

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1189827

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-06-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address York Travellers Trust
20 Falsgrave Crescent
York
YO30 7AZ

Phone 01904630526

Email info@ytt.org.uk

Website <https://www.ytt.org.uk/>

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF THE GYPSY/TRAVELLER COMMUNITY IN YORK AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS BY: 1. THE RELIEF OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PROVISION OF ADVICE AND INFORMATION ON HOUSING AND WELFARE BENEFITS; 2. THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF GOOD PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH; 3. THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO ARE IN NEED THEREOF SO AS TO ADVANCE THEM IN LIFE AND ASSIST THEM TO ADAPT WITHIN THE WIDER COMMUNITY; 4. THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES; 5. PROVIDING WORKSHOPS, FORUMS, ADVOCACY AND GENERAL SUPPORT THAT ENCOURAGES AND ENABLES MEMBERS OF THE GYPSY/TRAVELLER COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY; 6. PROMOTING GOOD RACE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS THROUGH PROVIDING INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO STATUTORY AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC ON THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE GYPSY/TRAVELLER COMMUNITY.

Activities: The objectives of YTT is to relieve the poverty, advance the education and promote the health, social and economic welfare of the Gypsy / Traveller community in and around the York area. The core work includes advice, advocacy, conflict resolution, anti-discrimination and promotion of better health, education, community development and social cohesion.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- City Of York
- East Riding Of Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£356,767	£265,912	-	-
2024-03-31	£283,786	£280,862	-	-
2023-03-31	£239,909	£211,786	-	-
2022-03-31	£202,114	£180,309	-	-
2021-04-01	£215,845	£77,986	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joy-Kirsten Jackson		2024-02-08
Katie Young		2025-10-29
Michael Turnpenny		2024-02-08
Patrick O'Kelly		2023-11-16
Stephen Edward Pittam		
Tom Beer		2023-11-16

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1189827

Accounts



York Travellers Trust
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2025

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Introduction

York Travellers Trust (YTT) is the longest running registered charity within the United Kingdom that works primarily with Gypsy and Traveller Communities (GTC). Based in York and surrounding areas, we're here to support members of the GTC with various issues such as finance, education, health, and experiences of discrimination. Our aim is to improve their physical and mental well-being and dispel mistruths about the GTC within the local community, improving the lives of GTC and those they interact with.

This report presents key information in relation to the delivery and impact of our services in the 2024-25 financial year. The past year marked both an ending and a new beginning for York Travellers Trust (YTT). The conclusion of the five-year Safe Space Project, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, closed a defining chapter in YTT's development — one that enabled growth, deeper community engagement, and stronger organisational identity. The continued support from the National Lottery Community Fund will allow YTT to build on this legacy, maintaining and expanding vital services for Gypsy and Traveller communities in York. Services and support would not be possible without all our funders including the National Lottery Community Fund 'Safe Space Project', Esmée Fairbairn, Lankelly Chase, Moving for Change, York CVS and Two Ridings Community Foundation among others.

Governance has evolved with Caroline Hunter stepping down as Chair and Patrick O'Kelly succeeding her. The Board has begun introducing sub-committees, completed a strategic review, and strengthened decision-making.

YTT's influence has grown notably through its successful challenge to the York Local Plan, securing meaningful policy changes for the Gypsy and Traveller community. Its work in education and youth engagement has fostered confidence and opportunity among young people, while mental health and wellbeing have become integral to its services.

In the coming year we will continue our work to develop a community-led governance model, strengthen our leadership and governance capacity, invest in impact measurement, and maintain our strategic delivery focus on housing and welfare, education, health and wellbeing, and community and identity.

If you would like more information about the content of this report, or the work we do, please feel free to contact us at:

York Travellers Trust, 20 Falsgrave Crescent, YORK, YO30 7AZ

T. 01904 630 526

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Acknowledgements

This year has felt like the end of one chapter and the start of another for YTT. We've come to the end of our five-year journey with the National Lottery Community Fund's Safe Space Project – a project that has shaped so much of what we do and how we do it. It's given us the time and space to grow as an organisation, to listen to our community, and to make sure people have somewhere they can feel safe, supported, and heard.

We're so grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund for believing in us, and we're delighted that their support isn't ending here. The next few years of funding from them will help us keep building on what we've learned, so we can continue to grow and support our community in the ways that matter most.

To our communities, GT and non-GT, thank you for welcoming us into your lives and trusting us to stand alongside you.

To our staff team, including both those who have moved on and those who joined us this year, thank you for stepping up, adapting when things changed, and keeping the focus on supporting people day in, day out.

We also want to recognise the partners who stood with us, especially in our research and in challenging the York Local Plan – and winning changes that will make a real difference. It shows what's possible when we work together and stand our ground.

And finally, thank you to all our funders, volunteers, Trustees, and everyone who has helped in ways big and small. You're all part of this journey, and we can't wait to see where we go together next.

Violet Cannon, Director

Treasurer Statement

This year has been one of both consolidation and transition for YTT. The end of the five-year Safe Space Project marked a major milestone, and we are proud that we closed this period in a stable financial position, with clear plans in place to build on the legacy it leaves. Careful budgeting and close monitoring meant that, even during times of staff change and increased demand, we were able to maintain core services, honour our commitments to funders, and support our community without interruption.

We have continued to diversify our income, combining long-term investment from the National Lottery Community Fund with grants from Esmée Fairbairn, Lankelly Chase, Moving for Change, York CVS, Two Ridings Community Foundation and others, alongside growing local support. This broad base of funding has strengthened our resilience and will be critical as we step into the next stage of development, embedding sociocratic governance, strengthening our workforce, and investing in monitoring and communications to evidence our impact.

I want to thank our staff team, who have shown exceptional commitment through a challenging year, and our funders and partners for their continued trust. YTT is now in a stronger financial and governance position than at any point in its history, giving us the confidence to move forward sustainably while staying rooted in our community values.

Stephan Pittam, Treasurer

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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Board of Trustees

This past year has been one of both achievement and challenge for YTT. We are proud of how YTT's influence has grown, particularly through our work on the York Local Plan, where we successfully challenged and secured changes that will have a lasting impact for GTC. It has helped to raise the profile of YTT while also improving the council's understanding of their obligations to our community. This work could not have been carried out without the expertise, dedication and perseverance of Abbie North, who stepped down as a trustee in May 2024.

We are also proud of YTT's work with young people and education, which has been transformative. We have seen a shift in aspirations and confidence among young people, with some taking exams for the first time and others exploring new opportunities. We have also seen how YTT has embraced mental health and wellbeing as part of its work, which was rarely talked about five years ago.

Governance and resilience have been important themes this year. During the year Caroline Hunter stepped down as Chair of the Board. Her leadership has been greatly appreciated, and we are delighted that she continues as a member of the Board. We welcomed Patrick O'Kelly as our new Chair. The board has agreed to introduce sub-committees and following a strategic review exercise, we have a stronger framework and improved our ability to make decisions. We have also welcomed new trustees, bringing additional skills and experience, and we are committed to continuing our work on succession planning.

At the same time, we know we have faced challenges. Staff capacity has been stretched, after departures. This included Abigail Darton and Paula Nicholson, two key and long-standing members of the YTT team, to whom we are grateful for their many contributions over the years. We want to recognise with gratitude the commitment of the staff team during this period and their willingness to pull together ensured YTT continued to deliver vital services to our community.

We are proud of the fact that YTT has grown from a small, reactive charity into an organisation able to work strategically and deliver a broader, more holistic service. But growth also brings pressure: *"The more work we do the more need we discover."*

Where We Go from Here.

Looking ahead, our priorities for the next phase are clear:

- **Develop a Sociocratic Model:** Building a more inclusive, community-led governance model which we are grateful to Esmée Fairbairn Foundation for funding.
- **Leadership and Capacity:** Recruiting a Deputy CEO to strengthen operational delivery and free up strategic leadership.
- **Governance:** Continue our work to improve our governance by embedding our Trustee Sub-Committees and improving our financial management oversight systems.
- **Impact and Communications:** Investing in monitoring and communications to better capture and share YTT's impact.
- **Strategic Focus:** Concentrating on housing and welfare, education, health and wellbeing, and community and identity while keeping the organisation robust and resilient.

These steps will help us hand over a "well-oiled machine" to future leadership and ensure that YTT continues to deliver meaningful change for GTC in York.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by YTT
Registered Charity number 1189827
Company registration number CE022094
Charity's principal address 20 Falsgrave Crescent
 Clifton, YORK, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Patrick O'Kelly	Chair	(Chair from 12 September 2024)
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	
Caroline Hunter		(Chair until 12 September 2024)
Claire Wilton		(resigned 17 May 2024)
Abbie North		
Joy-Kirsten Jackson		
Michael Turnpenny		
Tom Beer		
Katie Young		(appointed 29 October 2025)

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, Director

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document Constitution
How the charity is constituted Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8th June 2020
Trustee selection methods Nomination and Co-option

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

- 1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
- 2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
- 3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
- 4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
- 5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
- 6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

- 1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
- 2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
- 3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
- 4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and Performance

Organisation.

Organisational Development.

The last five years have seen us grow from a small, reactive charity into an organisation delivering a wide range of services, influencing national conversations, and being trusted by partners and funders alike. This growth has been driven by community need and by our ambition to do more for Gypsy and Traveller people in York and beyond.

Growth brings complexity, and we have embraced that as an opportunity to strengthen our foundations. This year we focused on building our internal systems – updating policies, improving financial planning, and introducing sub-committees to provide clearer oversight. These changes, along with new trustee expertise and a Deputy CEO role, mean that we are better placed than ever to manage growth responsibly and meet the expectations of our funders and partners.

There's been a constant tension between operating like a professional business and staying true to our roots as a Gypsy and Traveller community organisation. This has come up in governance, in staffing, even in how we measure impact. One staff member summed it up:

“It's a bit more stumbly than always forward momentum ... we don't have a lot of infrastructure in place like commercial organisations do ... but that's us, that's our way.”

One of our biggest shifts is in how we want to make decisions. We are continuing to explore sociocratic models of governance – a practical way to ensure decisions are shaped by the people most affected by them, while still meeting our legal and funder obligations. It is slow, thoughtful work, but it is building the kind of organisation we want and need to be.

Collaborations and Influence – Our Voice is Heard.

We are proud to have become a recognised and trusted partner locally and nationally. Five years ago, it felt like YTT was often ignored or treated as peripheral. Now we are at the table for decisions that affect our communities.

Our work influencing York's Local Plan was a clear example of this. We challenged the poor provision of Traveller sites and secured commitments, including £5 million of investment. We are also building practical partnerships – from health and wellbeing initiatives to education advocacy – and increasingly, partners approach us because they see us as credible, knowledgeable, and trusted.

But we also see the limits of what we can do alone. Education work has shown how deep systemic issues run. That is why partnership and collaboration remain a priority, because together we can tackle the entrenched barriers our community faces.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Data, Impact and Evaluation – Learning What Works.

We want to show the difference we make, not just tell it. We have made progress in capturing and reporting impact, but we know traditional systems and approaches don't always work well in our context.

We have learned that many Gypsy and Traveller people are understandably cautious about data collection, and we need to continue to build trust while finding ways to gather meaningful information on the difference we're making. In our next phase, we're planning to develop a GT-informed approach to evaluation, built into our sociocratic way of working, so that impact measurement feels relevant, safe, and useful.

This will further strengthen accountability to funders and help us learn in real time, so we can adapt our services based on what our communities say and experience.

Workforce – Building Capacity and Opportunity.

This year tested us with significant staffing changes but also showed our resilience and creativity. Several valued colleagues moved on or stepped back, but despite this, we recruited new staff, kept services running and supported clients throughout. Staff stepped up, shared workloads, and adapted to new roles.

“Everybody has really pulled together and made it work really well ... now there feels like a really good structure again and I am looking forward to what the future brings.”

We are proud that more of our workforce now comes from GT backgrounds with the new GT Community Link Worker sharing:

“It means a lot to me. I can articulate what our culture involves ... jobs like this are quite rare. There aren't many places like this in the country and I'm grateful I get the opportunity to do this job.”

The existing Community Link Worker shared a similar sentiment:

“I love giving back to the community and I love being the voice of a community ... I feel very privileged to work here because I can be myself. Any other place I've worked I've always had to hide my identity and where I'm from. Here I can just be me.”

We know some people in the community still feel underqualified or lack confidence to apply for roles, but we are showing it is possible. Our ambition is to build on this progress, creating clearer GT pathways to employment, and supporting GT people into leadership roles. At the same time, we must recognise the personal cost that can come with this work. For many of our GT staff, the role is not just a job, but a deep personal commitment rooted in lived experience, cultural pride, and community care. Holding space for others while carrying our own histories of racism, discrimination and intercultural trauma can be emotionally demanding. The weight of expectation can feel immense, and saying “no” when people are in need is rarely an option. In our close-knit communities, we are never truly off duty, seen as the ones who can help, who will know what to do, and who will find a way through even the most insurmountable challenges. This constant call to serve is both a source of pride and an unseen pressure, and as we build workforce capacity, we remain committed to supporting staff wellbeing alongside professional development.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Data.

Engagement and Reach.

In 2024–25, we supported 147 unique clients, compared to 165 in the previous year. Across both years, we engaged with 220 unique individuals, demonstrating two key things:

- A strong group of people who trust and regularly return to us for support.
- Continued success in reaching new individuals, even during a year of staffing disruption.

However, our reach may actually be greater. A significant proportion of service records were recorded as “unknown attendee,” (i.e., 1 unique client) limiting our ability to identify repeat clients and accurately measure reach. Improving how we capture attendee details will be a key focus for next year.

Most people accessing support live on York’s GT sites (Clifton, Osbaldwick, and James Street). Only 3% came from outside the York postcode area, and we do not hold postcode data for 15% of clients. This means we may be underestimating our geographic reach or missing opportunities to identify gaps.

Who We Are Supporting.

Age data is missing for 64% of clients, limiting how we tailor services and monitor equalities. Where recorded, the highest engagement is among under 13s and adults aged 55–65, showing we are reaching both younger and older generations, but more complete data would give a clearer picture of need.

Nature of Support.

Casework continued to focus on essential issues:

- Benefits (162 cases) and housing (130 cases) made up the majority of casework, showing persistent financial and housing insecurity.
- Debt (49), adult social care (53), discrimination (19), children’s social care (11) and other areas reflect the complexity of people’s lives and the breadth of our response.
- Miscellaneous (74) cases highlight how many of our interventions don’t fit standard categories – reflecting the flexibility people value in YTT.

This shows we are meeting core welfare needs while responding to a wide range of individual and family circumstances.

Service-Specific Engagement.

- **Emotional Wellbeing Support:** Attendance grew strongly in 2023-24 with our new mental health staff member (12 to 105 per quarter) but fluctuated in 2024-25 (100 to 26 to 65 to 21 per quarter). Over two years, 473 attendances show clear demand, but also how dependent delivery is on staffing availability.
- **Young People’s Work:** Strong growth in 2023-24 (42 to 138) followed by a sharp decline in 2024-25. 610 attendances over two years demonstrate appeal, but momentum was similarly affected by staffing changes.
- **Public Living Room:** A consistent community hub, welcoming 2,211 visits across two years (average 276 per quarter).
- **Food Stall:** A vital practical offer, recording 2,040 visits (average 255 per quarter).

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

When services are consistently staffed and visible, people attend in high numbers. The dips we experienced this year highlight how critical workforce stability is to community engagement.

Learning for the Future.

- **Data Capture:** Reducing “unknown attendee” records and improving postcode and age data will give a clearer picture of who we are reaching and where.
- **Consistency:** Emotional wellbeing, youth engagement, and our community spaces show strong demand, but need stable staffing to sustain trust and attendance.
- **Impact Measurement:** We will continue to develop Gypsy and Traveller-informed evaluation, ensuring data collection is culturally appropriate and meaningful, while still providing robust information for funders.

Strategic Work.

This year demonstrated how YTT’s persistent advocacy can deliver tangible change. The long and exhausting battle over York’s Local Plan consumed huge amounts of time and resource but resulted in concrete wins: the Council committed £5 million for site improvements and created a dedicated officer post for site identification and redevelopment.

The Local Plan is the City of York Council’s blueprint for future housing, infrastructure, and land use across the city. For GTC, this is critical because it determines the provision (or lack) of authorised sites and the protection of existing ones. We have spent years challenging aspects of the draft plan that we believe failed to meet the needs of GTC. Our work ensured their voices were heard in a process that historically excluded them, resulting in commitments to both improve existing sites and explore new provision.

Our advocacy has also extended beyond York. We contributed to discussions at the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma, a cross-party forum that brings MPs and peers together with charities and community representatives to discuss policy issues affecting these communities. Being part of this group has enabled YTT to highlight the lived experiences of York’s Gypsy and Traveller families at a national level, influencing how future policies are shaped.

YTT is also regularly involved in Moving for Change, a national collaboration of Gypsy and Traveller organisations working to tackle accommodation inequality, improve community health and wellbeing, and influence public attitudes. Through Moving for Change, YTT has been able to access funding, peer learning, and a stronger national voice for local issues, helping amplify our impact beyond what we could achieve alone.

These achievements show that when YTT stands firm and amplifies GT voices, things change, from local policy shifts and new investment to national recognition. However, the work has come at a cost, stretching staff capacity and leaving limited time for events and internal development as demonstrated below.

Where from here?

- Secure leadership and advocacy capacity (e.g., Deputy Director role) to protect frontline services from being squeezed by strategic demands.
- Embed sociocratic decision-making to grow the confidence and skills of GTC members to speak for themselves.
- Continue balancing local advocacy with national engagement, making sure learning flows both ways.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Research.

Research has become one of YTT's key strengths, with partnerships described as true co-production rather than traditional extractive research. One research partner from the University of York, explained:

"The aim was always to make sure community voice was at the heart of the research. We could have light-touch conversations on sensitive issues like mental health and suicide, so we could make the case for more support. The university brought research expertise, YTT brought community expertise, an equal partnership that's never felt imposed on either side."

This approach has built trust with the community and shifted local conversations about trauma and mental health. It has also led to practical outcomes, such as staff stepping into mental health link worker roles and increased openness around previously taboo subjects:

"The real value isn't just the research, it's giving clients ownership of the conversation. It's created a framework where people feel they have permission and opportunity to talk about things that weren't routinely spoken about before."

Where from here?

- Maintain investment in community-led research, especially around mental health, wellbeing, and education.
- Use research findings to challenge misconceptions and push for system change, ensuring Gypsy and Traveller voices directly shape decisions.
- Build internal research capacity, potentially recruiting research support posts to reduce pressure on frontline staff.

Training.

Training remains one of our most visible and impactful offers, driven by our CEO's expertise and YTT's trusted voice. This year we delivered sessions for social work students, maternity staff, local authority officers, and police teams, creating safe spaces for professionals to explore bias and develop cultural competence. Feedback repeatedly described the sessions as "safe conversations" where participants could honestly reflect on their own assumptions.

The anonymous Mentimeter exercises used during training revealed both curiosity and misunderstanding. Questions such as "What are the best things about being Gypsy? What are the things you celebrate about your culture?" and "Are there any Traveller celebrations that we should be aware of?" show a willingness to learn. At the same time, questions like "Do all young girls get taken out of school to learn how to become a housewife?" and "How do travellers make an income if they are moving from one place to another in order to survive?" highlight common stereotypes and knowledge gaps.

Word cloud exercises reinforced this mixed picture. Alongside positive words like "family, community, proud, hardworking" were terms like "pikey, thief, freeloaders, troublemakers." These exercises underline how prejudice persists but also show that people are open to asking difficult questions when given a safe, anonymous space to do so.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Where from here?

- Market the training offer more effectively, making it a clear product that organisations can easily book.
- Co-deliver training with Gypsy and Traveller community members, ensuring authenticity and opening pathways for community involvement.
- Our new Communications Officer role will collect and share success stories from the GTC to amplify positive narratives and challenge negative stereotypes head-on.

Case Work.

Casework remains one of our most visible and valued offers, often the first point of contact for new clients. Many people feel more confident asking for help with practical paperwork, like benefit forms or housing applications, than talking about mental health, discrimination, or isolation. As trust develops, deeper conversations can follow, and our caseworkers play a key role in linking people into other parts of our support offer.

This year, casework accounted for around a quarter of all recorded activity, with the largest demand areas being benefits (162 cases) and housing (130 cases), alongside debt support (49), adult social care (53), discrimination (19), and children's social care (11). These patterns mirror last year's findings, showing how structural inequalities, particularly around income and housing, continue to shape the day-to-day realities of Gypsy and Traveller families.

But casework needs to be about more than just "fixing problems." We want to support people who have often experienced discrimination or poor treatment in mainstream services, helping them to build confidence, understand their rights, and develop the skills to advocate for themselves.

"Supporting clients with all aspects of their lives, from food bank vouchers to benefit appeals, has a massive impact on their lives."

We also see people who, because of stigma or privacy concerns, are reluctant to engage with mainstream systems or even be recorded on ours. Last year, several clients requested not to be entered into Lamplight or to only work with specific staff they trust. Providing support that is sensitive to stigmas and working to unpick those perceptions is vital, it allows our community to access the help they need without feeling shame or bringing perceived dishonour to their families.

One change this year has been a rise in local non-GT clients approaching us for casework. Our open, trusted environment means people naturally come to us for help, but this has at times put pressure on our ability to prioritise our core community.

"York GT are the priority for casework, then York and surrounding areas GTC, then non-GT from York. It's about that severity ... obviously if a GT family has a parking fine and a non-GT person has kids being taken into care, there's nuance – but we need a clear approach moving forward."

This has led us to develop a triage model to assess need, prioritise cases that most align with our mission, and ensure we are empowering people to resolve issues rather than creating dependency. The aim is clear:

"YTT does not just rescue people but better support them to understand the system they're in."

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

While the priority remains Gypsy and Traveller families, the support we offer to non-GT individuals is also significant. By providing advice and advocacy in an open, culturally safe setting, YTT is building bridges of understanding between Gypsy, Traveller and non-Traveller communities. This role as a trusted intermediary not only meets immediate needs but also strengthens connections, reduces prejudice, and reinforces our charitable objects of fostering inclusion and greater mutual trust.

Where from here?

