses to ensure compliance with WHO and UNICEF best practice guidance.
- Full website redesign and relaunch including bespoke features for key audiences (e.g., young dads, family & friends, and professionals), new web pages exploring father inclusive practice, inspirational stories of young fatherhood, academic research, improved functionality, and aesthetics.



In response to these innovations which are driven both by the ideas and creativity of our 21-strong young community leaders (AmbassaDADS) and the 86 additional young dads who have so far contributed over 1,180 volunteer hours to the creation of DigiDAD, the platform now contains over 60 films, animations, podcasts, and e-courses covering early parenting, perinatal mental health, paediatric first aid and institutional proceedings. In addition to the 266 active website users, DigiDAD is supported by a popular YouTube channel which has achieved over 42,500 views and 1,600 hours of viewing time.

Inspired by the growing geographic reach of DigiDAD, this year we have actively worked with delivery partners in Salford (Salford Youth Service), London (Future Men) and Nottingham (Diversify Education and Communities CIC) to consult with 35 young dads (including 26% of respondents identifying as Black/African/Caribbean or Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; and 40% as disabled, neurodiverse or with long term mental health needs) concerning their preferences for new content. Feedback from this community has identified the following factors that make DigiDAD co-creation with young dads a success:

- **Young dads' voices and regional accents:** Voice actors are young dads, predominantly from Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, County Durham, and Middlesbrough. The composition of the voices, language, accents, and dialogue of Northeast young fathers are unique features intended to develop a sense of familiarity and belonging for other users in proximity of the Northeast. Moving forward, new content will be created featuring the voices of young dads from the Midlands, London, Salford/Manchester.
- **Easy to use:** The content was easy to find and helped these young men to manage their fears about becoming a parent through the provision of key information about parenting skills.



- **Bite-sized memorable content:** "So every step of the way, everything we did was led by what young dads said to us about their information preferences. Like when they go to YouTube. Anything more than 2 1/2 minutes with an advert in the middle you flick away. So, we thought we're gonna keep our content short and sweet." (Young dad and DigiDAD content creator).
- **Humour:** DigiDAD avoids feeling patronising, preachy, or boring. The authentic humour of young dads is a cornerstone in its ability to normalise young parenthood in a way that is both attractive and relatable.
- **Quality:** The quality of content on DigiDAD has been identified as a crucial ingredient to its success, enabling it to punch through the dizzying array of videos, apps, etc targeted at young people, and strike a chord with young dads. Artistic collaborators are carefully selected by our team to ensure content that is vibrant, well-structured, and attractive. The quality amplifies distribution because of young dads' pride in their co-creations, increasing social media shares, word-of-mouth recommendations and peer-influencing.



Now a nationally award-winning platform, at the time of writing this article I'm pleased to report that DigiDAD has now received 3-year grant funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to both promote and expand the DigiDAD universe with and for young dads. We look forward to working closely with delivery partners in the Midlands, Salford/Manchester, and London to reach and involve ever more young dads in the co-creation of this unique and highly innovate platform.

"Absolutely loved this session...amazing work and DigiDAD should be funded forever."

(Health Professional)

"Perhaps the most distinctive feature of DigiDAD is that young fathers' voices and lived experiences are integral both to the content development and the creation and dissemination of information."

(DigiDAD External Evaluation, 2023)

"It's always easy to find what you're looking for and if you struggle, you can see it right in front of your screen, you can see the options you need, what's important or is something you struggle on."

(young dad and DigiDAD user)

"We get a say in the vision and direction we want to take NEYDL, especially as parents and how we want to be supported, acknowledged, and represented".

(young dad)

OBJECTIVE 4.

Empower young dads to have a voice and influence father inclusive practice.

At the heart of NEYDL's mission is empowering young dads not only to succeed as parents but to become community leaders. Many of the young men who first sought help from NEYDL have transitioned into vital roles as peer mentors, researchers, DigiDAD content creators, community bee keepers, cycling group leaders and paid staff, showing just how deeply they connect with the charity's values and vision. Within this context, one of the key innovations NEYDL has made in the past year is to advance the work of the charity's regional young dads council (renamed the AmbassaDADS by its members in 2023).



Meet the AmbassaDADS

By the AmbassaDADS with Dr Linzi Ladlow

We, the AmbassaDADS have all taken the journey from service beneficiaries of NEYDL to active volunteers and representatives of the charity. We are a group of young dads who have come together to form a pioneering community leadership programme. The model was initiated by North East Young Dads and Lads and developed in collaboration with the Following Young Fathers Further team based at the University of Lincoln. As ambassadors for NEYDL and for young fathers everywhere, our goal is to challenge the stigma around young fatherhood and to promote greater father-inclusion in services and society.

Drawing from our own experiences, we are committed to raising awareness, advocating for change, and leading by example. Through our work, we aim to break down the barriers young dads face and create a more inclusive environment for fathers from all backgrounds.

In just this first year, we have been proactive in sharing our experiences and promoting father-inclusive practices to services like the Family Hubs, and professional groups including midwives and social workers. We have spoken at academic and professional conferences and training events, and are gaining increasing attention in the media, including a feature on the BBC's One Show.

A key achievement for us has been our involvement on the Reframing Young Fatherhood project, where we played an active role in shaping the project from the ground up. We were involved in designing the project, interviewing photographers, and selecting the final images for exhibition. This project has been a powerful way for us to challenge stereotypes and highlight the positive aspects of young fatherhood.

We have also written a manifesto for a father-inclusive society with 5 core asks:

1. Challenge stigma about young fatherhood
2. Showcase positive young fatherhood
3. Influence positive social change for young dads
4. Promote inclusivity, equality and equity, for young dads
5. Share and inform best practice for supporting young dads.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the possibilities for the AmbassaDADS in the coming year. As a youth-led group, the AmbassaDADS encompasses a training programme that helps us to build our employability and leadership skills and we have already completed training in Mental Health First Aid, Understanding Masculinities and Media skills, with more to come next year. This training will help us become even more effective leaders and advocates for young fathers, and it will increase our employability and future opportunities. We will expand our advocacy work and are committed to continuing our campaign to challenge the stigma of young fatherhood and promote father-inclusive practices. Next year, we also plan to engage with even more services, speak at more events, and use our platform to raise awareness about the importance of supporting young dads.



"I feel involved and more confident around people who're in the group. I'm much happier and I start loving it."

(young dad)

'Thank you from the bottom of my heart for letting me be involved in it mate, honestly.'

(Adam Johnson, young dad and Photographer)



Reframing Young Fatherhood

By Kevin Stoodley

"There are moments when every young parent has questioned it...did I have kids too young? I could be out there doing what my friends are doing, getting drunk and not even worrying about tomorrow. But when I think about it, I wouldn't change a thing." (Young dad).

November 2024 saw the launch of two new photo exhibitions (Portrait Youth and Reframing Young Fatherhood) at BALTIC, featuring images and words of young dads supported by NEYDL.

Portrait Youth is a collaborative project led by Dr Jo Jenkinson at Manchester Metropolitan University and supported by NEYDL and Dr Laura Way at The University of Lincoln. It features seven portraits of our young dads Alex, Tyler, James, Nathan, Jed, Callum and Rob and seeks to explore identity through dress (including hairstyles and tattoos).

The photoshoot sparked great conversations with young dads about identity, fatherhood, lived experience, personal goals and values and was photographed by another former service beneficiary of the charity Adam Johnson, who is carving out a career as a professional photographer.

Reframing Young Fatherhood is a unique photography project led by NEYDL's AmbassaDADS. Capturing young dads and young parents authentically caring for their children, supported by powerful and thought-provoking words shared by our former service beneficiaries, the AmbassaDADS seek to counter the negative societal views that young dads so often face, whilst celebrating young men in their role as fathers.

Once again photographed by Adam alongside Irish photographer Mark Duffy, photos and words which feature in the Reframing Young Fatherhood exhibition have just been released as a set of 15 A3 posters and 50 A4 postcards for use by wider professionals in support of young fathers. For more information, email: info@neydl.uk



The best version of me
"I give my child the best version of me."
 Jordan, who became a dad aged 22

REFRAMING YOUNG FATHERHOOD

Big DAD DADS

Little legs
"As soon as little legs came along it just changed us forever. If she weren't here, I probably wouldn't be as nice as I am today and I probably wouldn't be where I am today."
 Ben, who became a dad aged 15

REFRAMING YOUNG FATHERHOOD

Big DAD DADS

'This is the kind of group and place to be. I've loved it. Looking forward to coming next week.'

(young dad)

"It is great that NEYDL are finally getting the recognition you deserve. Well done to the team."

(Funding Manager, The National Lottery Community Fund)

OBJECTIVE 5.

Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

To meet both the growing demand for our support services and expanding geographic reach, NEYDL welcomed 5 new staff this year, including Jordan Pike - a former service beneficiary, trustee and community beekeeping volunteer. All new staff brought significant expertise in family support, youth and community work, mental health, working with men and boys and supporting minoritised communities, along with local geographic knowledge and have quite literally 'hit the ground running', closely supported by our existing and highly dedicated staff members. Within the current charity year, I'm pleased to report that Robert Oughton, Will Patterson and Colin Cowings (2 of whom are former service beneficiaries of the charity) all received promotions and additional responsibilities in recognition of their performance, knowledge and expertise. In addition to annual safeguarding training, professional training attended by all staff in the current year has included:

- Level 3 Award in Supervising First Aid for Mental Health.
- ICON Training to prevent non accidental injuries to children.
- PREVENT awareness training.

Other key achievements relevant to this charitable objective have included:

- A comprehensive review and refinement of the charity's 3-year strategy (which now extends to 2027) closely supported by Alex Blake (Keda Consulting), leading to increased confidence that we are investing our resources wisely in activities that have the most impact for young dads.
- Production of a 3-year strategy, operational plan and budget for the future development of our award winning DigiDAD e-learning platform, supported by Keda Consulting.
- Completion of a technical specification for the further development of the charity's peer moderated video gaming project supported by Dr Mike Simpson, Newcastle Universities Software Engineering School.
- Production of an EDI Strategy following a comprehensive self-assessment process led by self-employed leadership catalyst, Ngozi Lyn Cole (Ngozi was named in the 2016 New View 50 list as one of the top 50 most influential Black and Minority Ethnic people working in the public sector).
- Production, implementation and continuous refinement of the charity's Evaluation Framework and Theory of Change model, making use of a bespoke and cloud-based data management system co-created by Throneware.

- In addition, we continue to support and learn from external academic evaluations of the charity's work and projects. In the current charity year this has led to the production of the following reports;

- *'Teen Dads Project Evaluation with North East Young Dads and Lads (NEYDL) funded by BBC Children in Need (May 2023)'* by Dr Michael J Richardson.
- *'The National Lottery Community Fund 'Dad2Dad Peer Support Peer Support' Year 1 independent evaluation report May 2023'* by Dr Linzi Ladlow and Professor Anna Tarrant (University of Lincoln).

In conclusion, we remain deeply grateful to the staff, volunteers, trustees, project partners and passionate supporters who work so tirelessly on behalf of the charity, leading to the outstanding achievements and outcomes detailed in this report.

Future plans

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below and we look forward to updating you on our progress.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.



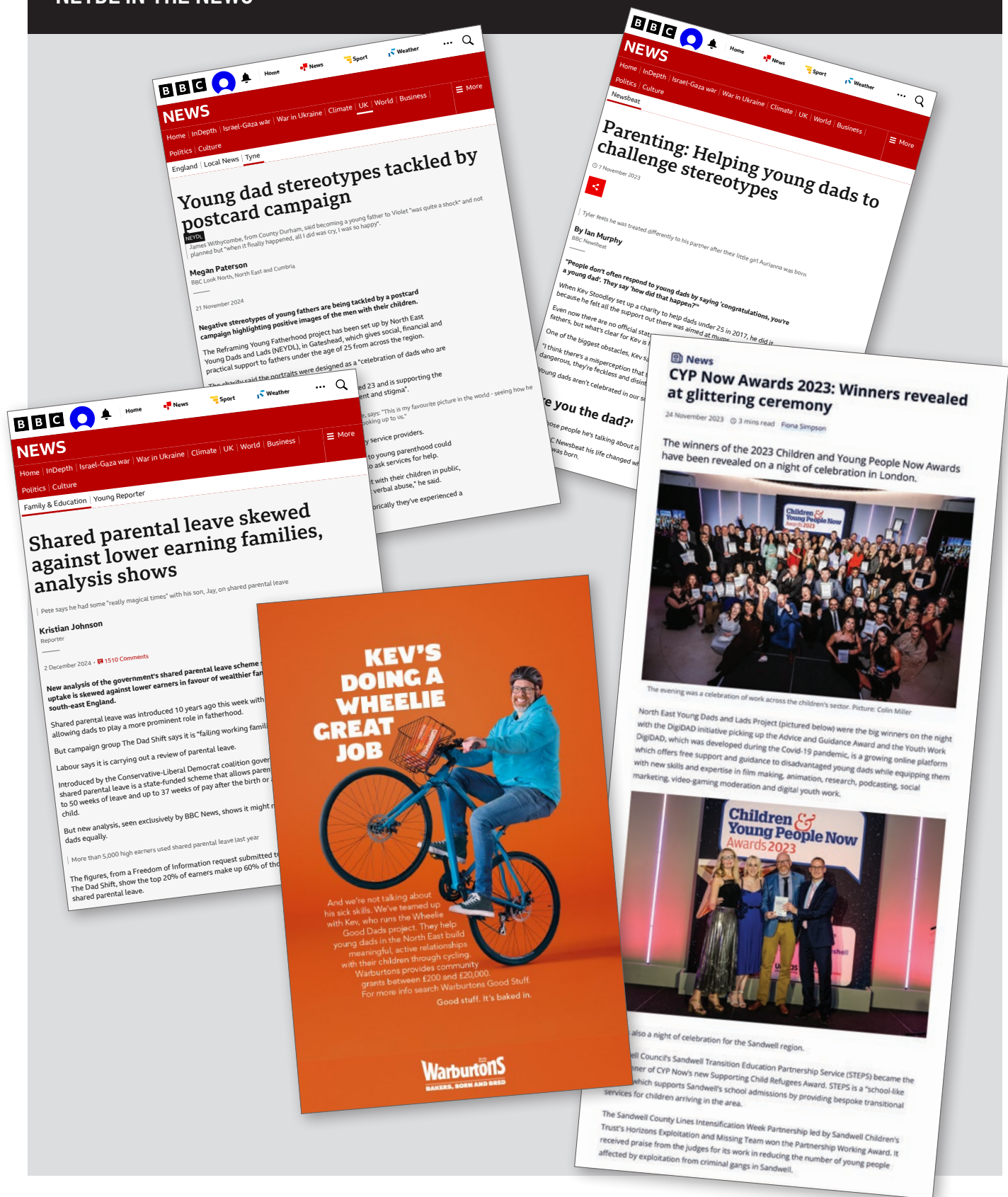
"I'm really proud to be part of the team that brought this fabulous charity to County Durham and I'm so proud of all the young families that I think I might burst."

(Senior Commissioning Support Officer, County Durham Care Partnership)

'Excellent coverage on the BBC news last night – well done.'

(The Joicey Trust)

NEYDL IN THE NEWS



'I had a really special day yesterday filming with NEYDL for The One Show. I was totally blown away by the project, the team that run it and the maturity and accountability of the young dads I met. Such a valuable resource and so effective. It should be everywhere.'

(TV Presenter Jeff Brazier)

'NEYDL has been an important and very beneficial part of my and my partners life.'

(young mother)

MEET THE TEAM



Andy Appleyard
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Middlesbrough)



Amy Bowman
(Financial Officer)



Jonny Conn
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Gateshead and Sunderland)



Colin Cowings
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
County Durham, Northumberland
& Tyne & Wear)



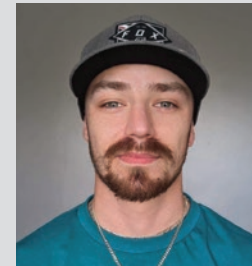
Paula Davidson
(Senior Young Dads Worker –
Middlesbrough)



Tom Jamieson
(Community Beekeeper)



Doug Laidlaw
(Regional Programmes Manager)



Nathan Noble
(Cycling Coordinator and Peer
Enabler)



Robert Oughton
(Senior Young Dads Worker-
County Durham)



William Patterson
(Young Dads Support Worker –
Tyne & Wear)



Jordan Pike
(Cycling and Beekeeping
Project Worker)



Nikki Rummer
(Fundraiser)



Kevin Stoodley
(Founder and CEO)



Fred Suadwa
(Minoritised Young Dads Officer)



Jonah York
(Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees
Project Manager)

'Thank you mate, that was honestly brilliant like. Nice to have a change and have a thing to look forward to every week. Thank you. It means a lot'

(young dad)

“(named young dad) has changed so much since working with you. He’s much more open and is so dedicated to his son. After your session he’s full of beans and it’s amazing to see, despite everything.”

(The mother of a young dad supported by NEYDL)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

None of the outcomes or achievements detailed in this report would have been possible without the continued support, kindness, encouragement, friendship, and generosity offered by so many people, groups, projects, organisations, services, foundations and institutions, who have given NEYDL so much and asked for so little in return. Though far from exhaustive, we believe the following individuals and organisations deserve an extra special thank you for their huge contribution to NEYDL over the past 12 months.

Board of Trustees

Olusola Adebiji
appointed 9th July 2024

Steven Bramwell (Vice Chair)
appointed 9th July 2024

Jenny Goldstein (Treasurer)
appointed 9th July 2020

Destiny Greenwood
retired 9th July 2024

Chris Humba (EDI Advisor)
appointed 13th December 2023

Mark Hutchinson (Secretary)
appointed 11th July 2023

Sarah Oliver (Safeguarding Advisor)
appointed 9th July 2020

Jordan Pike (young dad)
retired 9th July 2024

Tyler Reed (young dad)
retired 9th July 2024

Professor Anna Tarrant (Chair)
appointed 7th July 2023

Colin Workman (GDPR Compliance Advisor)
appointed 11th July 2023

Joshua Wiborg (young dad)
appointed 12th March 2024

James Withycombe
appointed 9th July 2024

DigiDAD Advisory Group

Amy Berry

Colin Cowings

Ella Fielding

Jenny Goldstein

Chris Humba

Mark Hutchinson

Adam Johnson

Doug Laidlaw (Chair)

Nathan Noble

Sarah Oliver

Robert Oughton

Jan Rigby

Margherita Rovida

Kevin Stoodley

Professor Anna Tarrant

Angela Ward

AmbassaDADS; North East regional young dads council

Cameron Davison

Jed Donnelly

Anthony Hopgood

Ben Horniman

Josh Nicholson

Tony Nicholson

Nathan Noble

Robert Oughton

Will Patterson

Dylan Peggs

Jordan Pike

Andrew Pittman

Karl Preston

Tyler Reed

Curtis Sloanes

Davy Snowdon

Lewis Spence

Alex Tarling

Cameron Todd

Josh Wiborg

James Withycombe

Our volunteer beekeepers

Jed Donnelly

Corey Fletcher

Adam Johnson

Dylan Peggs

George Rainbird

Dr Michael Richardson

Mark Ridden

Our friends and project partners including

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

Benjamin Michael Smith (film maker)

Brown March and Bowman Ltd Accountants

Chopwell Officials Club

Chopwell Regeneration Group

Diversify Education and Communities CIC

Durham Family Hubs

Following Young Fathers Further at The University of Lincoln

Forestry England

Future Men

Gateshead Family Hubs

Honeypot Creative

KEDA Consulting

Kingsmeadow Community Comprehensive School

Middlesbrough Family Hubs

Motif Pictures

Northumberland Family Hubs

Ngozi Lyn Cole

Pixel Buddy

Salford Youth Service

Sunderland Family Hubs

The Comfrey Project

The Family Nurse Partnership (Sunderland and Gateshead)

The Staiths Café

Thread Media

Throneware Ltd

Our current funders and sponsors

Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery and Sport England

The County Council of Durham

The University of Lincoln

The Normanby Charitable Trust

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

The Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough

The National Lottery Community Fund

The Worshipful Company of Grocers

Newcastle University

NHS England Healthier Together VCSE Funding

Warburtons

The Henry Smith Charity

Sunderland City Council

BBC Children in Need

Ballinger Charitable Trust

The Borough Council of Gateshead

The Imagine Foundation

The Tudor Trust

Sir James Knott Trust

Ron & Louise Bowey Grassroots at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland

Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust

Fatherhood Institute

County Durham Community Foundation

Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS

The Lankelly Chase Foundation

The Joicey Trust

The William Leech Charity

Other trusts and foundations who have kindly supported our work

Our Inspiration

Last but not least, thank you, thank you, thank you to all the utterly brilliant young men and families we have met so far and those we have yet to meet. This charity and this report exist because of you!

