



Annual Report *2024/2025*

**BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES WITH
SAFE PLACES, TRUSTED SUPPORT
AND OPPORTUNITIES TO THRIVE**

WELCOME

Welcome to our Annual Report and Financial Accounts 2024/2025

It again has been an incredible year during which The Space has developed, grown and adopted new ways of working and increased efficiencies as a result of our successful Transition Plan.

We were able to meet future demands for our existing services and implemented our strategy of 'building a community of support' with a new physical presence in Cheddar Valley and our plans to develop a Wellbeing Centre in Cheddar.

We have expanded our support to parents, families and carers to create local support aimed at prevention and early intervention.



A Word from our Chair

The theme of Building Brighter Futures, Safe places, Trusted Support, and Opportunities to Thrive is close to our hearts.

Everything we do is centred around providing safe, supportive spaces where children and young people can thrive, be themselves, connect with others, and grow in confidence.

Whether through our weekly Youth Club or Out of School Activities, we offer a welcoming environment for young people to relax, have fun and talk openly about life, knowing that trusted adults are there to listen and guide.

Our Play Therapy and Counselling services provide psychological support for improved mental health, and our nature therapy, holiday activities and family workshops encourage connection, wellbeing and community belonging.

Our work is about more than activities, it's about helping children and young people thrive. It's about giving them the space to explore who they are, develop resilience, and realise that they matter.

We're proud to stand alongside other organisations championing young people's mental health and wellbeing. Together, we're helping to build brighter futures — one safe, supportive space at a time.

John Pimblott
Chair of Trustees

THE SPACE TEAM

Our Trustees

John Pimblott - Chair

Sandra Legg

Ian Biggs

Stephen Kite

Suzanne Smith



Our Team

Lisa Clark, CEO

Katharine Thompson, Strategic
Head of Operations and People

Laura Wilcox, Head of Clinical
Services

Ruth Carter, Head of Marketing and
Impact

Victoria Boorman, Head of Youth
and Community

Sara Appleton, Head of
Fundraising

Sue Summers, Counsellor

Peripatetic Therapy

Team:

Lindsay O'Sullivan

Katie Purnell

Kirstin Lean

Jenny Haile

Will Humphreys

Laura Thompson

WHO ARE WE

The Space delivers measurable, life-changing outcomes for children, young people, and families across Somerset through evidence-based therapeutic interventions, community engagement, and family support. We are building a resilient, inclusive community where young people can thrive.

We provide age-appropriate support, whole-family engagement, flexible referral pathways, and practical activities, ensuring that provision remains responsive and inclusive to evolving demands of children and young people, families and the community.

We are a **front-end prevention partner**, keeping children close to home, preventing unnecessary admissions and reducing health inequalities.

- **Integrated therapeutic offer across ages** — play therapy for under-8s, counselling for 9–17s, and group work provide age-appropriate, trauma informed support for those with Adverse Childhood Experiences.
- **Whole-family approach** — parent/carer support, SEND navigation and parenting cafés support families alongside children and young people.
- **Community-rooted delivery** — youth club, youth café, holiday activities and a community garden create informal, accessible spaces that reduce stigma and build belonging. These approaches encourage young people to connect with each other, build confidence and trust.
- **Flexible pathways from need to support** — needs are identified in therapy, via partners and digital referral/forms so young people and parents move smoothly into the right intervention.
- **Strong local partnership network** — a trusted local partner bridging schools, families, health services, local business and voluntary organisations to widen our reach, enabling early identification and joined-up care.
- **Holiday Activities that Build Confidence and Connection** — activity-based programmes (Go Active, pool parties, community allotment) engage young people who don't need (or want) to access traditional talking therapy.
- **Responsive, data-informed practice** — the use of our CRM system, impact monitoring, regular feedback from stakeholders and local mapping (Connect Somerset/INSIGHT) keeps provision aligned to changing community needs.

IMPACT

We deliver measurable, life-changing outcomes for children, young people, and families in Somerset through evidence-based therapeutic interventions, community engagement, and family support.

