



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025    Period start date    To 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025    Period end date

Charity name: The Together Centre

Charity registration number: 1173335

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Together Centre has a vision to make the centre a place of possibility. We want the Centre to be a place where people can come together, feel safe, well and happy, learn, grow and feel a sense of pride and ownership. The centre aims to support and provide for vulnerable individuals/families struggling through the financial economic crisis. We also envisage the Centre to be a hub of creativity and achievement, with access to beautiful and accessible green spaces.</p> <p>To provide community resources and facilities for all to use, but with a specific focus on vulnerable families.</p> <p>To provide a range of inclusive activities for the above to participate in.</p> <p>Low-cost food provisions.</p> <p>Low-cost second-hand clothing, household items and furniture.</p> <p>To provide an introductory space for mental health services and to offer healthy eating advice and promote exercise in-house.</p> <p>To help people, particularly vulnerable families, to access services and facilities to improve their wellbeing. To develop a community presence as an inclusive, creative, and 'green' hub.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>To further or benefit the residents of Tameside and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other</p>

		<p>organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.</p> <p>In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power: To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or cooperate with any statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above object.</p> <p>Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with [section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005] and [section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008].</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. In line with this guidance, the trustees ensure that the charity's activities are carried out to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit.</p> <p>The Together Centre operates to benefit the residents of Tameside and the surrounding areas without discrimination. Our services and activities are designed to provide inclusive support, promote wellbeing, and improve quality of life for vulnerable individuals, families, and the wider community.</p> <p>The trustees regularly review the charity's work and policies to ensure that our resources are used effectively and that our activities continue to deliver clear and measurable public benefit.</p>

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<p>Policy on Grant Making</p> <p>This section is currently under development. The trustees recognise the importance of having a clear grant making policy and intend to complete and include it in the next annual</p>

		report.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<p>Policy on Social Investment</p> <p>This section is currently under development. The trustees recognise the importance of having a clear policy on social investment, including program-related investments, to guide how the charity's resources may be used to further its charitable objectives. Work is ongoing to develop and formalise this policy, ensuring that any social investments are made prudently and align with the charity's mission and regulatory requirements. The trustees intend to include a comprehensive social investment policy in the next annual report.</p>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Volunteers continue to play a vital role in supporting the work of The Together Centre. Their commitment and diverse skills help to deliver many of our services, including running the charity shop, assisting with the food pantry, leading activity sessions, and supporting our community garden and allotment projects.</p> <p>Currently, we have 37 active volunteers who collectively contribute around 110 hours per week, which equates to over 5,700 hours annually. Valued at the national minimum wage for illustrative purposes, this represents a contribution worth approximately £65,000 per year.</p> <p>Our volunteers not only extend our capacity but also enrich the community spirit of the centre. We are committed to supporting and valuing our volunteers through regular training, recognition, and providing a welcoming environment where they can develop new skills and social connections.</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b>Summary of the Main Achievements</b></p> <p>Over the past year, The Together Centre has made significant strides in improving the lives of vulnerable individuals and families in our community. Through our inclusive range of services and activities, we have provided essential support that addresses both immediate needs and longer-term wellbeing. Our charity shop continues to offer affordable clothing and household goods, helping families stretch their budgets while reducing waste. The food pantry has supported an average of 43 people weekly, rescuing thousands of kilograms of food that would otherwise have been wasted and providing nutritious meals for those in need. This not only alleviates food insecurity but also contributes positively to environmental sustainability.</p> <p>We have expanded our social enterprise activities, including gardening support for older adults and a handyman service that enhances home safety for survivors and victims of domestic violence. These initiatives have empowered individuals, improved quality of life, and strengthened community resilience.</p> <p>Our dedicated volunteers have been instrumental in delivering these services, contributing thousands of hours and fostering a welcoming, supportive environment. Beyond direct support, The Together Centre has helped foster social inclusion and community cohesion, creating safe spaces where people can connect, learn, and grow. Our specialized groups for children, people with autism, and those with stoma bags have provided tailored support and a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Collectively, these achievements demonstrate our commitment to making a meaningful, positive difference in the lives of our beneficiaries and the wider society we serve.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>The trustees intend to develop this section in the coming year to provide a detailed summary of progress against the charity's strategic objectives.</b>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Para 1.21</p>	<p>The trustees have maintained close oversight of The Together Centre's finances throughout the year. Following a period of scrutiny and significant reductions in staffing last year, the charity is now in a much stronger financial position. We have successfully produced and implemented our first financial reserves policy, marking an important step towards long-term sustainability.</p> <p>Grants and donations have increased significantly, rising from £27,950 to £79,859, providing vital unrestricted income to support our work.</p> <p>Together Services, our social enterprise, has expanded its reach by introducing gardening support for people over 55 who need help maintaining their outdoor spaces. This initiative has been popular and increased income by 27%—from £44,070 at the end of 2024 to £55,932 at the end of 2025.</p> <p>Additionally, Together Services began a handyman contract with Jigsaw Homes' domestic violence project, Sanctuary, which helps secure the homes of vulnerable women with security measures such as cameras, window locks, chains, and lighting. Having a trusted charity attend to these sensitive needs has been invaluable in supporting these women's safety and wellbeing.</p> <p>The trustees remain committed to managing resources prudently while continuing to develop services that meet the evolving needs of our community.</p>
<p>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</p>	<p>Para 1.22</p>	<p>The trustees have established a reserves policy to ensure The Together Centre maintains sufficient unrestricted funds to manage financial risks and safeguard ongoing charitable activities.</p> <p>Reserves are held to provide a financial buffer against unforeseen shortfalls in income, unexpected expenditure, and periods of operational change or uncertainty. This enables the charity to continue delivering services and meeting commitments without disruption.</p> <p>The target level of reserves is set at three to six months of core operating costs, currently estimated at between £23,000 and £46,000.</p>