‘We would like to thank you for the amazing work you do with the young dads. They are so lucky to have such an amazing charity to help them.’

(Warburtons Foundation)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2024, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds) is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2024 would be £203,641 which is equivalent to approximately six months basis operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2024 amounted to £147,209, which are considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants from time to time to support the charities CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 April 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2024. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Destiny Greenwood (appointed 12/09/2023)

Jordan Pike (appointed 07/07/2022)

Tyler Reed (appointed 12/09/2023)

Prof. Anna Tarrant (Chair) (appointed 07/07/2022)

Joshua Race-Wiborg (appointed 12/03/2024)

Chris Humba (appointed 13/12/2023)

Colin Workman (appointed 11/07/2023)

Mark Hutchinson (appointed 11/07/2023)

Jennifer Goldstein (appointed 09/07/2020)

Sarah Oliver (appointed 09/07/2020)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

FINANCIAL REVIEW

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14th January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



A Tarrant – Chair to Trustees



J Goldstein – Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	9,631		9,631
Charitable activities			
The County Council of Durham		70,669	70,669
The University of Lincoln	2,500		2,500
The Normanby Charitable Trust	2,500		2,500
Paul Hamlyn Foundation		50,000	50,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough		128,308	128,308
The National Lottery (Climate Action Fund)		34,192	34,192
The National Lottery Community Fund (Awards For All)		11,663	11,663
The Worshipful Company of Grocers	5,000		5,000
NHS England- Healthier Together VCSE Funding	4,000		4,000
Warburtons Project Grant		10,000	10,000
The Henry Smith Charity		15,000	15,000
Sunderland City Council		19,066	19,066
BBC Children in Need		39,480	39,480
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000		20,000
The National Lottery Community Fund (Dad2Dad Peer Support)		45,582	45,582
The Borough Council of Gateshead		95,000	95,000
The Imagine Foundation		12,000	12,000
The Tudor Trust	45,500		45,500
Sir James Knott Trust	14,000		14,000
Ron & Louise Bowey Grassroots at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland		10,000	10,000
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust		500	500
Fatherhood Institute	2,000		2,000
Total	105,131	541,460	646,591
EXPENDITURE ON			
Marketing and Advertising	1,344	2,640	3,984
Raising Funds	14,318	3,056	17,374
Charitable activities			
Other	83,260	302,664	385,924
Total	98,922	308,360	407,282
NET INCOME	6,209	233,100	239,309
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	141,000	287,160	428,160
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	147,209	520,260	667,469

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Balance Sheet

At 30 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank	147,209	520,260	667,469
Cash in hand	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<hr/> 147,209	<hr/> 520,260	<hr/> 667,469
NET ASSETS	<hr/> 147,209	<hr/> 520,260	<hr/> 667,469
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			147,209
Restricted funds			520,260
TOTAL FUNDS			<hr/> <hr/> 667,469

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th January 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A Tarrant – Chair of Trustees



The notes form part of these financial statements

FINANCIAL REVIEW**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2024.

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 30.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.24 £
Unrestricted funds	141,000	6,209	147,209
Restricted funds			
Cycling UK funded by National Lottery & Sport England	480	(480)	-
The National Lottery (Climate Action Fund)	-	30,628	30,628
The Council of the County of Durham	200,000	20,256	220,256
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	-	103,486	103,486
Sunderland City Council	-	11,628	11,628
The Borough Council of Gateshead	-	79,280	79,280
The Henry Smith Charity	-	10,355	10,355
Newcastle University	516	(516)	-
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	16,955	(16,955)	-
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	960	(960)	-
Fatherhood Institute	2,000	(2,000)	-
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	17,586	17,586	-
The National Lottery (Awards for All)	-	11,016	11,016
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	26,191	26,191
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	24,761	(24,761)	-
Warburtons Project Grant	2,676	(2,409)	267
The National Lottery Community Fund (Dad2Dad Peer Support)	2,974	3,439	6,413
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	1,200	(1,200)	-
The Joicey Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
The William Leech Charity	3,000	(3,000)	-
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	500	500
Ron & Louise Bowey Grassroots at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	-	9,917	9,917
BBC Children in Need	12,052	(1,729)	10,323
TOTAL FUNDS	428,160	239,309	667,469

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	105,131	(98,922)	6,209
Cycling UK funded by National Lottery & Sports England	-	(480)	(480)
The National Lottery (Climate Action Fund)	34,192	(3,564)	30,628
The County Council of Durham	70,669	(50,413)	20,256
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	128,308	(24,822)	103,486
Sunderland City Council	19,066	(7,438)	11,628
The Borough Council of Gateshead	95,000	(15,720)	79,280
The Henry Smith Charity	15,000	(4,645)	10,355
Newcastle University	-	(516)	(516)
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	-	(16,955)	(16,955)
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	-	(960)	(960)
Fatherhood Institute	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust		(17,586)	(17,586)
The National Lottery (Awards for All)	11,663	(647)	11,016
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	(23,809)	26,191
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	-	(24,761)	(24,761)
Warburtons Project Grant	10,000	(12,409)	(2,409)
The National Lottery Community Fund (Dad2Dad Peer Support)	45,582	(42,143)	3,439
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	-	(1,200)	(1,200)
The Joicey Trust	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
The William Leech Charity		(3,000)	(3,000)
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	500	-	500
Ron & Louise Bowey Grassroots at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	10,000	(83)	9,917
The Imagine Foundation	12,000	(12,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	39,480	(41,209)	(1,729)
TOTAL FUNDS	646,591	(407,282)	239,309

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2024 other than those disclosed in note 2.n.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	9,631	-	9,631
Charitable activities			
The County Council of Durham	-	70,669	70,669
The University of Lincoln	2,500	-	2,500
The Normanby Charitable Trust	2,500	-	2,500
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	50,000	50,000
The Council of the Borough of Middlesborough	-	128,308	128,308
The National Lottery (Climate Action Fund)	-	34,192	34,192
The National Lottery Community Fund (Awards For All)	-	11,663	11,663
The Worshipful Company of Grocers	5,000	-	5,000
NHS England- Healthier Together VCSE Funding	4,000	-	4,000
Warburtons Project Grant	-	10,000	10,000
The Henry Smith Charity	-	15,000	15,000
Sunderland City Council	-	19,066	19,066
BBC Children in Need	-	39,480	39,480
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
The National Lottery Community Fund (Dad2Dad Peer Support)	-	45,582	45,582
The Borough Council of Gateshead	-	95,000	95,000
The Imagine Foundation	-	12,000	12,000
The Tudor Trust	45,500	-	45,500
Sir James Knott Trust	14,000	-	14,000
Ron & Louise Bowey Grassroots at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	-	10,000	10,000
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	500	500
Fatherhood Institute	2,000	-	2,000
Total	105,131	541,460	646,591
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	1,344	2,640	3,984
Raising Funds	14,318	3,056	17,374
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	28,204	204,045	232,249
Computer Consumables and Equipment	4,394	3,583	7,977
Cycling Equipment	-	476	476
Staff Training & Welfare	3,031	2,512	5,543
Group work & Project Expenditure	26,723	37,193	63,916
Postage & stationery	406	65	471
Consultancy fees	7,814	28,236	36,050
Telephone	400	961	1,361
Client & staff travel	932	14,735	15,667
Accountancy/Finance Officer	7,276	6,224	13,500
Insurance	1,136	632	1,768
Subscriptions	748	552	1,300
Office/Admin Expenses	106	-	106
Recruitment Costs	40	1,215	1,255
Repairs & Renewals	1,950	1,035	2,985
Rent	100	1,200	1,300
Total resources expended	98,922	308,360	407,282
Net income	6,209	233,100	239,309

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.



THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS, OUR SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

For further information, please visit our website and social media feeds, or just send us an email.

Email: info@neydl.uk
 Charity website: www.neydl.uk
 DigiDAD e-learning platform: www.digidad.uk
 Facebook: @the.neydl
 X (formerly Twitter): @NEYDandL
 Instagram: north_east_young_dads_and_lads
 YouTube: DigiDAD



To donate to NEYDL and help us to improve the lives and prospects of more young fathers, their children, and families, please use the weblink and QR code provided here.

Thank you for your support.

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3617049>

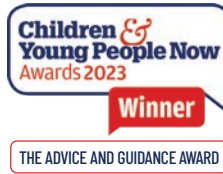
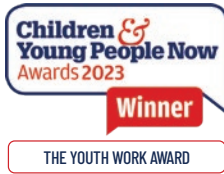


Scan. Pay. Go.

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS & LADS
 Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts
 South Shore Road
 Gateshead
 NE8 3BA

Tel: Doug Laidlaw 07990 164449

Registered in England
 Charity No: 1172924
 Company No: CE009920





NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1172924

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Covering the period from 1st May 2022 to 30th April 2023

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023

Winner

THE YOUTH WORK AWARD

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023

Winner

THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE AWARD

PROUDLY DELIVERING



Registered in England
Charity No: 1172924
Company No: CE009920

'You are amazing. I'll forever be grateful and will support the charity forever.'

(Young Dad)

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FOREWORD

By The Right Reverend Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham

Children need their Dads. Dads, especially young ones, need guidance and support in knowing how best they can be a full part of caring for their partner and their baby / child. So, reading the wide range of ways in which North East Young Dads and Lads (NEYDL) offer such guidance and support is inspiring and encouraging.

The value of this work is seen very clearly in the way that it has steadily grown and developed over the years since it started. The breadth of resources, always backed up by the irreplaceable need for person-to-person contact, is impressive. Quite rightly the place of peer-to-peer support is growing. There will always be an important role for the support and advice of older Dads and Granddads, but it is also key that young Dads and Lads have someone of their own age and experience to share with them. Intergenerational support will always be the strongest support.

It is also extremely good to see careful and thoughtful evaluations of the work being undertaken. The insights and skills that researchers can bring not only ensure that the work is achieving what it seeks to do, but also offers insights into how further improvements and developments can be found. As the demand for the services offered grows it will be important for NEYDL to always hold on to the very best and develop fresh ways of support.

It is an honour to write this Foreword. Congratulations on the work undertaken – and keep pressing forward because Children need their Dads. Dads will always need guidance and support.



'I don't think I'd be at the at the stage I am now without North East Young Lads and Dads.'

(Young Dad)

"According to my research a good Chair of Trustees is altruistic, has a good sense of humour, empowers others, and is friendly and humble."

(Professor Anna Tarrant)



CHAIR'S REPORT

By Professor Anna Tarrant

It is an absolute honour to introduce the North East Young Dads and Lads' 2023 Annual Report in my brand-new capacity as the Chair of Trustees. As a starter for ten, please permit me to provide a brief overview of how I came to take on this role. I first became acquainted with the charity in 2017 and then again in 2020 in my capacity as a researcher, initially at the University of Leeds and now the University of Lincoln. I have been researching the lives of men in low-income families for a long time now, including a strand of work with young fathers and have always been interested in capturing the pioneering work of services that are involved in supporting fathers and families to flourish. My research team (Following Young Fathers Further) and I approached the charity in 2020 having seen CEO Kev talk about the pioneering work of the North East Young Dads and Lads on the BBC and it was clear that our interests and agendas for supporting young fathers in innovative ways aligned. In a research capacity, we worked to support some of NEYDL's young dads to conduct peer research as part of the Diverse Dads study. We co-wrote two research reports and a peer reviewed journal article with the dads as the Diverse Dads Collaborative and demonstrated the capacity of young dads to challenge negative stereotypes about themselves and others by contributing new knowledge and by changing the narrative. I later joined the Board of Trustees in 2022, bringing my research experience into the conversations of the board.

When Steven Bramwell announced he was stepping down as Chair of Trustees, I made the decision to take the step up; to support Kev and the NEYDL team with their ambitions for this thriving charity, to work with the Board of Trustees to support Kev and his strategic vision, and to sustain the ethos and ambitions of the charity. And what big shoes I must fill! According to my research a good Chair of Trustees is altruistic, has a good sense of humour, empowers others, and is friendly and humble. I'd like to think I epitomise all of those things (sense of humour included!) but certainly our outgoing Chair Steven is all these things in spades. It is therefore my aim to bring these qualities and a comparable level of passion, drive, and enthusiasm to the role as Steven did.



As the items in this year's report demonstrate, the anticipated trajectory of growth and innovation that was described in the 2022 report, has been realised and some! It has certainly been another fantastic and progressive year as promised! The charity continues to attract significant grant funding and is supporting an ever-expanding portfolio of young fathers, not just across the North East and Tyne and Wear region, but also nationally and even internationally. The community beekeeping, and Wheelie Good Dads projects have gone from strength to strength and via the DigiDAD platform, the charity is reaching new and increasingly distant destinations, from the depths of Wales to the far flung reaches of Peru. Testament to the increasing visibility and recognition of the charity and its work on DigiDAD, the charity was shortlisted in the category of Charity of the Year in the prestigious Children and Young People Now Awards 2022 and a further 2 categories in 2023 (Advice and Guidance and Youth Work categories). At the point of publication I'm pleased to report that we won in both categories in 2023. This is a huge honour and testament to the rising visibility and impact of the charity, and its work with and for young fathers.

As the year 2023 unfolds, I wish to say a huge thank you to the young dads, to the Board, to the consultants, the funders, and the ever-expanding staff team at NEYDL for everything that you do. Thanks also to Kev, for your tireless commitment to the dads and to the charity as it develops and as it grows in its reach and influence. I look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

Anna Tarrant

Professor Anna Tarrant

(Chair of Trustees since 11th July 2023 and Vice Chair from 7th July 2022 to 11th July 2023)



UK Research
and Innovation

'They (NEYDL) were in our corner every single step of the way.'

(Young Dad)

'Congratulations on your 6th anniversary, the traditional gift for which is iron. May you continue to have the strength of girders and the elegance of the wrought iron gates of a palace.'

(Neil Shashoua, Manager, Lloyds Bank Foundation)



CEO's Report

By Kevin Stoodley

Dear Friend,

A very warm welcome to this, our sixth Annual Report, covering the charity's endeavours and achievements over a 12-month period from May 2022 to April 2023.

Like the best laid plans of mice and men, every year I endeavour to release a short and snappy Annual Report as soon as the charity's year ends, only to lose myself in the wealth of rich, varied and wonderful stories, quotes and imagery shared by our incredible staff, trustees, volunteers and project partners, resulting in a burning desire to showcase this work in all its glory, even if it does mean adding yet another page or four to the final report. In the words of Roy Scheider (Chief Brody) during his first encounter with the oversized and rubberised Great White Shark in the movie Jaws, 'you're gonna need a bigger boat!' Or in our case a bigger printer!

I know I say this every year but 2023 really has been our best year ever, reaching and supporting more young dads, expectant fathers and non-birthing people (any young person who identifies as a father figure including kinship carers) than ever before, across a geographic area which now extends from Tyne and Wear to Tees Valley, and that's without mentioning the tens of thousands of people who access our online films, animations, podcasts and course content made by young dads for young dads and showcased on DigiDAD.

Whilst there are many things about NEYDL's work in 2023 deserving of high praise as detailed in this wonderful report, I believe our defining achievement this year has been to support, empower and enable young dads to progress from the position of service beneficiaries into one or more of the many volunteering opportunities we offer, from peer researchers to community cycling group leaders, community beekeepers and bee-entrepreneurs to DigiDAD content co-creators and expert advisors, AmbassaDADS to trustees. For young dads Rob, Nathan, Will and Jordan, this journey has ultimately led to their employment at NEYDL, taking on new, vital, and valued roles as Peer Enablers and Cycling Group Leaders who other young dads naturally gravitate towards, trust, and look up to as positive male role models as the following feedback from 2 young dads perfectly demonstrates:

'The service (NEYDL) and Rob himself (NEYDL staff member) have been amazing and I am so grateful for the support I have received. You have helped me adapt and become the Father I want to be.'

'I feel involved and more confident around people who's in the group. I'm much happier and I start loving it, cause whenever Doug or Will (NEYDL staff members) say oh we're doing a group session this date, then I get excited about it cause I always want to hang out with them. Because they're, like, really nice people...and if I need help, they come and talk to me. If I need help on something then they just step on the pedal and then talk to us and help me, like, you know, calm the stress, or get much confidence. I really look up to Will in the group because I appreciate what he, like he helped me through since I came into the group. I feel appreciative for him.'

Rest assured, as a strength/asset-based community development service, we are fully committed to supporting ever more young dads to grow in confidence, skills, knowledge and expertise as both parents and valued members of society, and I look forward to a day not too far away when a former service beneficiary of NEYDL is sitting in my seat (and doing a far better job of it I don't doubt).

Although it's been a good year for NEYDL, it has been incredibly challenging and desperate for many of the young families we support, who often live in the most deprived North East neighbourhoods and are thus most starkly affected by the cost-of-living crisis, poor housing, homelessness, limited job and career prospects. In addition, young men continue to report high levels of social isolation and loneliness and poor mental health (including suicidal thoughts, depression, social anxiety, loss and bereavement). We will continue to do everything within our powers and capacity to draw attention to the challenges and inequalities facing this long-neglected community whilst providing meaningful support to young dads whenever and wherever it's needed, in close collaboration with our service partners which next year will include Sunderland, Gateshead, County Durham and Middlesbrough Family Hubs.

The incredible work and achievements celebrated in this report would not have been possible without the generosity, support and encouragement shown by our amazing funders, sponsors and organisational partners, and the determination, skills and expertise shown by of our super talented current staff team - the brilliant Doug, Will, Jordan, Robert, Andy, Colin, Nathan, Tom, Amy and Nikki, our departing staff members Jonah York, Andrew Thorp and Dylan Brown, our volunteers, trustees, project consultants and of course young dads and their families. It is because of you that we look forward to another highly productive and successful seventh year supporting young dads.