- Focus casework on York Gypsy and Traveller families through triage and clearer eligibility criteria.
- Empower clients to navigate systems themselves, reducing dependency and building confidence.
- Improve outcome recording so we can better evidence impact and advocate for systemic change.

Case Work Case Study.

A GTC couple needed help with housing. With severe respiratory problems their accommodation was making health conditions worse. As existing Council tenants, they had already applied to the City of York Council Housing Registrations teams for a transfer to another property. The repairs that could be carried out had been completed but there continued to be significant issues with mould.

The client signed a form of authority so that I [their YTT Case Worker] could contact the Council on their behalf. The Housing Registrations team emailed the latest Allocations Policy to me (the one available online had been superseded). Referring to the policy I was able to check the criteria for the banding for housing applications. I confirmed that the client was only in Silver band. I supported the client in getting medical evidence about the health and wellbeing gain that the clients would experience following a change of accommodation. The Registrations team made the decision to place them in Gold band with a maximum backdate to when the respiratory problems were first reported. The banding and the date of banding can all impact on the likelihood of a having a successful bid on a property. The clients also needed help with reading and writing so I continued to support them to access the online Housing Portal to view properties, locate them on google maps and have discussions about the properties on offer.

The couple have moved into a new property, and they have reported an improvement in their health since. The new property is also closer to family members who provide them with support. I shared the updated Allocations Policy with our link adviser from Citizens Advice. They circulated this within York Citizens Advice benefiting more individuals. **Up-to-date information is critical to advice work.**

To streamline and strengthen our casework support, we introduced a standard form of authority for clients to sign so that the Council can share information directly with us. This has significantly improved the speed of applications and verification of information. The Registrations team have responded positively to collaborative working with the aim of processing cases correctly and as quickly as possible. Ideally, I would like the City of York Council to make their current policy available on their website.

“You got me further up the list, near the top so it was a good thing, it’s nice where I am now. I don’t go wheezy as much as I used to.” (Client)

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Wellbeing.

Gypsies and Travellers experience some of the worst health outcomes of any ethnic group in the UK. They are three times more likely to experience anxiety and twice as likely to experience depression than the general population, and suicide rates are six to seven times higher. Poor accommodation, discrimination, financial insecurity and limited access to culturally safe services all contribute to this gap.

Against this backdrop, our wellbeing support has never been more important. Over the last two years, 473 attendances were recorded at emotional wellbeing support sessions. These included one-to-one support, crisis intervention, and safe group spaces where people could talk openly, share experiences and access wider services.

Staffing challenges inevitably reduced capacity this year, but the service continued to offer support thanks to the commitment of the wider staff team and new starters. Even with reduced staffing, people described the service as a lifeline.

The Wellbeing Steering Group (“Barmy Army”) trialled sociocratic decision-making, giving participants a greater say in what activities looked like and how support was delivered. This approach is breaking down stigma around mental health and giving people ownership of their wellbeing journey – an important cultural shift in a community where seeking formal mental health support can carry shame or fear of judgement.

Where from here?

- Rebuild capacity and expertise to ensure consistent session delivery.
- Strengthen links with mainstream mental health services so our clients can access culturally safe, timely support – and continue lobbying the NHS to address structural barriers.

Wellbeing Case Study.

I offered 1-2-1 person-centred counselling and talking therapy. I also offered support and encouragement for the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) application process to relieve their financial and health burden. Lastly, I offered encouragement and support to process barriers and for taking prescribed medication¹.

After therapy ended, the client started to help within the public living room to build their confidence and reduce social isolation. They also helped with our community garden, became a member of the peer-lead group wellbeing circle, and are now taking prescribed medication to manage their symptoms much better.

The client is now in receipt of PIP benefit, which relieves stress of finances and gives autonomy over their work. They no longer experience thoughts to end their life and have a greater sense of meaning and worth in their own life. The client has become a strong advocate for talking about mental health and depression. Especially, in men.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

The continuity within the service for support, as well as using their own skills to volunteer, increased their feelings of worth, value and meaning. It also provided much needed structure and routine. The consistency of staff and environment offered a safe space that was accessible and welcoming. The fact that the 1-2-1 support was open ended and not restricted to several weeks gave a more organic process without limits, and the transition from counselling to being a member of the service that is valued helped validate their progress and added more self-agency.

The client struggles with some learning difficulties. On reflection, I will give more time and space to ensuring the clients comprehension of the spoken word and more simple terms will be communicated.

"It is helping me feel better about myself. And when I help, it makes me feel good to help others. It's hard but I did it, and it feels positive ... Coming in and talking things and being open about what I can't do helps. The first time I did it, I didn't want to talk but now it feels good ... It helps that it's my choice to come. I'm not forced and if I can't make it one week, its fine ... We are just learning as we go ... Thank you for getting me here."
(Client)

Events.

Events have always been one of the ways YTT brings people together, creating spaces where Gypsy and Traveller families and the wider local community can connect in positive, celebratory ways. This year, staffing shortages meant we had to scale back large gatherings such as the Christmas meal and Easter party.

Even so, smaller events – including our Halloween and summer gatherings – kept people connected, strengthened relationships, and provided a safe space for informal engagement with services. These occasions gave families moments of fun and visibility, challenging stigma and showing the wider community something different. One staff member reflected:

"They get people together that wouldn't usually come together ... the local community around us and the GT community from York's sites. It helps them see that not all GT are bad."

Our CEO also reflected on the year: *"I was upset that we didn't do anything for Gypsy and Traveller History Month. It's a chance to celebrate culture and we missed it this year, so next year we're going bigger."*

These events are about more than just a party. They are moments of pride, community building, and storytelling. They bring in families who may not usually engage with YTT and create an entry point to other forms of support, from advice and wellbeing services to education pathways.

Where from here?

- Celebrate Gypsy and Traveller History Month at scale next year, showcasing culture and achievements through community-led events.
- Plan events in partnership with volunteers and participants, ensuring they are shaped by community voice and build confidence and leadership skills.
- Link events to key themes like health, education, and advice, making them gateways to wider support while still being fun and celebratory.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Education.

For GTC, education is both a route to opportunity and a source of vulnerability. Too often, children experience repeated exclusions, long periods of absence, or pressures to leave mainstream schooling altogether. This creates learning gaps that follow young people into adulthood, limiting their choices and reinforcing cycles of disadvantage.

YTT's education work is powerful because it restores trust in learning. By creating a culturally safe environment where children feel wanted, parents feel respected, and staff understand the community, YTT makes education accessible again. Confidence built through literacy and numeracy classes translates directly into life chances: being able to apply for college, pursue a trade, or simply manage day-to-day tasks like forms, applications, and budgeting.

At the same time, this work is fragile. Programmes like Functional Skills rely on additional short-term funding, layered on top of the core support provided by the National Lottery. Without stability, the risk is that children once again lose access to trusted provision that mainstream systems have not provided.

This is why YTT's education role is not only about teaching – it is about challenging the systemic barriers that push GT children out of education and offering a bridge back into learning, aspiration, and belonging.

Functional Skills.

Our Functional Skills English and Maths programme has been a cornerstone of this work. This provision would not have been possible without the wider support of the National Lottery Community Fund, which provides the stability that allows us to respond to opportunities like this.

The programme has delivered life-changing results. Young people who had been without formal schooling gained access to English and Maths teaching in a trusted, culturally safe environment – something parents consistently told us they could not find elsewhere:

“It builds their confidence, it gives parents a sense of trust because schools have failed them so much. They feel like they are wanted here, they have a place that they belong.”

This year, 11 young people took part, with tailored support ranging from group teaching to one-to-one sessions for Year 11s preparing for college. For many, this was their first experience of formal exams, requiring specialist exam access arrangements and a strong focus on emotional wellbeing. Learners reported tangible improvements in skills and aspirations:

“Feeling good. It's different, I've got more like, more confident. I've learned how to read and write a bit more.”

“Here, you can't really be left out, can you? Like, if I'm struggling with something I can just ask you. I can get help.”

At least three young people progressed into college this year, with others gaining functional literacy and numeracy that will support future employment. One post-16 learner, who had not attended school since primary age, described how Functional Skills created a pathway to university and a career in politics – something that mainstream education had closed off.

The full outcomes and reflections from this programme are captured in a separate report produced with the University of York (May 2025), which documents the progress of learners, staff insights, and parent feedback in detail.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Advocacy and System Change.

YTT's education work is not just about direct delivery, it's also about changing how the system works for GT children. This year, we became a lead partner in a new local education working group set up in response to our earlier research on Gypsy and Traveller experiences in York. The group is developing:

- A pledge for all schools to sign, committing to culturally inclusive practice and early support for at-risk pupils.
- A city-wide training and awareness event to build understanding of Gypsy and Traveller culture and tackle exclusionary practices.

This advocacy is beginning to shift thinking in local schools, helping them recognise how exclusion, repeated suspensions, and pressures to choose home education disproportionately affect Gypsy and Traveller families.

Where from here?

- Co-produce a youth and education plan with families and young people to set clear priorities and pathways.
- Strengthen partnerships with schools, CAMHS, and alternative provision to support children with additional needs and those at risk of exclusion.
- Secure sustainable funding so programmes like Functional Skills can continue and expand, ensuring long-term access to trusted, culturally safe education.

Education Case Study.

S is 15 years old and came to YTT in March 2023, due to their family looking for educational support. She is Elective Home Education with the family providing a home education, however wanted support from YTT to offer more educational possibilities as she had a secure knowledge of all the educational support that the family could offer without outside help. S doesn't have many opportunities to socialise with others her age and lacks confidence speaking to young people and professionals alike. She had negative experiences at school, which had impacted on her confidence in educational settings. However, since coming to YTT, it has been evident that S is a bright young lady, with lots of interests and skills that can be developed further. Her family were keen for her to develop her confidence, both in terms of education and socialising.

S participated in an entry to Functional Skills course, presenting a short story she had written and illustrated, demonstrating the English and Maths skills she'd learnt to a small audience. The client then began 1-2-1 sessions from September 2023, focusing on tailoring English and Maths to her interests. To support S's desire to apply for college and become more comfortable in groups, they were invited to participate in group sessions that focused on developing leadership skills through developing a piece of artwork about GTC history and heritage alongside some peers, which will be shared with the public.

S has been able to explore in detail how their interests are related to Maths and English skills, increasing their confidence in these areas. She feels more settled in an educational setting, describing how 1-2-1 sessions gives her a space to learn, compared to her experience in school where she felt ignored and disengaged. Through the group sessions, S has begun to establish friendships with others, sharing phone numbers so that they can continue chatting and working on the group project outside of YTT.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

This piece of work demonstrates that by providing 1-2-1 support for young people over a long duration of time, confidence and belonging in educational contexts can be restored. The client has shown considerable progress on an educational and social level, which has been enabled by tailoring support around the individual client and challenging the client's previous experience of feeling invisible in an educational environment.

"I am very happy. I can see a difference and the help that's here has been a lifeline as we've tried so many places for support, and we were referred to YTT by a friend. We were told we could help her, and you have, it fills that gap where there hasn't been support and we can see that." (Client's Parent)

Public Living Room and Food Stall.

The Public Living Room and food stall have become cornerstones of YTT's offer – places where people can come without judgement, access practical support, and feel a sense of belonging. Over the past two years, the Public Living Room welcomed 2,211 visits, while the food stall recorded 2,040 visits, showing just how trusted and valued these offers are.

These aren't just services, they represent safe spaces in two senses. Physically, they're attached to the YTT centre, itself shaped by recent capital works to make the building more welcoming, accessible, and suitable for multiple uses. This transformation turned YTT from "just an office" into a hub for conversation, wellbeing, and community connection. But there's also an ethereal safe space created through how we work. People know they can drop in, have a coffee, chat, and not be judged.

"People just come for a break ... carers having 30 minutes to themselves and a nice coffee, stress free."

The food stall provides affordable, healthy food, but it is also a point of contact where relationships start. For some people, coming to pick up food is their first step into engaging with other services or activities. What's striking is how demand has remained high long after the immediate COVID pandemic. While many similar schemes closed or saw usage decline, our food stall has stayed busy, reflecting both ongoing financial pressures in the community and the trusted relationships built around it.

It's also become a key non-GT touchpoint for YTT. People from the local community use the food stall and Public Living Room, giving us a unique opportunity to model positive interaction between GT and non-GT residents and challenge misconceptions through everyday connection.

Even with staffing changes causing some dips in attendance this year, the sense of belonging remained strong. People continued to see these spaces as a constant in a changing environment.

Where from here?

- Stabilise staffing to ensure consistency of opening and delivery.
- Co-design new activities with users, making sure the Public Living Room continues to evolve based on what people want and need.
- Integrate with wellbeing and advice services, ensuring anyone who comes for food or company also has easy access to wider support.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Client Perspectives on Community and Change.

This summary is based on informal discussions with clients of YTT (GT and non-GT) attending the Public Living Room / Food Stall and YTT's Summer Party 2025. It also includes discussions with a long-term volunteer and a representative of York Citizens Advice Bureau during a drop-in session at the Public Living Room.

Informal discussion was carried out into the following areas:

- What difference has YTT made to you / your community?
- How have you seen YTT change over the past five years?
- What would you like to see from YTT in the next 3 years?

The discussions revealed that over the past five years, YTT has built a strong community around the Public Living Room, and wider programme of activities and events. This community makes a real and, in some cases, life-changing difference to the lives of those who are part of it in a variety of ways.

Building interconnectedness through food and community.

The Food Stall is a great example of how food can bring people together, fostering conversations and creating a welcoming atmosphere for everyone to join in. Clients felt that the Public Living Room and Food Stall had positively impacted perceptions of GT communities within local non-GT communities. The Food Stall, open to everyone, has been a prominent feature of the local community for the past five years. It has become a widely used space for local non-GT residents, fostering a sense of community and interconnectedness. The relaxed and open environment encourages non-GT and GT residents to meet without an agenda, simply to build a connection through regular interactions and a sense of togetherness.

"I've had comments from people from non-GT communities who come and at first didn't realise that they were welcome and who maybe hadn't met gypsies or travellers before and now sit and chat together." (Volunteer)

"The Food Stall shows that the travelling community don't just supporting travellers. It breaks down the notion that travellers just support their own." (Client)

"It's a really welcoming environment. Most people who use it are non-travellers." (Client)

"The Food Stall is good for people locally and in the community. People really need it. Being able to get fresh fruit and veg makes a difference." (Client)

"The Food Stall shows that the travelling community is not just about supporting travellers." (Client)

"People trying new recipes, the food sparks different conversations. Jenny bought courgettes from her garden in, and we talked about how to use them. Then came back the next week and told one another how we had cooked them." (Volunteer)

Another reason the Food Stall has become so important to YTT, and the local community was for enabling local people and partner organisations to support others. Individuals, including local residents like students, contribute by sharing excess food and items like clothes and toys. Local partners, such as Edible York Abundance's fruit picking project, also provide surplus fruit.

"The Food Stall has definitely become a community thing, where people can not only come and get help, but they can do a bit to help others. For example, people drop bread and vegetables." (Volunteer)

"It has built a community, people drop things off, swap things." (Client)

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Along with the open, friendly environment of the Public Living Room, its regularity and consistency are key to building the sense of interconnectedness. Clients felt that one of the main ways that YTT has made a difference to them was by being a constant, positive presence.

“The Food Stall usually gets between 13 and 20 people on average each week. We also give out food parcels to the GT and non-GT community during Christmas, shoes throughout winter, and toys for children at Christmas.” (Volunteer)

“A lot of people rely on the Food Stall.” (Client)

YTT staff are open, helpful, and approachable, which fosters trust and builds community.

Feedback confirmed that staff at YTT play a pivotal role in the development of the strong sense of community that characterises the organisation. The open, friendly manner and respectful treatment of all who entered fosters a culture of relationship-building, creating a welcoming environment for all.

“YTT has helped me in lots of different areas. I’ve been coming for 5 years, and the team goes above and beyond to help. There’s an openness about them [staff] that makes it easy to trust them.” (Client)

“YTT has helped me in lots of different areas. I’ve been coming for 5 years. The staff make a real difference, they go above and beyond to help.” (Client)

“There’s a sense of community and that’s down to staff. They’re all so approachable. It doesn’t feel like it’s staff and us, you all feel like one.” (Client)

“There are good people here. I’ve been coming a month. It’s good to talk to them.” (Client)

“The staff give you lots of support and encouragement, that had made a real difference to me and my confidence.” (Client)

Food stall is an effective access point for clients.

Clients confirmed that the Food Stall was what initially got them through YTT’s front doors and their introduction to the team. However, for others, it was the reason they used to connect to the organisation, even though they were seeking help in areas other than the provision of food.

“I didn’t really come for the food; I came to speak to someone about what was going on with my husband.” (Client)

“YTT has really made a difference to my life. This was through the food stall at first. It’s easy, convenient and so good that they do it for people. That’s what got me through the door but once I felt safe here, I realised they could help me in other areas, areas that I wouldn’t feel comfortable talking about with friends or family and that really needed expert help.” (Client)

“I was shy when I first came but I needed the food. I didn’t stay for a drink at first but after a few weeks of recognising the same faces and feeling more at ease, I stayed for a coffee and that was it. It wasn’t long before I felt comfortable and started to look forward to coming for a good chat.” (Client)

“Some people who come to the food stall, stay for coffee, then start to come to events and trips.” (Volunteer)

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

“I hadn’t really known that I could get support with the things I was struggling with until I started talking to staff about my situation. I recognise now just how helpful have been and how things would have been even more difficult without their help.” (Client)

Many of the clients spoken to explained that when they first came to YTT they were (and in many cases continue to) experience difficult situations that require expert advice and support. However, some clients were not always aware that they could access support until they were offered it. Whether it be financial or housing difficulties, education or day to day requirements of modern life such as form filling, correspondence with education and council departments, managing family dynamics and relationships, mental health and wellbeing, clients confirmed the team at YTT were on hand to help them navigate these challenges. Once they had built that trust and received help, clients were more inclined to proactively seek assistance.

Clients see the Public Living Room and YTT as a safe space to connect and get support.

Over the past five years the Public Living Room has developed into an environment that clients see as a safe space where they can talk about a range of areas, they might need help with. A recurrent theme amongst attendees was how comfortable they feel there and how access to a friendly ear was something that they valued.

“The Living Room is somewhere to come to have a chat, connect and have a moan about stuff to a friendly ear. It’s important in that sense, it’s somewhere you can come and talk openly in a safe space and as well as support you, they can direct you to other places you can get help and guidance.” (Client)

“It’s like a second home for people.” (Client)

“This is my place. My husband is sick, and I’ve gone from working full time to being a full-time carer. I just love coming. It’s not just about the food; it’s the people and the place. It’s close to home so if anything goes wrong, I can get home quickly. They’ve seen me happy and sad and everything in between. That speaks volumes. This is somewhere I can be myself and that is something special.” (Client)

Signposting and providing access to other support organisations was identified as something that had made a real difference to clients.

“Citizen advice comes three days a week, it’s so good to be able to speak to them if you need to.” (Client)

YTT has embedded inclusive approaches when providing practical support.

Feedback confirmed that the practical support offered by YTT through the Food Stall makes a real difference to people’s lives. It helps them get by, but it also makes them feel valued and boosts their self-esteem. The measures implemented by staff to remove any stigma clients might feel were acknowledged as a key differentiator of the YTT Food Stall compared to other organisations’ food banks and stalls.

“There’s no queuing or discrimination like you get at other food stalls. Here you genuinely feel it is for everyone.” (Client)

“No queuing or discrimination which you can experience at other food banks.” (Client)

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

YTT community is evolving and growing.

One of the factors that contributes to YTT's uniqueness is its growing community, which combines long-standing clients with new attendees. This creates a real feeling of inclusivity, as clients actively contribute to the welcoming environment and go to great lengths to make new people feel welcome. In doing so, they not only make a difference to new attendees but their sense of belonging at YTT is strengthened by enabling them to extend a welcome and sense of kindness that was extended to them.

"This community is growing all of the time. We all do our bit to make new people feel welcome." (Client)

"Asylum seekers / some people who come to food bank come to events. We try to make everyone feel welcome. You don't always get that at other Food Stalls and I don't go to them now. I prefer to just come here." (Client)

Social function of YTT and the Public Living Room.

It was acknowledged that the social function of the Public Living Room has made a real difference to clients accessing provision including the Food Stall. Feedback confirmed that it has helped people combat isolation.

"The events are so important to people. Without them people's worlds are a lot smaller." (Client)

"There's the financial side and the social side." (Client)

"The summer party, fun and friendly." (Client)

"I went on the Filey trip recently. I feel like I've made friends, I recognise people, have a chat." (Client)

"Public living room is good, not to feel isolated." (Client)

Practical support with reading and writing.

Some clients who were unable to read or write expressed their appreciation for the support they receive with administrative tasks and correspondence.

"I'm getting help with universal credit. I can explain what the issue is and get the help I need." (Client)

"I get help from Rachel and Shaun with letters when I need to sort something." (Client)

"We can't read or write so the help is here is good. It's a good thing." (Client)

"People ask about all sorts and we can refer them to whatever might help them. For example, I referred someone to the new girl's group in Rowntree Park. I know what's going on around York and can tell people about things." (Volunteer)

Making a real difference to people's mental health.

Feedback confirmed the immense difference YTT's support has made to client's emotional wellbeing and mental health from boosting confidence to making people feel they can keep going.

"YTT helped me realise I can keep going. It made me feel happy again." (Client)

"When I think what my daughter has gained from this." (Client)

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

“It has helped my daughter with her mental health. Would like to see more groups happening in the future.”
(Client)

“YTT has increased my confidence. The support and encouragement you get is so important. I’d be lost without it.” (Client)

“It made me happy and great.” (Client)

“Helped me feel confident and safe.” (Client)

Catch up club.

Catch-Up Club remains one of YTT’s longest running and most valued groups, offering a safe, welcoming space specifically for Gypsy and Traveller women. Each week, women gather to cook, craft, chat and support one another, providing informal peer support that often leads to wider engagement with our services.

“It’s their space to come and bicker and have a chat ... it brightens my days.”

This year has seen growth and change. The group has doubled in size compared to the previous year, now averaging around 15 regular participants each week, including women who hadn’t previously engaged with YTT. There’s a stronger sense of ownership too. Sociocratic decision-making has been piloted, giving members control of a small budget for trips and activities, and shifting the culture from staff-led to community-led.