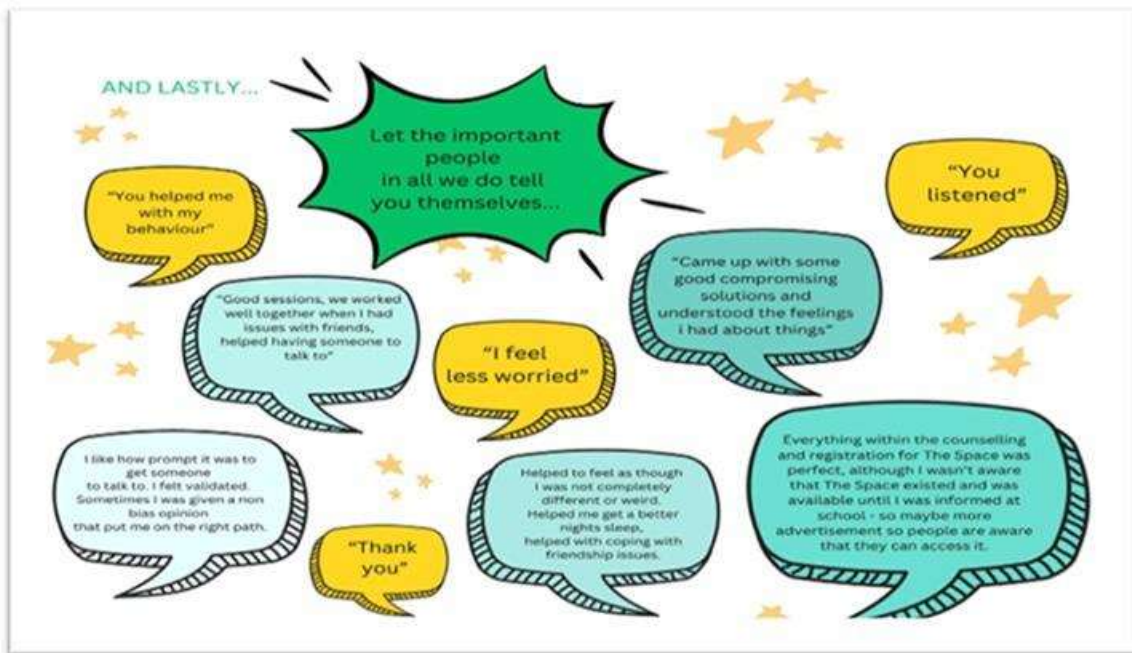
Our Impact is:

- **Children & Young People**
 - Thriving emotionally, socially, academically and mentally, with reduced reliance on crisis services.
 - Early intervention prevents escalation into CAMHS or statutory crisis pathways.
- **Families**
 - Are stronger, more resilient family units and better equipped to manage mental health challenges with improved coping strategies.
 - Stigma around mental health is reduced, fostering openness to seek early help.
- **Community**
 - Our rural community benefits from having a sustainable, community-led model of mental health provision.
 - Schools reported fewer behavioural issues and exclusions and increased attendance.
 - Increased social inclusion, reduced isolation, and stronger community cohesion.
 - A replicable, evidence-based model that can be scaled to other rural areas.



What we Learnt

- The Space's ability to deliver early, trauma-informed interventions to reduce isolation, and embed sustainable, community-led support, enabling children and young people to thrive, works.
- Community-led, flexible, and family-inclusive approaches are the most effective way to meet increasing complexity and rising demand in children's and young people's mental health and wellbeing.
- **Partnerships matter**
Collaboration with local organisations proved essential for building trust, visibility, and deeper community engagement.
- **Community spaces are powerful**
The adoption of the Community Garden and Allotment showed the therapeutic and social value of safe, inclusive outdoor spaces for both young people and families.
- **Feedback drives relevance**
Structured feedback and co-designed activities ensured services stayed responsive and relevant to emerging needs, reinforcing the importance of continuous listening and adaptation.