Before I sign off, can I please take a moment to thank our departing Chair Steven Bramwell, who recently stepped down after 6 years in office, having expertly steered the charity from its infancy as a little known and part-time Gateshead based service to the Peruvian powerhouse it has become (see article entitled DIGIDAD: From Peterlee to Peru). We couldn't have got here without you Steven! A very warm welcome is also due to our incoming Chair Professor Anna Tarrant - we are in safe hands!

I will end this Introduction with an unexpected message we recently received from the parent of a young dad supported by NEYDL which moved me deeply:

'You have done more than you'll ever know for my son and grandson.'

Best wishes.

Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)



'I know I say this every year but 2023 really has been our best year ever, reaching and supporting more young dads.'

(Kevin Stoodley)

OUR IMPACT

(Covering the period from 1st May 2022 to 30th April 2023)

REASON FOR REFERRAL	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	INDIVIDUAL CONTACT TIME (HRS)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Young father / expectant dad	105	68	63	46	61	Dads and Toddlers groups	32	12	0	106	44
Non birthing people	10	4	2	1	1	1:1 support (face to face)	850	408	440	350	306
TOTAL:	115	72	65	47	62	1:1 support (telephone & social media)	572	234	450	140	92
ENGAGEMENT BY YOUNG MEN						Joint meetings with other professionals	350	460	250	190	119
New referral	48	25	33	25	53	Peer supported group work	480	202	850	959	912
Ongoing support	67	47	32	22	9	Training delivered to professionals	150	51	40	56	101
TOTAL:	115	72	65	47	62	Research activities	400	451	254	134	420
LOCALITY						Campaigning, media, and film-work	350	257	428	142	238
Sunderland	34	23	26	22	19	Community beekeeping	268	196	131	250	98
Gateshead	20	26	32	20	31	Peer mentoring & volunteering	2,625	1,491	280	230	216
South Tyneside	9	6	6	2	5	Other activities	50	17	20	36	0
Newcastle upon Tyne	57	7	1	3	7	TOTAL:	6,127	3,779	3,143	2,593	2,546
North Tyneside	14	3	0	0	0	AVERAGE INDIVIDUAL CONTACT TIME (HRS)	53	52.5	48	55	41
Durham	15	6	0	0	0	Key outcomes					
Northumberland	0	1	0	0	0	Child Protection Plans downgraded or completed	22	18	9	5	8
Middlesbrough	18	0	0	0	0	Child-In-Need plans downgraded or completed	9	10	3	3	4
TOTAL:	115	72	65	47	62	Progressed into full time work or study	18	9	10	5	8
YOUNG MEN LIVING IN AREAS OF HIGHEST DEPRIVATION (Based on IMD2019)						Accessed specialist medical help and support	45	15	2	5	5
10% most deprived areas	115	71	Not previously recorded			TOTAL:	94	52	24	18	25
Other	0	1	Not previously recorded			SOCIAL MEDIA METRICS					
TOTAL:	115	72				YouTube Channel – launched 6th April 2021					
AGE AT ENTRY POINT						Views:	30,598	12,400			
Under 16	16	4	8	4	5	Watch time (hours):	1,049	903			
16-18	28	18	8	28	21	Organic subscribers:	106	80			
19-25	71	50	49	15	31	Impressions:	97,700	41,600			
Not given	0	0	0	0	5	Gender demographics:					
TOTAL:	115	72	65	47	62	Male:	56.5%	58.2%			
REFERRAL PATHWAY						Female:	43.5%	41.8%			
Youth work charities	10	8	11	11	16	Age demographics					
Social services	23	21	18	11	7	18-24:	30.9%	33%			
Early Help Teams	10	3	0	1	1	25-34:	44.3%	40%			
Family Nurse Partnership	18	18	16	17	17	35-44:	19.1%	19.4%			
Self-Referrals	5	6	5	4	14	44+:	5.7%	7.6%			
School & Education	8	1	2	1	2	TWITTER					
Housing	6	8	4	2	4	Followers:	1,152	887			
Health	25	6	0	0	0	FACEBOOK					
Criminal Justice	0	1	0	0	0	Followers:	806	624			
Other	10	0	9	0	1	Likes:	684	549			
TOTAL:	115	72	65	47	62	Average reach per post:	8,000	209			
INDIVIDUAL HELP RECEIVED						DIGIDAD E-LEARNING PLATFORM					
Child Protection proceedings	30	24	23	12	27	Registered users:	110	43			
Child/Team around the family	10	1	1	3	7						
Family law proceedings	5	5	5	0	8						
NEET status	30	17	14	13	27						
Career progression	15	11	5	4	8						
Housing, homelessness & benefits	25	16	9	4	8						
Completing essential paperwork	30	16	13	5	19						
Poverty & debt management	55	9	17	10	12						
Domestic abuse	15	21	12	7	21						
Offending behaviour	25	6	16	3	10						
Mental & emotional wellbeing	45	23	30	26	31						
Substance misuse & addiction	15	7	8	6	12						
Sexual health	18	5	3	5	2						
Other physical health conditions	10	6	4	4	6						
Learning difficulties	10	3	8	5	8						
Social isolation and loneliness	101	72	60	47	51						
Parenting skills	50	35	34	20	46						
Relationship skills	40	23	27	24	25						
Bereavement & loss	15	8	4	6	8						
Volunteering*	105	74	3	8	25						
School exclusion	8	6	5	3	2						
TOTAL:	657	388	301	215	363						

*This figure represents the total number of young men who volunteered at NEYDL over a 12-month period

'It has certainly been another fantastic and progressive year as promised!'

(Professor Anna Tarrant)

'All my mates knew about NEYDL already. Not just those that are dads, but lads, young men in general. It's just something that people know about and respect.'

(Young Dad)

MEET THE TEAM



Andy Appleyard
(Senior Young Dads Worker)



Amy Bowman
(Financial Officer)



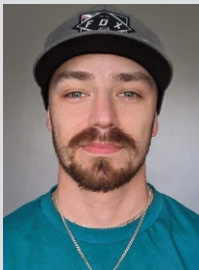
Colin Cowings
(Young Dads Worker)



Tom Jamieson
(Community Beekeeper)



Doug Laidlaw
(Programmes Manager)



Nathan Noble
(Cycling Coordinator and Peer Enabler)



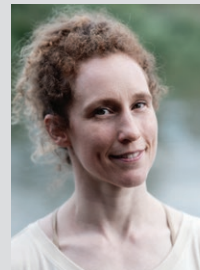
Robert Oughton
(Peer Enabler)



William Patterson
(Peer Enabler)



Jordan Richardson
(Peer Enabler)



Nikki Rummer
(Fundraiser)



Kevin Stoodley
(Founder and CEO)

SUPPORTING YOUNG DADS: A CASE STUDY

By Doug Laidlaw & Steven (A young Dad)

Steven was referred to the service at 16. At the time he was in a relationship with the future mother of his child (age 15). Both Steven and his partner had previously been cared for by the local authority and were living together. The referral for support for Steven came from the Pre-Birth Intervention Team who identified support needs around parenting skills and reduction in social isolation. Steven and his partner were not in education, employment or training at the time.

Doug (NEYDL staff member) met with Steven to discuss the service at the family home. Steven asked if his partner could also attend part of this meeting to understand what support he could get. After discussing support and showcasing DigiDAD, Steven was keen to access this resource. Steven registered on the DigiDAD platform at our first meeting.

Steven and Doug agreed a work plan and met weekly. Steven completed the DigiDAD programme. Feedback from Steven included:

'The videos were fun and made me feel more confident that I can do all the things new dads need to do.' Steven reported that his partner had also been watching the videos.

As Steven grew in confidence, he started engaging in NEYDL's peer supported group work offer including football, cycling, bowling, Escape Room visits and go-karting. In response, he has formed close friendships with other young dads from NEYDL and joined their video gaming group.

As the pregnancy progressed, Steven called Doug and informed him that his partner had gone into labour prematurely and was rushed into hospital. Doug offered emotional support to Steven via telephone.

Following the birth, Steven contacted Doug to inform him that the baby had to go into hospital in Middlesbrough. Steven didn't know how he could make the 30-mile journey from home to visit his child. Doug supported Steven to make these visits and stayed with Steven during the initial visits to offer emotional support.

After baby was transferred to the RVI Children's Hospital, Doug continued to provide visitation support for a further 6 weeks. With Doug's support Steven grew more comfortable and confident in caring for his baby within the hospital setting and one day announced:

'Doug I've got this!'

Steven also started to ask the hospital staff questions concerning both his baby's care and what support his partner and the baby would need when they came home.

Doug and the Pre-Birth Team worked with the family to develop a support plan for when baby came home.

Steven continues to be supported by NEYDL and dad, mam and baby are doing well.

Unsolicited feedback from Steven included:

'You were the only one I could ask for help, and you were always there for me.'



'The videos (DigiDAD) were fun and made me feel more confident that I can do all the things new dads need to do.'

(A Young Dad)

'Hey Doug, hope all is well...I wanted to say a massive thank you! When I was living up north, honestly if it wasn't for you, I know genuinely I would have committed suicide...You was the only person who never judge me...You truly are an amazing person! An amazing dad and I never grew up with a dad myself, but you are what dads should inspire to be!'

(Young Dad)

TEEN DADS

By Doug Laidlaw

Thanks to a 3-year continuation grant from BBC Children in Need, the Teen Dads Project remains a vital part of our service offer in support of young men aged 19 and under in Tyne & Wear and Tees Valley. This is reflected by the marked increase in total young dads supported in both Middlesbrough (rising from 0 in 2022 to 18 in 2023) and Newcastle upon Tyne (rising from 7 in 2022 to 57 in 2023) over a 12-month period.

Bespoke and intensive 1:1 support is still at the core of our service offer to teen dads. In addition to help and support to understand, attend and contribute positively to complex and emotionally challenging proceedings (including children's social care, family mediation and private family court meetings), over the last year I have seen an increase in teen dads reporting poor mental health including anxiety, depression, and low mood. My support for these dads has included help to register with and access support via GP's and talking therapies.

All the teen dads we have supported are now registered on and actively using our DigiDAD e-learning platform, which demonstrates their willingness to improve their parenting knowledge and skills to be the best dads they can be for their children. I have also continued to work closely with maternal and paternal families including grandparents and the mother of the child(ren) so that a 'whole family' support approach is taken to ensure the best possible outcomes for all involved with the child(ren).

Peer supported group work and learning opportunities are also a key feature of the Teen Dads Project, and this year has been no different, with teen dads supported to attend Stay and Play sessions with their children, family outings, go-karting, gym sessions and bike rides. In addition, I have supported teen dads to become AmbassaDADS as part of the charity's Regional Young Dads Council.

It has been a joy and a privilege to work with so many amazing teenage dads who have often overcome significant adversity to play an active, attentive, and loving part in their children's lives and I deeply look forward to another great year in their company.



EVALUATING THE TEEN DADS PROJECT

By Dr Michael J Richardson

I was asked to independently evaluate the final two years of North East Young Dads and Lads (NEYDL's) Teen Dads Project (Year 2 covering June 2020 – July 2021 and Year 3 covering July 2021 – June 2022), funded by BBC Children in Need. Dominating the timeframe of this project were the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects this has had on the ability for NEYDL to conduct their work during these times. I have continued to work with NEYDL in the months since the evaluation window had closed, through an Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Sabbatical (between September 2022 and February 2023) at Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art (supported by the School of Geography, Politics and Sociology and the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty at Newcastle University). This has given me unique insight to the legacies of the Teen Dads Project, especially through the development of the Regional Young Dads Council and the emergence of the AmdassaDADS (see article entitled AmbassaDADS Assemble!).



Readers of this annual report will know that at entry point to NEYDL, teen dads and expectant dads are often identified as socially isolated and severely marginalised. That they often lack access to professional parenting support due to their age and gender, experience social isolation from their immediate peer group and a loss of friendship networks often follows, due to changes in their circumstances. As a result, young dads often reported poor mental health, which is exacerbated by the lack of available support services. The different sections of this Annual Report are testament to the outstanding work NEYDL does to redress the balance.

Throughout my time working with NEYDL I have always been impressed by the 'revolving door' policy that enables young men to return time and again for help, assistance, and friendship. Some young men who were service beneficiaries at the beginning of my working relationship with NEYDL, were absent for a period of time and then made a return when it suited them. This return was for different reasons, and what is impressive about the work of NEYDL is their lifelong commitment to supporting young dads. Some of these 'young' men are no longer teens. Some are no longer even classed as 'young men' at all (i.e., they are over the age of 25). However, due to the continued working relationships, NEYDL now has a better and longer standing knowledge of the difficulties facing young men who are fathers across different life course stages.

Key learning points from this work are as follows:

1. The value of a flexible support offer (being responsive to participants' needs and not assuming any particular method of communication will be desired).
2. There is a clear need for early intervention (due to the isolating factors brought about by young fatherhood).
3. The value of DigiDAD as an online resource.
4. Continued value placed on face-to-face contact (running concurrently alongside the increased demand for digital resources).



'Honestly, without the support from the guys here (NEYDL) I don't want to know where I probably would've ended up.'

(Young Dad)

'I've been working with a dad, supporting his confidence around parenting. I had attended a webinar of DigiDAD...and provided the information to a North East Dad I was working with. The Dad provided some feedback to me which I feel you should know. He said, "he had really enjoyed the DigiDAD parenting course". He sent me two certificates, appeared really proud of achieving them, which supported raising his confidence around parenting...He said, "the courses were amazing!" Thanks, and thought you needed to be aware of the lovely, positive feedback you've been given.'

(Senior Resource Worker, Middlesbrough Council)

DIGIDAD: FROM PETERLEE TO PERU

By Kevin Stoodley

A year or so on from the well-attended and indeed internationally attended launch of the DigiDAD platform (February 2022), and I'm pleased to report that DigiDAD is still going strong, attracting a whopping 30,598 YouTube viewers (compared to 12,400 in year 1), viewing times in excess of 1,049 hours and a 110 registered users who have successfully completed e-learning courses via www.digidad.uk. Moreover, contrary to our wildest imaginings, DigiDAD – a platform co-created with 86 local young dads (and counting) who have recorded over 1,100 volunteering hours whilst gaining employability skills (including scriptwriting, storyboarding, acting, presenting, research and film making, social marketing and digital youth work) is attracting a diverse geographic audience with representation across the UK (including Northern Ireland, Scotland, South East London, Coventry and Wales) and further afield, including USA, Indonesia, Ukraine and Lima, Peru. 'Way aye Peru!'

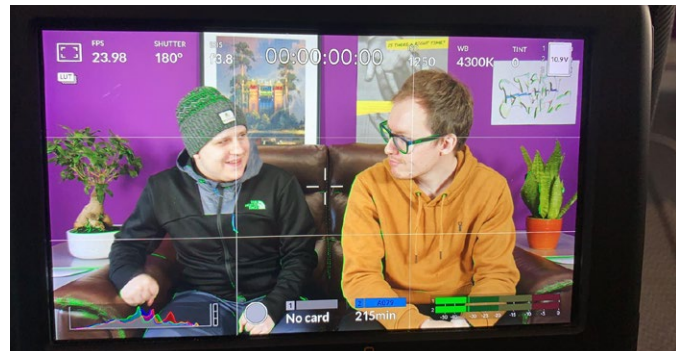
Building on the 35 short films, animations, podcasts and e-learning courses we co-created with young dads in preparation for the launch of DigiDAD, the platform's content has grown significantly in the past year with the addition of the following series developed in partnership with Cumbria Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust, Following Young Fathers Further (The University of Lincoln), first aid consultant Carole Hewison and our 16 strong DigiDAD Advisory Board (with expertise in infant feeding, perinatal mental health and psychology, LGBTQIA+ community support, Family Law, Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, Social Work, Youth Work and last but by no means least, lived experience of young fatherhood):

- 6-part Paediatric First Aid
- 6-part Perinatal Mental Health
- 6-part Perinatal Parenting

We have also developed a 3-part film series on behalf of the Fatherhood Institute to support social workers to understand the challenges faced by young fathers in families where children have social care involvement, have collaborated with FutureMen to showcase DigiDAD content on their pioneering parenting app and are putting the finishing touches to a 3-part infant feeding series and revised 0-6 month parenting course in line with changes to best practice, all of which will be made freely available on the new look DigiDAD website to be launched in early 2024.



In addition to content made specifically for young dads by young dads, our regional young dads council members (AmbassaDADS) have peer researched and co-created a father inclusive toolkit for professionals (Think Dad!) accessed via DigiDAD and featuring extensive links to new films and recorded interviews with expert stakeholders. Moreover, DigiDAD is extremely proud to be the chosen host platform of a pre-recording of 'Father Unknown', a play inspired by and co-created with young dads from NEYDL (see article entitled A Standing Ovation: Father Unknown).



NEYDL has also worked closely with Keda Consulting to create a comprehensive development plan to enable the platform to achieve the following vision and outcomes:

The vision for DigiDAD is to become the leading platform providing young dads with a community and a comprehensive early years (age 0-2) parenting and relationship skills programme using multiple formats, which is externally recognised.

DigiDAD aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- Young dads have improved knowledge because of completing e-courses and watching videos on DigiDAD. The learning outcomes will be course-specific, within the content topic areas.
- More minoritised young dads engage with NEYDL through our digital channels.
- Young dads have improved peer-relationships and reduced isolation (through Video Gaming and Discord features).

In addition, young dads from NEYDL have worked closely with Research Software Engineer Dr Mike Simpson (Newcastle University) to create a technical specification to upscale our current peer and professionally moderated video gaming channel (see article entitled Gaming Together).

At the time of publication, I'm pleased to report that DigiDAD did the unthinkable, taking home winners awards in two categories at the prestigious **Children and Young People Now Awards 2023** held in London (Advice and Guidance and Youth Work). Recognition if it was needed of the platform's trailblazing approach to supporting and empowering young fathers to be the best dads they can possibly be.

DigiDAD! Made by young dads for young dads from Peterlee to Peru!



'I follow the work of NEYDL from a distance, and am a fan of the organisation.'

(Gateshead Councillor and Cabinet Member)

'We were watching the (DigiDAD) videos together not too long ago and it was quite funny, and then obviously I had a bit reminder of the examples and the answers of things, like what the things obviously you can do, or you can't do. And I still watch them still, just obviously to get reminded.'

(Young Dad)

AN EVALUATION OF DIGIDAD: A PIONEERING DIGITAL EDUCATION AND SUPPORT OFFER FOR YOUNG FATHERS

By Professor Anna Tarrant & Dr Izram Chaudry

DigiDAD was launched officially in 2022 but was established during the pandemic when there were curbs on meeting and providing support face to face for young fathers and aspects of support were shifted online. Towards the end of 2022, before Anna was appointed as Chair of Trustees at NEYDL, Dr Izram Chaudry (The University of Bradford) and Professor Anna Tarrant (The University of Lincoln) conducted an independent evaluation of this pioneering new e-learning education and support platform that has been developed with and for young fathers.

The evaluation confirmed that just one year following its inception, DigiDAD has huge potential for supporting young fathers to develop their knowledge and skills in relation to parenting. Evidence generated further demonstrated that it is already meeting its primary objectives, namely, to ensure that:

1. More young fathers have the confidence, skills, and opportunities to be a positive presence in their children's lives.
2. Statutory services recognise and value the role of young fathers, and that,
3. The stigma of being a young father is reduced.