For many, Catch-Up Club has become a stepping stone into other opportunities – whether wellbeing support, casework, or volunteering. It provides a trusted environment where people can express vulnerability without fear of judgement, build confidence, and develop new skills. As one staff member reflected:

“It’s a safe space for whatever they’re feeling that day from chatting with other women, to unwinding if home life is stressful, to cooking and making crafts. They feel listened to and that their voice matters.”

Where from here?

- Support members to take greater ownership, including activity planning and budget management.

Partner Perspectives.

To mark the end of the five-year Safe Space Project and look ahead to the next stage of our development, we asked our partners to reflect on what working with YTT has meant to them, over the past year and across the full five-year period. The survey reached across local authorities, health and education services, the police, voluntary organisations, universities, and national networks. To-date 17 partners responded, giving a rich picture of our impact and our relationships.

What came through most strongly was the sense that YTT is a vital, trusted and unique organisation. Many described us as the only local charity dedicated to GTC, one that combines practical frontline support with a powerful advocacy voice. One partner described us as *“warm, welcoming, open and informed – a powerful advocate for Gypsy and Traveller Communities in York and beyond.”* Another commented on our ability to translate experience on the ground into wider change, calling YTT *“authentic and informed, generous in sharing learning and collaborating on national projects and policy change.”*

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Collaboration has been wide-ranging and flexible. Partners spoke about working together on joint projects and funding bids, on advocacy and casework support, on referrals and signposting, and on training or shared learning sessions. Many said that YTT had become their first point of contact for advice or insight when they were unsure how to reach or support GTC. This depth of collaboration has meant that our expertise is helping to shape how partners work, not just on individual cases but on their systems and strategies.

Almost two-thirds of respondents said their organisations had changed how they work because of collaborating with YTT. Some spoke about redesigning services to build trust before delivering them. Others highlighted changes to consultation and planning processes to ensure that GT voices are heard from the start, and some even noted shifts in policy and practice – for example around roadside stopping, school inclusion, and health access. One university partner explained that their entire approach to research with GTC has been informed by collaboration with YTT.

Partners consistently highlighted what they felt enabled these achievements: strong personal relationships, the openness and approachability of staff, and leadership that is honest and authentic. Several noted the proactive, “can-do” and approachable attitude of YTT’s Chief Executive as a key enabler of collaboration.

There were challenges too. Some mentioned that staffing changes and capacity pressures, particularly this past year, sometimes slowed response times or limited what could be done. But these were framed as shared challenges rather than barriers, and there was recognition of the resilience and commitment that allowed collaboration to continue despite pressures.

When asked about YTT’s most significant contributions, partners focused on two main areas: support for individuals – often described as trusted, culturally safe and life-changing – and influence on systems – from shaping education approaches and mental health access to challenging discrimination and promoting inclusion. The research and partnership work on education, in particular, was mentioned as a breakthrough, alongside YTT’s growing voice in health inequality work and national policy.

Looking forward, partners were clear that they want these relationships to deepen. They called for continued collaboration on youth, education, and wellbeing; for YTT to scale up training and awareness-raising across services; and for our expertise to be embedded in inclusive service design, including York’s emerging 10-Year Health Plan. As one health partner put it, *“YTT should be a key partner in delivering the 10-Year Health Plan by co-designing services, supporting outreach, and helping reduce health inequalities for Gypsy and Traveller communities.”*

Overall, the survey paints a picture of an organisation that is trusted, respected and seen as essential to inclusion work in York and beyond. It shows how, over five years, YTT has grown from a primarily local support provider into a strategic partner and influencer while still keeping the community at its heart.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Client Survey.

This year we launched our new annual client reflection survey to hear directly from people who use our services. We received 55 responses, giving us the richest insight yet into how YTT is experienced and what matters most to the community.

Headline findings.

- 98% of clients felt more confident after receiving support from YTT.
- 100% would recommend YTT to other families.
- Families most often described YTT as helpful, supportive, friendly, caring, welcoming, and reliable.
- Education support, safe community spaces, and trusted advice made the biggest difference to respondent's lives.
- The most common requests for the future were more youth activities, mental health support, and family / community events.

Experience of accessing support.

Respondents engage with YTT in many different ways, showing the breadth of its offer. The most common experiences were attending community events (55%), receiving advice or casework support (53%), and speaking to someone about mental health (51%). Nearly half (47%) joined a group or activity, and more than a third (36%) visited the Public Living Room or food stall. Four in ten (40%) sought help around school or education.

A small number (13%) completed the survey on behalf of a family member, showing the ripple effect of YTT's support. This paints a picture of YTT as both a practical support service and a social space, meeting needs across casework, education, mental health, and community connection.

Getting help and support.

Almost everyone said it was straightforward to get help. Half (49%) found it "very easy" and a further 42% said it was "quite easy". Only 9% found it "a bit difficult," and no one said it was "very difficult".

This shows YTT is highly accessible and approachable, removing barriers that GT families often face in mainstream services.

Describing YTT in three words.

When asked for three words to describe YTT, clients most often said helpful, supportive, friendly, caring, welcoming, kind, practical, and reliable.

Others highlighted values such as trustworthy, honest, respectful, safe, inclusive, and understanding, while some used more emotive words: "life changing," "amazing," "brilliant," "comforting."

Together, these words show YTT is not only a place of advice, but a safe, trustworthy, and caring community anchor.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and Performance (continued)

What made the most difference.

When asked what had made the most difference, families highlighted two things: practical guidance and emotional support in a safe community space.

Education support – mentioned by around half of respondents (50%):

“Getting clear advice for my children’s education and future opportunities.”

“Help with my child’s school applications.”

Safe, welcoming spaces – raised by around a third (35%):

“Having somewhere safe to go together.”

“Just having a space to meet others, share a meal, and not feel judged.”

Trust and reassurance – around one in four (25%):

“Honesty and trust are offered without question and if the team aren’t able to help, they find the pathway that’s needed.”

Mental health support – a smaller group (10–15%):

“They have helped out with my child’s mental health, and I now know where to go and what to do when we need help.”

Families consistently valued YTT not only for solving immediate problems but for providing long-term reassurance, safety, and trust.

What YTT could do better or differently?

Most people were satisfied as things stand – around one in five respondents said “nothing” should change.

Among those suggesting improvements, themes were:

- More activities and events – around half (50%), especially for children and young people.
“Offer more workshops for parents to support their children’s learning.”
- Longer or more flexible opening hours – about a third (30%), with requests for evenings / weekends.
- More regular one-to-one and mental health support – around a quarter (25%).
“Offer more one-to-one follow-ups after the first meeting.”
- Better information and outreach – around one in ten (10%).
“Do more outreach to people who can’t travel to the centre and share clearer printed information.”

These are not criticisms of YTT’s current approach but reflect capacity and resourcing pressures. Families simply want more of what YTT already provides.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Changes over the past five years.

The majority of respondents had noticed positive change over time, describing YTT as more organised, more visible, and offering a wider range of activities.

- More activities and events – around half (50%).
- Stronger focus on wellbeing – around a third (35%).
- More education support – around a quarter (25%).
- Better organisation and communication – around one in five (20%).
- Greater visibility and community connection – around one in six (15%).

Overall, YTT is seen as growing stronger, more professional, and more connected.

Plans for Future Periods

Future priorities.

When asked about the future, families gave a wide range of ideas, but three clear priorities emerged:

1. More youth and children's activities (sports clubs, homework clubs, after-school / holiday activities) – mentioned by about half (50%).
2. More mental health and wellbeing support (counselling, peer support, mindfulness, stress workshops) – around a third (30%).
3. More family trips and community events (outings, cultural festivals, family fun days) – around a third (35%).

The priorities families highlighted are more than just a wish list, they reveal important shifts in what Gypsy and Traveller families want for themselves and their children.

The strong call for youth and children's activities shows parents looking beyond immediate needs and towards the future. By asking for sports clubs, homework support, and after-school activities, families are signalling a desire to give the next generation better chances to succeed and belong. This reflects a commitment to breaking the cycle of exclusion by building skills, confidence, and opportunities for children and young people.

The demand for mental health and wellbeing support is also significant. Research has shown that poor mental health is a major issue in Gypsy and Traveller communities, but stigma and mistrust have often stopped people from talking about it openly. The fact that families now name counselling, peer support, and stress workshops as priorities shows both a cultural shift and the trust YTT has built. People feel safe enough here to voice what has too often been left unspoken.

Finally, the emphasis on family trips, cultural celebrations, and community events underlines YTT's role as more than a service provider. Families want spaces to gather, share experiences, and celebrate identity together. This highlights YTT's role as a community anchor, strengthening resilience and pride as well as providing practical help.

Taken together, these priorities point to YTT's potential to support generational change, improved wellbeing, and stronger cultural identity – building not only services but a foundation for lasting community empowerment.

Recommendation and trust.

Finally, every single respondent said they would recommend YTT to other families, a 100% endorsement. This unanimity highlights YTT's unique standing and reputation: trusted, credible, and valued by the community it serves.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Plans for future periods

Strengthening Our Evaluation and Impact.

This report gives examples of what YTT has achieved, but it also highlights where our evidence has gaps. Staffing changes, limits in data capture, and the sensitivity of collecting information within Gypsy and Traveller Community have meant that some of the impact we know has been made is not yet fully documented. The learning from this is clear: if we want to sustain and grow our services, we need to embed stronger, community-led approaches to evaluation and impact from the start of the new project.

Our plan is to build this step by step. In the new financial year, we will work with staff and community members to co-create a simple Theory of Change for our organisation and each of its activities that reflect the outcomes that matter most – trust, safety, wellbeing, and pride in identity. Together, we will co-design tools that make sense to our community, from short surveys and reflective conversations to visual methods and story cards. With direct support from evaluation consultants, staff will be guided through the first cycles of data collection, reflection and reporting, so that evaluation is modelled and embedded in everyday practice.

This will be matched by new ways of sharing and interpreting learning. Staff, trustees and community members will come together each quarter to look at findings and decide what they mean. Simple “evaluation digests” – one-page visual summaries with key stats and quotes – will be produced for internal use, while accessible versions for the community will be tested through updates, storyboards and validation sessions asking: “Does this reflect your experience?”

Moving forward, these approaches will be refined and formalised. Outcome indicators and evaluation measures / tools will be integrated into our Case Management System – Lamplight, SMS / WhatsApp feedback will be trialled, and evaluation reflection will become a standing part of staff and trustee meetings. Evaluation will no longer be a separate task but part of YTT’s culture and governance, giving us the confidence to publish regular impact digests and position YTT as a credible, evidence-based organisation.

This staged approach will help us do three things:

- Strengthen accountability to funders and partners with clearer evidence of impact.
- Ensure evaluation is culturally safe and co-owned by Gypsy and Traveller Communities.
- Create a culture of reflection and adaptation that improves services in real time.

Conclusion.

This year has reminded us how much we depend on people. Staffing changes and absences inevitably affected our capacity, with dips in attendance showing how fragile services can become without a consistent team. For a small organisation like YTT, the skills, commitment, and stability of our staff are essential: they are the ones who build trust, hold relationships, and ensure continuity for families who already face instability elsewhere. When staff are in place and supported, services thrive. When they are stretched or absent, the impact is immediate.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Plans for future periods (continued)

That learning shapes our priorities going forward. We know we need to continue strengthening our workforce – building clear pathways for Gypsy and Traveller staff into roles and leadership, investing in skills and wellbeing, and ensuring the organisation has enough capacity to deliver reliably as well as to influence strategically. Consistency and skilled staffing are not just operational issues: they are core to sustaining trust with our community.

Alongside this, we are committed to embedding a new, co-created evaluation approach. By making reflection, feedback, and evidence part of our daily practice, we will not only strengthen our accountability but also make sure YTT continues to adapt and grow in ways that are shaped by the voices of Gypsy and Traveller people themselves.

As we look to the future, we see YTT's role as both practical and transformative: a safe space in York where families can find help, belonging and opportunity, and a trusted voice that influences change locally and nationally. The next phase will bring new challenges, but also new possibilities, and with the community alongside us, we are ready.

Financial Review

Income increased significantly during the year as the work programme develops and additional grants are obtained (£356,767 from £283,786 in 2024). Expenditure, however, has not matched this increase in income, seeing a decrease overall. This is largely due to a decrease in expenditure on activities and outings, planning work and depreciation. Expenditure on wages and salaries, however, has increased. This resulted in a significant surplus of £90,855 (£2,924 in 2024) and a rise in net current assets to £210,918 (£128,245 in 2024).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be limited to three months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in the order of £66,500. Free reserves, being unrestricted funds not committed to fixed assets, amounted to £100,858 (2024 - £75,145). Reserves at the year end were in excess of the reserves policy and will be applied to the charitable purposes.

Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Patrick O'Kelly
Chair



Stephen Pittam
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Trust 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.

Adrian Rodaway BA, BFP, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

24 November 2025

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	41,070	279,793	320,863	273,075
Charitable activities	3	9,273	25,377	34,650	9,685
Investments		1,254	-	1,254	1,026
Total Income		51,597	305,170	356,767	283,786
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		36,520	229,392	265,912	280,862
Total Expenditure	5	36,520	229,392	265,912	280,862
Net Income	4	15,077	75,778	90,855	2,924
Transfers between funds		18,818	(18,818)	-	-
Net movement in funds		33,895	56,960	90,855	2,924
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2024		113,235	53,100	166,335	163,411
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025		£ 147,130	£ 110,060	£ 257,190	£ 166,335

The notes on pages 33 to 41 form part of these accounts.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025
Charity number: 1189827

	Notes	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	8	46,272	38,090
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		213,132	142,262
Debtors	9	26,148	44,690
		<u>239,280</u>	<u>186,952</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(28,362)	(58,707)
<i>Net current assets</i>		<u>210,918</u>	<u>128,245</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>257,190</u>	<u>166,335</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>£ 257,190</u>	<u>£ 166,335</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	12	147,130	113,235
Restricted funds	13	110,060	53,100
Total Charity Funds		<u>£ 257,190</u>	<u>£ 166,335</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 24 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Patrick O'Kelly
Chair

The notes on pages 33 to 41 form part of these accounts.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Between 0.7% and 2.1% per month straight line - over the remaining term of the property lease
Office and other equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2025</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>
	£	£	£	£
Grants	40,261	279,598	319,859	271,014
Other donations	809	195	1,004	2,061
	<u>£ 41,070</u>	<u>£ 279,793</u>	<u>£ 320,863</u>	<u>£ 273,075</u>

In 2024, income from donations and legacies amounting to £216,805 related to restricted funds.

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2025</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	£ 9,273	£ 25,377	£ 34,650	£ 9,685

In 2024, other income of £1,236 related to restricted funds.

4. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	16,414	27,383
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,620	1,500
Other fees paid to Examiner	2,393	2,447

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities				
Wages and salaries	-	156,454	156,454	143,430
Staff and volunteer expenses	2,545	1,458	4,003	4,522
Sessional work	-	6,805	6,805	10,179
Activities and outings	-	18,686	18,686	24,953
Client travel	-	1,292	1,292	-
	<u>2,545</u>	<u>184,695</u>	<u>187,240</u>	<u>183,084</u>
<i>Governance costs:</i>				
Independent examiner's fees	1,620	-	1,620	1,500
	<u>1,620</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<i>Support costs:</i>				
Consultancy and advice	2,643	3,315	5,958	5,800
Rent and rates	-	14,213	14,213	13,704
Insurance	-	3,468	3,468	1,579
Heating and lighting	-	5,173	5,173	4,868
Office costs	-	12,221	12,221	13,371
Subscriptions	-	467	467	481
Repairs and maintenance	-	4,646	4,646	6,583
Professional fees	2,393	-	2,393	2,447
Sundry expenses	913	-	913	1,534
IT support and training	-	456	456	385
Training, development & wellbeing	2,676	738	3,414	4,713
Planning work	7,316	-	7,316	13,430
Depreciation	16,414	-	16,414	27,383
Total support costs	<u>32,355</u>	<u>44,697</u>	<u>77,052</u>	<u>96,278</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>£ 36,520</u>	<u>£ 229,392</u>	<u>£ 265,912</u>	<u>£ 280,862</u>

In 2024, expenditure on charitable activities amounting to £190,798 related to restricted funds.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross salaries and wages	144,004	133,065
Employer's NIC	5,511	4,201
Employer's pension contributions	6,939	6,164
	£ 156,454	£ 143,430

The average number of employees in the year was 8 (2024 - 7) . There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2024 - none).

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO), Community Development Lead and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £94,960 (2024 - £101,989).

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

8. FIXED ASSETS

	Office and other equipment £	Fixtures & fittings (Building improvements) £	Total £
<i>Cost:</i>			
At 1 April 2024	9,235	104,565	113,800
Additions	978	23,618	24,596
At 31 March 2025	10,213	128,183	138,396
<i>Depreciation:</i>			
At 1 April 2024	5,011	70,699	75,710
Charge for the year	2,043	14,371	16,414
At 31 March 2025	7,054	85,070	92,124
<i>Net book values</i>			
31 March 2025	£ 3,159	£ 43,113	£ 46,272
31 March 2024	£ 4,224	£ 33,866	£ 38,090

All fixed assets relate to unrestricted funds.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9. DEBTORS	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Trade debtors	£ 26,148	£ 44,690

All debtors relate to unrestricted funds.

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Trade creditors	10,571	3,824
Taxation and social security	1,506	2,179
Other creditors	793	1,215
Accruals and deferred income	15,492	51,489
	<u>£ 28,362</u>	<u>£ 58,707</u>

Creditors totalling £13,316 (2024 - £nil) relate to restricted funds.

11. DEFERRED INCOME	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grants received in advance		
Balance at 1 April	49,458	-
Released to statement of financial activities	(49,458)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred in the period	13,316	49,458
Balance at 31 March	<u>£ 13,316</u>	<u>£ 49,458</u>

12. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2025
General	£ 113,235	£ 51,597	£ (36,520)	£ 18,818	£ 147,130
	<u>£ 113,235</u>	<u>£ 51,597</u>	<u>£ (36,520)</u>	<u>£ 18,818</u>	<u>£ 147,130</u>
Comparative year	Balance b/f 01/04/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2024
General	£ 138,313	£ 65,745	£ (90,064)	£ (759)	£ 113,235
	<u>£ 138,313</u>	<u>£ 65,745</u>	<u>£ (90,064)</u>	<u>£ (759)</u>	<u>£ 113,235</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS

<i>Current year</i>	Balance b/f 01/04/2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2025 £
Allen Lane	-	7,500	(4,924)	-	2,576
Barrow Cadbury	1,747	6,000	(7,747)	-	-
City of York Council					
- Education	(805)	1,200	(726)	331	-
- Good Warm Space	366	-	(513)	147	-
- HAF Easter	2,090	-	-	-	2,090
- HAF Summer	2,764	-	(299)	-	2,465
- Home Energy Advice	-	11,176	(11,176)	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	45,833	(9,681)	-	36,152
Groundwork	-	18,616	-	(18,616)	-
Moving for Change					
- Governance	-	5,000	(1,193)	-	3,807
- GRTHM	-	500	(500)	-	-
- Cost of living	(1,644)	10,667	(9,023)	-	-
- Mentee	4,278	17,692	(21,970)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	14,261	95,542	(91,652)	-	18,151
NIHR					
- Hidden Troubles	-	-	(2,316)	-	(2,316)
- Mental Health	-	24,178	(7,598)	-	16,580
Reaching Out	4,510	-	-	-	4,510
Roadside Futures Project	9,587	21,956	(27,043)	-	4,500
Trailblazers	2,851	-	(2,171)	(680)	-
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	2,889	-	(560)	-	2,329
- Cost of Living	3,825	2,222	(722)	-	5,325
- MBSR Therapy	523	-	-	-	523
University of York					
- Education Research	1,671	-	(1,671)	-	-
- Youth Work/Skills	(498)	17,754	(15,592)	-	1,664
York CVS	3,062	19,334	(11,978)	-	10,418
York Mind	1,623	-	(337)	-	1,286
	<u>£ 53,100</u>	<u>£ 305,170</u>	<u>£ (229,392)</u>	<u>£ (18,818)</u>	<u>£ 110,060</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

<i>Comparative year</i>	Balance b/f 01/04/2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2024 £
Barrow Cadbury	-	2,000	(253)	-	1747
City of York Council					
- Education	-	600	(1,405)	-	(805)
- Good Warm Space	-	1,890	(1,524)	-	366
- HAF Easter	2,339	649	(898)	-	2,090
- HAF Summer	-	4,175	(1,411)	-	2,764
- Ward Funding	1,123	-	(1,278)	155	-
Inspiring Choices	-	636	(638)	2	-
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	2,164	-	(2,164)	-	-
Moving for Change					
- Governance	-	-	(602)	602	-
- Cost of living	-	10,233	(11,877)	-	(1,644)
- Local plan project	-	10,085	(10,085)	-	-
- Mentee	(3,215)	26,983	(19,490)	-	4,278
National Lottery Community Fund	16,625	88,199	(90,563)	-	14,261
Reaching Out	-	9,990	(5,480)	-	4,510
Roadside Futures Project	-	16,189	(6,602)	-	9,587
Together with Young People	-	2,100	(2,100)	-	-
Trailblazers	-	3,000	(149)	-	2,851
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	2,889	-	-	-	2,889
- Cost of Living	-	9,635	(5,810)	-	3,825
- MBSR Therapy	1,190	-	(667)	-	523
University of York					
- Education Research	-	6,000	(4,329)	-	1,671
- Youth Work/Skills	-	11,597	(12,095)	-	(498)
York CVS	-	14,080	(11,018)	-	3,062
York Mind	1,983	-	(360)	-	1,623
	<u>£ 25,098</u>	<u>£ 218,041</u>	<u>£ (190,798)</u>	<u>£ 759</u>	<u>£ 53,100</u>

Allen Lane Foundation

Funding towards staffing and development of the Public Living Room.

Barrow Cadbury

Funding towards gathering data to better understand the impact of the justice system on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young adults and their families.