Achievements during the year

The Space made substantial progress in Empowering Minds, Strengthening Communities and Inspiring Change. We are Building Brighter Futures, Safe Places, Trusted Support and Opportunities To Thrive for children, young people, and families in Cheddar and the surrounding Somerset area.

Nearly 600 children and young people accessed services, reflecting both reach and impact. A central Hub was established, providing a professional, welcoming environment for Counselling and Play Therapy, while our expanded clinical services ensured timely, tailored support.

Outcomes were strong: 78% of counselling clients and 70% of play therapy participants showed measurable improvements in wellbeing. All young people who disclosed suicidal thoughts at the start of therapy no longer presented risk at the end.

Over the past year, the need to provide additional support for parents, carers, and families has become increasingly evident, leading to the development next year of a central Wellbeing Blend.

Community initiatives flourished, including a year-round youth club, and the thriving Community Garden, which offered therapeutic outdoor activities and environmental projects.

Organisationally, The Space strengthened its therapy team and organisation structure, introduced a bespoke CRM system to improve data management, and deepened partnerships with schools, health providers, and local organisations.



PLANS FOR 2025/2026

- The Space will continue to drive long term change and legacy, providing early provision and intervention that works. With continued investment, The Space will sustain and scale this model, ensuring that no child or family faces mental health challenges alone.
- Create a partnership with Coffee@TheHub to develop a *Wellbeing Blend* – a local vibrant support hub for parents, carers and the community.
- As an extension of the youth club, fill the gap in provision for teenagers and confirm the value of informal, welcoming spaces by developing a *Youth Café* for 15–19 year-olds and show the importance of safe, structured out-of-school activities.
- Support parents and carers in the *Wellbeing Blend* and demonstrate how vital parent/carers support is to improve communication, strengthened family relationships, and helped identify emerging needs earlier.



The Space (CIO)

Annual report of the trustees

The trustees present their report together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Administrative details

The Space is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) number 1188929.

The administrative office and operational address is:

The Estate Office
Lower North Street
Cheddar
Somerset
BS27 3HA

Trustees

John Pimblott - Chair
Sandra Legg
Ian Biggs
Stephen Kite
Suzanne Smith

Reporting accountants

Brooking Ruse
Chartered Accountants
2 Stafford Place
Weston-super-Mare
Somerset
BS23 2QZ.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes are set out in the charity's constitution dated 6th April 2020.

We aim to:

- preserve and protect the mental health of children and young people, in particular, but not exclusively aged between 4-18 living in the Cheddar Valley, Somerset through:
 - a) The provision of one-to-one counselling, support, advice and information;
 - b) Recreational and leisure time activities

Structure, governance and management

The Space uses a risk management process to assess our exposure to a variety of risks and to implement mitigation. The risks to which the charity is exposed are reviewed regularly by the Board of Trustees. The defined risks include health and safety, personal safety, reputation, financial, service delivery and governance. The impact of each risk is assessed together with the likelihood of its occurrence. The product of these two factors is used to identify significant risks, to prioritise and assess adequacy of mitigation actions.

We are constantly working to safeguard all of the children and young people who we support. Given the nature of the services we provide and the vulnerability of the children and young people who need support, we ensure that all our staff and volunteers are trained and supported to ensure safety and to raise concerns appropriately and confidently. In practice we have robust safeguarding processes which are regularly reviewed.

These include:

- coordinating the needs of the child or young person with the capability of our staff
- systematic, thorough recruitment and screening procedures
- training programme for staff and volunteers
- extensive recruitment and vetting process including DBS checks
- continued, regular supervision of staff and volunteers supervised by an experienced Head of Operations and People
- professional development of all members of the team
- internal audits conducted by the Designated Safeguarding Lead These requirements are implemented as part of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy which is reviewed on an annual basis.
- part of the risk management process is a review of our insurance policy to ensure risks are adequately covered.