Findings show that young father users of DigiDAD value its accessibility and creativity and that through interaction with the content they felt supported to develop their confidence around their parenting skills with increased knowledge. The young fathers at NEYDL who have been involved in the content creation have also benefitted from gaining new skills, engaging in knowledge exchange processes with professionals and later securing employment. The platform is beginning to feature more professionals and is available to them to refer to young fathers.

The evaluation process also highlighted the value of showcasing the capabilities of young fathers, in turn changing the narrative about young fatherhood in order to reduce stigma. The co-creation methodology that underpins the process for creating content also showcases the skills and strengths of young fathers engaged with the North East Young Dads and Lads and ensures that the content combines lived experience with the evidence-base.

In terms of future growth for the platform, the evaluation process supported the following recommendations:

- The retention of the co-creation process and partnership work between young fathers, experts and specialists to ensure further quality outputs,
- Increasing the visibility of DigiDAD through more effective marketing and referrals from professionals to a wider cohort of young fathers,
- Maintaining its USP and local/regional identity as the platform grows, balanced alongside visuals presenting diverse experiences and identities of fatherhood,
- Relatedly, developing all content so that it is as inclusive as possible, and
- Monitoring the use of the platform longer term to evidence its reach and impact.

These recommendations are being taken forward by the charity as it seeks to fund and support further co-creation work and content development for the site. DigiDAD is a really exciting digital offer created by young fathers for young fathers, with great potential to reshape the support landscape for young fathers around the world.

A link to the final evaluation report is provided here:

<https://fyff.co.uk/files/0bd83ad6e931e5eae8115a97e23a915cd6962dd7.pdf>



GAMING TOGETHER

By Will Patterson, Robert Oughton & Nathan Noble

As discussed in our 2021 Annual Report, NEYDL has always been impressed by the potential of online video gaming to bring young dads together and strengthen peer relationships outside of facilitated group work activities, so much so that with the support of our funders (BBC Children in Need and The National Lottery Community Fund) we invested in a gaming pc and purchased gift vouchers as tournament prizes to support closed-group video gaming competitions. In addition, we have purchased and distributed gaming headsets and controllers to support engagement by young dads living in poverty.



Using 'Discord' (a software familiar and accessible to most of the dads we support which allows users to chat in real time as they play), we currently deliver video gaming sessions every Monday and Friday evening to up to 13 young dads living in Durham, Gateshead, Sunderland, and Newcastle.

The gaming group is a big success for the charity, helping young dads to open-up about their difficulties, talk to NEYDL staff and young dads and form lasting friendships. Some of the dads who game with us suffer from social anxiety and have previously turned down invitations to meet other young dads face to face, but since we started

the gaming group they've now started to meet up in person with and without NEYDL's support.

Some of the ways young dads are benefitting from the video gaming group are presented below, in their own words:

'I'm happier sitting in the house and gaming than going out drinking and stuff. It stops you from getting into trouble.'

'When you're gaming, people are more confident to talk about stuff.'

'I was brought up by the most manly man. He'd go to the pub, get pissed, get in a fight, and come home. That's just what he did. But that's not me. I don't want to be like that. Gaming's my gateway. It's how I vent.'

'It's a community. You start talking about the game and then end up getting into a conversation about anything and everything.'

'Your brain goes left. You don't think about your problems. You think about the game. You think about the enemies you're fighting and stuff. It's like mindfulness.'

Funded and supported by Following Young Fathers Further at The University of Lincoln, we recently commissioned Research Software Engineer Dr Mike Simpson, Newcastle University, to work with our young dads to develop a technical specification for upscaling the video gaming project to support a regional audience of young dads, with consideration to GDPR compliance, accessibility, functionality, and safeguarding. At the time of publication, we are seeking additional grant funding to implement this technical specification and support more young dads through video gaming.

Watch this space!



'The (DigiDAD) courses...they helped me very much and I got more active and got more, like, very comfortable with what I'm doing as a dad.'

(Young Dad)

'The play (Father Unknown) represented young dads exactly how life is for us, and Ryan (actor) couldn't have done a better job at acting. It was great. Maybe it will open people's eyes about young dads and the struggles.'

(Young Dad)

A STANDING OVATION: FATHER UNKNOWN

By Kevin Stoodley

On a balmy summer's evening in 2023, I was lucky enough to be in the audience for the first performance of *Father Unknown*, a funny, honest, and powerful exploration of young fatherhood majestically portrayed by rising North East star of stage and screen Ryan Noble (most recently appearing in the BBC comedy drama series *Power of Parker*) at Durham's Gala Theatre.

In *Father Unknown*, Ryan plays the role of Alfie, a 16-year-old Gateshead lad who discovers he's going to be a young dad during his GCSE exams. Over the course of the next hour, Ryan takes us on a rollercoaster ride as Alfie tries to navigate the complexities of young fatherhood, from 'breadwinner' expectations to exam pressures, maternal family interference and gatekeeping, to misunderstanding and misjudgement.

And whilst it's fair to say that Alfie does drop a few major dangers along the way (who hasn't?) and probably wouldn't be everyone's choice for 'father of the year', he is unrelenting in his desire to play an active, loving and meaningful role in his son's life, like so many of the young men we are lucky enough to meet and support every day here at NEYDL.

In a deeply moving scene towards the end of the play, we are invited to watch Alfie just being a dad to his child, a cherished experience for young Alfie which offers both hope and yet fragility, due to factors that are largely out of his control.

The play closes with anonymous and authentic voice recordings made by the eloquent young dads supported by NEYDL, recollecting how they felt when they first heard they were going to be a dad, their first encounter with their new-born and what fatherhood means to them now. It's fair to say that you could hear a pin drop in the theatre at this moment, as it suddenly dawned on the uninitiated members of the audience that Alfie's story was not a work of escapist fiction, but an accurate portrayal of the very real challenges and barriers sadly faced by so many young dads both in our region and beyond.

Following an extended and rapturous standing ovation (a reaction repeated during sold out performances at Northern Stage over the next 2 days), I had the pleasure to hang out with a group of NEYDL's first ever service beneficiaries (the 'Founding Fathers' as they are lovingly known here at NEYDL), who had travelled from Durham, Gateshead, and Wales to see the play. We laughed, talked, and spun stories well into the night, covering many subjects including their children and families, new relationships, career changes, studies (one of the dads is now studying marine biology at university) and memories of the Wednesday night young dads group in Gateshead they had all attended for several years at the start of their fatherhood journeys, at a similar age to young Alfie in the play.

Whilst none of their fatherhood journeys have been easy, and more challenges lie ahead for at least one of the dads in trying to maintain regular contact with his non-resident child, their love for their children and commitment to the role of father and parent was just as strong as it was on the first day we met. But unlike Alfie, thanks to the connections they had made through NEYDL (none of the dads in question had ever met another young dad before they joined us), these guys have each other, through thick and thin! Not a bad legacy for a 'small but vital charity' such as ours.

Father Unknown was directed by the brilliant Jonah York (formerly a NEYDL staff member), produced by Jonah and the equally brilliant Dr Michael J Richardson (former trustee of NEYDL and current volunteer beekeeper), and written by Jonah, Michael, Elijah Young, Steve Byron, and members of the charity's young dads council (AmbassaDADS), following extensive research involving young dads supported by NEYDL.

A prerecording of *Father Unknown* is freely available to view only on NEYDL's flagship DigiDAD website <https://www.digidad.uk/father-unknown/>



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'There was a load of anxiety building up to being a first-time dad at such a young age.'

(Young Dad)

'I am a dad! I am not babysitting my own kids! I am parenting!'

(Young Dad)

FIRST AID FATHERS

By Kevin Stoodley

Since the earliest days of the charity, NEYDL has committed to supporting young dads to gain the skills, knowledge and confidence necessary to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives. As part of this support, we have committed to providing Paediatric First Aid skills training to young dads on a regular basis and this year has been no different.



Thanks to an unexpected and most welcome donor support grant from Robson Laidler Accountants supported by County Durham Community Foundation, we have recently supported thirteen young dads from County Durham to attend and

complete certified First Aid at Work and Paediatric First Aid courses in conjunction with first aid trainer and long-term collaborator Carole Hewison, with two further courses for young dads scheduled to take place in November and December 2023.

Both courses delivered this year have been well received by young dads and expectant fathers, providing new opportunities for young dads to meet their peers whilst practicing essential first aid skills including CPR, applying bandages and yes, eating pizzas!

In addition to our face to face first aid training, this year NEYDL committed to co-creating an online paediatric first aid course and film series for our DigiDAD website, supported by final year grant funding from The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. Expertly presented by young dads Robert and Jordan and featuring other young men and dads who have attended our first aid training courses, this 6-part course covers essential first aid themes including emergency readiness, prioritising treatment, head-to-toe checks, choking, CPR, minor injuries and illness. It is now available to watch and complete (along with quizzes, downloadable handy hints, and certification) on the DigiDAD website (www.digidad.uk).

A massive congratulations to all the young dads who have so far attended our first aid courses in person and thank you to Carole Hewison and the DigiDAD content creation team for producing an excellent and widely accessible resource.



BEES ON THE BALTIC & BEES IN THE BOROUGH

By Tom Jamieson & Jordan Pike

We had a bumper harvest of honey in the Autumn of 2022. Our two hives on the south roof of BALTIC produced over 30 kilos of honey of exceptional quality, made by colonies which grew to huge numbers in mid-summer and then overwintered strong. It's been a steep learning curve for our young beekeeping team, as all our normal patterns of work have needed adaptation in that unusual context. But, in a word, Success!

We have enjoyed the massive interest in rooftop beekeeping from BALTIC staff and visitors alike. No surprise, we decided in Spring 2023 to double our rooftop hives to four, and further research the foraging areas which our bees visit in east Gateshead. Meanwhile, established hives producing our Staiths Honey in Dunston and Forest Honey near Chopwell were productive too, allowing us to offer honey to five retail outlets in Gateshead and Newcastle.

Our relationship with local charity The Comfrey Project has also proved a happy one. BUZZ beekeeping training sessions in their community room have proved popular, with six young men enjoying a first introduction to the craft. It was also a joy to attend The Comfrey Project Annual General Meeting and present every household of asylum seekers and refugees attending, with a jar of honey from the hives we keep on their site.

Community beekeeper extraordinaire (and young dad) Jordan Pike's own honey brand Raw & Rich Honey, produced from the hives and bees he has adopted from NEYDL, is in high demand and sold via two artisan food outlets he supplies in Newcastle upon Tyne. One of them included a jar in their Christmas Hamper of artisan goods produced on Tyneside, under the aptly named 'Local Hero' hamper.

Remember the fantastic image (The Realm) which featured on the cover of last year's Annual Report? Designed by Atomhawk and taking Baltic Beekeeping into their fictional world, the poster version has so far sold a whopping 139 copies via the BALTIC shop, raising funds to support both NEYDL and BALTIC's important charitable work. A great measure of the public interest in our urban and rooftop beekeeping.



'The hum of a bee is the voice of the garden, my second language! I am but an extra hand in a hive, a friendly neighbour checking in from time to time and the taster of hard work.'

(By Jordan Pike, NEYDL young Dad and community beekeeper extraordinaire)

'I don't think I'd be at the stage I am now without North East Young Dads and Lads.'

(Young Dad)

STORY GATHERING AND SYSTEM BARRIERS INQUIRY

By Will Patterson & Dr Richard Gibbons

We are currently delivering a number of projects which support the different communities of Gateshead. In last year's NEYDL Annual Report, we detailed how some of our young dads had received training to gather people's stories as part of a research endeavour. In partnership with the Gateshead Community Bridgebuilders and funded by The Lankelly Chase Foundation, this inquiry mapped thousands of factors that people shared with us about their lives, which highlighted many difficult-to-see systemic challenges people face in Gateshead.

This work has now evolved into a number of peer community groups, one of which focuses on marginalised young people. Supported by Will (NEYDL Peer Enabler) this work offers a weekly session which seeks to support young people to address their day-to-day problems and difficulties. Because the stories we collected suggest how young people are often excluded from meaningful participation in decision-making spaces, our groups are built around certain core principles. They are 'relationship centred'; created as open and supportive spaces where the group members make decisions that help to steer how the space evolves and shapes moving forward. Groups also embrace the idea of 'transformational participation', which is promoted by supporting young people to develop their motivation and confidence to engage in decision making processes.

Long term it is our ambition that the young people currently supported by this project become role models and community champions within their communities, just like Will Patterson, Dylan Brown, Adam Gorzelanczyk and Mark Ridden, the four young dads employed by NEYDL as Peer Link Workers and Peer Enablers on behalf of this inquiry over the past 3 years.



AMBASSADADS ASSEMBLE!

By Dr Linzi Ladlow & Robert Oughton

The AmbassaDADS are a group of 20 young dads from Tyne & Wear, County Durham and Teesside working together as a collective to affect social, policy and practice change that improves the lives of young fathers.

The group has grown from the pioneering work of NEYDL's Tyne and Wear based Young Dads Council, some of which has been detailed in previous editions of the charity's Annual Report. This includes the creation of a poster and e-zine responding to the BALTIC's 'Equal Play' exhibition led by International Artist Albert Potrony and supported by Dr Michael J Richardson <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/sep/27/they-wanted-to-end-masculinity-the-artist-inspired-by-anti-sexist-mens-groups>



Supported by NEYDL, Professor Anna Tarrant and Dr Linzi Ladlow from the University of Lincoln, key highlights from the group's activities over the past year include the following:

Father Unknown: Inspired by and co-created with the AmbassaDADS, former NEYDL trustee Dr Michael J Richardson and former NEYDL employee Jonah York presented a 50-minute play about young fatherhood to sold out audiences at Durham's Gala Theatre (15th June) and Northern Stage (16th and 17th June). Starring Ryan Noble, the play included a post-performance Q&A on Wednesday and

Saturday evenings involving AmbassaDADS members. The play now features as a permanent recording via the charity's DigiDAD website <https://www.digidad.uk/father-unknown/>

Think Dad! Father Inclusive Practice Toolkit: AmbassaDADS members co-created a professional development toolkit following extensive peer research with other young dads and professionals. Launched via a webinar event attended by 165 professionals on 20th February 2023, this resource has been made freely accessible via the charities DigiDAD website: https://www.digidad.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/NEYDL_toolkit_v13.pdf



BBC Radio 1 Newsbeat: 4 members of the AmbassaDADS recently featured in a written and spoken word piece by BBC Radio 1's news programme Newsbeat, gaining a readership of over 600,000 people.

Over the next 12 months, the members hope to engage and involve more young dads from across the region in the AmbassaDADS project and work together to both change the narrative and challenge negative stereotypes of young fatherhood. Further, we are working with young dads in County Durham and Middlesbrough to develop geographic AmbassaDADS subgroups to contribute to Parent and Carer Panels associated with local Family Hubs.

The AmbassaDADS have assembled... watch this space!



'Thank you so much for sharing DigiDAD (Think Dad! Father Inclusive Toolkit). I am very impressed by the work that is being done by the project. It made me think about how I can engage with dads, and I will be using DigiDAD information to support dads as well.'

(Midwife)

'I'm so glad we came. Meeting other Mams and Dads our age is so cool. Thanks for inviting us.'

(Young Dad)

DAD2DAD PEER SUPPORT

By Will Patterson & Andy Appleyard



Overview: Thanks to funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, NEYDL has been able to employ 2 Peer Enablers with lived experience of either fatherhood or young fatherhood to provide direct and intensive 1:1 support and peer supported group work opportunities to young dads/expectant fathers living in the geographic areas of Tyne & Wear and Tees Valley. Building on the charity's existing Teen Dads Project provision for young dads aged under 19, Dad2Dad Peer Support has helped NEYDL in its ambitions to reach and support more disadvantaged young men, including those who fall outside the threshold of 'teenage fatherhood', or who live in geographic areas of greatest need (including Middlesbrough where the highest rates of young fatherhood in our region have been recorded and no previous dedicated service provision has existed for this community).

Will's report: I've worked closely with 18 young dads aged 17 to 24 so far, covering areas of North and South Tyneside, Gateshead, Sunderland, and Newcastle. Whilst most of the dads I've worked with have needed support to address social isolation and improve their parenting skills using DigiDAD, I've also helped with housing issues, food banks, job searches, first aid training and family mediation. Seven of the young dads I've supported are involved in Child Protection and Child in Need proceedings and I've accompanied five dads to attend these proceedings, often advocating on their behalf to social work professionals. This has enabled one young dad to progress from having no direct contact with his child to unsupervised child contact arrangements, whilst a second has been granted supervised contact during activities hosted by NEYDL. Currently I'm also supporting one young dad to understand and navigate private family courts.

Alongside 1:1 support, I've also created opportunities that bring young dads together to share experiences and make new friends, which can be difficult for some due to social anxiety and autism. This year I've organised snooker and pool activities for four young dads, museum visits for three young dads, ten pin bowling with six young dads and even a walking group. On one of the group sessions one of my dad's brought his daughter along so it shows that he is feeling safe and comfortable. I've also delivered a weekly online video gaming project for young dads outside of normal working hours and supported two young dads to join our community beekeeping project. Finally, I've supported the Rainbow Family Centre in Washington to develop a father-inclusive service offer and father-friendly space, co-authored published sociological research in conjunction with the Following Young Fathers Further research team at The University of Lincoln <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/13607804221090550> and contributed video evidence to the House



of Lords Parliamentary Inquiry on Youth Unemployment (May 2021) <https://fyff.co.uk/files/74825caf47380b5e50c5019dceb30d1103d3934.pdf>

Andy's report: In creating a new service for young dads in Middlesbrough on behalf of NEYDL, I initially focused my efforts on establishing new referral pathways with Early Help Services (part of Children's Social Services), Maternity and Midwifery Services. This has so far led to direct work with 15 young dads (aged 13 to 23), many of whom faced similar challenges to those described by Will. In addition, I have accessed NEYDL's Wheelie Good Dads Community Cycling Project to provide a mountain bike and related safety equipment to a Middlesbrough young dad (aged 23) on long term loan and made use of NEYDL's Crisis Fund to help young dads purchase essential goods, buy Christmas presents for their children, cover essential travel costs, rent a removal van to move house and hire a professional gas fitter to install a cooker.

Recognising the importance of bringing young dads together for peer support, fitness and learning, I have worked in partnership with NHS and Local Authority services (My Place, Healthier Together Programme, Head Start, Substance Misuse and Youth Offending) to establish and run a fortnightly drop-in for seventeen young men (including seven young dads) held at the Live Well Centre in Middlesbrough from 4-6.30pm with access to pool tables, a gymnasium, video-gaming, crisis support and food bank/care parcels. In addition, I have supported one young dad (neurodiverse) and his daughter to attend fortnightly Dads and Toddlers 'Stay and Play' sessions at BALTIC, Gateshead and created wider social activities for four young dads including ten-pin bowling.



'The hospital provided information about NEYDL. It took me a few weeks to like reach out but I'm stoked to be able to be a part of it now.'

(Young Dad)

'It (NEYDL) gets me out of the house and doing stuff... Sometimes I bring (named daughter) and (named partner) as well, if she's not working. I like meeting new people. Playing football. Talking to the other lads about what it's like for them and what they do, and I tell them about me.'