City of York Council

Education – Funding towards supporting young Gypsies and Travellers in school through developing educational opportunities for young people from York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Good Warm Space – Funding towards maintaining the Public Living Room as a Warm Space during winter and providing food and toiletries to alleviate cost-of-living pressures.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

City of York Council (continued)

HAF Easter/Summer/Christmas - Funding towards Holiday Activities and Food for families

Home Energy Advice - Funding towards supporting Gypsy and Traveller community members living on York's traveller sites to take up home energy use advice.

Ward Funding - Funding towards the Food Stall

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Funding towards implementing YTT's strategic goal to become a truly sociocratic organisation

Groundwork

Capital funding towards improving the energy efficiency of YTT's community centre building

Inspiring Choices

Funding towards food and travel to support work with young people

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Funding towards creating a Public Living Room including providing equipment and staff time.

Moving for change

Governance [restricted] – Funding towards administrative support including staffing costs for the Moving for Change organisation.

Cost of Living – Funding towards delivering direct financial support to individuals and families living roadside or in insecure accommodation.

GRTHM - Funding towards a Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month event.

Local Plan Project – Funding towards covering costs in the final stages of YTT's engagement with the York Local Plan process.

Mentee - Funding towards a Professional Mentorship to recruit and develop a mentee Support Worker.

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs and IT costs.

NIHR

Hidden Troubles - Collaborative research project exploring suicide risk and suicide prevention within Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

Mental Health - Collaborative research project exploring effective approaches to partnership working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to co-design accessible services and support for mental health.

Reaching Out

Funding to undertake a research project to evaluate mental wellbeing support YTT provides to Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Roadside Futures Project

Funding towards engaging with City of York Council to develop policy and adoption of Negotiated Stopping and with North Yorkshire Police on the implementation of the PCSC Act provisions on unauthorised encampments.

Together with Young People

Funding towards the Community Development Lead's time participating in the 'Holding the Space' activity.

Trailblazers

Funding towards celebrating the history and heritage of York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

13 RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Two Ridings Foundation

Betty Family Fund - Funding towards the running of the youth club.

Cost of Living – Funding towards financially supporting families during a cost-of-living crisis.

MBSR Therapy - Funding towards a Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction programme.

University of York

Educational Research – Funding to undertake a research project to identify and analyse the experiences of education for York’s Gypsies and Travellers.

Youth Work/Skills – Funding towards providing functional skills support to young people from York’s Gypsy and Traveller communities.

York CVS

Funding towards supporting adults with mental health needs including employment of an Integrated Wellbeing Support Worker.

York Mind

Funding towards the women's wellbeing project.

14. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2025 Total £
Unrestricted funds	46,272	100,858	147,130
Restricted funds	-	110,060	110,060
	£ 46,272	£ 210,918	£ 257,190
Comparative year			
	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2024 Total £
Unrestricted funds	38,090	75,145	113,235
Restricted funds	-	53,100	53,100
	£ 38,090	£ 128,245	£ 166,335

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1189827

Accounts



York Travellers Trust
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2024

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Introduction

York Travellers Trust (YTT) is the longest running registered charity within the United Kingdom that works primarily with Gypsy and Traveller Communities (GTC). Based in York and surrounding areas, we're here to support members of the GTC with various topics such as finance, education, health, and experiences of discrimination. Our aim is to improve their physical and mental well-being and dispel mis-truths about the GTC within the local community, improving the lives of GTC and those they interact with.

This report presents key information in relation to the delivery and impact of our services in the 2023-24 financial year. Services and support that would not be possible without our funders including the National Lottery Community Fund 'Safe Space Project' (now entering its fifth and final year), Lankelly Chase, Moving for Change, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and Two Ridings Community Foundation among others.

If you would like more information about the content of this report, or the work we do, please feel free to contact us at:

York Travellers Trust, 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

T. 01904 630 526

E. info@ytt.org.uk

W. <https://www.ytt.org.uk/>

Acknowledgements

As we reflect on another impactful year at YTT, I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to our success.

Firstly, our clients. Your loyalty, trust, and feedback are the foundation of our efforts. You inspire us to continuously improve and remain dedicated to supporting the Gypsy and Traveller Communities in York.

We extend our sincere thanks to our hardworking employees, volunteers, and Trustees. Your dedication and effort have been vital to our achievements. Your passion and perseverance drive our progress and success.

We are also very grateful to our funders and partners. Your support and flexibility are essential in helping us achieve our goals. Your contributions allow us to expand our reach and impact.

A special thanks goes to our families, friends, and everyone in our wider communities. Your encouragement and support have been invaluable, providing us with strength and inspiration.

Looking back on the past year, it is clear that our collective efforts have made all the difference. We are excited for the future and the new heights we can reach together. Thank you for being a part of our journey and for your continued support!

Violet Cannon, Director

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Board of Trustees

We are sorry to report that Martin Williams resigned from the Board in September 2023. Martin was a very active member of the Board acting as Treasury and Secretary at different times. However, hope we have not lost him for his after role as Santa at the family Christmas Party! Our thanks go out to him.

Despite the loss of Martin, we can report a good to our efforts appoint new Trustees have borne fruit. In our November 2023 meeting Patrick O'Kelly and Tom Beer were appointed. Both Patrick and Tom have law degrees, but Patrick has moved into charity funding and Tom into planning advice (as well as being a musician). Tom took on the role Secretary in February 2024. Also in the February meeting, Kia Jackson and Michael Turnpenny were appointed. Kia's expertise in the education as a former school head and lead inspector. Michael joins us from a background in museums, currently working at York Museum Trust.

While the new Trustees provide us with excellent skills and experience, we also recognise the current underrepresentation of the GTC on the Board. This is why the successful application to the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (awarded in March 2024) is so important to the Board. As we move in to 2024-25, we hope that the learning from that will create new governance structures that will be truly sociocratic and build capacity and confidence in influencing change among our communities.

As the accounts demonstrate the financial position of the Trust is sound. At the beginning of the year, we budgeted for a deficit budget, but the outcome much better than expected. This is testament to the hard work of all our staff, but particularly Violet and Abigail in bringing income to the Trust.

Caroline Hunter, Chair

Treasurer Statement

This has been another positive year for YTT. We started the year with a deficit budget and ended it with a modest surplus. Credit for this goes to the staff team for the quality of their work, and their ability to demonstrate this to the broad range of funders who offer us financial support.

During the year our success in fundraising has enabled us to grow the staff team and double our expenditure on project and advice work. We continue to improve our Centre in Falsgrave Crescent, but the pressures on the building industry have resulted in us having to defer once again some of the improvements that we need, and for which we have resources set aside.

Our core activities continue to be underpinned by the important financial support offered by the National Lottery Community Fund. We are grateful for this core support, as we are for the project support offered by the Lankelly Chase Foundation, Moving for Change, Two Ridings Community Foundation, City of York Council, University of York, York CVS and the Barrow Cadbury Trust.

We move forward into the new financial year with confidence, anticipating that our strong staff team will have success in raising funds to meet the budgeted deficit, but in the knowledge that our modest reserves are there to cover any unexpected difficulties.

I am grateful to all our staff team who work on raising the finances for YTT, and in particular to Tony Clarke our Centre and Finance Manager, who manages the finances so admirably on a day-to-day basis.

Stephen Pittam, Treasurer

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by	YTT
Registered Charity number	1189827
Company registration number	CE022094
Charity's principal address	20 Falsgrave Crescent Clifton, York, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Caroline Hunter	Chair	
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	
Martin Williams		(resigned 14 September 2023)
Claire Wilton		
Abbie North		(resigned 17 May 2024)
Joy-Kirsten Jackson		(appointed 8 February 2024)
Michael Turnpenny		(appointed 8 February 2024)
Tom Beer	Secretary	(appointed 16 November 2023)
Patrick O'Kelly		(appointed 16 November 2023)

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, Director

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8 th June 2020
Trustee selection methods	Nomination and Co-option

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

- 1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
- 2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
- 3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
- 4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
- 5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
- 6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

- 1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
- 2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
- 3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
- 4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance

Organisation

2023-24 was the fourth year of our Safe Space Project. During the year we have really seen the impact of the growth experienced by the Trust in the previous year. Our growth has had ripple effects across the Trust as our increased capacity has allowed us to thrive – being more strategic, less reactive and offering a flexible, accessible and client-led service that meet the evolving needs of the community.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During the year the newly expanded team established themselves with each element of the service experiencing positive change that enhances other areas: the wellbeing work has brought integration and a client-led approach, and the research has increased confidence, ambition and focus of our strategic direction. Our collaborations are working to secure the sustainability of the organisation through the strengthening of existing relationships and growth of new relationships along with the continued recognition of the contribution we make in many areas – from clients, partners and other services locally and nationally.

Through this period of organisational development, we have seen a significant shift in the range and take up of support offered in the Living Room and Centre as a whole *“It is literally a safer space”*. The team has managed to ensure provision is underpinned by the principles of flexibility, consistency and that clients consistently feel listened to, heard and valued.

“We’ve assembled a team that has made a huge difference in terms of what we can offer, and it feels like we’re able to meet needs better.”

“A lot of people have been let down by [other] services and it’s so important to them, and us, that we follow through. And we do.”

The organisational development has led to major advances in our client-led focus through an iterative process where we are constantly reflecting and learning. This approach has shown that clients feel invested in which, in turn, has led to them investing in the service by helping inform key aspects of service delivery. For example, offering wellbeing provision in alternative settings to the Centre at Falsgrave Crescent to address barriers to taking up the service.

“With the wellbeing service, we’re constantly rethinking the offer, looking at it and going okay, well, this hasn’t worked but that has, so we need to think differently. The wellbeing circle’s been amazing in terms of that – informing how we shape services going forward.”

“The people we work with are feeling invested in and some are then investing in what we’re doing.”

We have grown in our ability to hold boundaries but remain flexible and focused.

“I’m proud of how we hold boundaries, how we remain flexible, but also remain focused at the same time. There’s been a lot of that with Nicole’s role. We’ve done a lot of talking about that.”

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The organisational growth has also brought challenges around and how to formalise aspects around policies and processes, for example:

“We’ve had conversations around race and different challenging conversations, and I guess we need to acknowledge that that’s a challenge here. We’ve been doing this work looking at how we open up conversations, call people in, rather than calling people out and how we hold them. And I think that’s been really big. I don’t think we’ve solved it yet.”

Another area of organisational growth has been in the development of trauma informed services. This area has shaped the service we offer and contributed to us looking at becoming a trauma informed organisation¹.

“A lot of services discharge clients if they miss consecutive appointments or behave a certain way. But we decided to scrap these rules and consequences for behaviour as often this can be a punitive experience for people if they have mental health issues. I recognise that all behaviour is communication, and my approach is, “come as you are, and I’ll meet you there”. Being person centred, I have got to be prepared to meet each person where they are at. Generally, human beings seek connection and safety, so if a person can’t address those needs, and are not showing up, we have to be curious about what are the barriers or conflict to that. Whilst we acknowledge that process and structure are part of any ethically supportive environment, we have removed the issue of morality and judgement. I’m able to still be here so people can come back when they feel safe and ready. A sense of autonomy and self-agency goes a long way to build trust. Not just trust between me and ‘client’ but trust within the client, to trust themselves. Which is an issue for those with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and complex post-traumatic stress disorder (C-PTSD) or traumatic histories. Which impacts self-esteem and confidence. This knowledge [of the trauma people have experienced and how that can lead to certain behaviours] has shaped the service we offer and contributed to us looking at becoming a trauma informed organisation.”

COLLABORATIONS

During this period there have been highly successful collaborations that have had a significant impact on the visibility and recognition of the organisation – the University of York, York Museum's Trust, U3A as well as within different departments of City of York Council (CYC) – the Education Department, Safety Enforcement and Public Health. The involvement in CYC’s strategy group has played an important role in progressing these relationships.

“We’ve built up strong relationships with schools in the city. We’re recognised by schools and CAMHS. Other services recognise what we offer and the contribution we can make. People know we’re here – clients, other services, local community.”

“The output from the education research collaboration with the University of York has produced really usable research and it feels like we’ve got the right people kind of listening to us and interested in it so. It’s been really good because it’s kind of happened in conjunction with having a little bit of money from a local authority to spend on work with schools.”

¹ . <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-definition-of-trauma-informed-practice/working-definition-of-trauma-informed-practice>.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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DATA

The introduction of a case management system (Lamplight) into our workflow at YTT proved to be a turning point for us as an organisation. It has enabled us to collect and access data in a way we couldn't before. It helps us track our work, its reach, and the impact we're having through our in-house performance management framework. While we've made great strides in gathering this important data, our work is far from done. The next step is to fully utilise this wealth of information, to explore what it's telling us, and to let it guide us on our mission. We're excited about what we'll learn and how we'll grow as a result, and we're committed to using these insights to drive our strategy moving forward.

We will also continue to deepen our evaluation processes, ensuring that we capture and analyse impact data comprehensively. This will involve ongoing assessment and refinement of our data collection and analysis methods. For example, to further support our understanding of impact, we developed a case study template. These case studies, some of which are contained throughout this report, provide detailed insights into individual experiences and outcomes, highlighting the tangible differences our services make.

We are proud to share some key figures, which demonstrate the breadth and impact of our work, both below and throughout this report:

- 74 new clients added to our case management system this financial year.
- 165 unique clients with a Lamplight profile supported this financial year.
- 3,339 attendances across 1,115 sessions this financial year.

WORKFORCE

2023-24 has seen the expanded YTT team – Centre Manager, Caseworker, Youth Worker, and Integrative Wellbeing Support Worker – working coherently to offer a more accessible and client led service. The team's breadth of skills and expertise have bolstered capacity and priorities which has had a significant impact on the progression and development of the Trust.

“There are different things on offer for people and there's a pathway now, for example people will come in for one thing but have come back for catch up club.”

The varied skillset and dynamics of the team and consolidation of resources has resulted in successes in many areas of provision – most notably flexible and responsive case management, client-led delivery, research and strategic development to effect systemic change in local authority (through the work with education and planning department).

The increase in capacity has meant the service can have more of an impact on the local non-Gypsy and Traveller community – building bridges between communities and raising awareness of YTT. This is evident in The Living Room which has become more established, attracting a regular audience comprising a wide variety of people. The further development of the Living Room is a priority for this next year but along with Catch Up Club has made huge progress in terms of its positive impact on clients and the development of the Trust.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Having recognised last year that trust, communication and clearly defined goals are key to ensure the team is working coherently together – trust and mutual respect amongst the team is strong, with members recognising different strengths and areas of expertise. This is undoubtedly helped by the continual prioritisation of making spaces for open conversation.

Feedback has confirmed that the team are a major draw for clients and a key factor in people choosing to engage with the Trust and access the provision.

“We’ve had feedback from clients saying they choose to come because of the staff.”

“I’m proud of the staff. Proud that people can trust the staff.”

VOLUNTEERING

This year we’ve had two regular volunteers supporting our food stall and several clients who act as micro-volunteers at specific trips, activities and events. This works for many of our clients as the regular commitment of traditional volunteering requires a certain level of privilege, both in terms of time and finances. Over the next year we hope to develop volunteering opportunities that are focused on building specific, relevant skills and experiences for interested individuals which work alongside their personal experiences.

“Initially, I began volunteering at YTT’s food bank because I was in the early stages of recovering from mental health issues and felt that I wasn’t ready for employment. Additionally, I contributed to the Olio food app and had leftover food, so I decided to bring it to YTT. This is how my involvement with YTT began. I have dedicated over 3 years to volunteering at YTT, which has allowed me to rebuild my confidence and collaborate with others by volunteering once a week. Due to my anxiety and poor health, I used to be quite isolated and rarely went out. However, the team at YTT immediately made me feel like a valued member. As my confidence grew, I started engaging with clients at the food bank, making them feel welcome by having conversations and offering them a cup of tea in YTT’s public living room. I also began assisting other staff and volunteers in distributing food and ensuring fair sharing. Currently, I am employed by another charity and running my own written courses, but I continue to volunteer at YTT’s food bank once a week. I find this experience enjoyable, and it helps me establish connections within my local community.” (Harrie – Volunteer, They / He).

CLIENT SURVEY

This year, YTT conducted its first-ever end-of-year client survey, aiming to gather comprehensive feedback from those we serve. The survey was promoted to all our clients, resulting in 24 responses.

The feedback from clients of YTT has been overwhelmingly positive. The majority of clients found it easy to communicate with the staff and felt that their views and worries were taken seriously. There is a high level of satisfaction with the knowledge and capability of the staff to address their problems. Clients appreciated having an active role in shaping the support they received, and they were able to access support at convenient times and locations. The facilities were considered comfortable, and the vast majority would recommend YTT to friends and family.

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Overall, the help provided by YTT was rated highly, with no significant areas for improvement identified in the qualitative feedback. Clients expressed gratitude for the support and emphasised the unique understanding and non-judgmental approach of YTT. These findings highlight the positive impact of YTT's services and underscore the importance of continuing to provide tailored, empathetic support to the Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Building on this, we plan to repeat the survey next year and aim to increase the number of responses. By expanding our reach, we hope to gain even more detailed insights that will further enhance our services and impact.

Strategic Work

Strategic work is an important part of the work that YTT undertakes. It is vital to ensure that changes are long-lasting and far-reaching as part of a wider system response to the challenges faced by GTC. Some of the strategic work that we have delivered this year are included below.

GYPSY TRAVELLER WORKING GROUP

The actual work within the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group has been slow this year, mainly due to the new labour administration in York not fully understanding its purpose and wanting to assert ownership of the group. That said the ripple effects have been quite simply amazing, the education work carried out at YTT, work to get an accessible leaflet to accompany the licence agreement and residents on all three sites to finally have safe and secure post boxes at the entrance of the sites.

MOVING FOR CHANGE

YTT continues to be a key member of 'Moving for Change', a network of GTC organisations across the UK. This membership gives us great access to a wonderful and unique network of people and organisations facing similar experiences. It also gives us vital knowledge to respond to some of City of York Council's actions and comments. Our 'Moving for Change' contacts also give us the opportunity to shape their application process for GT-specific cost of living and energy crisis support. Moving for Change continues to be part of our strategic plans moving forward, and we have secured funding for YTT time and resource in the coming year to explore encampment and Police, Crime, Sentencing and Court (PCSC) Act responses within York. We also secured funding for our Mentee and for Cost-of-Living Grants for families who had received no support from Central Governments initiatives.

CITY OF YORK – NEW LOCAL PLAN

As see reported last year, City of York Council is developing a new Local Plan that sets out their vision for housing, business construction and infrastructure development. Following our presentations about matter of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers in the Plan, the Inspectors agreed that a further hearing was necessary. This took place in early March 2024. Given the importance of the hearing YTT instructed Marc Willers K.C. to represent YTT at the hearing. In their decision the Inspectors said: "*We have significant misgivings about the proposed expansion of the site at Outgang Lane, Osbaldwick*" and the Council are consulting on further changes to the Plan. YTT will submitting to that consultation in 2024-25.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

YORK TOGETHER

York Together is a constituted but unincorporated group of individuals from across York coming together to challenge social injustice by connecting people and projects in meaningful ways and supporting change makers across the city. This will be done by distributing funding, challenging current thinking and creating the space for people to act and learn together to change the status quo. Our Community Development Lead is a part of York Together as it provides the opportunity to make connections across the city and build allies to work towards a more just city for everyone, including Gypsies and Travellers.

JOSEPH ROWNTREE FOUNDATION (JRF) – NEW CONSTELLATIONS

This year we embarked on an exciting journey funded by Joseph Rowntree Foundation. A New Constellations journey is an incomparable experience. It's fun, thought provoking, challenging, intense, and notoriously difficult to describe.

The way in which these journeys have been designed completely challenges the norm, creating moments that ignite optimism and possibility. A collective journey of relationship building, imagination, and creative exploration, which challenges our ideas of reality and space. curate a group with a mix of world-views, racial and faith backgrounds, lived experience, class, age, and sexual orientations and identities. The chosen group features a rich tapestry of residents, including front-line workers, leaders in cultural and heritage organisations, local politicians, small business owners, community organisers, artists and makers, and people with lived experience of navigating oppressive systems. This work brings together a group of people who hold each other accountable, it also provides YTT with the opportunity of being in much bigger conversations in York.

FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND TRAVELLERS – CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We are excited to be working have been asked to be involved in the wider work of Friends Families and Travellers, who are looking at the Criminal Justice System on a National Level. They invited us to be involved within the work, we are excited to see the outcome of this work where our clients will have a much-needed voice.

HULL MUSEUM

YTT were approached by Hull Museum during Lock Down to work on a panel looking at Jack Cunningham VC (<https://www.proudgypsytraveller.co.uk/2016/10/07/1182/>), sadly we didn't have the capacity at the time so had to decline. Thankfully the wonderful team at the Hull Museum Trust came back to us to look at a permanent Exhibition within their Street Life Museum. We were at first hesitant, but upon hearing that the exhibition was to be permanent we changed our position. We worked with GTC families in and around Hull to ensure they felt they were truly represented within the exhibit. Feedback from visitors has been wonderful and we were proud to be nominated and win a Team Hull Respect Award for the work. We feel this is an excellent opportunity for York Museum Trust to see what we can achieve and to inspire them to offer us a permanent exhibit within their museums.

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Research

While the GTC have been the subject of numerous studies, these communities are often understudied compared to others, in part due to the challenges associated with gaining access and building trust. However, interest in researching these communities has increased over the years, driven by a desire to understand their unique culture, as well as to address issues of social justice, human rights, and inequality. This impacts greatly on provision of services and funding, both nationally and locally. We believe that the best research is conducted by, and with, communities and have worked with partners over the past year to research the topics that are important to Gypsies and Travellers so that they can take on lead roles in the research and be paid for their time.

This year we have taken time to pause and consider **what** and **how** we want to research, resulting in less research conducted than in recent years. We are often approached by outside organisations and academics who want to conduct research with GTC, driven by a desire to understand their unique culture and to address issues of social justice, human rights, and inequality. This can impact greatly on provision of services and funding, both nationally and locally, yet because we believe that the best research is conducted by, and with, communities, it also requires a lot of resource from YTT. This means that for each research request we must consider alignment with our specific aims, what reach the results will have and what funding is available to support the work. We have therefore created a new research enquiry form available on our website to support us in fielding requests. Research projects currently being developed for next year focus on mental health provision, suicide prevention and the impact of intergenerational trauma on GTC.