The Space (CIO)

Annual report of the trustees ...continued

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to The Space Constitution and the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit at Trustee meetings, when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning current and future activities.

We fund services which complement services already provided by statutory bodies, including Somerset Unitary Authority and Somerset NHS and do not fund services and support which are within their statutory duty.

The Trustees are satisfied that our activities to preserve and protect the mental health of children and young people living in the Cheddar Valley Area meet our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Our activities include therapy services for ages 4-17 years, a youth club, holiday activities, a community wellbeing garden and allotment, peer to peer collaboration, and social media awareness for our beneficiaries and general public.

Direct beneficiaries are the local children and young people. Indirect beneficiaries are their direct and indirect family members and the local community.



Reserves

The Trustees of The Space CIO unanimously confirm that they adopt a Reserves Policy to provide reserves provision to cover three months unexpected operating costs at the 2026 forecast level of expenditure. Most operating costs are the cost of staff contracts with the reserve provision providing cover for potential contract termination costs.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board on 3 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by



.....
Trustee

The Space (CIO)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Space (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Space (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Robert Orr,
Brooking Ruse,
Chartered Accountants,
2 Stafford Place,
Weston-super-Mare,
Somerset, BS23 2QZ.

3 December 2025

SM.CB.11055

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | Notes | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--|-------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Incoming resources | | | | | |
| Grant Funding | | 130,000 | 34,320 | 164,320 | 165,504 |
| Community Fundraising | | - | 19,932 | 19,932 | 19,504 |
| Charitable Activities | | - | 4,253 | 4,253 | 1,322 |
| Contributions to service | | - | 605 | 605 | - |
| Bank Interest | | - | 4,290 | 4,290 | 4,037 |
| | | <u>130,000</u> | <u>63,400</u> | <u>193,400</u> | <u>190,367</u> |
| Resources expended | | | | | |
| Charitable Activities and Projects | 4 | 188,084 | 64,138 | 252,222 | 145,867 |
| Governance Costs | 5 | - | 8,117 | 8,117 | 6,314 |
| | | <u>188,084</u> | <u>72,255</u> | <u>260,339</u> | <u>152,181</u> |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | 6 | <u>(58,084)</u> | <u>(8,855)</u> | <u>(68,939)</u> | <u>38,186</u> |

The notes on pages 15 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial position as at 31 March 2025

| | Notes | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 114,791 | 169,969 |
| Debtors | | 541 | 554 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | 115,332 | 170,523 |
| Current liabilities | 6 | (47,028) | (35,280) |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Net assets | | 68,304 | 135,243 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| The funds of the charity | 7 | 68,304 | 135,243 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |

The financial statements were approved by the board on 3 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Space (CIO)
Notes to the unaudited financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported a deficit for the year of £66,939 which resulted in a valuation of funds held within the charity of £68,304 at 31 March 2025. The Trustees are confident of receiving the continued support from its members and on this basis, the Trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

(c) Funds structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Incoming resources from grants, where there are performance or service deliverables required by the terms of the grant, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to payment through its performance.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Investment income is included when receivable.

(e) Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

(f) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

The Space (CIO)

Notes to the unaudited financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025 ...continued

2. Trustees remuneration

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year, nor were any expenses reimbursed to trustees.

3. Taxation

As a charity, The Space is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within sections 466 to 493 Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) or section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 (TCGA 1992) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

| 4. | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Charitable activities and projects | | | |
| Staffing costs – including social security and training | 185,904 | 29,695 | 215,599 |
| Project costs | 2,180 | 7,829 | 10,009 |
| Community Hub | - | 14,371 | 14,371 |
| Communications, computer and software | - | 6,865 | 6,865 |
| General expenses - including travel and DBS | - | 5,378 | 5,378 |
| | 188,084 | 64,138 | 252,222 |
| | | | |

| 5. | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Governance Costs | | | |
| Payroll and Human Resources | - | 5,596 | 5,596 |
| Independent examination | - | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| Insurance | - | 1,085 | 1,085 |
| Bank charges | - | 236 | 236 |
| | - | 8,117 | 8,117 |
| | | | |

| 6. | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accruals | 2,328 | 960 |
| Deferred grant income | 44,700 | 34,320 |
| | 47,028 | 35,280 |
| | | |