(Young Dad)

DAD2DAD PEER SUPPORT YEAR 1 INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

By Dr Linzi Ladlow & Professor Anna Tarrant

Funded by The National Lottery Community Fund, the Dad2Dad Peer Support project began in May 2022. In May 2023, we submitted an interim report evaluating the first year of the programme. Dad2Dad Peer Support provides direct and intensive 1:1 support and peer supported group work opportunities for young fathers and expectant fathers living in the regions of Tyne and Wear and Teesside. Led by two 'Peer Enablers', Will and Andy, Dad2Dad sets out to reach and support disadvantaged young men in these areas, including young fathers who fall outside the threshold of 'teenage fatherhood' or who live in geographic areas of greatest need. NEYDL remains the only dedicated service provision for young fathers in the region.

We conducted in-depth qualitative longitudinal interviews with two young fathers and four support workers to evaluate whether the programme was meeting its 5 key objectives:

1. Helping young dads to recognise their potential and establish positive support networks.
2. Improving parenting skills and relationships leading to safer and more resilient families.
3. Addressing social, health and financial issues to break the cycle of poverty and overcome inequalities.
4. Enabling dads to attend and navigate complex and stressful private family court and child protection proceedings, leading to safer families and more stable child contact arrangements for dads and their children.
5. Providing practical support to develop employability skills.

Against the 5 key objectives, we found that Dad2Dad Peer Support is successfully meeting its outcomes. The passion and skillset of the support workers, alongside the resources available to them, has enabled Dad2Dad Peer Support to establish itself as an essential support service for young fathers that has adapted well to new local conditions.

The provision provides proactive and reactive support, responding directly and immediately to the varied needs of the young fathers who attend each week, as well as proactively building on long-term goals. Dad2Dad is having a significant and meaningful impact on the young men and their families with reported improvements in parenting skills, relationships, confidence and social networks. Young men have also received more holistic support around their finances, preparing for or gaining employment, and moving to better housing. Dad2Dad Peer Support effectively utilises the strengths of the Peer-Support workers and the available resources in each location, creating tangible investments in these young men and their employability.



From the interviews, one story was particularly striking. Andy supported a young father, his partner and their daughter, to move from unsuitable accommodation to a new home. Andy was with them every step of the way, supporting their application to the Housing Association, helping them access a charity that provides furniture and white goods, and using the NEYDL crisis fund to hire a moving van. Andy even drove the van himself! The support Andy provided to help this family move house is a powerful example of the life changing impact Dad2Dad Peer Support has had on this young man and family:

When the mum of that family, when she moved house, she got a job within a week, and you could just see how much she'd grown. And, you know, she was going out to work and then dad was looking after the baby. You know, the house, there was a park at the end of the road, and it was just great, like he'd show me his photographs on his phone of baby going down the slide or on the swings and stuff like that. I've seen them grow personally over the past few months, which wouldn't have been possible without this work (Andy).

Our interim report shows that the project is on a strong trajectory. The service provided by NEYDL through the extended Dad2Dad Peer Support offer is an example of best practice in working with marginalised young fathers in the UK. Being a father is at the heart of service provision and the focus on fatherhood is a motivational factor for young fathers in overcoming challenges and meeting their aspirations. This service has potential to be developed further, by extending provision to more young fathers across the region.



'You were the only one that I could ask for help and you were always there for me.'

(Young Dad)

'Thanks for today. It was good to be out with just me and my daughter and to meet other people.'

(Young Dad)

WHEELIE GOOD DADS

By Nathan Noble

Over the past 12 months, myself and a team of 4 Community Cycling Group Leaders (also young dads) have planned and delivered 32 cycling excursions to 29 young dads, in addition to 4 cycling excursions for families, involving 6 children aged 1, 2, 3 and 7 years. The dads have really valued this project, as the following feedback shows:

'I feel so good out on the bike. It feels supportive.'

'Getting out on the bikes helps me to reflect and think.'

'I'm going to places I've never been before, and I've lived here all my life.'

Myself and the Community Cycling Group Leaders have also established a regular safety inspection and maintenance programme which includes home visits to young dads benefitting from our long-term bike loan scheme which includes access to cycle helmets, locks, pumps, and a puncture repair kit.

The bike loan scheme is currently supporting 12 young dads living in the 10% most deprived areas of Gateshead, Sunderland, Durham, and Middlesbrough to get to work, attend training, access regular volunteering opportunities, visit and maintain contact with non-resident children and stay in touch with family and friends. The scheme is a huge hit with young dads as the following feedback demonstrates:

'Being able to use a new bike is so good. I've only ever had rubbish bikes to go out on and it put me off going out.'

'Having a bike to get to my training course (forklift truck driving) has helped me so much. I used to have to get 3 buses to get there which used to take me an hour. Now it just takes me 20 minutes. And the money I've saved on bus fares has really helped too.'

In addition to gaining new skills and expertise in bike maintenance, I've also supported our Community Cycling Group Leaders to develop their skills as peer mentors and supporters (including completion of safeguarding training, First Aid at Work, Paediatric First Aid and Level 3 Mental Health First Aid).

Alongside the cycling related activities, I've also planned and co-facilitated 'Stay and Play' sessions at the BALTIC attended by 8 families on a regular basis, plus family outings to Santa's Grotto in December 2022 (attended by 16 young parents and 14 children aged 6 months to 7 years) and more recently Tynemouth Aquarium (attended by 14 young dads, 12 partners and 16 children aged 3 months to 7 years). For some young parents, these events represented the first time they had met other young parents as evidenced by the following feedback:

'I'm so glad we came. Meeting other Mams and Dads our age is so cool. Thank you for inviting us.'



As part of our close working relationships with our funder Warburtons, young dads supported by NEYDL have made regular visits to the Warburtons bakery in Newburn, including attendance in a skills day delivered by Warburton's HR staff which enabled the lads to practice and refine their interview skills and update their CV's.

Finally, I've been busy supporting 6 of our most committed cyclists, all of whom are young dads to prepare for the Great North Bike Ride - a 60-mile day ride from Seahouses to Tynemouth due to take place on Sunday 27th August 2023. At the time of publication, I'm pleased to report that young dads Jordan and Jordan completed the mammoth and rain-soaked course in an admirable 4 hours and 35 minutes, alongside myself and staff members Doug and Kev.

A tremendous achievement!



'I feel so good out on the bike. It feels supportive.'

(Young Dad)

'My observation has been that NEYDL's just been really innovative and got this group of lads, what can we do to get them together, meeting each other, talking with each other about wellbeing without saying right, you've got to come here and talk about your feelings.'

(Community Perinatal Mental Health Team)

DAD2DAD PERINATAL HEALTH PROJECT

By Jan Rigby and Robert Oughton

By Robert: Over the last year, Jordan Richardson and I have delivered a part-time peer support service on behalf of Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust enabling young dads, expectant fathers, and non-birthing people whose families are supported by the Perinatal Community Mental Health Team to access help, support, and befriending. Following 9 initial referrals to the service, the Dad2Dad Perinatal Health Project has provided intensive 1:1 support to 7 young dads and families, including help to attend child protection meetings, relationship skills support, gym sessions and parenting support using the charity's DigiDAD e-learning platform. Through the charity's Crisis Fund one family was also supported to purchase and fit new carpets to a bare upstairs flat where a young child resided. In addition to this individual help, 4 of the young dads have engaged in a range of peer supported group work opportunities including father and child focused Stay and Play sessions, peer and professionally moderated online video gaming sessions and social events including bowling, Escape Rooms, pool, cinema trips and restaurant visits. Further, 4 of the young dads have progressed into volunteering roles within the charity including as trustees, AmbassaDADS and DigiDAD content co-creators (including the development of the Think Dad! Father Inclusive Practice Toolkit and a 6-part perinatal mental health film and animation series covering themes including self-care, supporting partners, suicidal thoughts, loss, and bereavement). Following the completion of this project, Jordan has secured employment outside of the charity and I have progressed into full time employment with the charity, supporting the development and delivery of our new Durham Family Hub service.



By Jan Rigby (Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Perinatal Community Mental Health Team): Meeting and supporting the dads whose partners access the Perinatal CMHT is important. We know becoming a father is a huge transition and when their partner becomes unwell this can impact on their own mental health. Dads often take on caring roles for their baby and their partner. For this reason, the Long-Term Plan promoted an assessment to help us understand the dads' mental health and wellbeing needs. Many of the dads we meet have ongoing mental health needs separate from caring and parental roles. How do we promote wellbeing and promote resilience alongside strengthening infant mental health knowledge? The offer of an assessment seems simple, however, promoting authentic engagement can be difficult with barriers, often around trust, fear of being judged, and not feeling we give dads a place to discuss their needs. This is complicated further if the couple separates.



Working with NEYDL on the Dad2Dad Perinatal Health Project has been a fabulous opportunity for us to think together about how best to support dads. The charity's ethos, coming from a youth service approach, always starts with engagement. They recognise engagement can take many forms and it does not start with an assessment which requires a conversation about what might be making a dad feel vulnerable. They acknowledge these conversations happen over time. We found Doug, Robert and Jordan's approach to building relationships with the perinatal service staff worked well to support our discussions with dads. Perinatal staff expressed that they were better able to have more meaningful conversations with the men we met, and this led to a number of dads flourishing during their work with the charity. Understanding that services are keen to help and support dads and recognising the project was to last just over a year with an ambitious aspiration for us to develop a better understanding of how to support fathers. NEYDL's exploration and development of the Think Dad! tool kit and DigiDAD expansion to include perinatal mental health, enables an improved understanding many services can utilise. It has been a great year working together. We hope the shared intention to offer dads the best start in their journeys will continue to develop and go from strength to strength.

NHS
Cumbria, Northumberland,
Tyne and Wear
NHS Foundation Trust

'I've worked in services for many years and there are so many people who would have benefitted from North East Young Dads and Lads if it had been around then.'

(Advanced Nurse Practitioner)

'I usually get pulled in at school. Last time...it was because (named daughters) decided they were going to pour paint in each other's pants. And when I bathed them, they had bits of orange and pink and yellow...'

(Young Dad)

KEEP ON RUNNING

By Jonah York

Among the 60,000 people who set off from Newcastle's Town Moor on the morning of Sunday 11th September 2022 to raise much needed funds for brilliant charities in the Northeast, were 11 runners (Amy, Kevin, Ancha, Freya, Sam & Sam (the speed demon duo), Elijah, Anna, Claire, Steph, and Jonah), all wearing distinctive sky-blue t-shirts emblazoned with the slogan 'I'm running for North East Young Dads and Lads.'

Representing the charity's staff, trustees, project partners, family, friends, and most impressively young Mams whose partners are supported by NEYDL, our running team (some running a half marathon for the first time) all completed the course in one piece (although judging by his newly acquired limp at work the morning after, I suspect our CEO Kevin might have something different to say).

In total, our fantastic runners managed to raise a staggering £2,746.00 from their endeavours, which we quickly put to good use through the launch of a crisis fund providing much needed money direct to young dads and their families to help pay for essential food, clothing, baby care products, furnishings, transport costs and bills as we headed into winter during a cost-of-living crisis.

Included on the list of much needed items and activities this fund supported were bus tickets to enable a young dad to make the daily visit to his baby in intensive care, a removal van to help a young family relocate from an unsafe private rented property and new carpets and furnishings to cover bare floorboards in an upstairs flat occupied by a young family with a toddler.

We are extremely grateful to all the amazing people who gave so generously to this appeal and to our fabulous running team (some travelling from as far afield as London and Leeds) who gave their time and feet in aid of NEYDL.

At the time of publication, I am pleased to report that a team of 7 runners including young dads have signed up for the 2023 race. Phew!

Best wishes.

Jonah.



DURHAM DADS

By Andy Appleyard and Nathan Noble with Colin Cowings and Robert Oughton

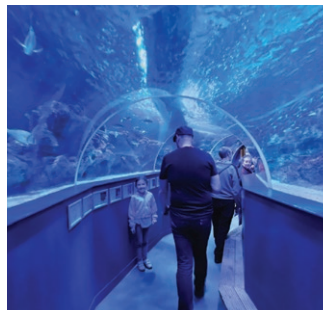
In September 2022, we were thrilled to receive funding from County Durham Community Foundation (NHS Health Improvement Fund) to establish a new provision for young dads and expectant fathers across County Durham under the 'Durham Young Dads Project' banner. Led by Andy and Nathan with support from Colin and Robert, at the time of publication we have worked with 27 young dads aged 15-25 years, helping them to address a range of support needs associated with food and fuel poverty, homelessness, NEET status, mental health and wellbeing, social isolation and loneliness, parenting and relationship skills and involvement in private family court and social care proceedings.

Despite the geographic challenges associated with bringing young dads together from across County Durham, we have managed to run a number of face-to-face and virtual peer supported group work opportunities including cinema and theatre trips, bowling sessions, Escape Room visits, cycling excursions, coffee shop trips, Paediatric First Aid training and video gaming sessions attended by 16 young dads. In addition, 10 young dads, 8 co-parents and 10 children aged under 2 have attended family activities including soft play.

At the time of publication, 6 Durham young dads supported through this project have progressed into key volunteering roles within NEYDL as part of a 20 strong community of AmbassaDADS (see article AmbassaDADS Assemble!). In addition, thanks to new funding from Durham Family Hubs, we are delighted to announce that support for young dads and non-birthing people aged 25 and under will continue beyond the length of this original project, supported by Colin Cowings and Robert Oughton (see article 'Support For Young Dads Through Family Hubs')



Recognising the important part that wider family members can play in supporting young dads to navigate fatherhood, we have also worked closely with 16 adult maternal and paternal family members including 8 co-parents, 2 foster carers and 6 paternal grandparents of the child/unborn child.



 County Durham
Community Foundation

'North East Young Dads are an amazing charity who (named young dad) reached out to when he was at his lowest.'

(Parent of a Young Dad supported by NEYDL)

'If I ask the question and then they (NEYDL) can give me the answer and I'll say right, okay, that's what I need to do and that's what I need to be aware of, and then that's me, like me stress, like, calms down. I say right, there's nothing to stress about. I need to just look at the texts just in case I forget, so I know what I'm doing, so that's the best thing about it.'

(Young Dad)

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG DADS THROUGH FAMILY HUBS

By Kevin Stoodley

At the time of publication, the launch of the Government's Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme with a focus on providing a system-wide model of joined up, whole family support has raised the potential for NEYDL to work more closely with local authorities. We are pleased to report that NEYDL has now been commissioned to provide 1:1 and peer supported group opportunities to young dads, expectant fathers, and non-birthing people during the perinatal period (0-2 years) in County Durham (excluding Darlington), Middlesbrough, Sunderland, and Gateshead. Whilst still in its infancy, this work is already showing promise, leading to a marked increase in referrals from young dads identified by health visitors and midwifery services and a strong uptake in our services by young men on a voluntary basis. We look forward to reaching and supporting ever more young dads and families over the next 2 years as an integral part of the Family Hub service.



'No one really thinks about the young Dad and the huge impact it brings. Very few health professionals actually asked how (name of Dad) was coping with a new baby and he was too worried to tell people! Special mention to Rob (NEYDL staff member) who's been amazing.'

(Parent of a Young Dad supported by NEYDL)

'I find it hard sometimes to think about leaving the house, but when I know it's with NEYDL it makes me feel okay.'

(Young Dad)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

None of the outcomes or achievements detailed in this report would have been possible without the continued support, kindness, encouragement, friendship and generosity offered by so many people, groups, projects, organisations, services, foundations and institutions, who have given NEYDL so much and asked for so little in return. Though far from exhaustive, we believe the following individuals and organisations deserve an extra special thank you for their huge contribution to NEYDL over the past 12 months.

Board of Trustees from 7th July 2022:

Emma Alcock
Steven Bramwell (Chair)
Chloe Cottrell
Jennifer Goldstein (Treasurer)
Chris Humba
(Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer)
Sarah Oliver
(Safeguarding Advisor)
Jordan Pike
Professor Anna Tarrant (Secretary and Vice Chair)
Angela Ward

Board of Trustees from 11th July 2023:

Jenny Goldstein (Treasurer)
Destiny Greenwood
Chris Humba
(Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer)
Mark Hutchinson (Secretary)
Sarah Oliver (Safeguarding Advisor)
Jordan Pike
Tyler Reed
Professor Anna Tarrant (Chair)
Colin Workman (GDPR Compliance Advisor)

DigiDAD Advisory Group

Amy Berry
Colin Cowings
Ella Fielding
Jenny Goldstein
Chris Humba
Mark Hutchinson
Adam Johnson
Doug Laidlaw (Chair)
Nathan Noble
Sarah Oliver
Robert Oughton
Jan Rigby
Margherita Rovida
Kevin Stoodley
Professor Anna Tarrant
Angela Ward
AmbassaDADS;

North East regional young dads council

Jed Donnelly
Lewis England
Ethan Fingleton
Ben Homeran
Josh Nicholson
Cameron Nick
Nathan Noble
Robert Oughton
Will Patterson
Dylan Peggs
Jordan Pike
Andrew Pittman
Karl Preston
Tyler Reed
Curtis Solace
Lewis Spence
Sam Sterling
Alex Teller
Josh Wiborg
James Withycombe

Our volunteer beekeepers

Yakob Araya
Jed Donnelly
Corey Fletcher
Jordan Pike
Dr Michael Richardson
Mark Ridden

Our friends and project partners

Andy Dawson
Arts Council England
Atomhawk Design
BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art
Benjamin Michael Smith (film maker)
Brown March and Bowman Ltd Accountants
Charities Aid Foundation
Chopwell Officials Club
Chopwell Regeneration Group
Durham County Council
Durham Gala
Ernie, Ouseburn, Newcastle upon Tyne
Following Young Fathers Further
at The University of Lincoln
Forestry England
Future Men
Gateshead Council
Honeypot Creative
Immediate Theatre
Keda Consulting
Kingsmeadow Community Comprehensive School
Leeds Dads
Men and Boys Coalition

Middlesbrough Council
Motif Pictures
My Pockets
Ngozi Lyn Cole
Northern Stage
Perinatal Mental Health Clinical Network –
North East and North Cumbria
Pixel Buddy Ltd
Sunderland City Council
The Barn Café, Dunston, Gateshead
The Comfrey Project
The Family Nurse Partnership
The Staiths Café
Thornley Woodlands Centre
Thread Media
Suitability
Sunderland City Council
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BBC Children in Need
Connected Voice - VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and
Northumberland (1989 Willan Charitable Trust)
County Durham Community Foundation
(NHS Health Improvement Fund)
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear
NHS Foundation Trust
Cycling UK
(Funded by The National Lottery & Sport England)
Fatherhood Institute
Following Young Fathers Further
Garfield Weston
Imagine Foundation
Joicey Trust
Lloyds Bank Foundation
Newcastle University
The Ballinger Charitable Trust
The Council of The of County Durham
The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
The Lankelly Chase Foundation
The National Lottery Community Fund
The William Leech Charity
The Tudor Trust
Warburton's - Families Matter
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor
Support (Robson Laidler Accountants Ltd)
St Columba's United Reformed Church
Swire Charitable Trust

Our Inspiration

Last but not least, thank you, thank you, thank you to all the utterly brilliant young men and families we have met so far and those we have yet to meet. This project and this report exist because of you!

'You have done more than you'll ever know for my son and grandson.'

(Parent of a young Dad supported by NEYDL)



THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS, OUR SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

For further information, please visit our website and social media feeds, or just send us an email.