Link to research enquiry form on YTT website – <https://www.ytt.org.uk/research-and-resources>

EDUCATION

As our work with young people has developed, we have become increasingly aware of the challenges faced by young Gypsies and Travellers in education. Whilst it is nationally acknowledged that Gypsies and Travellers have the worst educational outcomes of any ethnic group in the UK (Women and Equalities Report, 2019) very few recommendations have been implemented to improve this reality and there was no data to support a strategic approach to GT education locally. With funding from University of York and support from the local authority, we were able to dedicate staff time and contract an education consultant to carry out in depth interviews with young people and parents, analyse statistical data from the local authority and write a report with suggested ways forward that will be launched next year.

“[The school thinks] none of them go to secondary school. They’re not going to make anything of their lives. They don’t want a career ... [but] there are some Travelling kids what do want to go and do things,”
(Parent)

“And then I’m telling them [about racist bullying] multiple times. Like I keep telling them it’s happening again. It’s happening again. So, I go and tell them. But when I tell them I say it in the wrong tone of voice, then I get excluded.” (Young person)

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Training

Our Safe Space Training is core to our mission of improving outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers in York and surrounding areas as it creates opportunities for professionals and residents to learn about the communities from community members themselves. With a focus on creating safety so that participants can ask their honest questions without fear of judgement, we debunk myths and provide alternative narratives to those displayed in the media. By working predominantly with groups of peers from within one workplace, we provide practical, context specific advice on how to engage with GTC, recognise unconscious bias within policies and procedures and ensure that services are accessible to all. On top of this, training is also important to sustainability as an organisation as it is an opportunity to generate earned income. This financial year we have delivered training to:

- Local Authority Travellers Team
- York St John University – Trainee Teachers
- York St John – Widening Participation Team and Student Ambassadors
- University of York – Trainee Teachers
- North Yorkshire Police New Recruits

Qualitative feedback:

“I really liked the anonymous questions and discussion. I found it genuinely interesting and thought provoking. I also found Violets personal experiences to be really engaging and educational, so thank you for sharing those with us as a group.”

“I have a better understanding of York's varied communities. I will advocate for the GRT community, and will incorporate what I learnt about GRT history and culture into my work.”

“I feel like my whole perspective has changed in regard to my unconscious bias and I'm really thankful for the training as I now feel confident to engage and support the Traveller community in my role.”

Quantitative feedback:

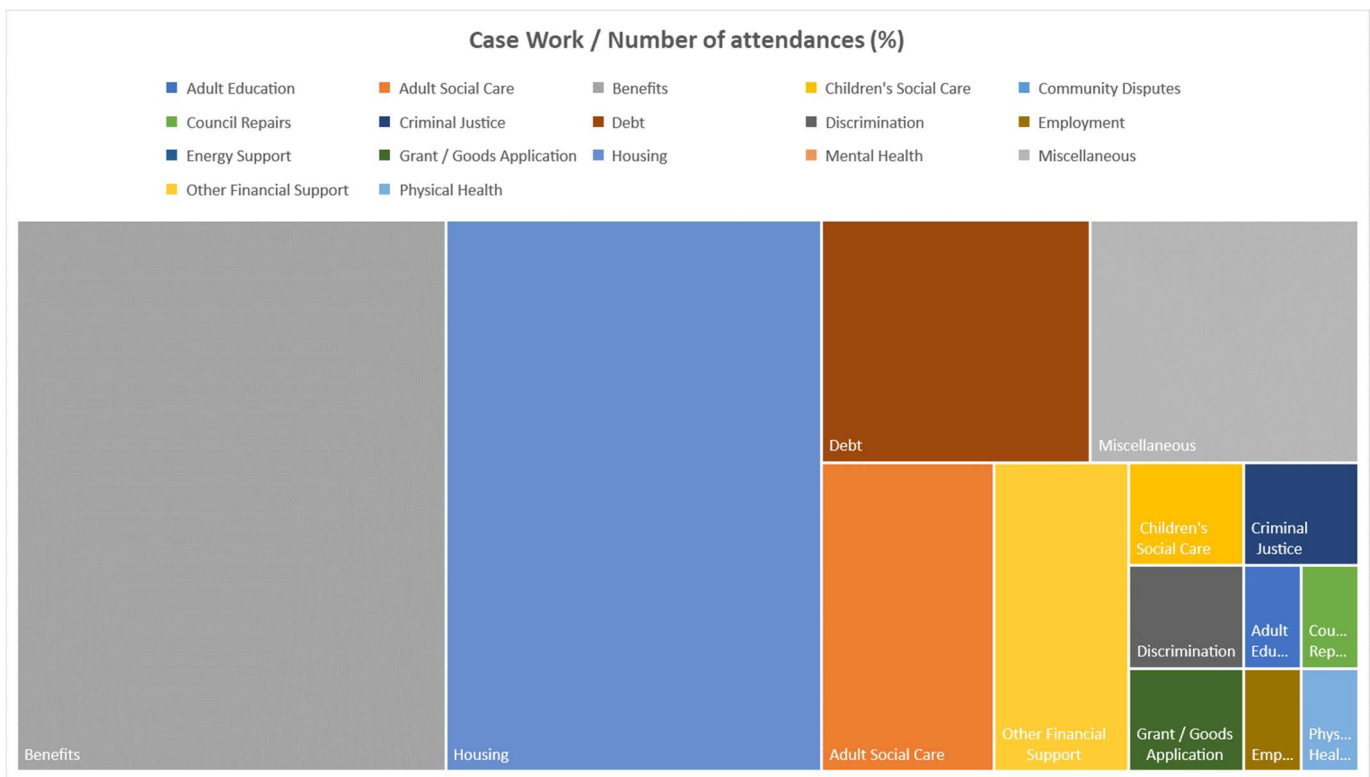
- 100% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “The training session was well delivered”.
- 94% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “My knowledge about GTC has increased”.
- 76% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “My skills for working with GTC have increased”.
- 94% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “I will use what I have learnt”.

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Case Work

Case work, which involves providing support on an individual or family basis, is a significant part of our offer. Due to the unique challenges and needs of the GTC, case work can be particularly beneficial and make a significant positive impact on people’s lives.

This year we have seen a very large increase in the amount of case work delivered with our clients due to the appointment of a dedicated case worker who comes to YTT with a wealth of experience in the advice and guidance sector (476 sessions compared to last year’s 201). The most common issues people are seeking support for are benefits, housing and adult social care as well as support with grant and goods applications, challenging discrimination and other financial support.



Case work often acts as a first point of contact for new clients as people feel more confident asking for help with paperwork than they do talking about their mental health, financial difficulties, or isolation. Where people may not trust mainstream services due to experiences of discriminations, clients are confident that our team will not only understand their culture but support them to challenge racism when it arises in their interactions with other professionals / services. Importantly, our Case Worker works closely with our Integrative Wellbeing Worker to ensure that clients receive holistic support, addressing the structural external issues that impact upon a person’s mental health whilst receiving mental health support.

As trust has developed in our case work, we are seeing increasing demand for the service and are therefore hoping to increase our case work hours over the next year.

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SUPPORTING CLIENTS WITH PRIVACY CONCERNS

During the last year we have supported over 40 clients who don't want to be recorded in our case management system (Lamplight) or be seen by non-GTC staff members. They vary drastically in their reasoning. Support can vary from issues around benefits, safety and domestic violence. Some of the individuals are from families whose personal view is that claiming benefits is a weakness that could bring great shame on themselves and the wider family. A great deal of work is carried out to unpick these perceptions and support people to claim benefits if they are entitled. Others choose to not use the full YTT support package due to similar feelings of judgement. We recently supported a young family, the mother who had recently gone through a period of self-discovery and acceptance as part of the LGBT community. This caused huge backlash from her children's father, and we supported in getting her rehoused and supported within Yorkshire. Providing support that is sensitive to stigmas and work to unpick and challenge these perceptions is vital. It allows our community to access the help they need without feeling shame or bringing perceived dishonour to their families.

Case Work Case Study

A GTC couple needed help with housing. With severe respiratory problems their accommodation was making health conditions worse. As existing Council tenants, they had already applied to the City of York Council Housing Registrations teams for a transfer to another property. The repairs that could be carried out had been completed but there continued to be significant issues with mould.

The client signed a form of authority so that I [their YTT Case Worker] could contact the Council on their behalf. The Housing Registrations team emailed the latest Allocations Policy to me (the one available online had been superseded). Referring to the policy I was able to check the criteria for the banding for housing applications. I confirmed that the client was only in Silver band. I supported the client in getting medical evidence about the health and wellbeing gain that the clients would experience following a change of accommodation. The Registrations team made the decision to place them in Gold band with a maximum backdate to when the respiratory problems were first reported. The banding and the date of banding can all impact on the likelihood of a having a successful bid on a property. The clients also needed help with reading and writing so I continued to support them to access the online Housing Portal to view properties, locate them on google maps and have discussions about the properties on offer.

The couple have moved into a new property, and they have reported an improvement in their health since. The new property is also closer to family members who provide them with support. I shared the updated Allocations Policy with our link adviser from Citizens Advice. They circulated this within York Citizens Advice benefiting more individuals. **Up-to-date information is critical to advice work.**

This was my first housing case. I developed a form of authority for clients to sign so that the Council could share information with me. I now use this for all cases, and I believe it has significantly improved the speed of applications and verification of information. The Registrations team have responded positively to collaborative working with the aim of processing cases correctly and as quickly as possible. Ideally, I would like the City of York Council to make their current policy available on their website.

“You got me further up the list, near the top so it was a good thing, it's nice where I am now. I don't go wheezy as much as I used to.” (Client)

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Wellbeing

Gypsies and Travellers are three times more likely to experience anxiety and twice as likely to experience depression than the general population (Friends, Families and Travellers, 2023²). Irish Travellers are six to seven times more likely to complete suicide than the general population (Department of Health, 2020³) and although there is a huge gap in data, we know anecdotally that this persists across other GTC.

Within this context and thanks to funding from the NHS Community Mental Health Transformation Grant, we have developed our mental health and wellbeing offer this year by employing a dedicated Integrative Wellbeing Worker who is a qualified counsellor with two decades experience in the mental health sector. Whilst all our work aims to support wellbeing, this service is committed to developing mental health support that is culturally appropriate, relevant and accessible. It is co-produced with members of York's GTC and is responsive to arising needs. At present it consists of:

1-2-1 WELLBEING SESSIONS

We delivered 1-2-1 wellbeing support to 31 individuals throughout the year, ranging from one-off micro-interventions to longer term support spanning 10+ sessions. We provided a safe and confidential space to be able to explore emotional wellbeing, using a mindful listening approach, where we listen, without interruption, judgment or need to fix. We also offered practical support such as booking GP appointments, accessing medication and internal referrals to case work support to address external factors impacting on mental health. Much of this work happens alongside other activities and events as the Integrative Wellbeing Worker becomes a familiar and trusted face within the organisation.

WELLBEING CIRCLE

The Wellbeing Circle, or 'Barmy Army' as members have named it, is a vital part of our wellbeing offer and acts as part peer support group and part decision making group to develop the service. It consists of five individuals and meets weekly with people receiving remuneration in vouchers for their time. Everyone involved in the circle has received wellbeing support at YTT and is passionate about supporting their communities to improve mental health. They make decisions about how to ensure the support is accessible, how to let people know about the support and how to reduce stigma around mental health and asking for help.

² Friends, Families and Travellers (2023) Research Summary: Experiences of Suicide in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Available online: https://www.gypsy-traveller.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Research_summary_experiences_of_suicide_in_Gypsy_Roma_and_Traveller_communities.pdf. Accessed 24 June 2024.

³ Department of Health (Last updated on 26 October 2020) All Ireland Traveller Health Study: Our Geels - Summary of Findings. Available online: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b9c48a-all-ireland-traveller-health-study/>. Accessed 24 June 2024.

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WHAT'S NEXT?

From the first Wellbeing Circle session it has been clear that many Gypsies and Travellers are concerned about the mental health and wellbeing of their young people. Concerns about how children are coping were also common issues arising in 1-2-1s and it has become increasingly clear to us that we can't support the mental health of Gypsies and Travellers without supporting full families. It can also be easier for an adult to reach out for support for their children than for themselves, so wellbeing support for young people could be the hook that brings in adults who are less likely to seek mental health support. Therefore, our focus for the next year is to develop a larger wellbeing service that is able to work with families and carry out work with young people as well as adults.

Wellbeing Case Study

I offered 1-2-1 person-centred counselling and talking therapy. I also offered support and encouragement for the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) application process to relieve their financial and health burden. Lastly, I offered encouragement and support to process barriers and for taking prescribed medication.

After therapy ended, the client started to help within the public living room to build their confidence and reduce social isolation. They also helped with our community garden, became a member of the peer-lead group wellbeing circle, and are now taking prescribed medication to manage their symptoms much better.

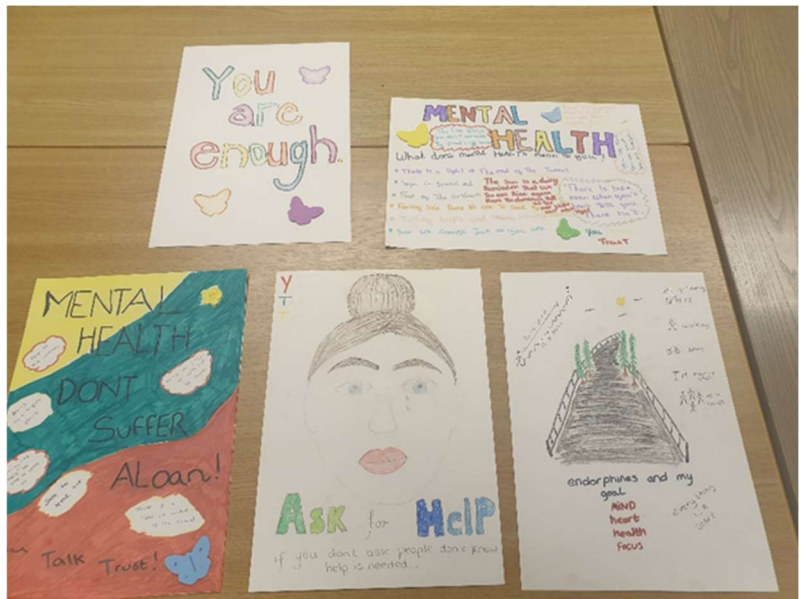
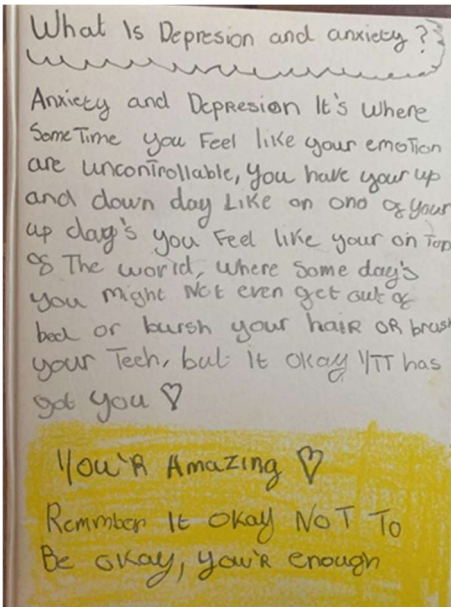
The client is now in receipt of PIP benefit, which relieves stress of finances and gives autonomy over their work. They no longer experience thoughts to end their life and have a greater sense of meaning and worth in their own life. The client has become a strong advocate for talking about mental health and depression. Especially, in men.

The continuity within the service for support, as well as using their own skills to volunteer, increased their feelings of worth, value and meaning. It also provided much needed structure and routine. The consistency of staff and environment offered a safe space that was accessible and welcoming. The fact that the 1-2-1 support was open ended and not restricted to several weeks gave a more organic process without limits, and the transition from counselling to being a member of the service that is valued helped validate their progress and added more self-agency.

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The client struggles with some learning difficulties. On reflection, I will give more time and space to ensuring clients comprehension of the spoken word and more simple terms will be communicated.

"It is helping me feel better about myself. And when I help, it makes me feel good to help others. It's hard but I did it, and it feels positive ... Coming in and talking things and being open about what I can't do helps. The first time I did it, I didn't want to talk but now it feels good ... It helps that it's my choice to come. I'm not forced and if I can't make it one week, its fine ... We are just learning as we go ... Thank you for getting me here." (Client)



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Events

Our events are a big part of YTT. We run events which are open to all our GT communities and the local community, and some that are just for GT. They bring together old and new clients together to create positive memories of YTT and remind them of the varied services they have on offer. Family is key for many Gypsies and Travellers so events that bring whole families together always have a good turnout, allow staff to build positive relationships and tackle isolation within the communities.

GYPSY ROMA TRAVELLER HISTORY MONTH EVENT (LAUNCH EVENT AT MUSEUM).

This year we celebrated Gypsy, Roma, Traveller history month at York Castle Museum with the launch of our co-produced exhibition. We had live music and peg-making demonstrations from community members and speeches from YTT Director Violet and the new CEO of York Museums Trust. There was over 30 people in attendance.

SUMMER PARTY

Our summer party was held out the back of YTT with a BBQ, music, games and a very popular raffle! We saw 40 people attend with representation from all three GTC sites in York, the housed GTC and our local, non-GT, neighbours.

WILDLIFE PARK

15 people attended a trip to the Askham Bryan Wildlife Park during the summer holidays.

HULL MUSEUM TRIP

Four clients went to the Hull Street Life Museum with one of our Support Workers to view the new permanent exhibition about Gypsy and Traveller history. It was a nice day out with food and people got ideas for future history projects.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Halloween party is one of our biggest events every year, having 64 people this year. This is mainly young people who are too young for our education projects who come to YTT for parties to build up positive memories which will hopefully see them return for other support if needed in the future.

QUAKER EVENT

As we've had lots of ongoing conversations about our building this year, we hosted an event for Quakers, our landlord, who are members of York Area Meeting. Through storytelling and films, we shared the history of YTT, the longstanding relationship between Quakers, Gypsies and Travellers in York and the vital work that happens in their building today.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Christmas dinner event is all GTC members that come together at Christmas, each individual cooks something different and brings it along to share. We all sit down together and celebrate with Christmas music, lunch and a cracker.

EASTER PARTY

We usually run our Easter party outside, if the weather is nice. It's a great way to involve the locals, which have gone on to use our other services. This year we had 32 people at our Easter party decorating cakes, making baskets and playing musical bunnies!

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Education

WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

Thanks to support from the Local Authority Education Department, we have been able to dedicate some time this year to supporting young people who are facing challenges at school. Working with advice from an education consultant we have been able to spend time with young people to understand the challenges they're facing, support parents at meetings to advocate for their children's needs and advise schools on specific support needed. We have supported seven young people and seven parents with this work, all of whom remain in school.

"It's huge, we keep on having people coming in and asking for help with kids at school and I think that's a national picture as well I don't think it's just Gypsy and Traveller kids, but I think it's where things are bad, they're worse for those kids they've had lots of kids are struggling and disproportionately I think Gypsy and childhood kids are struggling." (Abigail)

During the last quarter of this year, we have started to develop an alternative provision offer for schools because of some of the challenges we were seeing in the above work. This enables schools to fund us to provide 1-2-1 education and wellbeing support to young people as part of their weekly timetable. Currently two young people have benefitted from this offer, and we hope to develop and expand the alternative provision over the next year.

ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION (EHE)

Functional Skills

Six young people aged 11-15 were enrolled on our Functional Skills programme in September 2023. Delivered by two qualified teachers, they attend YTT for 3 hours a week develop their English and Maths skills and work towards Functional Skills qualifications. This was developed out of direct feedback from parents about what they wanted their children to focus on and attendance has been good.

"On a Thursday we are working with six young people who come in and work on their functional skills. We have seen rewarding outcomes, as they have grown in confidence. Not just within their functional skills, but also with talking to people and each other as well. They were invited to a primary school where they gave a talk to young people who are in mainstream education of some of the things they faced when they were in that environment and how it made them feel. This went down very well, and they went on to been invited to another school, this has built their self-confidence no end. The young people also ran a stall at an event we held in which they had a small amount of money to buy resources with and then sell their product to people. Any money they made went towards a trip of their choosing. I am so proud that we are part of helping them to become confident adults within their own community. We hope to refine and develop our offer for EHE young people over the next year to create clear pathways and holistic support which includes wellbeing support and vocational skills development." (Paula)

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1-2-1s

For those young people who didn't get a place on our Functional Skills programme or need something different, our Youth Worker offers 1-2-1 education sessions. With an initial period of six weeks which can be extended if appropriate, the sessions are planned around the specific interests of the young person and bring in elements of the functional skills English and maths curriculums. Examples include young people developing business plans, engaging in TikTok terms and conditions and writing short stories.

Education Case Study

S is 15 years old and came to YTT in March 2023, due to their family looking for educational support. She is Elective Home Education with the family providing a home education, however wanted support from YTT to offer more educational possibilities as she had a secure knowledge of all the educational support that the family could offer without outside help. S doesn't have many opportunities to socialise with others her age and lacks confidence speaking to young people and professionals alike. She had negative experiences at school, which had impacted on her confidence in educational settings. However, since coming to YTT, it has been evident that S is a bright young lady, with lots of interests and skills that can be developed further. Her family were keen for her to develop her confidence, both in terms of education and socialising.

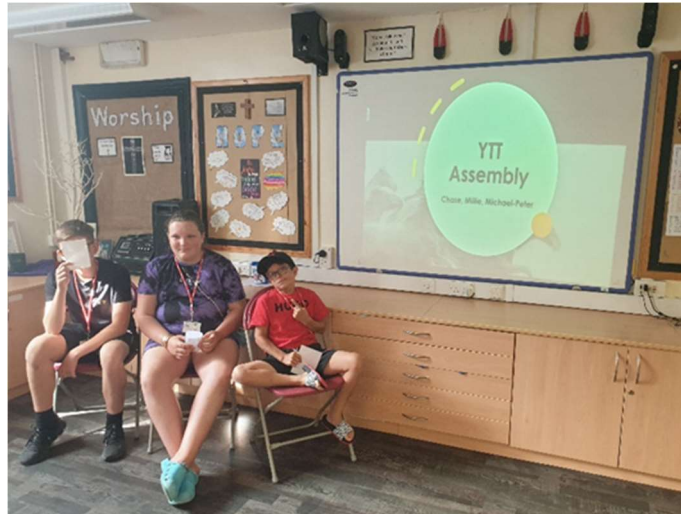
S participated in an entry to Functional Skills course, presenting a short story she had written and illustrated, demonstrating the English and Maths skills she'd learnt to a small audience. The client then began 1-2-1 sessions from September 2023, focusing on tailoring English and Maths to her interests. To support S's desire to apply for college and become more comfortable in groups, they were invited to participate in group sessions that focused on developing leadership skills through developing a piece of artwork about GTC history and heritage alongside some peers, which will be shared with the public.