		This range is reviewed annually to reflect changes in income, expenditure, and risk.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the year-end, The Together Centre held unrestricted reserves of approximately £75,000, which exceeds the target range set in the reserves policy.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable. The charity currently holds unrestricted reserves as detailed above.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	There are no funds materially in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The trustees have assessed the charity's financial position and are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The Together Centre's principal sources of funds include grants and donations from local and national funders, income generated through our charity shop, and revenue from our social enterprise activities such as gardening support and handyman services. Fundraising activities include community events and appeals, which complement our core income streams. These diverse sources help sustain our services and community projects.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Currently, the charity does not hold significant investments beyond cash reserves. The trustees are developing a formal social investment policy to guide potential future program-related investments and ensure any investments align with the charity's mission and risk appetite. Until this policy is finalised, reserves are held primarily in liquid, low-risk accounts to maintain accessibility and financial stability.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The trustees have identified several principal risks that could affect the charity's operations and sustainability, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluctuations in funding and grant availability, which could impact income levels.</li> <li>• Dependency on key staff and</li> </ul>

		<p>volunteers, with potential challenges in recruitment and retention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational risks related to service delivery, including health and safety and safeguarding.</li> <li>• External economic factors that may increase demand for services while constraining resources.</li> </ul> <p>These risks are regularly reviewed, and the trustees implement appropriate mitigation strategies such as diversifying income, maintaining reserves, and ensuring robust governance and operational policies.</p>
Other		



## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The Together Centre is governed by its Constitution dated 20th January 2017. The constitution sets out the charity's objects, powers, and rules governing its administration.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission. This legal structure provides the charity with a corporate personality and limited liability for its trustees.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected through a voluntary application process followed by election by the membership. This democratic process ensures that trustees are appointed based on their commitment and suitability to govern the charity effectively. The constitution does not provide for any external or automatic appointments.  The trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity and meet regularly to oversee its operations and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	New trustees receive an induction pack that includes the charity's governing document, recent financial reports, policies, and relevant guidance on trustee duties. They are offered an introductory meeting with the Chair and other trustees to familiarise themselves with the charity's operations and strategic priorities.  The charity supports ongoing trustee development through access to training opportunities, workshops, and external resources relevant to their roles. Trustees are encouraged to keep up to date with best practice and regulatory requirements to ensure effective governance.
The charity's organisational		The Together Centre operates with a board of trustees responsible for governance and

structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	strategic oversight. Day-to-day management, is led by the Centre Manager, supported by staff and volunteers delivering services. The charity actively collaborates with local authorities, voluntary organisations, and community groups to enhance service provision and community impact. These partnerships help extend our reach and ensure coordinated support for beneficiaries.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The charity maintains transparent and professional relationships with all related parties, including trustees, staff, volunteers, partner organisations, and funders. Any potential conflicts of interest are declared and managed according to the charity's conflict of interest policy to ensure decisions are made in the best interests of the charity.
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Together Centre @ Loxley House
Other name the charity uses	The Together Centre
Registered charity number	1173335
Charity's principal address	Loxley House 287 Birch Lane Dukinfield, Tameside Greater Manchester SK16 5AU