Email: info@neydl.uk
 Charity website: www.neydl.uk
 DigiDAD e-learning platform: www.digidad.uk
 Facebook: @the.neydl
 X (formerly Twitter): @NEYDandL
 Instagram: neydl2
 YouTube: DigiDAD

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS & LADS
 Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts
 South Shore Road
 Gateshead
 NE8 3BA

Tel: Doug Laidlaw 07990 164449

Registered in England
 Charity No: 1172924
 Company No: CE009920



To donate to NEYDL and help us to improve the lives and prospects of more young fathers, their children, and families, please use the weblink and QR code provided here.

Thank you for your support.

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3617049>



Scan. Pay. Go.



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2023
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Brown, March and Bowman Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOContents of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 April 2023

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	23 to 24

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOReport of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2023. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**Charity Name**

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Prof. Anna Tarrant (Chair) (appointed 07/07/2022)

Tyler Reed (appointed 12/09/2023)

Destiny Greenwood (appointed 12/09/2023)

Colin Workman (appointed 11/07/2023)

Mark Hutchinson (appointed 11/07/2023)

Jordan Pike (appointed 07/07/2022)

Jennifer Goldstein (appointed 09/07/2020)

Sarah Oliver (appointed 09/07/2020)

Emma Alcock (now resigned)

Steven Bramwell (now resigned)

Chloe Cottrell (now resigned)

Chris Humba (now resigned)

Angela Ward (now resigned)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd

16 Abbey Meadows

Morpeth

NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

NEYDL is a unique youth support service that is dedicated to helping young men and young fathers to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, within families and wider society.

Mission and Vision

- Our vision is for young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.
- Our mission is to enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives, by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

CHAIR'S REPORT

By Professor Anna Tarrant

It is an absolute honour to introduce the North East Young Dads and Lads' 2023 Annual Report in my brand-new capacity as the Chair of Trustees. As a starter for ten, please permit me to provide a brief overview of how I came to take on this role. I first became acquainted with the charity in 2017 and then again in 2020 in my capacity as a researcher, initially at the University of Leeds and now the University of Lincoln. I have been researching the lives of men in low-income families for a long time now, including a strand of work with young fathers and have always been interested in capturing the pioneering work of services that are involved in supporting fathers and families to flourish. My research team (Following Young Fathers Further) and I approached the charity in 2020 having seen CEO Kev talk about the pioneering work of the North East Young Dads and Lads on the BBC and it was clear that our interests and agendas for supporting young fathers in innovative ways aligned. In a research capacity, we worked to support some of NEYDL's young dads to conduct peer research as part of the Diverse Dads study. We co-wrote two research reports and a peer reviewed journal article with the dads as the Diverse Dads Collaborative and demonstrated the capacity of young dads to challenge negative stereotypes about themselves and others by contributing new knowledge and by changing the narrative. I later joined the Board of Trustees in 2022, bringing my research experience into the conversations of the board.

When Steven Bramwell announced he was stepping down as Chair of Trustees, I made the decision to take the step up; to support Kev and the NEYDL team with their ambitions for this thriving charity, to work with the Board of Trustees to support Kev and his strategic vision, and to sustain the ethos and ambitions of the charity. And what big shoes I must fill! According to my research a good chair of trustees is altruistic, has a good sense of humour, empowers others, and is friendly and humble. I'd like to think I epitomise all of those things (sense of humour included!) but certainly our outgoing Chair Steven is all these things in spades. It is therefore my aim to bring these qualities and a comparable level of passion, drive, and enthusiasm to the role as Steven did.

As the items in this year's report demonstrate, the anticipated trajectory of growth and innovation that was described in the 2022 report, has been realised and some! It has certainly been another fantastic and progressive year as promised! The charity continues to attract significant grant funding and is supporting an ever-expanding portfolio of young fathers, not just across the North East and Tyne and Wear region, but also nationally and even internationally. The community beekeeping, and Wheelie Good Dads projects have gone from strength to strength and via the DigiDAD platform, the charity is reaching new and increasingly distant destinations, from the depths of Wales to the far flung reaches of Peru. Testament to the increasing visibility and recognition of the charity and its work on DigiDAD, the charity was shortlisted in the category of Charity of the Year in the prestigious Children and Young People Now Awards 2022 and a

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further 2 categories in 2023 (Advice and Guidance and Youth Work categories). This is a huge honour and testament to the rising visibility and impact of the charity, and its work with and for young fathers.

As the year 2023 unfolds, I wish to say a huge thank you to the young dads, to the Board, to the consultants, the funders, and the ever-expanding staff team at NEYDL for everything that you do. Thanks also to Kev, for your tireless commitment to the dads and to the charity as it develops and as it grows in its reach and influence. I look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Tarrant".

Professor Anna Tarrant (Chair of Trustees since 11th July 2023 and Vice Chair/Secretary from 7th July 2022 to 11th July 2023)

CEO's Report
By Kevin Stoodley

A very warm welcome to this, our sixth Annual Report, covering the charity's endeavours and achievements over a 12-month period from May 2022 to April 2023.

Like the best laid plans of mice and men, every year I endeavour to release a short and snappy Annual Report as soon as the charity's year ends, only to lose myself in the wealth of rich, varied and wonderful stories, quotes and imagery shared by our incredible staff, trustees, volunteers and project partners, resulting in a burning desire to showcase this work in all its glory, even if it does mean adding yet another page or four to the final report. In the words of Roy Scheider (Chief Brody) during his first encounter with the oversized and rubberised Great White Shark in the movie *Jaws*, 'you're gonna need a bigger boat!' Or in our case a bigger printer!

I know I say this every year but 2023 really has been our best year ever, reaching and supporting more young dads, expectant fathers and non-birthing people (any young person who identifies as a father figure including kinship carers) than ever before, across a geographic area which now extends from Tyne and Wear to Tees Valley, and that's without mentioning the tens of thousands of people who access our online films, animations, podcasts and course content made by young dads for young dads and showcased on DigiDAD.

Whilst there are many things about NEYDL's work in 2023 deserving of high praise as detailed in this wonderful report, I believe our defining achievement this year has been to support, empower and enable young dads to progress from the position of service beneficiaries into one or more of the many volunteering opportunities we offer, from peer researchers to community cycling group leaders, community beekeepers and bee-entrepreneurs to DigiDAD content co-creators and expert advisors, AmbassaDADS to trustees. For young dads Rob, Nathan, Will and Jordan, this journey has ultimately led to their employment at NEYDL, taking on new, vital, and valued roles as Peer Enablers and Cycling Group Leaders who other young dads naturally gravitate towards, trust, and look up to as positive male role models as the following feedback from 2 young dads perfectly demonstrates:

'The service (NEYDL) and Rob himself (NEYDL staff member) have been amazing and I am so grateful for the support I have received. You have helped me adapt and become the Father I want to be.'

'I feel involved and more confident around people who's in the group. I'm much happier and I start loving it, cause whenever Doug or Will (NEYDL staff members) say oh we're doing a group session this date, then I get excited about it cause I always want to hang out with them. Because they're, like, really nice people...and if I need help, they come and talk to me. If I need help on something then they just step on the pedal and then talk to us and help me, like, you know, calm the stress, or get much confidence. I really look up to Will in the group because I appreciate what he, like he helped me through since I came into the group. I feel appreciative for him.'

Rest assured, as a strength/asset-based community development service, we are fully committed to supporting ever more young dads to grow in confidence, skills, knowledge and expertise as both parents and valued members of society, and I look forward to a day not too far away when a former service beneficiary of NEYDL is sitting in my seat (and doing a far better job of it I don't doubt).

Although it's been a good year for NEYDL, it has been incredibly challenging and desperate for many of the young families we support, who often live in the most deprived North East neighbourhoods and are thus most starkly affected by the cost-of-living crisis, poor housing, homelessness, limited job and career prospects. In addition, young men continue to report high levels of social isolation and loneliness and poor mental health (including suicidal thoughts, depression, social anxiety, loss and bereavement). We will continue to do everything within our powers and capacity to draw attention to the challenges and inequalities facing this long-neglected community whilst providing meaningful support to young dads whenever and wherever it's needed, in close collaboration with our service partners which next year will include Sunderland, Gateshead, County Durham and Middlesbrough Family Hubs.

The incredible work and achievements celebrated in this report would not have been possible without the generosity, support and encouragement shown by our amazing funders, sponsors and organisational partners, and the determination, skills and expertise shown by of our super talented current staff team - the brilliant Doug, Will, Jordan, Robert, Andy, Colin, Nathan, Tom, Amy and Nikki, our departing staff members Jonah York and Dylan Brown, our volunteers, trustees, project consultants and of course young dads and their families. It is because of you that we look forward to another highly productive and successful seventh year supporting young dads.

Before I sign off, can I please take a moment to thank our departing Chair Steven Bramwell, who recently stepped down after 6 years in office, having expertly steered the charity from its infancy as a little known and part-time Gateshead based service to the Peruvian powerhouse it has become (see article entitled DIGIDAD: From Peterlee to Peru). We couldn't have got here without you Steven! A very warm welcome is also due to our incoming Chair Professor Anna Tarrant – we are in safe hands!

I will end this Introduction with an unexpected message we recently received from the parent of a young dad supported by NEYDL which moved me deeply:

'You have done more than you'll ever know for my son and grandson.'

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Stoodley', with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.

Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)

OUR IMPACT

(Covering the period from 1st May 2022 to 30th April 2023)

Reason for referral	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Young father / expectant dad	105	68	63	46	61	46
Non birthing people	10	4	2	1	1	2
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	48
Engagement by young men						
New referral	48	25	33	25	53	48
Ongoing support	67	47	32	22	9	6
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Locality						
Sunderland	34	23	26	22	19	7
Gateshead	20	26	32	20	31	44
South Tyneside	9	6	6	2	5	0
Newcastle upon Tyne	57	7	1	3	7	3
North Tyneside	14	3	0	0	0	0
Durham	15	6	0	0	0	0
Northumberland	0	1	0	0	0	0
Middlesbrough	18	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Young Men Living in Areas of Highest Deprivation (Based on IMD2019)						
10% most deprived areas	115	71	Not previously recorded			
Other	0	1	Not previously recorded			
Total	115	72				
Age at entry point						
Under 16	16	4	8	4	5	7
16-18	28	18	8	28	21	21
19-25	71	50	49	15	31	24
Not given	0	0	0	0	5	2
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Referral pathway						
Youth work charities	10	8	11	11	16	23
Social services	23	21	18	11	7	7
Early Help Teams	10	3	0	1	1	2
Family Nurse Partnership	18	18	16	17	17	7
Self-Referrals	5	6	5	4	14	5
School & Education	8	1	2	1	2	4
Housing	6	8	4	2	4	0
Health	25	6	0	0	0	0
Criminal Justice	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other	10	0	9	0	1	6
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Individual help received.						
Child Protection proceedings	30	24	23	12	27	24
Child/Team around the family	10	1	1	3	7	1
Family law proceedings	5	5	5	0	8	7
NEET status	30	17	14	13	27	14
Career progression	15	11	5	4	8	Not recorded.
Housing, homelessness & benefits	25	16	9	4	8	9
Completing essential paperwork	30	16	13	5	19	Not recorded
Poverty & debt management	55	9	17	10	12	Not recorded.
Domestic abuse	15	21	12	7	21	12
Offending behaviour	25	6	16	3	10	4
Mental & emotional wellbeing	45	23	30	26	31	11
Substance misuse & addiction	15	7	8	6	12	6
Sexual health	18	5	3	5	2	0
Other physical health conditions	10	6	4	4	6	2
Learning difficulties	10	3	8	5	8	Not recorded
Social isolation and loneliness	101	72	60	47	51	5
Parenting skills	50	35	34	20	46	19
Relationship skills	40	23	27	24	25	5
Bereavement & loss	15	8	4	6	8	2
Volunteering*	105	74	3	8	25	9
School exclusion	8	6	5	3	2	4

Total: 657 388 301 215 363 134

*This figure represents the total number of young men who volunteered at NEYDL over a 12-month period

Individual contact time (hrs)

Dads and Toddlers groups	32	12	0	106	44
1:1 support (face to face)	850	408	440	350	306
1:1 support (telephone & social media)	572	234	450	140	92
Joint meetings with other professionals	350	460	250	190	119
Peer supported group work	480	202	850	959	912
Training delivered to professionals	150	51	40	56	101
Research activities	400	451	254	134	420
Campaigning, media, and film-work	350	257	428	142	238
Community beekeeping	268	196	131	250	98
Peer mentoring & volunteering	2,625	1,491	280	230	216
Other activities	50	17	20	36	0
Total:	6,127	3,779	3,143	2,593	2,546

Average individual contact time (hrs) 53 52.5 48 55 41

Key outcomes

Child Protection Plans downgraded or completed	22	18	9	5	8
Child-In-Need plans downgraded or completed	9	10	3	3	4
Progressed into full time work or study	18	9	10	5	8
Accessed specialist medical help and support	45	15	2	5	5
Total:	94	52	24	18	25

Social Media Metrics

YouTube Channel – launched 6th April 2021

Views:	30,598	12,400
Watch time (hours):	1,049	903
Organic subscribers:	106	80
Impressions:	97,700	41,600

Gender demographics:

Male:	56.5%	58.2%
Female:	43.5%	41.8%

Age demographics

18-24:	30.9%	33%
25-34:	44.3%	40%
35-44:	19.1%	19.4%
44+:	5.7%	7.6%

Twitter

Followers: 1,152 887

Facebook

Followers: 806 624

Likes: 684 549

Average reach per post: 8,000 209

DigiDAD E-learning Platform

Registered users: 110 43

SUPPORTING YOUNG DADS: A CASE STUDY

By Doug Laidlaw & Steven (A young Dad)

Steven was referred to the service at 16. At the time he was in a relationship with the future mother of his child (age 15). Both Steven and his partner had previously been cared for by the local authority and were living together. The referral for support for Steven came from the Pre-Birth Intervention Team who identified support around parenting skills and reduction in social isolation. Steven and his partner were not in education, employment or training at the time.

Doug (NEYDL staff member) met with Steven to discuss the service at the family home. Steven asked if his partner could also attend part of this meeting to understand what support he could get. After discussing support and showcasing DigiDAD, Steven was keen to access this resource. Steven registered on the DigiDAD platform at our first meeting.

Steven and Doug agreed a work plan and met weekly. Steven completed the DigiDAD programme. Feedback from Steven included:

'The videos were fun and made me feel more confident that I can do all the things new dads need to do.' Steven reported that his partner had also been watching the videos.

As Steven grew in confidence, he started engaging in NEYDL's peer supported group work offer including football, cycling, bowling, Escape Room visits and go-karting. In response, he has formed close friendships with other young dads from NEYDL and joined their video gaming group.

As the pregnancy progressed, Steven called Doug and informed him that his partner had gone into labour prematurely and was rushed into hospital. Doug offered emotional support to Steven via telephone.

Following the birth, Steven contacted Doug to inform him that the baby had to go into hospital in Middlesbrough. Steven didn't know how he could make the 30-mile journey from home to visit his child. Doug supported Steven to make these visits and stayed with Steven during the initial visits to offer emotional support.

After baby was transferred to the RVI Children's Hospital, Doug continued to provide visitation support for a further 6 weeks. With Doug's support Steven grew more comfortable and confident in caring for his baby within the hospital setting and one day announced:

'Doug I've got this!'

Steven also started to ask the hospital staff questions concerning both his baby's care and what support his partner and the baby would need when they came home.

Doug and the Pre-Birth Team worked with the family to develop a support plan for when baby came home.

Steven continues to be supported by NEYDL and dad, mam and baby are doing well.

Unsolicited feedback from Steven included:

'You were the only one I could ask for help, and you were always there for me.'

Feedback from our service beneficiaries:

'Yous are amazing. I'll forever be grateful and will support the charity forever.'

(Young Dad)

'They (NEYDL) were in our corner every single step of the way.'

(Young Dad)

'Hey (NEYDL staff member), hope all is well...I wanted to say a massive thank you! When I was living up north, honestly if it wasn't for you, I know genuinely I would have committed suicide...You was the only person who never judge me...You truly are an amazing person! An amazing dad and I never grew up with a dad myself, but you are what dads should inspire to be!'

(Young Dad)

'Honestly, without the support from the guys here (NEYDL) I don't want to know where I probably would've ended up.'

(Young Dad)

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young Dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young Dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2023, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

In the year ended 30th April 2023, North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO continued to work on projects, which during the current year were funded largely by the following foundations and organisations with our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks:

The Ballinger Charitable Trust
 Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
 BBC Children in Need
 Connected Voice – VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund
 County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support
 Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sports England
 The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
 Fatherhood Institute
 Garfield Weston Foundation
 The Imagine Foundation
 The Lankelly Chase Foundation
 Lloyds Bank Foundation
 Newcastle University
 NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation
 Swire Charitable Trust
 The National Lottery Community Fund
 The William Leech Charity
 The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland
 The Tudor Trust
 The Joicey Trust
 Warburtons Project Grant
 The Council of The County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO will carry forward £287,160 of restricted funds and £141,000 of unrestricted funds to be spent in the 2023-2024 financial year.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds)

is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2023 would be £143,202 which is equivalent to approximately six months basis operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2023 amounted to £141,000, which is considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants from time to time to support the charities CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A Tarrant – Chair to Trustees

Anna Tarrant

Lara Tarrant

J Goldstien- Treasurer

Joseph Goldstien

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directors given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



11/12/2023

Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOStatement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	8,609		8,609
Charitable activities			
Swire Charitable Trust	23,000		23,000
Newcastle University		1,440	1,440
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs		200,000	200,000
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	44,000		44,000
The Imagine Foundation	22,000		22,000
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation		19,500	19,500
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England		480	480
Connected Voice - VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund	4,000		4,000
Warburtons Project Grant		10,000	10,000
The Lankelly Chase Foundation		34,578	34,578
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250		27,250
BBC Children in Need		26,886	26,886
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000		15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund		35,000	35,000
The William Leech Charity		3,000	3,000
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	10,000		10,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	2,000	42,000
The Joicey Trust		2,000	2,000
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support		2,000	2,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	15,000		15,000
Fatherhood Institute		2,000	2,000
Total	208,859	338,884	547,743
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising Funds	18,236	0	18,236
Charitable activities			
Other	81,478	186,689	268,166
Total	99,714	186,689	286,403
NET INCOME	109,145	152,195	261,340
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD (RESTATED)	31,855	134,965	166,820
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD			

<u>141,000</u>	<u>287,160</u>	<u>428,160</u>
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CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOBalance Sheet
At 30 April 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		141,000	287,160	428,160
Cash in hand		-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		141,000	287,160	428,160
NET ASSETS				
		141,000	287,160	428,160
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds				141,000
Restricted funds				287,160
TOTAL FUNDS				
				428,160

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A Tarrant – Chair of Trustees

A Tarrant

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIONotes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2023.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIONotes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023**3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	(RESTATED) At 30.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.23 £
Unrestricted funds	31,855	109,145	141,000
Restricted funds			
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England	-	480	480
The Imagine Foundation	4,808	(4,808)	-
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs	-	200,000	200,000
Newcastle University	-	516	516
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	-	16,955	16,955
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	-	960	960
Fatherhood Institute	-	2,000	2,000
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	79,329	(61,743)	17,586
The Tudor Trust	23,249	(23,249)	-
Lankelly Chase (Wellbeing Grant)	393	(393)	-
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	13,011	11,750	24,761
Warburtons Project Grant	-	2,676	2,676
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	2,974	2,974
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	-	1,200	1,200
The Joicey Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The William Leech Charity	-	3,000	3,000
Cycling UK CCC	233	(233)	-
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	6,435	(6,435)	-
BBC Children in Need	7,507	4,545	12,052
TOTAL FUNDS	166,820	261,340	428,160