S has been able to explore in detail how their interests are related to Maths and English skills, increasing their confidence in these areas. She feels more settled in an educational setting, describing how 1-2-1 sessions gives her a space to learn, compared to her experience in school where she felt ignored and disengaged. Through the group sessions, S has begun to establish friendships with others, sharing phone numbers so that they can continue chatting and working on the group project outside of YTT.

This piece of work demonstrates that by providing 1-2-1 support for young people over a long duration of time, confidence and belonging in educational contexts can be restored. The client has shown considerable progress on an educational and social level, which has been enabled by tailoring support around the individual client and challenging the client's previous experience of feeling invisible in an educational environment.

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“I am very happy. I can see a difference and the help that’s here has been a lifeline as we’ve tried so many places for support and we were referred to YTT by a friend. We were told we could help her, and you have, it fills that gap where there hasn’t been support and we can see that.” (Client’s Parent)



Food Stall

Our food stall has continued to bring new clients into YTT over the last year, with a total of 1,062 attendances. Whilst we regularly provide food for our GT clients, the vast majority of those using our food stall are non-GT, including both local residents and a number of Asylum Seekers. Many of those using the food stall stay to have a coffee in our public living room but people can also choose to just come for the food if they prefer. Our donations and funding for this project fluctuate throughout the year which causes challenges in providing a consistent service and standard offer of food. Fresh fruit and vegetables are available every week as we have committed to supplying that from our own funds, but dry goods can come and go.

Next year we will be resourcing a member of staff for one day a week to focus on developing the food stall and living room to grow donations and ensure our offer meets the wants and needs of those who use it.

Safe Space

PUBLIC LIVING ROOM

Our Public Living Room was launched in July 2022 and is open Monday – Wednesday from 10am to 2pm. Linked to the Camerados movement this is a welcoming space that Gypsy and Traveller people, and the wider York community, can use as they wish with no pressure to spend money or engage in services. Some people come to chat with our staff or volunteers, some enjoy meeting friends and neighbours there, others come just to sit quietly in a warm space with a good cup of coffee. If there is further support that someone is needing, then it’s also a gateway into our other services.

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“The most rewarding part of working in the Public Living Room is seeing bridges being formed between the GTC and other communities in real-time. Watching how over the space of 6 months, the shift in members of different communities standing in opposite sides of the room to offering each other cups of tea shows how by letting others be themselves, the natural desire to show kindness to each other will eventually come out. There is still progress to be made, especially in allowing the GTC of York to take true ownership of the space and become more involved in creating a space that celebrates their culture. However, the impact of the Public Living Room, particularly in the past 12 months has been clear.” (Chris)

“Great to see the Living Room develop into a space where people, particularly GT community members, will drop by for a hot drink and a chat. Clients often arrive before appointments or activities and stay on after them to socialise. There’s more potential through increasing capacity and adjusting how the space is organised to attract others and add atmosphere.” (Tony)

“I think the public living room is working well for the day I am there, it’s good for non-GT and it makes YTT a place for all.” (Paula)

“I find the time spent in the public living room so rewarding, whilst I get very little real work done. The chance to chat and engage with people and to experience their warmth and gratitude first hand is wonderful, to find individuals so open and giving. So willing to share their lives with a relative stranger is amazing and I feel privileged to have that as part of my working week.” (Violet)



CATCH UP CLUB

As our longest running group, Catch Up Club meets every week and brings together women from across York’s GTC to cook, craft and most importantly catch up. As other aspects of our work open up, this group remains solely for Gypsy and Traveller women, is led by Gypsy and Traveller staff, and provides a space to offer informal yet essential peer support and friendship. There have been advances made in supporting people to show vulnerability:

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“I think Catch Up Club is a safe space, for the women to come in for whatever they are feeling that day, from a chat with the other women, to unwind if they are feeling stressed and overwhelmed with home life, to cooking and making crafts. They feel listened to and that their voice matters in an environment where there’s no judgement in any way. We have found that many of the women from Catch Up Club, have gone on to use our other services (such as mental health, financial support and education). I hope for the future that we can continue to grow and support the women in their needs.” (Eleanor)

Catch up club has grown massively; over the last 6 months we have doubled in size, averaging 15 women a week. This year has also seen huge advances in the foundations and structure of the group, with the team feeling that the Club feels more democratic and client-led.

“We’ve got members coming to Catch Up Club from other sites that didn’t come before. It’s led by the people that come along. They feel valued and recognised and that shows in how the group feels.” (Eleanor)

Plans for future periods

As mentioned above the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (awarded in March 2024) is very important to the Board. As we move into 2024-25, we hope that the learning from that will create new governance structures that will be truly sociocratic and build capacity and confidence in influencing change among our communities. In addition, to support our growth and change we have started a review of our strategy and have planned an organisational review in 2024-25. The results of these will be reported in next year's Annual Report.

Financial Review

Income increased significantly during the year as the work programme develops (£283,786 from £239,909 in 2023). Rising expenditure matched the increase in income, especially in relation to salaries for our expanding staff team (£143,430 from £114,844 in 2023). It was gratifying that a small surplus of £2,924 was achieved over the year (£28,123 in 2023), and that Net Current Assets rose to £128,245 (£100,399), with the result that we move into the new financial year in a sound financial position.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be limited to three months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in the order of £70,000. Free reserves, being unrestricted funds not committed to fixed assets, amounted to £75,145 (2023 - £75,301).

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Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 September and signed on its behalf by:



Caroline Hunter
Chair



Stephen Pittam
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust 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.

Adrian Rodaway BA, BFP, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

12 September 2024

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	56,270	216,805	273,075	215,226
Charitable activities	3	8,449	1,236	9,685	24,334
Investments		1,026	-	1,026	349
Total Income		65,745	218,041	283,786	239,909
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		90,064	190,798	280,862	211,786
Total Expenditure	5	90,064	190,798	280,862	211,786
Net (Expenditure) / Income	4	(24,319)	27,243	2,924	28,123
Transfers between funds		(759)	759	-	-
Net movement in funds		(25,078)	28,002	2,924	28,123
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2023		138,313	25,098	163,411	135,288
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2024		£ 113,235	£ 53,100	£ 166,335	£ 163,411

The notes on pages 29 to 37 form part of these accounts.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024
Charity number: 1189827

	Notes	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	8	38,090	63,012
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		142,262	104,220
Debtors	9	44,690	3,900
		186,952	108,120
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(58,707)	(7,721)
<i>Net current assets</i>		128,245	100,399
Total assets less current liabilities		166,335	163,411
Total Net Assets		£ 166,335	£ 163,411
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	12	113,235	138,313
Restricted funds	13	53,100	25,098
Total Charity Funds		£ 166,335	£ 163,411

Approved by the Trustees on 12 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

The notes on pages 29 to 37 form part of these accounts.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Between 1.67% and 2% per month straight line - being the remaining term of the property lease
Office and other equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
	£	£	£	£
Grants	54,209	216,805	271,014	213,215
Other donations	2,061	-	2,061	2,011
	<u>£ 56,270</u>	<u>£ 216,805</u>	<u>£ 273,075</u>	<u>£ 215,226</u>

In 2023, income from donations and legacies amounting to £130,480 related to restricted funds.

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	<u>£ 8,449</u>	<u>£ 1,236</u>	<u>£ 9,685</u>	<u>£ 24,334</u>

In 2023, other income of £146 related to restricted funds.

4. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	27,383	26,890
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,500	1,425
Other fees paid to Examiner	<u>2,447</u>	<u>2,843</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities				
Wages and salaries	15,124	128,306	143,430	114,844
Staff and volunteer expenses	2,508	2,014	4,522	4,686
Sessional work	1,428	8,751	10,179	4,593
Activities and outings	1,535	23,418	24,953	11,021
	20,595	162,489	183,084	135,144
<i>Governance costs:</i>				
Independent examiner's fees	1,500	-	1,500	1,425
<i>Support costs:</i>				
Consultancy and advice	-	5,800	5,800	1,800
Rent and rates	13,704	-	13,704	9,304
Insurance	1,579	-	1,579	1,402
Heating and lighting	4,868	-	4,868	5,180
Office costs	3,736	9,635	13,371	10,930
Subscriptions	85	396	481	435
Repairs and maintenance	6,550	33	6,583	6,830
Professional fees	2,447	-	2,447	2,843
Sundry expenses	1,534	-	1,534	2,211
IT support and training	385	-	385	1,210
Training and development	698	4,015	4,713	3,129
Planning work	5,000	8,430	13,430	3,053
Depreciation	27,383	-	27,383	26,890
Total support costs	67,969	28,309	96,278	75,217
Total expenditure on charitable activities	£ 90,064	£ 190,798	£ 280,862	£ 211,786

In 2023, expenditure on charitable activities amounting to £104,798 related to restricted funds.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross salaries and wages	133,065	106,499
Employer's NIC	4,201	3,629
Employer's pension contributions	6,164	4,716
	<u>£ 143,430</u>	<u>£ 114,844</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 7 (2023 - 5) . There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2023 - none).

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO), Community Development Lead and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £101,989 (2023 - £60,483).

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

8. FIXED ASSETS

	Office and other equipment £	Fixtures & fittings (Building improvements) £	Total £
<i>Cost:</i>			
At 1 April 2023	6,774	104,565	111,339
Additions	2,461	-	2,461
At 31 March 2024	<u>9,235</u>	<u>104,565</u>	<u>113,800</u>
<i>Depreciation:</i>			
At 1 April 2023	3,120	45,207	48,327
Charge for the year	1,891	25,492	27,383
At 31 March 2024	<u>5,011</u>	<u>70,699</u>	<u>75,710</u>
<i>Net book values</i>			
31 March 2024	<u>£ 4,224</u>	<u>£ 33,866</u>	<u>£ 38,090</u>
31 March 2023	<u>£ 3,654</u>	<u>£ 59,358</u>	<u>£ 63,012</u>

All fixed assets relate to unrestricted funds.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9. DEBTORS

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	£ 44,690	£ 3,900

All debtors relate to unrestricted funds.

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,824	3,148
Taxation and social security	2,179	1,819
Other creditors	1,215	898
Accruals and deferred income	51,489	1,856
	£ 58,707	£ 7,721

Creditors totalling £nil (2023 - £961) relate to restricted funds.

11. DEFERRED INCOME

	Total 2024	Total 2023
Grants received in advance	£	£
Balance at 1 April	-	5,000
Released to statement of financial activities		(5,000)
	-	-
Deferred in the period	49,458	-
Balance at 31 March	£ 49,458	£ -

12. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2024
General	£ 138,313	£ 65,745	£ (90,064)	£ (759)	£ 113,235
	£ 138,313	£ 65,745	£ (90,064)	£ (759)	£ 113,235
Comparative year	Balance b/f 01/04/2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2023
General	£ 127,029	£ 109,283	£ (102,058)	£ 4,059	£ 138,313
	£ 127,029	£ 109,283	£ (102,058)	£ 4,059	£ 138,313

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2024 £
Barrow Cadbury	-	2,000	(253)	-	1,747
City of York Council					
- Education	-	600	(1,405)	-	(805)
- Good Warm Space	-	1,890	(1,524)	-	366
- HAF Easter	2,339	649	(898)	-	2,090
- HAF Summer	-	4,175	(1,411)	-	2,764
- Ward Funding	1,123	-	(1,278)	155	-
Inspiring Choices	-	636	(638)	2	-
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	2,164	-	(2,164)	-	-
Moving for Change					
- Governance	-	-	(602)	602	-
- Cost of living	-	10,233	(11,877)	-	(1,644)
- Local plan project	-	10,085	(10,085)	-	-
- Mentee	(3,215)	26,983	(19,490)	-	4,278
National Lottery Community Fund	16,625	88,199	(90,563)	-	14,261
Reaching Out	-	9,990	(5,480)	-	4,510
Roadside Futures Project	-	16,189	(6,602)	-	9,587
Together with Young People	-	2,100	(2,100)	-	-
Trailblazers	-	3,000	(149)	-	2,851
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	2,889	-	-	-	2,889
- Cost of Living	-	9,635	(5,810)	-	3,825
- MBSR Therapy	1,190	-	(667)	-	523
University of York					
- Education Research	-	6,000	(4,329)	-	1,671
- Youth Work/Skills	-	11,597	(12,095)	-	(498)
York CVS	-	14,080	(11,018)	-	3,062
York Mind	1,983	-	(360)	-	1,623
	<u>£ 25,098</u>	<u>£ 218,041</u>	<u>£ (190,798)</u>	<u>£ 759</u>	<u>£ 53,100</u>

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

<i>Comparative year</i>	Balance b/f 01/04/2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2023 £
City of York Council					
- HAF Christmas	-	1,490	(1,490)	-	-
- HAF Easter	-	2,596	(257)	-	2,339
- Ward Funding	-	4,000	(2,877)	-	1,123
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	-	7,515	(3,806)	(1,545)	2,164
Moving for change - Mentee	-	20,000	(20,621)	(2,594)	(3,215)
National Lottery Community Fund	3,194	83,900	(70,469)	-	16,625
Together with Young People	-	3,600	(3,605)	5	-
Tudor Trust	1,200	-	(1,200)	-	-
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	3,398	-	(509)	-	2,889
- MBSR Therapy	-	4,980	(3,054)	(736)	1,190
York St John University - Prince's Trust	-	849	(1,660)	811	-
York Mind	467	1,696	(180)	-	1,983
	<u>£ 8,259</u>	<u>£ 130,626</u>	<u>£ (109,728)</u>	<u>£ (4,059)</u>	<u>£ 25,098</u>

Barrow Cadbury

Funding towards gathering data to better understand the impact of the justice system on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young adults and their families.

City of York Council

Education – Funding towards supporting young Gypsies and Travellers in school through developing educational opportunities for young people from York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Good Warm Space – Funding towards maintaining the Public Living Room as a Warm Space during winter and providing food and toiletries to alleviate cost-of-living pressures.

HAF Easter/Summer/Christmas - Funding towards Holiday Activities and Food for families

Ward Funding - Funding towards the Food Stall

Inspiring Choices

Funding towards food and travel to support work with young people.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Funding towards creating a Public Living Room including providing equipment and staff time.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Moving for change

Governance [restricted] – Funding towards administrative support including staffing costs for the Moving for Change organisation.

Cost of Living – Funding towards delivering direct financial support to individuals and families living roadside or in insecure accommodation.

Local Plan Project – Funding towards covering costs in the final stages of YTT’s engagement with the York Local Plan process.

Mentee - Funding towards a Professional Mentorship to recruit and develop a mentee Support Worker.

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs and IT costs.

Reaching Out

Funding to undertake a research project to evaluate mental wellbeing support YTT provides to Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Roadside Futures Project

Funding towards engaging with City of York Council to develop policy and adoption of Negotiated Stopping and with North Yorkshire Police on the implementation of the PCSC Act provisions on unauthorised encampments.

Together with Young People

Funding towards the Community Development Lead’s time participating in the ‘Holding the Space’ activity.

Trailblazers

Funding towards celebrating the history and heritage of York’s Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Two Ridings Foundation

Betty Family Fund - Funding towards the running of the youth club.

Cost of Living – Funding towards financially supporting families during a cost-of-living crisis.

MBST Therapy - Funding towards a Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction programme.

Tudor Trust

Funding towards improving the financial systems.

University of York

Educational Research – Funding to undertake a research project to identify and analyse the experiences of education for York’s Gypsies and Travellers.

Youth Work/Skills – Funding towards providing functional skills support to young people from York’s Gypsy and Traveller communities.

York CVS

Funding towards supporting adults with mental health needs including employment of an Integrated Wellbeing Support Worker.

York Mind

Funding towards the women's wellbeing project.

York St John University - Prince's Trust

Funding towards learning support for young people who have struggled in mainstream education.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

14. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2024 Total £
Unrestricted funds	38,090	75,145	113,235
Restricted funds	-	53,100	53,100
	<u>£ 38,090</u>	<u>£ 128,245</u>	<u>£ 166,335</u>
<i>Comparative year</i>			
	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2023 Total £
Unrestricted funds	63,012	75,301	138,313
Restricted funds	-	25,098	25,098
	<u>£ 63,012</u>	<u>£ 100,399</u>	<u>£ 163,411</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1189827

Accounts



York Travellers Trust

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023



Contents.

Trustees' Annual Report	pages 3-29
Independent Examiner's Report	page 30
Statement of Financial Activities	page 31
Balance Sheet	page 31
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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by	YTT
Registered Charity number	1189827
Charity's principal address	20 Falsgrave Crescent, Clifton, York, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	
Martin Williams	Secretary	
Caroline Hunter	Chair	
Claire Wilton		
Lorraine Mulvenna		Resigned 1 st May 2022
Abbie North		

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, Director

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8th June 2020
Trustee selection methods	Nomination and Co-option

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

- 1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
- 2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
- 3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
- 4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with eh object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
- 5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
- 6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

- 1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
- 2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
- 3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
- 4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Introduction.

York Travellers Trust (YTT) is the longest running registered charity within the United Kingdom that works primarily with Gypsy and Traveller Communities (GTC). Based in York and surrounding areas, we're here to support members of the GTC with various topics such as finance, education, health, and experiences of discrimination. Our aim is to improve their physical and mental well-being and dispel mis-truths about the GTC within the local community, improving the lives of GTC and those they interact with.

This report presents key information in relation to the delivery and impact of our services in the 2022-23 financial year. Services and support that would not be possible without our funders including the National Lottery Community Fund 'Safe Space Project' (now entering its fourth year), Lankelly Chase, Moving for Change, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and Two Ridings Community Foundation among others.

If you would like more information about the content of this report, or the work we do, please feel free to contact us at:

York Travellers Trust, 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

Tel. 01904 630 526 | E. info@ytt.org.uk

W. <https://www.ytt.org.uk/>



Acknowledgements.

I want to say a big thank you to everyone who helped York Travellers Trust this year. I would like to thank our clients. You are the reason we do what we do. Your loyalty, trust, and valuable feedback have helped us deliver and improve our services. You have also driven our continued commitment and efforts to help the Gypsy and Traveller Communities in York thrive. I would like to thank our team of hardworking employees, volunteers, and Trustees. Your effort, commitment, and determination have been instrumental in achieving our successes. We also owe a big thank you to our funders and partners. Your help and flexibility enables us to achieve our charity's goals. Lastly, a special and heartfelt thanks to our families, friends, and everyone in our wider communities. Your support and encouragement have kept us going. Looking back at the year, it's clear that we couldn't have done it without all of us working together. I'm excited to see where we can go next, reaching even higher in the future. Thanks for being part of our journey.



Violet Cannon, Director



Treasurer Statement.

In the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, YTT was successful in building back its services in financial year 2022/23, and attracting the resources needed to do this. The grant we received from the NLCF was our largest single source of income, and provided the foundation stone on which all else was built.

The NLCF grant, and other important longer term grants from the Tudor Trust and Lankelly Chase, enabled us to attract smaller grants from several other funders. The increased funds our staff attracted have enabled us to develop new work in responding to the financial crisis which has hit sections of the Gypsy & Traveller Communities, and the neighbourhood in which we are based, very hard. We raised significant additional funds for the Living Room and wider centre, and we are moving towards completing the building work to make the centre the welcoming space we imagined at the beginning of the NLCF project. Sadly, pressures on the building industry resulted in the work not being completed in the financial year with the consequential necessity of carrying forward a significant sum into the 2023/24 financial year for the completion of this work.

We ended the 2022/23 financial year in a very healthy position, enabling us to agree a large deficit budget for 2023/24, knowing that we have the reserves to cover this, but also having faith that the quality of the services we are offering will result in more funds being attracted during the year. We rely on short term funding which we attract each year to complement the longer term funding which the NLCF, Tudor Trust and Lankelly Chase offers. We cannot overestimate the importance of the core longterm funding to the success of our work. Thank you.

Stephen Pittam, Treasurer



Board of Trustees.

In our governance role, the Board of Trustees remains actively involved in the operation of York Travellers Trust. Our mission is to manage the Trust responsibly and efficiently, ensuring we maximise the benefits delivered to the Gypsy and Traveller Communities. We continue in our hands-on approach, supporting and fostering the ongoing growth and ambitions of the organisation. This support includes our efforts this year on the York Local Plan in collaboration with Violet, our endorsement of Abigail's educational initiatives, and our backing of Violet's vision for the Falsgrave Crescent centre and the link it represents between the settled community and the Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

Our Treasurer notes that the funding we received in 2022-23, including from the National Lottery Community Fund and Lang Kelly Chase, enabled us to expand our workforce. This step was both exciting and essential. Violet's recruitment strategy was pivotal and has subsequently allowed York Travellers Trust to deliver more extensive services and make substantial progress towards achieving our mission. We are thrilled to acknowledge the appointment of Tony, Eleanor, Amy, and Nicole, whose immense contributions are essential in propelling the York Travellers Trust forward.

Despite our successes, we recognise our challenges. We are continually aware that our staff may often be overburdened, and we acknowledge the need to improve our prioritisation skills. Moreover, the ongoing struggle to

recruit new board members, especially treasurers, is an issue common to many small charities. We also recognise the current underrepresentation of the Gypsy and Traveller Communities on the Board. These are areas we strive to improve in the coming year. However, we've set off on a transformational journey towards increased community involvement at all levels, particularly with the aim of becoming a Gypsy and Traveller run charity. The progress made to date is encouraging, and we look forward to what the new year will bring.

As we forge ahead, we carry with us the lessons we've learned, the successes we've celebrated, and the challenges we've faced. The strength of our team, our community, and the support we receive from our partners fill us with optimism about the future of the York Travellers Trust.

