



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1st July 2024**
Period end date

Period start date To **30th June 2025**

Charity name: Better Together

Charity registration number: 1183516

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We improve the conditions of life for residents of Smethwick by advancing education and providing facilities for recreation and leisure time occupation.
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	The weekly English conversation café has continued for several years, established with due regard to public benefit. Members may attend for longer than an academic year, growing in confidence. Some achieve entry level to enrol in formal study. Friendships are formed over free drinks and snacks.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees confirm they continue this activity as a service or benefit to the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has a limited number of volunteers, without whom this worthwhile activity would not be possible.

Other		
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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	During the time covered by this report 30+ club members enjoyed a spell practising their conversation skills and building their confidence. Some entered the world of work or went on to further study. Because social isolation was reduced the diverse community of Smethwick benefitted.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Trustees have had to recognise factors limiting the growth of the project but against modest objectives we achieved those goals. Numbers attending were maintained and we continue to co-operate with our neighbouring charity.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The search for alternative funding had not been successful by the end of the year.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	By the summer '25 lack of new money was a serious concern.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	There is nothing held in reserve.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Going into the 2025/26 financial year fundraising is a major concern for two people not previously shouldering that responsibility.

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	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	The charity was set up as a CIO
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	By invitation of the existing/continuing trustees.

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	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Better Together
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183516
Charity's principal address	Smethwick Baptist Church Regent Street Smethwick B66 3BQ

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	Pauline Hylton	Joint Treasurer		
2	Sandra Monica Robinson	Secretary	01/07/2024 to 31/07/2024	
3	John Craig Jordan			
4	Delroy Otis Thomas	Joint Treasurer		
5	Paul Adrian Beech			
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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)

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Full name(s)

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Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

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Date

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BETTER TOGETHER

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity in England & Wales number: 1183516

Income/Expenditure Statement
Year Ended: 30 June 2025

Surplus/(Deficit)	2024/25	2023/24
	Total £	Total £
Income:		
Donations - Religious Orgs.	0.00	0.00
Donations - Commercial Orgs.	0.00	0.00
Donations - Café	0.00	0.00
Donations - Others	0.00	0.00
Grants - Lottery	0.00	0.00
Grants - Others B	0.00	0.00
Grants - Others C	0.00	0.00
Misc - A	0.00	0.00
Misc - B	0.00	0.00
Misc - C	0.00	0.00
Misc - D	0.00	0.00
Total	0.00	0.00
Expenditure:		
Room Hire	900.00	1,230.00
Premises - Other	116.00	116.00
Teaching Aids	0.00	0.00
Student Resources	0.00	0.00
Training - Others	0.00	0.00
Travel Costs	0.00	0.00
Refreshments	0.00	19.95
Book Keeping	0.00	0.00
Audit	0.00	0.00
Reporting	0.00	0.00
Publicity	0.00	0.00
Others	0.00	0.00
Total	1,016.00	1,365.95
Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,016.00)	(1,365.95)
Adj	0.00	0.00
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,016.00)	(1,365.95)

Balance Sheet
Year Ended: 30 June 2025

Balance Sheet (Assets & Liabilities) as at:		30-Jun-25	30-Jun-24
		30-Jun-25	30-Jun-24
		£	£
Bank Current Accounts		772.16	1788.23
Cash		16.00	16.00
Cheques/DD (Not paid in)		0.00	0.00
Total Assets		788.16	1804.23
Creditors (uncleared cheques)		240.00	0.00
Other - cash owed		0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities		240.00	0.00
Total Assets & Liabilities		548.16	1804.23
Represented by:-			
		2024/2025	Opening
		Surplus / (Deficit)	Surplus / (Deficit)
		£	£
General Fund			
- General Account		772.16	1788.23
		0.00	1,788.23

B/Sheet
Cash Book

-240.00

NOT BALANCE

NOT BALANCE