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	208,859	(99,714)	109,145
Restricted funds			
Newcastle University	1,440	(924)	516
The National Lottery Community Fund	35,000	(32,026)	2,974
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs	200,000	-	200,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	2,000	(800)	1,200
The William Leech Charity	3,000	-	3,000
The Joicey Trust	2,000	-	2,000
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	-	(61,743)	(61,743)
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England	480	-	480
Warburtons Project Grant	10,000	(7,324)	2,676
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	19,500	(2,545)	16,955
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	2,000	(1,040)	960
Fatherhood Institute	2,000	-	2,000
The Imagine Foundation	-	(4,808)	(4,808)
Cycling UK CCC	-	(233)	(233)
The Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	-	(393)	(393)
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	34,578	(22,828)	11,750
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	-	(6,435)	(6,435)
The Tudor Trust	-	(23,249)	(23,249)
BBC Children In Need	26,886	(22,341)	4,545
TOTAL FUNDS	547,743	(286,403)	261,340

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2023 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIODetailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	8,609		8,609
Charitable activities			
The Swire Charitable Trust	23,000		23,000
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs		200,000	200,000
Newcastle University		1,440	1,440
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	44,000		44,000
The Imagine Foundation	22,000		22,000
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation		19,500	19,500
Cycling UK – Community Cycle Clubs Together Fund		480	480
Connected Voices- VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund	4,000		4,000
Warburtons Project Grant		10,000	10,000
Lankelly Chase		34,578	34,578
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250		27,250
BBC Children in Need		26,886	26,886
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000		15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund		35,000	35,000
The William Leech Charity		3,000	3,000
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation	10,000		10,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	2,000	42,000
The Joicey Trust		2,000	2,000
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support		2,000	2,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	15,000		15,000
Fatherhood Institute		2,000	2,000
	208,859	338,884	547,743
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	1,338	2,675	4,013
Raising Funds	18,236	-	18,236
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	10,324	126,777	137,101
Computer Equipment	8,310	2,232	10,542
Cycling Equipment	66	3,581	3,647
Staff Training & Welfare	897	2,798	3,695
Group work & Project Expenditure	30,584	26,785	57,369
Postage & stationery	143	127	270
Consultancy fees	11,681	-	11,681
Telephone	-	1,645	1,645
Client & staff travel	70	6,003	6,073
Accountancy/Finance Officer	7,836	5,340	13,176
Insurance	-	1,136	1,136

Subscriptions	534	144	678
Office/Admin Expenses	2,462	1,938	4,400
Repairs & Renewals	233	8	241
Rent	7,000	5,500	12,500
Total resources expended	<u>99,714</u>	<u>186,689</u>	<u>286,403</u>
Net income	<u>109,145</u>	<u>152,195</u>	<u>261,340</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2023
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Brown, March and Bowman Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOContents of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 April 2023

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North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOReport of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report alongside the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2023. The trustees have adopted the provision 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).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**Charity Name**

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Prof. Anna Tarrant (Chair) (appointed 07/07/2022)

Tyler Reed (appointed 12/09/2023)

Destiny Greenwood (appointed 12/09/2023)

Colin Workman (appointed 11/07/2023)

Mark Hutchinson (appointed 11/07/2023)

Jordan Pike (appointed 07/07/2022)

Jennifer Goldstein (appointed 09/07/2020)

Sarah Oliver (appointed 09/07/2020)

Emma Alcock (now resigned)

Steven Bramwell (now resigned)

Chloe Cottrell (now resigned)

Chris Humba (now resigned)

Angela Ward (now resigned)

Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Stoodley

Independent examiner

PA Brown & Company Ltd

16 Abbey Meadows

Morpeth

NE61 2BD

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Recruitment

The charity is governed by an elected board of trustees, who meet regularly for quarterly board meetings and an annual public AGM with the CEO of the charity. At these meetings, the opportunity arises for new trustees to be nominated, carefully considered by the board, and approved. All trustees are required to hold a valid enhanced DBS certificate which is reviewed every 3 years.

OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

NEYDL is a unique youth support service that is dedicated to helping young men and young fathers to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children, within families and wider society.

Mission and Vision

- Our vision is for young dads to be valued and supported in their role as parents.
- Our mission is to enable young dads to play a safe, active and meaningful role in their children's lives, by supporting and connecting young dads and influencing wider practice.

CHAIR'S REPORT

By Professor Anna Tarrant

It is an absolute honour to introduce the North East Young Dads and Lads' 2023 Annual Report in my brand-new capacity as the Chair of Trustees. As a starter for ten, please permit me to provide a brief overview of how I came to take on this role. I first became acquainted with the charity in 2017 and then again in 2020 in my capacity as a researcher, initially at the University of Leeds and now the University of Lincoln. I have been researching the lives of men in low-income families for a long time now, including a strand of work with young fathers and have always been interested in capturing the pioneering work of services that are involved in supporting fathers and families to flourish. My research team (Following Young Fathers Further) and I approached the charity in 2020 having seen CEO Kev talk about the pioneering work of the North East Young Dads and Lads on the BBC and it was clear that our interests and agendas for supporting young fathers in innovative ways aligned. In a research capacity, we worked to support some of NEYDL's young dads to conduct peer research as part of the Diverse Dads study. We co-wrote two research reports and a peer reviewed journal article with the dads as the Diverse Dads Collaborative and demonstrated the capacity of young dads to challenge negative stereotypes about themselves and others by contributing new knowledge and by changing the narrative. I later joined the Board of Trustees in 2022, bringing my research experience into the conversations of the board.

When Steven Bramwell announced he was stepping down as Chair of Trustees, I made the decision to take the step up; to support Kev and the NEYDL team with their ambitions for this thriving charity, to work with the Board of Trustees to support Kev and his strategic vision, and to sustain the ethos and ambitions of the charity. And what big shoes I must fill! According to my research a good chair of trustees is altruistic, has a good sense of humour, empowers others, and is friendly and humble. I'd like to think I epitomise all of those things (sense of humour included!) but certainly our outgoing Chair Steven is all these things in spades. It is therefore my aim to bring these qualities and a comparable level of passion, drive, and enthusiasm to the role as Steven did.

As the items in this year's report demonstrate, the anticipated trajectory of growth and innovation that was described in the 2022 report, has been realised and some! It has certainly been another fantastic and progressive year as promised! The charity continues to attract significant grant funding and is supporting an ever-expanding portfolio of young fathers, not just across the North East and Tyne and Wear region, but also nationally and even internationally. The community beekeeping, and Wheelie Good Dads projects have gone from strength to strength and via the DigiDAD platform, the charity is reaching new and increasingly distant destinations, from the depths of Wales to the far flung reaches of Peru. Testament to the increasing visibility and recognition of the charity and its work on DigiDAD, the charity was shortlisted in the category of Charity of the Year in the prestigious Children and Young People Now Awards 2022 and a

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further 2 categories in 2023 (Advice and Guidance and Youth Work categories). This is a huge honour and testament to the rising visibility and impact of the charity, and its work with and for young fathers.

As the year 2023 unfolds, I wish to say a huge thank you to the young dads, to the Board, to the consultants, the funders, and the ever-expanding staff team at NEYDL for everything that you do. Thanks also to Kev, for your tireless commitment to the dads and to the charity as it develops and as it grows in its reach and influence. I look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Tarrant".

Professor Anna Tarrant (Chair of Trustees since 11th July 2023 and Vice Chair/Secretary from 7th July 2022 to 11th July 2023)

CEO's Report
By Kevin Stoodley

A very warm welcome to this, our sixth Annual Report, covering the charity's endeavours and achievements over a 12-month period from May 2022 to April 2023.

Like the best laid plans of mice and men, every year I endeavour to release a short and snappy Annual Report as soon as the charity's year ends, only to lose myself in the wealth of rich, varied and wonderful stories, quotes and imagery shared by our incredible staff, trustees, volunteers and project partners, resulting in a burning desire to showcase this work in all its glory, even if it does mean adding yet another page or four to the final report. In the words of Roy Scheider (Chief Brody) during his first encounter with the oversized and rubberised Great White Shark in the movie *Jaws*, 'you're gonna need a bigger boat!' Or in our case a bigger printer!

I know I say this every year but 2023 really has been our best year ever, reaching and supporting more young dads, expectant fathers and non-birthing people (any young person who identifies as a father figure including kinship carers) than ever before, across a geographic area which now extends from Tyne and Wear to Tees Valley, and that's without mentioning the tens of thousands of people who access our online films, animations, podcasts and course content made by young dads for young dads and showcased on DigiDAD.

Whilst there are many things about NEYDL's work in 2023 deserving of high praise as detailed in this wonderful report, I believe our defining achievement this year has been to support, empower and enable young dads to progress from the position of service beneficiaries into one or more of the many volunteering opportunities we offer, from peer researchers to community cycling group leaders, community beekeepers and bee-entrepreneurs to DigiDAD content co-creators and expert advisors, AmbassaDADS to trustees. For young dads Rob, Nathan, Will and Jordan, this journey has ultimately led to their employment at NEYDL, taking on new, vital, and valued roles as Peer Enablers and Cycling Group Leaders who other young dads naturally gravitate towards, trust, and look up to as positive male role models as the following feedback from 2 young dads perfectly demonstrates:

'The service (NEYDL) and Rob himself (NEYDL staff member) have been amazing and I am so grateful for the support I have received. You have helped me adapt and become the Father I want to be.'

'I feel involved and more confident around people who's in the group. I'm much happier and I start loving it, cause whenever Doug or Will (NEYDL staff members) say oh we're doing a group session this date, then I get excited about it cause I always want to hang out with them. Because they're, like, really nice people...and if I need help, they come and talk to me. If I need help on something then they just step on the pedal and then talk to us and help me, like, you know, calm the stress, or get much confidence. I really look up to Will in the group because I appreciate what he, like he helped me through since I came into the group. I feel appreciative for him.'

Rest assured, as a strength/asset-based community development service, we are fully committed to supporting ever more young dads to grow in confidence, skills, knowledge and expertise as both parents and valued members of society, and I look forward to a day not too far away when a former service beneficiary of NEYDL is sitting in my seat (and doing a far better job of it I don't doubt).

Although it's been a good year for NEYDL, it has been incredibly challenging and desperate for many of the young families we support, who often live in the most deprived North East neighbourhoods and are thus most starkly affected by the cost-of-living crisis, poor housing, homelessness, limited job and career prospects. In addition, young men continue to report high levels of social isolation and loneliness and poor mental health (including suicidal thoughts, depression, social anxiety, loss and bereavement). We will continue to do everything within our powers and capacity to draw attention to the challenges and inequalities facing this long-neglected community whilst providing meaningful support to young dads whenever and wherever it's needed, in close collaboration with our service partners which next year will include Sunderland, Gateshead, County Durham and Middlesbrough Family Hubs.

The incredible work and achievements celebrated in this report would not have been possible without the generosity, support and encouragement shown by our amazing funders, sponsors and organisational partners, and the determination, skills and expertise shown by of our super talented current staff team - the brilliant Doug, Will, Jordan, Robert, Andy, Colin, Nathan, Tom, Amy and Nikki, our departing staff members Jonah York and Dylan Brown, our volunteers, trustees, project consultants and of course young dads and their families. It is because of you that we look forward to another highly productive and successful seventh year supporting young dads.

Before I sign off, can I please take a moment to thank our departing Chair Steven Bramwell, who recently stepped down after 6 years in office, having expertly steered the charity from its infancy as a little known and part-time Gateshead based service to the Peruvian powerhouse it has become (see article entitled DIGIDAD: From Peterlee to Peru). We couldn't have got here without you Steven! A very warm welcome is also due to our incoming Chair Professor Anna Tarrant – we are in safe hands!

I will end this Introduction with an unexpected message we recently received from the parent of a young dad supported by NEYDL which moved me deeply:

'You have done more than you'll ever know for my son and grandson.'

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Stoodley', with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.

Kevin Stoodley (Founder and CEO)

OUR IMPACT

(Covering the period from 1st May 2022 to 30th April 2023)

Reason for referral	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Young father / expectant dad	105	68	63	46	61	46
Non birthing people	10	4	2	1	1	2
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	48
Engagement by young men						
New referral	48	25	33	25	53	48
Ongoing support	67	47	32	22	9	6
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Locality						
Sunderland	34	23	26	22	19	7
Gateshead	20	26	32	20	31	44
South Tyneside	9	6	6	2	5	0
Newcastle upon Tyne	57	7	1	3	7	3
North Tyneside	14	3	0	0	0	0
Durham	15	6	0	0	0	0
Northumberland	0	1	0	0	0	0
Middlesbrough	18	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Young Men Living in Areas of Highest Deprivation (Based on IMD2019)						
10% most deprived areas	115	71	Not previously recorded			
Other	0	1	Not previously recorded			
Total	115	72				
Age at entry point						
Under 16	16	4	8	4	5	7
16-18	28	18	8	28	21	21
19-25	71	50	49	15	31	24
Not given	0	0	0	0	5	2
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Referral pathway						
Youth work charities	10	8	11	11	16	23
Social services	23	21	18	11	7	7
Early Help Teams	10	3	0	1	1	2
Family Nurse Partnership	18	18	16	17	17	7
Self-Referrals	5	6	5	4	14	5
School & Education	8	1	2	1	2	4
Housing	6	8	4	2	4	0
Health	25	6	0	0	0	0
Criminal Justice	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other	10	0	9	0	1	6
Total:	115	72	65	47	62	54
Individual help received.						
Child Protection proceedings	30	24	23	12	27	24
Child/Team around the family	10	1	1	3	7	1
Family law proceedings	5	5	5	0	8	7
NEET status	30	17	14	13	27	14
Career progression	15	11	5	4	8	Not recorded.
Housing, homelessness & benefits	25	16	9	4	8	9
Completing essential paperwork	30	16	13	5	19	Not recorded
Poverty & debt management	55	9	17	10	12	Not recorded.
Domestic abuse	15	21	12	7	21	12
Offending behaviour	25	6	16	3	10	4
Mental & emotional wellbeing	45	23	30	26	31	11
Substance misuse & addiction	15	7	8	6	12	6
Sexual health	18	5	3	5	2	0
Other physical health conditions	10	6	4	4	6	2
Learning difficulties	10	3	8	5	8	Not recorded
Social isolation and loneliness	101	72	60	47	51	5
Parenting skills	50	35	34	20	46	19
Relationship skills	40	23	27	24	25	5
Bereavement & loss	15	8	4	6	8	2
Volunteering*	105	74	3	8	25	9
School exclusion	8	6	5	3	2	4

Total: 657 388 301 215 363 134

*This figure represents the total number of young men who volunteered at NEYDL over a 12-month period

Individual contact time (hrs)

Dads and Toddlers groups	32	12	0	106	44
1:1 support (face to face)	850	408	440	350	306
1:1 support (telephone & social media)	572	234	450	140	92
Joint meetings with other professionals	350	460	250	190	119
Peer supported group work	480	202	850	959	912
Training delivered to professionals	150	51	40	56	101
Research activities	400	451	254	134	420
Campaigning, media, and film-work	350	257	428	142	238
Community beekeeping	268	196	131	250	98
Peer mentoring & volunteering	2,625	1,491	280	230	216
Other activities	50	17	20	36	0
Total:	6,127	3,779	3,143	2,593	2,546

Average individual contact time (hrs) 53 52.5 48 55 41

Key outcomes

Child Protection Plans downgraded or completed	22	18	9	5	8
Child-In-Need plans downgraded or completed	9	10	3	3	4
Progressed into full time work or study	18	9	10	5	8
Accessed specialist medical help and support	45	15	2	5	5
Total:	94	52	24	18	25

Social Media Metrics

YouTube Channel – launched 6th April 2021

Views:	30,598	12,400
Watch time (hours):	1,049	903
Organic subscribers:	106	80
Impressions:	97,700	41,600

Gender demographics:

Male:	56.5%	58.2%
Female:	43.5%	41.8%

Age demographics

18-24:	30.9%	33%
25-34:	44.3%	40%
35-44:	19.1%	19.4%
44+:	5.7%	7.6%

Twitter

Followers: 1,152 887

Facebook

Followers: 806 624

Likes: 684 549

Average reach per post: 8,000 209

DigiDAD E-learning Platform

Registered users: 110 43

SUPPORTING YOUNG DADS: A CASE STUDY

By Doug Laidlaw & Steven (A young Dad)

Steven was referred to the service at 16. At the time he was in a relationship with the future mother of his child (age 15). Both Steven and his partner had previously been cared for by the local authority and were living together. The referral for support for Steven came from the Pre-Birth Intervention Team who identified support around parenting skills and reduction in social isolation. Steven and his partner were not in education, employment or training at the time.

Doug (NEYDL staff member) met with Steven to discuss the service at the family home. Steven asked if his partner could also attend part of this meeting to understand what support he could get. After discussing support and showcasing DigiDAD, Steven was keen to access this resource. Steven registered on the DigiDAD platform at our first meeting.

Steven and Doug agreed a work plan and met weekly. Steven completed the DigiDAD programme. Feedback from Steven included:

'The videos were fun and made me feel more confident that I can do all the things new dads need to do.' Steven reported that his partner had also been watching the videos.

As Steven grew in confidence, he started engaging in NEYDL's peer supported group work offer including football, cycling, bowling, Escape Room visits and go-karting. In response, he has formed close friendships with other young dads from NEYDL and joined their video gaming group.

As the pregnancy progressed, Steven called Doug and informed him that his partner had gone into labour prematurely and was rushed into hospital. Doug offered emotional support to Steven via telephone.

Following the birth, Steven contacted Doug to inform him that the baby had to go into hospital in Middlesbrough. Steven didn't know how he could make the 30-mile journey from home to visit his child. Doug supported Steven to make these visits and stayed with Steven during the initial visits to offer emotional support.

After baby was transferred to the RVI Children's Hospital, Doug continued to provide visitation support for a further 6 weeks. With Doug's support Steven grew more comfortable and confident in caring for his baby within the hospital setting and one day announced:

'Doug I've got this!'

Steven also started to ask the hospital staff questions concerning both his baby's care and what support his partner and the baby would need when they came home.

Doug and the Pre-Birth Team worked with the family to develop a support plan for when baby came home.

Steven continues to be supported by NEYDL and dad, mam and baby are doing well.

Unsolicited feedback from Steven included:

'You were the only one I could ask for help, and you were always there for me.'

Feedback from our service beneficiaries:

'Yous are amazing. I'll forever be grateful and will support the charity forever.'

(Young Dad)

'They (NEYDL) were in our corner every single step of the way.'

(Young Dad)

'Hey (NEYDL staff member), hope all is well...I wanted to say a massive thank you! When I was living up north, honestly if it wasn't for you, I know genuinely I would have committed suicide...You was the only person who never judge me...You truly are an amazing person! An amazing dad and I never grew up with a dad myself, but you are what dads should inspire to be!'

(Young Dad)

'Honestly, without the support from the guys here (NEYDL) I don't want to know where I probably would've ended up.'

(Young Dad)

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Over the next year, the charity will continue to work to our strategic objectives as defined below.