“As you might imagine, I've been reflecting on my time with York Travellers Trust. If somebody walked in now that hadn't been in for five years, I think they would say 'it's so professional now'. There's been a sea-change in the level of competence, professionalism and rigour in what's being done.”

(Martin Williams, Trustee)



Organisation (1).

2022-23 was the third year of our Safe Space Project and as can be recognised from the content of this report, it was one of significant development change for York Travellers Trust. Only now are we starting to understand and tackle the systemic challenges facing the Gypsy and Traveller Communities in York / nationally.

Organisational Development

In recent years, York Travellers Trust has undergone substantial transformation and faced several challenges that have played a critical role in shaping the future of our organisation.

Having expanded significantly, our organisation now stands at a point where our primary focus should be on achieving stability. This will allow us to ensure our sustainability and deliver our services more effectively in the long term outside of the National Lottery Community Fund funding period.

In practice, this involves us reassessing our priorities, consolidating our resources, and focusing on the core foundations of our mission. Through these efforts, we hope to make the York Travellers Trust a more robust and impactful organisation.

Data

The introduction of Lamplight into our workflow at York Travellers Trust has proven to be a turning point. This comprehensive case management system is enabling us to collect and access data in a way we couldn't before, giving us a more complete picture of the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Communities. It also helps us track our work, its reach, and the impact we're having. However, having data is only the first step. It's important we not just accumulate this information, but actively analyse. It can show us where we're succeeding and where we need to improve. It can point out patterns and trends we might have otherwise missed. It can help us understand the challenges faced by the Gypsy and Traveller Communities and how we can better address them. These insights will be crucial for shaping our future strategy. They will help us make informed decisions, ensuring that our resources are used effectively and that our services meet the evolving needs of the community.

So, while we've made great strides in gathering this important data, our work is far from done. The next step is to fully utilize this wealth of information, to explore what it's telling us, and to let it guide us on our mission. We're excited about what we'll learn and how we'll grow as a result, and we're committed to using these insights to drive our strategy moving forward.



Organisation (2).

Workforce

During the previous financial year, we made substantial progress in our recruitment process. By identifying our organisational needs and designing a recruitment plan, we were able to attract and onboard employees who were well-aligned with our mission and objectives. Despite these strides, we encountered challenges in filling some roles, particularly for a youth worker position. This led us to re-evaluate our advertising strategies, exploring new outlets and techniques, and reinforced our belief in hiring the right fit for each role, not merely filling vacancies.

One notable hire was Tony, our new Centre Manager. His competence and commitment have significantly bolstered our team. We were also fortunate to receive funding from 'Moving for Change' towards the end of 2021-22, which facilitated the recruitment of a community member, Eleanor, as a Mentee. Eleanor's innovative ideas and ability to attract new clients have made her an invaluable addition to York Travellers Trust throughout 2022-23.

Furthermore, we brought onboard Amy as our caseworker, Chris as our Youth Worker, and Nicole as our Integrative Wellbeing Support Worker at the start of 2023-24. Their skills and experiences will be critical to our organization's continued progress and development.

Training and Development

As our workforce has grown, we have recognised the importance of trust, communication and clearly defined goals to ensure we're working well together as a team. We've taken a proactive approach, creating spaces for open conversations across the team, to learn from one another and build collaboration with clear expectations, roles and needs. This experience has bound the team together and brought us closer.

We have also refocused our formal workforce training and development opportunities with a focus on the foundations that make the organisation a safe space. We have implemented new health and safety, and fire safety policies and procedures with training for all staff to ensure they can be implemented. We have also conducted a safeguarding audit leading to top-up training for all staff and additional Safeguarding Officer training for senior staff. Our mentee is having 1-2-1 English tutoring sessions to improve confidence in the reading and writing elements of their role and our Community Development Lead has completed Deep Democracy Training (previously completed by our CEO) which will inform a more sociocratic way of working in the future. With these essential pieces of training in place we look forward to broadening our training opportunities in the next financial year to ensure all staff continue to have opportunities for development.



Organisation (3).

Volunteering

Over the past year, we have encountered several volunteering hurdles, notably a shortage of volunteers and a lack of diversity among them. The constraints on 'leadership time' has limited our ability to administer and extend opportunities for volunteers. In addition, the management of social work student placements, which bore strong similarities to volunteering, added to these challenges. These placements required significant organisational resources and were occasionally unreliable, placing additional pressure on our operations.

To tackle these issues, we would like to pursue grant funding to establish a Volunteer Coordinator Post. Such a position would enable more effective management and deployment of our volunteers. We also need to undertake reassessment and reorganisation of our volunteering opportunities to introduce more flexibility. This could encompass the offering of both formal and informal roles, the inclusion of micro-volunteering opportunities, and the establishment of clear volunteering action plans and targets.

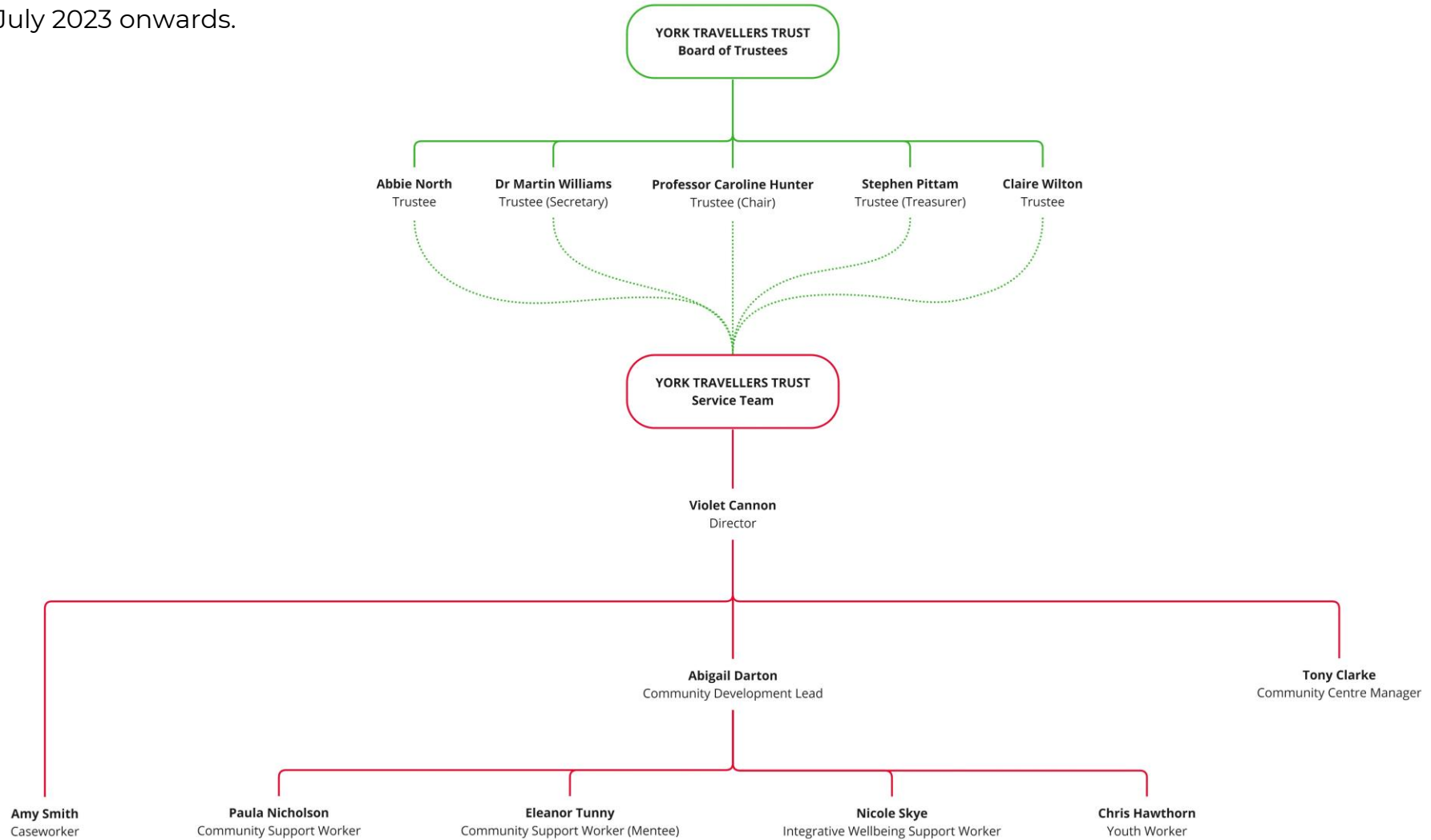
Despite the challenges, we are fortunate to have individuals deeply committed to the organisation who willingly contribute their time, not viewing it as volunteering.

Our plans to enhance volunteering are intricately linked to broader challenges confronting the Gypsy and Traveller Communities, including motivating and enabling volunteering. Our aim is to interweave volunteering with community development, providing opportunities that fortify our organisation while simultaneously benefiting our community members by bolstering their CVs. This goal aligns with our broader objectives of training and youth development. Our ultimate goal is to foster an environment that encourages volunteerism, personal development, and a sense of ownership among community members, in harmony with our wider mission of community empowerment.



Organogram.

New structure – July 2023 onwards.





Strategic Work (1).

Strategic work is an important part of the work that York Travellers Trust undertakes. It is vital to ensure that changes are long-lasting and far-reaching as part of a wider system response to the challenges faced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities. Some of the strategic work that we have delivered this year are included below.

Gypsy Traveller Working Group

We continue to engage and push forward this multi-agency group with the hopes of bringing together more of the statutory key players in York. Gypsies and Travellers are rarely high on agendas, so we feel this group is vital for accountability.

During the last financial year, the full group met eight times, with additional smaller sub-groups meeting 16 times. In this time, we collectively began exploring the repairs process on caravan sites, supporting baseline health research, raised the local plan and its issues, discussed mental health inequalities, and created a safeguarding action plan. We have also set up a new sub-group to discuss a high-risk homeless GT family within York and the system response that is required to support them. We are particularly proud of two things. One, a rather small but significant change, prior to our work it was City Of York Council's policy to direct any call that mentioned Gypsies or Travellers to the Temporary Accommodation Unit. We

highlighted this was an active barrier to community needs being integrated. The calls should now be directed to Communities and Equalities if the issue is not caravan-site related. Two, the growing partnership between York Travellers Trust and the Inclusion Team with the Education Department, which is leading to further support and resource for young Gypsies and Travellers in schools and educated at-home. We are hoping the group's next actions will be to explore an Encampment Policy and how the new Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Court (PCSC) Act might be used within York.

Moving for Change

York Travellers Trust continues to be a key member of 'Moving for Change', a network of GTC organisations across the UK. This membership gives us great access to a wonderful and unique network of people and organisations facing similar experiences. It also gives us vital knowledge to respond to some of City of York Council's actions and comments. Our 'Moving for Change' contacts also give us the opportunity to shape their application process for GT-specific cost of living and energy crisis support. Moving for Change continues to be part of our strategic plans moving forward, and we have secured funding for York Travellers Trust time and resource in the coming year to explore encampment and PCSC responses within York.



Strategic Work (2).

City of York – New Local Plan

In line with the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework, City of York Council is developing a new Local Plan that sets out their vision for housing, business construction and infrastructure development. York Travellers Trust continued to engage in the drawn-out process. We saw the new Local Plan as a way forward for not just the Gypsy and Traveller Communities of York, but as a beacon of good practice nationally. Sadly, just before examination stage, a vital sentence was removed that would be detrimental to Gypsies and Travellers. We made our concerns known to the inspectors and submitted an extensive and detailed response. We also contacted several partner agencies to support our opposition to this aspect. We were proud to see that The Joseph Rowntree Foundation and The Equalities and Human Rights Commission both wrote to City of York Council expressing their concerns. We await the inspector's final response.

Multiple Complex Needs (MCN) Network

The MCN Network is a group of individuals in York with professional and lived experience that is working to change systems in order to create better outcomes for those in the city living with MCN. Our involvement ensures that the needs of Gypsies and Travellers with MCN are considered throughout and embedded in new policies and practices within the city.

University of York

The University has been very progressive in their work with us, and we are proud to be associated with them. This relationship has led to a research project, and they have continued to support our Princes Trust educational programme for young people. Thanks to a generous donation from an individual connected to the University we are in the process of co-developing a programme for Gypsy and Traveller young people that will involve English and Maths Functional Skills classes and youth worker support for young people with a focus on increasing educational opportunities and wellbeing. This will launch in the next financial year.

Together with Young People.

Together with Young People is a systems change network that brings together youth organisations within the city to raise the voices of marginalised young people. Through this network we were funded to carry out a project with three young people to explore their heritage and build their confidence in their identity to enable them to speak at a showcase event at York St Johns University. They presented to a room full of professionals, parents and other young people to inform them about who they are and what it's like to be a young Gypsy in York.

EDUCATION WOULD BE BETTER IF RACISM TO GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS STOPPED



"EDUCATION WOULD BE BETTER IF RACISM TO GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS STOPPED."

CHASE
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

Chase



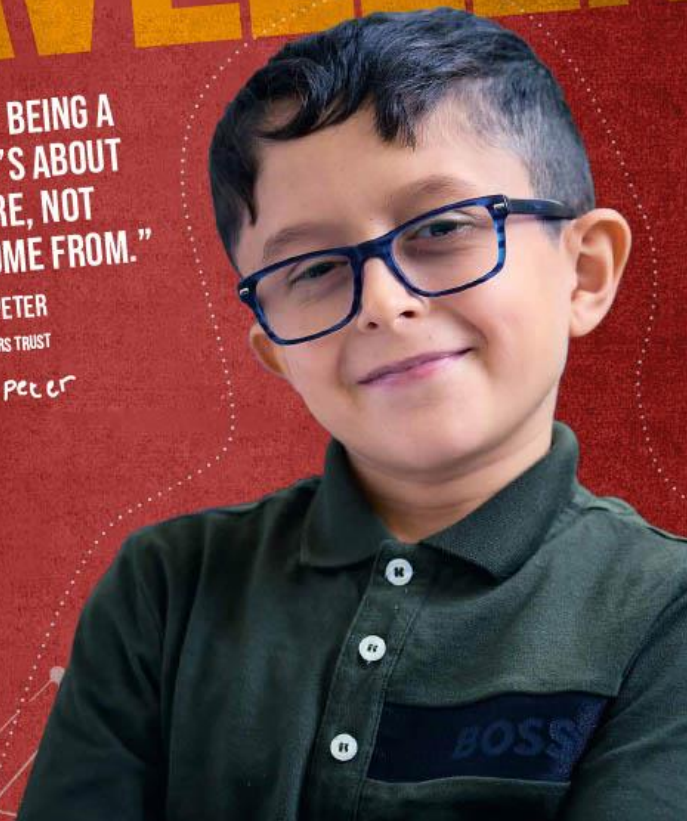
twyp.org.uk
We are a group of youth organisations who value the opinions of young people.



I AM PROUD OF BEING A TRAVELLER

"I AM PROUD OF BEING A TRAVELLER. IT'S ABOUT WHO YOU ARE, NOT WHERE YOU COME FROM."

MICHAEL PETER
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
Michael-Peter



twyp.org.uk
We are a group of youth organisations who value the opinions of young people.





Research.

While the Gypsy and Traveller communities have been the subject of numerous studies, these communities are often understudied compared to others, in part due to the challenges associated with gaining access and building trust. However, interest in researching these communities has increased over the years, driven by a desire to understand their unique culture, as well as to address issues of social justice, human rights, and inequality. This impacts greatly on provision of services and funding, both nationally and locally. We believe that the best research is conducted by, and with, communities and have worked with partners over the past year to research the topics that are important to Gypsies and Travellers so that they can take on lead roles in the research and be paid for their time.

Impacts of Covid – University of York

Working with researchers from at the University of York, our staff have been trained to conduct interviews alongside university researchers to find out how Gypsies and Travellers experienced Covid and what lessons can be learnt to improve practice and relationships to ensure appropriate support is available for their community in times of crisis and beyond. We carried out focus groups and interviews with 1-3 members of 19 households across York and surrounding areas. The final report will be completed in July 2023 and launched at an event at York Travellers Trust.

Well-being and Research Practices – NIHR

Our work on the Reaching Out project with the National Institute of Health Research partnership organisations has spanned 3 years and taken on various forms due to Covid and staff changes. This year we have focused our remit on conducting a peer-led service evaluation of how our work impacts on well-being, in response to community members naming mental health and well-being as issues they would like to be explored. Our Gypsy and Traveller Support Workers conducted interviews with clients to understand how what we do impacts on their mental health. Alongside this we are working with researchers to create a best practice guide for conducting research in partnership with York Travellers Trust and the wider Gypsy and Traveller Communities. This is a direct response to the number of enquiries we receive from individuals and organisations wanting to speak to us and our clients.

In the next financial year, we will create a clear process and list of boundaries and expectations to frame decisions about which research we engage with going forward. We will also be conducting research into Gypsy and Traveller experiences of education in York and the impacts of trauma on the community – both in direct response to recurring and emerging issues.



Training.

Our Safe Space Training is core to our mission of improving outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers in York and surrounding areas as it creates opportunities for professionals and residents to learn about the communities from community members themselves. With a focus on creating safety so that participants can ask their honest questions without fear of judgement, we debunk myths and provide alternative narratives to those displayed in the media. By working predominantly with groups of peers from within one workplace, we are able to provide practical, context specific advice on how to engage with GTC, recognise unconscious bias within policies and procedures and ensure that services are accessible to all. On top of this, training is also important to sustainability as an organisation as it is an opportunity to generate earned income. This financial year we have delivered training to:

- York Museums Trust.
- University of York.
- Inspiring Choices (York hub for the national Uni Connect programme).
- Nimbuscare Ltd (provider of York primary care services)
- York St John Trainee Teacher Cohort
- IDAS (domestic abuse charity)

We also delivered a session to professionals at a regional Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC) conference with specific guidance on how to support Gypsy and Traveller families to reduce parental conflict as there is strong evidence that conflict between parents – whether together or separated – can have a significant negative impact on children’s mental health and long-term life-chances. Not all conflict is damaging, but where this is frequent, intense and poorly resolved it can harm children’s outcomes. The session was well-attended and well-received by participants.

Participant Feedback

“Incredible information around the actual experiences of GTC from a member of the community was so valuable”

“I could have listened for another hour it was that interesting!”

“I will share the information with the whole team and even though the numbers of Gypsy and Traveller families we support is quite small it is still useful for us to be able to offer culturally sensitive support.”



Case Work.

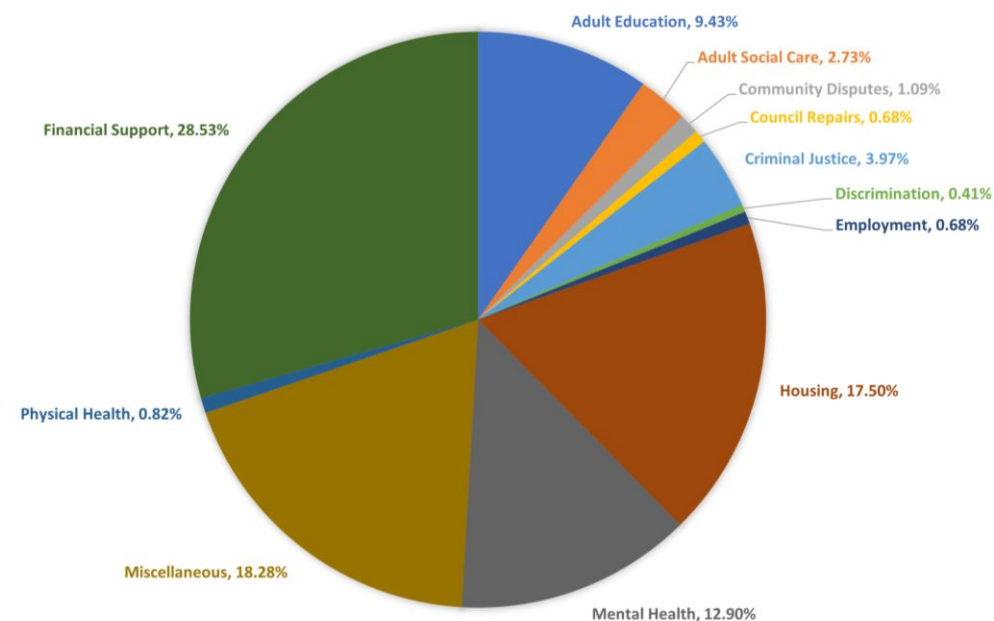
Case work, which involves providing support on an individual or family basis, is a significant part of our offer. Due to the unique challenges and needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Communities, case work can be particularly beneficial and make a significant positive impact on their lives.

The case work we provide includes advocacy support, literacy support, trust building with social care providers, and more. Case work often acts as a first point of contact for new clients as people feel more confident asking for help with paperwork than they do talking about their mental health, financial difficulties or isolation. Where people may not trust mainstream services due to experiences of discriminations, clients are confident that our team will not only understand their culture but support them to challenge racism when it arises in their interactions with other professionals / services.

In 2022-23 we had 530 attendances for case work support delivered on a 1-2-1 basis. Financial support (including issuing of food vouchers, benefit claim forms & appeals, and income maximisation) was the most common presenting issue, followed by housing queries (including support with council repairs) and liaison with schools around their child's education.

Recognising the increasing demand for case work and the complexities of the presenting issues, we have hired a new Case Worker who will have set case work appointments and drop-in hours for clients from April 2023.

TOTAL WORK RECORD HOURS BY CASE WORK SUB-AREA (FY 2022-23)





Well-being (1).

As well as the factors that can affect everyone's mental health, people from ethnic minority communities such as the Gypsy and Traveller Communities may also contend with racism and discrimination, inequality (social and environmental) and mental health stigma. Whilst all our work aims to support well-being, the vast number of national Gypsy and Traveller suicides in 2020-21 prompted us to start more direct well-being work funded by Nimbuscare Ltd (a provider of primary care services across the York area) and delivered by a qualified mental health nurse and mindfulness practitioner.

1-2-1 Well-being Sessions

We delivered 1-2-1 well-being support to six individuals throughout the year, ranging from one-off micro-interventions to longer term support spanning 10+ sessions. We provided a safe and confidential space to be able to explore emotional well-being, using a mindful listening approach, where we listen, without interruption, judgment or need to 'fix. We also used short follow-up / check-ins with individuals that had greater needs to increase trust and reliability. We supported people holistically, helping with practical issues which impacted on mental health where possible, and our practitioner even acted as an expert witness in one client's child protection case.