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dawson Lane	Chair		Membership
2	Mark Collier	Trustee		Membership
3	Ann Murphy	Trustee		Membership
4	Susan Quinn	Trustee		Membership
5	Jackie Lane	Trustee		Membership
6	Christine Salah	Trustee		Membership
7	Paul Rippon	Trustee		Membership
8	Lyndsey Bertenshaw	Treasurer/Trustee		Membership
9	Margaret Sidebottom	Trustee		Membership
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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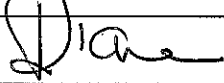
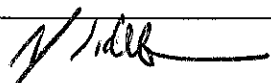
## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Dawson Lane	Margaret Sidebottom
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee

Date	24/01/2025
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THE TOGETHER CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

THE TOGETHER CENTRE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

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THE TOGETHER CENTRE  
GENERAL INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

**CHARITY:** The Together Centre (Registered Charity no.1173335)

**ADDRESS:** 287 Birch Lane  
Birch Lane  
Dukinfield  
SK16 5AU

**ACCOUNTANT:** MB Services MCR Ltd  
131 Brendon Drive  
Audenshaw  
Manchester  
M34 5RW



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO  
THE TRUSTEES OF THE TOGETHER CENTRE

In accordance with instructions given to me I have prepared without carrying out an audit the annexed financial statements from the accounting records of The Together Centre and from information and explanations supplied to me.

MB Services MCR Ltd  
131 Brendon Drive  
Audenshaw  
Manchester  
M34 5RW

**The Together Centre**  
**Profit And Loss Account**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

		<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Charity shop	7327			
Fund raising	5,942		10,669	
Grants and donations	79,859		27,950	
Room hire	12,514		9,790	
Services	55,932		44,070	
Workshops	<u>15,411</u>		<u>19,581</u>	
		176,985		112,060
<b><u>Cost of sales</u></b>				
Fund raising expenses	2,101		142	
Meal provision	12,423		7,268	
Resources	4,155		6,910	
Volunteer costs and expenses	<u>23,606</u>		<u>23,896</u>	
		<u>42,285</u>		38,216
<b>Gross Profit</b>		134,700		73,844
<b><u>Administration costs</u></b>				
Accountancy	530		618	
Computer and software costs	445		335	
Depreciation	2,016		2,556	
Insurance	2,807		1,768	
Motor expenses	3,275		6,470	
Professional fees	266		423	
Stationery and printing	4,022		2,843	
Sundry expenses	0		265	
Telephone and internet	3,471		3,530	
Wages costs	<u>61,542</u>		<u>75,250</u>	
		78,374		94,058
<b><u>Establishment costs</u></b>				
Property repairs	3,555		2,098	
Repairs and maintenance	7,456		3,574	
		11,011		5,672
<b>Net profit/-loss</b>		45,315		-25,886

The Together Centre  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31 March 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b><u>FA - equipment, fixtures &amp; fittings</u></b>		
Cost - b/fwd	5,167	2611
Cost - additions	0	2556
Depn - b/fwd	1660	784
Depn - charge	<u>672</u>	<u>876</u>
	2,835	3,507
<b><u>FA - motor vehicle</u></b>		
Cost - b/fwd	10,500	10500
Cost - additions	0	0
Depn - b/fwd	3780	2100
Depn - charge	<u>1344</u>	<u>1680</u>
	5,376	6,720
<b><u>Bank</u></b>		
Current account	75,997	30609
Petty cash	<u>1817</u>	<u>0</u>
	77,814	30609
<b><u>Creditors</u></b>		
Accruals	530	1137
Net wages	2272	0
PAYE and NI	<u>694</u>	<u>2485</u>
	3496	3622
	74,318	26987
<b>Net assets</b>	<b><u>82,529</u></b>	<b><u>37214</u></b>
<b>Funded By</b>		
<b><u>Profit and loss account</u></b>		
Brought forward	37,214	63100
Net profit	<u>45,315</u>	<u>-25886</u>
	82,529	37214
<b>Total funds</b>	<b><u>82,529</u></b>	<b><u>37214</u></b>



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

The Together Centre

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1173335

Set out on pages

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

22/01/2026

Name:

J V Fidler

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

F.C.C.A.

Address:

80 Joel Lane

Gee Cross, Hyde

Cheshire, SK14 5LF

### Section B

### Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of  
any items that the  
examiner wishes to  
disclose.**