- Provide individual support to young dads to address their issues and achieve personal outcomes.
- Enable young Dads to engage in activities (i) where they can share experience and support with other young dads and (ii) where they can spend time with mother and child.
- Provide opportunities to improve knowledge, skills, confidence and self-esteem through training and information resources.
- Influence policy and practice to be more inclusive and supportive of young Dads.
- Ensure NEYDL has the resources required to achieve the above objectives, maintaining high quality, authenticity, and effectiveness.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the year end, the board of trustees considered the charity to be in a healthy financial position with approximately six months of operating costs being held within unrestricted reserves. At the 30th April 2023, the board of trustees identified no uncertainties relating to the charity ability to continue as a going concern. The board of trustees' review and update their financial controls on a regular basis.

Principal funds

The charities principal source of funds is made up of voluntary grants from trusts and foundations and statutory grants and service commissioning.

In the year ended 30th April 2023, North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO continued to work on projects, which during the current year were funded largely by the following foundations and organisations with our deepest gratitude and heartfelt thanks:

The Ballinger Charitable Trust
 Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
 BBC Children in Need
 Connected Voice – VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund
 County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support
 Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sports England
 The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
 Fatherhood Institute
 Garfield Weston Foundation
 The Imagine Foundation
 The Lankelly Chase Foundation
 Lloyds Bank Foundation
 Newcastle University
 NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation
 Swire Charitable Trust
 The National Lottery Community Fund
 The William Leech Charity
 The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland
 The Tudor Trust
 The Joicey Trust
 Warburtons Project Grant
 The Council of The County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO will carry forward £287,160 of restricted funds and £141,000 of unrestricted funds to be spent in the 2023-2024 financial year.

Financial reserves policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO can meet its contractual obligations and finance the planned future growth of the organisation. The level of free reserves (excluding restricted funds)

is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Trustees consider that the most appropriate level of reserves on 30th April 2023 would be £143,202 which is equivalent to approximately six months basis operating costs.

The general reserves on 30th April 2023 amounted to £141,000, which is considered as free reserves.

Fundraising Policy

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO engages fundraising consultants from time to time to support the charities CEO to develop strategic plans of activities relevant to voluntary and statutory grant fundraising and service commissioning opportunities. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake Direct Mail appeals to such lists.

The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator and does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the CEO. Any marketing materials and approaches are scrutinised to ensure compliance with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are carefully recorded by the Finance Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to,

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the relevant examiners are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A Tarrant – Chair to Trustees

Anna Tarrant

Lara Tarrant

J Goldstien- Treasurer

Joseph Goldstien

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directors given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



11/12/2023

Paul Brown
PA Brown & Company Ltd
16 Abbey Meadows
Morpeth
NE61 2BD

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOStatement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	8,609		8,609
Charitable activities			
Swire Charitable Trust	23,000		23,000
Newcastle University		1,440	1,440
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs		200,000	200,000
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	44,000		44,000
The Imagine Foundation	22,000		22,000
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation		19,500	19,500
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England		480	480
Connected Voice - VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund	4,000		4,000
Warburtons Project Grant		10,000	10,000
The Lankelly Chase Foundation		34,578	34,578
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250		27,250
BBC Children in Need		26,886	26,886
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000		15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund		35,000	35,000
The William Leech Charity		3,000	3,000
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	10,000		10,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	2,000	42,000
The Joicey Trust		2,000	2,000
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support		2,000	2,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	15,000		15,000
Fatherhood Institute		2,000	2,000
Total	208,859	338,884	547,743
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising Funds	18,236	0	18,236
Charitable activities			
Other	81,478	186,689	268,166
Total	99,714	186,689	286,403
NET INCOME	109,145	152,195	261,340
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD (RESTATED)	31,855	134,965	166,820
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD			

<u>141,000</u>	<u>287,160</u>	<u>428,160</u>
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CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIOBalance Sheet
At 30 April 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		141,000	287,160	428,160
Cash in hand		-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		141,000	287,160	428,160
NET ASSETS				
		141,000	287,160	428,160
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds				141,000
Restricted funds				287,160
TOTAL FUNDS				
				428,160

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A Tarrant – Chair of Trustees

A Tarrant

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIONotes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2023.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIONotes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023**3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	(RESTATED) At 30.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.23 £
Unrestricted funds	31,855	109,145	141,000
Restricted funds			
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England	-	480	480
The Imagine Foundation	4,808	(4,808)	-
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs	-	200,000	200,000
Newcastle University	-	516	516
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	-	16,955	16,955
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	-	960	960
Fatherhood Institute	-	2,000	2,000
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	79,329	(61,743)	17,586
The Tudor Trust	23,249	(23,249)	-
Lankelly Chase (Wellbeing Grant)	393	(393)	-
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	13,011	11,750	24,761
Warburtons Project Grant	-	2,676	2,676
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	2,974	2,974
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	-	1,200	1,200
The Joicey Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The William Leech Charity	-	3,000	3,000
Cycling UK CCC	233	(233)	-
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	6,435	(6,435)	-
BBC Children in Need	7,507	4,545	12,052
TOTAL FUNDS	166,820	261,340	428,160

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	208,859	(99,714)	109,145
Restricted funds			
Newcastle University	1,440	(924)	516
The National Lottery Community Fund	35,000	(32,026)	2,974
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs	200,000	-	200,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	2,000	(800)	1,200
The William Leech Charity	3,000	-	3,000
The Joicey Trust	2,000	-	2,000
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	-	(61,743)	(61,743)
Cycling UK funded by The National Lottery & Sport England	480	-	480
Warburtons Project Grant	10,000	(7,324)	2,676
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation	19,500	(2,545)	16,955
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support	2,000	(1,040)	960
Fatherhood Institute	2,000	-	2,000
The Imagine Foundation	-	(4,808)	(4,808)
Cycling UK CCC	-	(233)	(233)
The Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	-	(393)	(393)
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	34,578	(22,828)	11,750
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	-	(6,435)	(6,435)
The Tudor Trust	-	(23,249)	(23,249)
BBC Children In Need	26,886	(22,341)	4,545
TOTAL FUNDS	547,743	(286,403)	261,340

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2023 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIODetailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	8,609		8,609
Charitable activities			
The Swire Charitable Trust	23,000		23,000
The Council of the County of Durham – Durham Family Hubs		200,000	200,000
Newcastle University		1,440	1,440
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	44,000		44,000
The Imagine Foundation	22,000		22,000
NHS Health Improvement Fund c/o County Durham Community Foundation		19,500	19,500
Cycling UK – Community Cycle Clubs Together Fund		480	480
Connected Voices- VCSE Cost of Living Crisis Fund	4,000		4,000
Warburtons Project Grant		10,000	10,000
Lankelly Chase		34,578	34,578
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250		27,250
BBC Children in Need		26,886	26,886
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000		15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund		35,000	35,000
The William Leech Charity		3,000	3,000
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust c/o Community Foundation	10,000		10,000
The Tudor Trust	40,000	2,000	42,000
The Joicey Trust		2,000	2,000
County Durham Community Foundation – Donor Support		2,000	2,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	15,000		15,000
Fatherhood Institute		2,000	2,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	208,859	338,884	547,743
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	1,338	2,675	4,013
Raising Funds	18,236	-	18,236
Support costs			
Wages, ER NI & ER Pension	10,324	126,777	137,101
Computer Equipment	8,310	2,232	10,542
Cycling Equipment	66	3,581	3,647
Staff Training & Welfare	897	2,798	3,695
Group work & Project Expenditure	30,584	26,785	57,369
Postage & stationery	143	127	270
Consultancy fees	11,681	-	11,681
Telephone	-	1,645	1,645
Client & staff travel	70	6,003	6,073
Accountancy/Finance Officer	7,836	5,340	13,176
Insurance	-	1,136	1,136

Subscriptions	534	144	678
Office/Admin Expenses	2,462	1,938	4,400
Repairs & Renewals	233	8	241
Rent	7,000	5,500	12,500
Total resources expended	<u>99,714</u>	<u>186,689</u>	<u>286,403</u>
Net income	<u>109,145</u>	<u>152,195</u>	<u>261,340</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1172924

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2022
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Brown & Lough Accountants Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

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For the Year Ended 30 April 2022

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North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2022. The trustees have adopted the provision 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 2015).

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1172924

Registered office

c/o BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts
South Shore Road
Gateshead
NE8 3BA

Trustees

Steven Robert Bramwell (Chair)
Dr Michael Joseph Richardson
Chloe Cottrell
William Patterson
Chris Humba
Jordan Richardson
Emma Alcock
Fred Suadwa
Angela Ward
Robert Oughton
Jenny Goldstein
Sarah Oliver

Independent examiner

Brown & Lough Accountants Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24/05/2022 and signed on its behalf by:



S R Bramwell – Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
Brown & Lough Accountants Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	994		994
Charitable activities			
Gateshead Goes Local- Local Action Group		19,222	19,222
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Main Grant	40,000		40,000
Imagine Foundation	10,000	5,000	15,000
If You Care Share		619	619
The University of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)		300	300
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust		80,000	80,000
Warburtons Families Matters Development Grant 2021		3,000	3,000
The Lankelly Chase Foundation		22,667	22,667
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000		25,000
BBC Children in Need		34,591	34,591
The Ballinger Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund- RC North East and Cumbria Region Programme		15,000	15,000
Big Bike Revival		1,992	1,992
The Tudor Trust		25,000	25,000
Cycling UK CCC		1,628	1,628
Total	<u>75,994</u>	<u>224,019</u>	<u>300,013</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising Funds	539	1,612	2,151
Charitable activities			
Other	78,669	151,606	230,375
Total	<u>79,208</u>	<u>153,318</u>	<u>232,526</u>
NET INCOME	<u>(3,214)</u>	<u>70,701</u>	<u>67,487</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD (RESTATED)	<u>35,069</u>	<u>64,264</u>	<u>99,333</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>31,855</u>	<u>134,965</u>	<u>166,820</u>
CONTINUING OPERATIONS			

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Balance Sheet
At 30 April 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		31,855	134,965	166,820
Cash in hand		-	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>31,855</u>	<u>134,965</u>	<u>166,820</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>31,855</u>	<u>134,965</u>	<u>166,820</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>31,855</u>	<u>134,965</u>	<u>166,820</u>
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds				31,855
Restricted funds				134,965
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>166,820</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 04 August 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



S R Bramwell – Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2022.

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	(RESTATED) At 30.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.22 £
Unrestricted funds	35,069	(3,214)	31,855
Restricted funds			
The University Of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)	594	(594)	-
Imagine Foundation	-	4,808	4,808
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	-	79,329	79,329
The Tudor Trust	25,615	(2,366)	23,249
The Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	1,000	(607)	393
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	14,025	(1,014)	13,011
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	1,710	(1,710)	-
Cycling UK CCC	-	233	233
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	10,083	(3,648)	6,435
BBC Children in Need	11,237	(3,730)	7,507
TOTAL FUNDS	99,333	67,487	166,820

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	75,994	(79,208)	(3,214)
Restricted funds			
Gateshead Goes Local- Local Action Group	19,222	(19,222)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund- RC North East and Cumbria Region Programme	15,000	(15,000)	-
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	-	(1,710)	(1,710)
The University Of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)	300	(894)	(594)
If you care Share	619	(619)	-
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	80,000	(671)	79,329
Warburtons Families Matters Development Grant	3,000	(3,000)	-
Imagine Foundation	5,000	(192)	4,808
Big Bike Revival	1,992	(1,992)	-
Cycling UK CCC	1,628	(1,395)	233
The Lankelly Chases Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	-	(607)	(607)
The Lankelly Chase Foundation	22,667	(23,681)	(1,014)
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000	(18,648)	(3,648)
The Tudor Trust	25,000	(27,366)	(2,366)
BBC Children In Need	34,591	(38,321)	(3,730)
TOTAL FUNDS	300,013	(232,526)	67,487

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2021 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	994		994
Charitable activities			
Gateshead Goes Local- Local Action Group		19,222	19,222
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Main Grant	40,000	5,000	45,000
Imagine Foundation	10,000		10,000
If You Care Share		619	619
The University of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)		300	300
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust		80,000	80,000
Warburtons Families Matters Development Grant 2021		3,000	3,000
The Lankelly Chase Foundation		22,667	22,667
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000		25,000
BBC Children in Need		34,591	34,591
The Ballinger Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
The National Lottery Community Fund- RC North East and Cumbria Region Programme		15,000	15,000
Big Bike Revival		1,992	1,992
The Tudor Trust		25,000	25,000
Cycling UK CCC		1,628	1,628
Total incoming resources	75,994	224,019	300,013
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	539	1,612	2,151
Support costs			
Wages	35,041	64,788	99,829
PAYE	15,175	15,137	30,312
Employer pension contributions	2,347	4,283	6,630
Group work & Project Expenditure	23,127	37,096	60,223
Postage & stationery	102	204	306
Consultancy fees	1,800	5,440	7,240
Telephone	101	621	722
Client & staff travel	154	4,120	4,274
Accountancy/Finance Officer	640	7,775	8,415
Insurance	-	991	991
Subscriptions	25	152	177
DBS checks	-	304	304
Office/Admin Expenses	-	2451	2451
Repairs & Renewals	157	74	231
Rent	-	5,800	5,800

Staff Welfare	-	2,470	2,470
Total resources expended	<u>79,208</u>	<u>153,318</u>	<u>232,526</u>
Net income	<u>(3,214)</u>	<u>70,701</u>	<u>67,487</u>
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This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

NORTH EAST YOUNG DADS AND LADS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1172924

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE009920 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1172924

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2021
for
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

P A Brown & Co Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

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For the Year Ended 30 April 2021

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North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 April 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2021. The trustees have adopted the provision 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 2015).

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 9 May 2017 and commenced trading on the same date.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
CE009920 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1172924

Registered office
Mitchell House
Gladstone Terrace West
Gateshead
NE8 4EA

Trustees
Steven Robert Bramwell (Chair)
Dr Michael Joseph Richardson
Chloe Cottrell
William Patterson
Chris Humba
Jordan Richardson
Angela Ward
Robert Oughton
Jenny Goldstein
Sarah Oliver

Independent examiner
P A Brown & Co Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 04 August 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



S R Bramwell – Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO ("the Company")
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directors given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Paul Brown
P A Brown & Co Ltd
4 Tyne View
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8DE

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Public Donations	1041		1041
Charitable activities			
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Fast-Track	20,478		20,478
Gateshead Goes Local	21,103		21,103
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Main Grant	40,000		40,000
North East Social Tech Fund		7,500	7,500
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland		5,000	5,000
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Systemic Action Inquiry)		2,903	2,903
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)		1,000	1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation		33,000	33,000
Imagine Foundation	10,000		10,000
BBC Children in Need		32,321	32,321
The Ballinger Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
TNL CF Coronavirus CSF		20,852	20,852
The University of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)		8,224	8,224
The Tudor Trust		25,000	25,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)		2,000	2,000
Total	<u>92,622</u>	<u>152,800</u>	<u>245,422</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising Funds	300	50	350
Charitable activities			
Other	67,349	170,282	237,631
Total	<u>67,649</u>	<u>170,332</u>	<u>237,981</u>
NET INCOME	<u>24,973</u>	<u>(17,532)</u>	<u>7,441</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD (RESTATED)	<u>10,096</u>	<u>81,796</u>	<u>91,892</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>35,069</u>	<u>64,264</u>	<u>99,333</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Balance Sheet
At 30 April 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank		35,069	64,264	99,333
Cash in hand		-	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>35,069</u>	<u>64,264</u>	<u>99,333</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>35,069</u>	<u>64,264</u>	<u>99,333</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>35,069</u>	<u>64,264</u>	<u>99,333</u>
FUNDS	3			
Unrestricted funds				35,069
Restricted funds				64,264
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>99,333</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 30 April 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 30 April 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 04 August 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



S R Bramwell – Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2021.

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	(RESTATED) At 30.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.4.21 £
Unrestricted funds (incl. Esmee Fairbairn Fast Track & Main Grant, Gateshead Goes local & Public Donations)	10,096	24,973	35,069
Restricted funds			
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-
TNL CF Coronavirus CSF	-	-	-
The University Of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)	-	594	594
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	-	-	-
North East Social Tech Fund	-	-	-
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	-	1,000	1,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)	-	1,710	1,710
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Systemic Action Inquiry)	29,994	(15,969)	14,025
A&E Trust	1,077	(1,077)	-
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	10,597	(514)	10,083
The Tudor Trust	29,453	(3,838)	25,615
BBC Children in Need	10,675	562	11,237
TOTAL FUNDS	91,892	7441	99333

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	92,622	(67,649)	24,973
Restricted funds			
Lloyds Bank Foundation	33,000	(33,000)	-
TNL CF Coronavirus CSF	20,852	(20,852)	-
The University Of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)	8,224	(7,630)	594
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	5,000	(5,000)	-
North East Social Tech Fund	7,500	(7,500)	-
Lankelly Chases Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)	1,000	-	1,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing grant)	2,000	(290)	1,710
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Systemic Action Inquiry)	2,903	(18,872)	(15,969)
A&E Trust	-	(1,077)	(1,077)
The Ballinger Charitable Trust	15,000	(15,514)	(514)
The Tudor Trust	25,000	(28,838)	(3,838)
BBC Children In Need	32,321	(31,759)	562
TOTAL FUNDS	245,422	(237,981)	7,441

4. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 April 2021 other than those disclosed in note 2.

North East Young Dads and Lads Project CIO

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 30 April 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS			
Donations and legacies			
Donations	1041		1041
Charitable activities			
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Fast-Track	20,478		20,478
Gateshead Goes Local	21,103		21,103
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Main Grant	40,000		40,000
North East Social Tech Fund		7,500	7,500
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland		5,000	5,000
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Systemic Action Inquiry)		2,903	2,903
Lankelly Chase Foundation (Wellbeing Grant)		1,000	1,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation		33,000	33,000
Imagine Foundation	10,000		10,000
BBC Children in Need		32,321	32,321
The Ballinger Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
TNL CF Coronavirus CSF		20,852	20,852
The University of Lincoln (QR Strategic Priorities Fund 2020-2021)		8,224	8,224
The Tudor Trust		25,000	25,000
The Tudor Trust (Wellbeing Grant)		2,000	2,000
Total	92,622	152,800	245,422
Total incoming resources	92,622	152,800	245,422
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Marketing and advertising	300	50	350
Support costs			
Wages	13,922	76,012	89,934
PAYE	3,684	17,802	21,486
Employer pension contributions	1,202	3,229	4,431
Group activities & refreshments	28,998	40,306	69,304
Postage & stationery	387	128	515
Consultancy fees	9,933	11,610	21,543
Telephone	940	3,197	4,137
Client & staff travel	-	1,100	1,100
Accountancy	1,411	1,723	3,134
Insurance	-	824	824
Subscriptions	-	461	461
DBS checks	147	-	147
Data Management System	3,000	3,750	6,750
IT Equipment	2,420	6,391	8,811
Rent	-	2,000	2,000
Sundries	92	71	163
Training Costs	1,056	568	1,624
Cleaning	27	-	27

Repairs and Renewals	130	301	431
Staff Recruitment	-	580	580
Staff Welfare	-	229	229
Total resources expended	<u>67,649</u>	<u>170,332</u>	<u>237,981</u>
Net income	<u>24,973</u>	<u>(17,532)</u>	<u>7,441</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