The Space (CIO)

Notes to the unaudited financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025 ...continued

| 7. | | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total |
|----|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | Funds of the Charity | | | |
| | At 1 st April 2024 | 91,725 | 43,518 | 135,243 |
| | Surplus/(deficit) for the year | (58,084) | (8,855) | (66,939) |
| | As at 31 March 2025 | <u>33,641</u> | <u>34,663</u> | <u>68,304</u> |

8. Related Party Transactions

The building from which the charity operates is owned by a member of senior charity personnel. The lease was entered into on an arm's length basis and no favourable terms are in place.

During the year, the charity paid rent and associated costs totalling £14,371 to the landlord.

The Space (CIO)

**The following pages do not form part of the
statutory financial statements of the charity**

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial activities by project for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | Notes | | | | |
|--|-------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|
| | | The Space | Connect Somerset | Total 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
| Incoming resources | | | | | |
| Grant Funding | | 130,000 | 34,320 | 164,320 | 165,504 |
| Community Fundraising | | 19,932 | - | 19,932 | 19,504 |
| Charitable Activities | | 4,253 | - | 4,253 | 1,322 |
| Contributions to service | | 605 | - | 605 | - |
| Bank Interest | | 4,290 | - | 4,290 | 4,037 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | 159,080 | 34,320 | 193,400 | 190,367 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Resources expended | | | | | |
| Charitable Activities and Projects | | 221,927 | 30,295 | 252,222 | (145,867) |
| Governance Costs | | 8,031 | 86 | 8,117 | (6,314) |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | 229,958 | 30,381 | 260,339 | (153,181) |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Contribution towards The Hub | | 3,939 | (3,939) | - | - |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | | (66,939) | - | (66,939) | - |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

The Space (CIO)

Detailed expenditure accounts by project

for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | The Space | Connect Somerset | Total |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Charitable activities and projects | | | |
| Staffing costs – including social security and training | 186,494 | 29,105 | 215,599 |
| Project costs | 10,009 | - | 10,009 |
| Community Hub | 14,371 | - | 14,371 |
| Communications, computer and software | 6,865 | - | 6,865 |
| General expenses – including travel and DBS | 4,188 | 1,190 | 5,378 |
| | <hr/> 221,927 | <hr/> 30,295 | <hr/> 252,222 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Governance Costs | The Space | Connect Somerset | Total |
| Payroll and Human Resources | 5,596 | - | 5,596 |
| Independent examination | 1,200 | - | 1,200 |
| Insurance | 1,085 | - | 1,085 |
| Bank charges | 150 | 86 | 236 |
| | <hr/> 8,031 | <hr/> 86 | <hr/> 8,117 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Funds of the Charity | The Space | Connect Somerset | Total |
| At 1 st April 2024 | 135,243 | - | 135,243 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | (66,939) | - | (66,939) |
| As at 31 March 2025 | <hr/> 68,304 | <hr/> - | <hr/> 68,304 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

CERTIFICATE *of* SIGNATURE

REF. NUMBER
IKX7V-DXNPQ-ABP2V-RG6J6

DOCUMENT COMPLETED BY ALL PARTIES ON
08 DEC 2025 11:11:04
UTC

SIGNER

JOHN PIMBLOTT

EMAIL
JOHNPIMBLOTT@OUTLOOK.COM

TIMESTAMP

SENT
08 DEC 2025 09:13:37
VIEWED
08 DEC 2025 11:03:28
SIGNED
08 DEC 2025 11:11:04

SIGNATURE



IP ADDRESS
3.9.115.99

LOCATION
CITY OF LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

RECIPIENT VERIFICATION

EMAIL VERIFIED
08 DEC 2025 11:03:28