Osballdwick Family Wellbeing Group

We delivered weekly craft sessions for young people on Osballdwick Travellers Site. Mums and grannies naturally also attended, creating space for a family approach to wellbeing. Through this group we provided a space that was non-judgmental, and safe. We did not punish 'bad behaviour' but sought to understand the individual. We taught participants how to identify early warning signs or triggers to emotional dysregulation and gave them means to communicate them either verbally, or via the use of flags. We did this so as not to 'censor' participants but to encourage different ways of being to manifest. This was important since the Gypsy and Traveller Communities often experience judgement, discrimination and prejudice. Lastly, we incorporated a mindfulness technique known as a body scan, whereby we investigated alongside the individual, the experience of dysregulation, and triggers.

We are committed to removing barriers to well-being for Gypsies and Travellers. Using evidence of impact from this short-term project, we have secured funding to employ the practitioner as an Integrative Wellbeing Support Worker for two-days-a-week for 2 years starting in July 2023. They will work with known clients to develop a Well-being Steering Group which will co-design the project, providing ongoing opportunities for wellbeing support, counselling and mental health training for community members.



Well-being (2).

*"It helped me with my anger. I don't react. Lots of stress lately on site and not retaliated.
Helped me to make decisions." (Adult Woman)*

*"It helped me be calm. I don't fight as much, don't punch people.
It helped me want to pull my life back from fighting." (12-year-old)*

"[What I'll take away is] how to talk to new people. How to be calm. Try new things." (12-year-old)

*"It helped because no one else has really played with us. It helped me be happier with
myself because I get to see new people and do new things." (11-year-old)*

"Makes me feel better." (6-year-old)

*"I know myself a bit more. The breathing actually works. I'm going out a lot more. And by myself
sometimes. But I do feel on edge alone outside. Remembering to breathe helps" (Adult Man)*

"I'm no longer a gypso. I don't care what people say I am." (Adult Man)



Events (1).

Our events for the Gypsy and Traveller Communities are essential to our wider aims as they bring old and new clients together to create positive memories of York Travellers Trust and remind them of the varied services they have on offer. Family is key for many Gypsies and Travellers so events that bring whole families together always have a good turnout, allow staff to build positive relationships and tackle isolation within the communities.

Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month Event

To celebrate Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month in June 2022, we hosted a storytelling evening for our Gypsy and Traveller clients and non-Gypsy/Traveller neighbours and partners. With traditional music and food, a sharing of our young people's film '[HUMAN – The Voice of Young Travellers](#)', and storytelling around a campfire about the migration of Romany Gypsies to the UK, this was a chance for clients to celebrate their culture and non-Gypsy/Traveller attendees to learn more about the communities. Attendees indicated how much they valued the way in which the event enabled a diverse group of people to meet in an inclusive and friendly setting and share an experience that was not only educational but social, culturally enriching and hugely engaging.

“It was a very open and welcome space with a clear sense of community spirit and inclusion.”

“Everyone I spoke to was friendly, it really was a really wide diverse group of people who were all friendly and were there to learn about and celebrate Traveller history.”

Summer Family Fun Days

Over the summer holidays we hosted two family fun days at parks on different sides of York to encourage different community members who do not always come to onsite events. A total of 35 young people and 15 adults attended across both fun days and joined in with races, face paints scavenger hunts and a picnic. For families struggling financially, the summer holidays are a long time to keep young people entertained so these events were valued and enjoyed by young people and parents alike.





Events (2).

Halloween Party

Our Halloween Party was our busiest event of the year with a total of 62 people attending. Our 'Catch Up Club' members enjoyed decorating the hall. Young people (aged 6-months to 16 years) attended in fancy dress ready for 2-hours of games, competitions, crafts and food. It brought new clients into the space who have gone on to access other support.

"Well done YTT girls had great fun event well-attended and well-organised thanks to the staff"

Christmas Events

24 people attended our family Christmas Party which included cupcake decorating, dress the snowman competitions, musical games and of course a visit from Father Christmas! 19 people attended our Christmas meal for adults, with everyone bringing different dishes to create a delicious Christmas dinner enjoyed by all!

"Had a fantastic day thank you all xxx"

Next year we will continue to host events and celebrations that bring people together to connect, celebrate and learn.





Education (1).

A good education is universally important, but for those from the GTC, it can hold even more significance. Here at YTT, we recognise the need to inform, educate, and support those in the Education sector about the GTC and our needs. This enables our children and young people to gain knowledge and skills that can serve as a pathway to a better quality of life.

Work with Schools

In the last six months we have supported five families who have come to YTT with concerns about their children who are struggling at school. Common issues arising include:

- Repeated exclusions.
- Young people being placed in inclusion and struggling to cope.
- Racist bullying not being picked up by teachers.
- Ignorance to GT culture in the classroom.

All of this happens within the context of an Education system that has developed gradually for the settled majority. Until relatively recently Gypsies and Travellers were actively excluded, and the system then turned a blind eye when they were absent from school. Many parents of this generation have had negative experiences at school and like any parent, want to protect their child(ren) from going through the same harms. This does not

mean they lack aspiration for their children and many parents come to us for support because they really want their children in school but can't cope with the constant phone calls and children coming home upset.

Our Community Development Worker, Abigail, attended seven meetings with parents across three different York schools to address the above issues. With a trusted person present, parents and young people appear more confident to raise their concerns and speak about their needs. Outcomes of these meetings have included:

- Reduced timetables to support transition back into school.
- CAMHS referrals for ADHD and Autism assessments.
- Increased awareness of GT culture within staff teams.
- Racist bullying being recognised and dealt with as such.

Previously, we have had very few of these concerns, so it appears to be a sign that our community are learning about our support around Education. However, there are major limits to the change that can be made on an individual level when even the best-intentioned teachers and support staff are constrained by school policy and budgets. We are therefore also working with the local authority to press for systems change e.g., ensuring pupil premium linked to GT students is used to benefit GT students, and including improved experiences for GT students in school improvement plans etc.



Education (2).

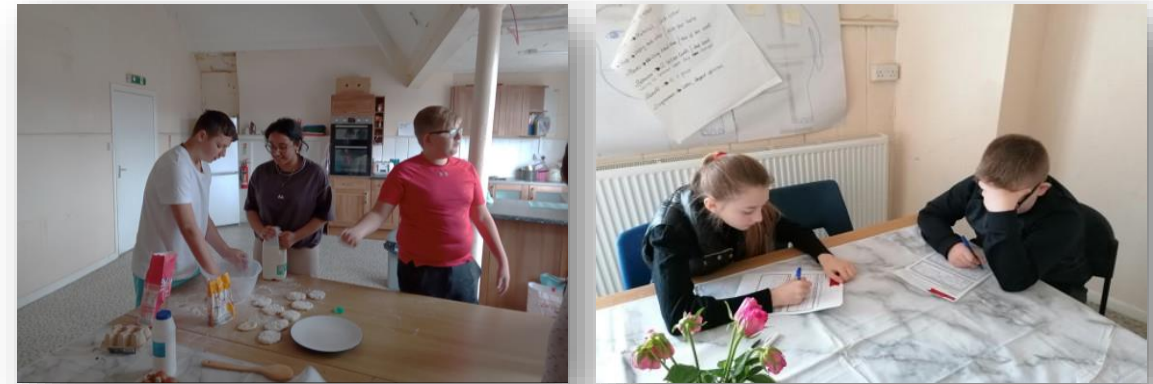
Elective Home Education (EHE)

Recognising the challenges that some GT students faced in mainstream education, we have continued to support young people in Elective Home Education (EHE). Supporting EHE recognises the diversity of learning needs and styles among GT students and respects the rights of parents to choose the educational path they feel is best for their children.

Since May 2021, we have been delivering the Princes Trust Achieve Programme in partnership with University of York, York St John University and Inspiring Choices. The programme, which leads to an accredited qualification for learners, is 'uniquely designed to support disengaged young people back into education to better place them to progress into a positive future' and modules include learning about life skills such as managing money, enterprise and teamwork.

This financial year, we delivered weekly 2-hour sessions to a total of six young people. There was a core group of three young people participating regularly and one young person who went on to achieve a Level 1 Qualification. Alongside delivery, this year has focused on reflection and engagement with young people and parents to consider how we can most effectively support those young people who are EHE.

Recently, the decision was made to stop delivering the Princes Trust Achieve programme at the end of the 2022-2023 academic year, and instead focus on English and Maths functional skills qualifications. For both parents and young people these feel like more essential, relevant skills that will support them whether they chose to go on to college, set up their own businesses or move into employment. Learning from our experience of the Achieve programme we will directly employ trained teachers to deliver these sessions and work with an established Alternative Education Provision to process exams. The partnerships with University of York, York St John and Inspiring Choices will continue to support this work and it is made possible by the generous donation of funds from an individual to the University of York to be used specifically with young people from York's GTC.





Food Stall (1).

Community food projects such as social food stalls have been on the rise in the United Kingdom in response to increasing levels of food poverty and waste. These projects aim to provide affordable and nutritious food for those in need.

Our food stall has been Ward funded since April 2021 and is open every Monday. We offer our visitors free fresh food and tinned goods increasing their opportunity to prepare basic and healthy meals, in this cost-of-living crisis. Held in our Public Living Room, this also provides the local community with a chance to see what else we offer and gives them an insight into Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

Every week we have between 14 and 35 people through our doors, and the numbers are growing, particularly during the school holidays, when children are unable to get their free school meals. Most of our visitors are local to the area and the same people come back every week. It would be a big loss to our regular visitors, who can't afford essentials, if we lost funding for this service.

Through doing this work and talking to our regulars, we realised that food was not the only thing people were struggling with, so we decided to add a mini market where everything is donated. The market offers warm clothing, school uniform, baby clothes, (etc). These items are also free, or they can

leave a small donation. Our visitors feel at ease and relaxed as we offer a safe space for some of York's more vulnerable residents, who may feel isolated and alone. They can pop in for a chat and a coffee and maybe grab some food and warm clothes at the same time. Some regulars have even gone on to use other services we offer.

Within York Travellers Trust, we are conscious of the continued and increasing pressures around cost-of-living. We also recognise the importance of a healthy and balanced diet and its contribution towards maintaining good health and overall well-being. Because of this and the increasing number of visitors, we are going to:

- Continue to acquire end-of-life products direct from supermarkets.
- Prioritise the use of our Ward funding towards fresh ingredients.
- Increase donations of dry goods and other non-perishables.
- Explore new opportunities for direct donation from businesses etc.



Food Stall (2).

“We’d struggle if it weren’t for the Food Stall. We wouldn’t be able to buy food without this. Not having enough money to buy food is really stressful and this helps so much – it eases the strain. It’s great.”

“I come for my father, he can’t get out and he couldn’t get by without this. It’s so important to be able to have this kind of help.”

“One word describes this place...amazing! I’ve never had to do anything like this before and the reasons I come are purely financial related. The first time I came was hard but it helped how lovely everyone is – it made me feel more comfortable. It means I can cook a meal for my family.”

“The Food Stall makes a huge difference. There’s the social side too – it’s great to come and have a chat and a laugh while you’re waiting. It really does make a difference getting out.”

“Without the food stall I’d really struggle. It’s a life saver. The routine of it is great too, it’s a big part of my week.”



Safe Spaces.

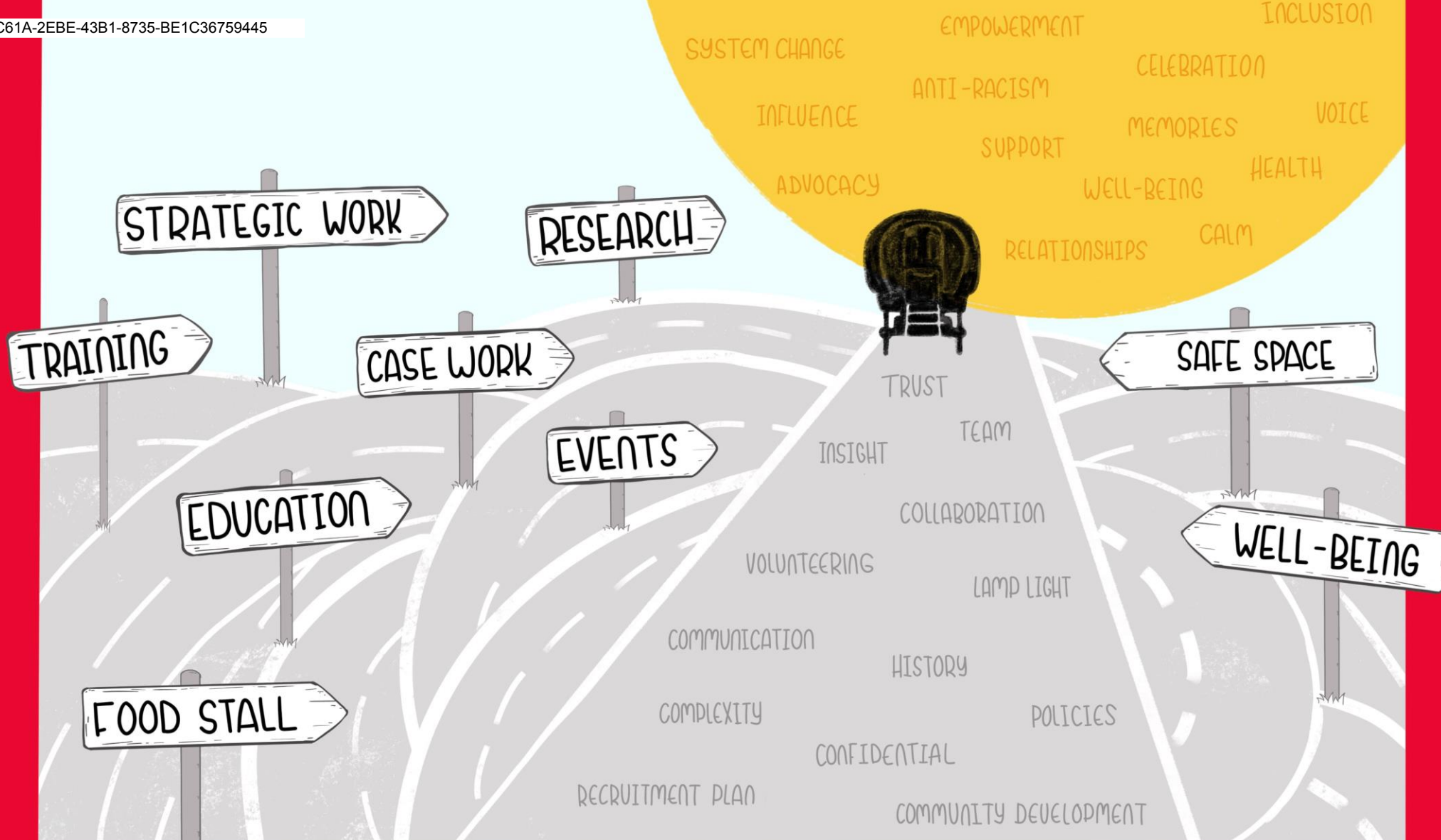
Public Living Room

Our Public Living Room was launched in July 2022 and is open Monday – Wednesday from 10am to 2pm. Linked to the [Camerados](#) movement this is a welcoming space that Gypsy and Traveller people, and the wider York community, can use as they wish with no pressure to spend money or engage in services. Some people come to chat with our staff or volunteers, some enjoy meeting friends and neighbours there, others come just to sit quietly in a warm space with a good cup of coffee. If there is further support that someone is needing, then it's also a gateway into our other services. In the past year there has been 135 attendances (excluding those counted under food stall numbers on a Monday). We would love to grow this aspect of our offer more in the coming year.

Catch Up Club

As our longest running group, Catch Up Club meets every week and brings together women from across York's Gypsy and Traveller Communities to cook, craft and most importantly catch up. As other aspects of our work open up, this group remains solely for Gypsy and Traveller women, is led by Gypsy and Traveller staff, and provides a space to offer informal yet essential peer support and friendship.





York Travellers Trust

EST 1999

2022 / 23



Plans for future periods.

As indicated above we would like to pursue grant funding to establish a Volunteer Coordinator Post to enable more effective management and deployment of our volunteers. This is linked to our larger plan to undertake a governance review to involve more members of the GTC in the governance of YTT in more varied ways.

Although we have started to make more use of the space both for our activities and to attract other users to fund our activities., completing the building works has taken long than envisaged due to lack of companies willing to undertake the works. However, in 2023-24, we hope grow use of the building by others.

The appointment of a well-being support worker and youth worker at the beginning of 2023-24 will enable us to enhanced these activities at YTT.



Financial Review.

Financial Review

Whilst for the third year income remained at a historically high level (compared to income levels prior to transferring to a CIO on 8 June 2020), this year expenditure also grew, as the work to refurbish and re-design our building continued and new members of staff were appointed. This resulted in a modest net surplus of £28,123 (2022 - £21,805). Our total net current assets at £100,399 have grown from last year (2022 - £67,042).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be limited to three months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in the order of £45,000. Free reserves, being unrestricted funds not committed to fixed assets, amounted to £70,371. This is well in excess of the target reserves, However, we are continuing to carry forward funds to cover the completion of the renovation project.

Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

Stephen Pittam
Treasurer



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of York Travellers Trust.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust 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.

Adrian Rodaway

Adrian Rodaway BA, BFP, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

16th November 2023



Statement of Financial Activities / Balance Sheet.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	84,746	130,480	215,226	202,112
Charitable activities	3	24,188	146	24,334	-
Investments		349	-	349	2
Total Income		109,283	130,626	239,909	202,114
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		102,058	109,728	211,786	180,309
Total Expenditure	5	102,058	109,728	211,786	180,309
Net (Expenditure) / Income	4	7,225	20,898	28,123	21,805
Transfers between funds		4,059	(4,059)	-	-
Net movement in funds		11,284	16,839	28,123	21,805
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2022		127,029	8,259	135,288	113,483
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2023		£ 138,313	£ 25,098	£ 163,411	£ 135,288

The notes on pages 32 to 35 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	8	63,012	68,246
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		104,220	77,540
Debtors	9	3,900	-
		108,120	77,540
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(7,721)	(10,498)
<i>Net current assets</i>		100,399	67,042
Total assets less current liabilities		163,411	135,288
Total Net Assets		£ 163,411	£ 135,288
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	12	138,313	127,029
Restricted funds	14	25,098	8,259
Total Charity Funds		£ 163,411	£ 135,288

Approved by the Trustees on 16th November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

The notes on pages 32 to 35 form part of these accounts



Notes 1-4.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts 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 or Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Between 1.67% and 2% per month straight line - being the remaining term of the property lease
Office and other equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grants	82,735	130,480	213,215	197,608
Other donations	2,011	-	2,011	4,504
	<u>£ 84,746</u>	<u>£ 130,480</u>	<u>£ 215,226</u>	<u>£ 202,112</u>

In 2022, income from donations and legacies amounting to £179,332 related to restricted funds.

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Consultancy and other income	<u>24,188</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>24,334</u>	<u>-</u>

4. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation	26,890	19,857
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,425	1,320
Other fees paid to Examiner	2,843	3,879
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes 5-8.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activities				
Wages and salaries	26,399	88,445	114,844	94,638
Staff and volunteer expenses	3,831	855	4,686	5,198
Sessional work	2,943	1,650	4,593	9,480
Activities and outings	795	10,226	11,021	8,146
	<u>33,968</u>	<u>101,176</u>	<u>135,144</u>	<u>117,462</u>
<i>Governance costs:</i>				
Independent examiner's fees	1,425	-	1,425	1,320
	<u>1,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,425</u>	<u>1,320</u>
<i>Support costs:</i>				
Consultancy and advice	600	1,200	1,800	1,800
Rent and rates	9,099	205	9,304	15,543
Insurance	1,402	-	1,402	1,273
Heating and lighting	5,180	-	5,180	5,466
Office costs	8,908	2,022	10,930	9,995
Subscriptions	75	360	435	186
Repairs and maintenance	6,404	426	6,830	598
Professional fees	2,843	-	2,843	3,879
Sundry expenses	2,211	-	2,211	2,930
IT support and training	-	1,210	1,210	-
Training and development	-	3,129	3,129	-
Planning work	3,053	-	3,053	-
Depreciation	26,890	-	26,890	19,857
	<u>66,665</u>	<u>8,552</u>	<u>75,217</u>	<u>61,527</u>
Total support costs				
	<u>66,665</u>	<u>8,552</u>	<u>75,217</u>	<u>61,527</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>£ 106,988</u>	<u>£ 104,798</u>	<u>£ 211,786</u>	<u>£ 180,309</u>

In 2022, expenditure on charitable activities amounting to £98,465 related to restricted funds.

6. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross salaries and wages	106,499	87,205
Employer's NIC	3,629	2,178
Employer's pension contributions	4,716	3,695
Cleaner	-	1,560
	<u>114,844</u>	<u>94,638</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 5 (2022 - 5) . There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2022 - none).

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO) and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £60,483 (2022 - £56,059).

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

8. FIXED ASSETS

	Office and other equipment £	Fixtures & fittings (Building improvements) £	Total £
Cost:			
At 1 April 2022	4,729	84,954	89,683
Additions	2,045	19,611	21,656
	<u>6,774</u>	<u>104,565</u>	<u>111,339</u>
At 31 March 2023			
	<u>6,774</u>	<u>104,565</u>	<u>111,339</u>
<i>Depreciation:</i>			
At 1 April 2022	1,721	19,716	21,437
Charge for the year	1,399	25,491	26,890
	<u>3,120</u>	<u>45,207</u>	<u>48,327</u>
At 31 March 2023			
	<u>3,120</u>	<u>45,207</u>	<u>48,327</u>
<i>Net book values</i>			
31 March 2023	<u>£ 3,654</u>	<u>£ 59,358</u>	<u>£ 63,012</u>
31 March 2022	<u>£ 3,008</u>	<u>£ 65,238</u>	<u>£ 68,246</u>

Fixed assets with net book values totalling £1,236 (2022 - £nil) relate to restricted funds.



Notes 9-14.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9. DEBTORS

	Total 2023	Total 2022
Trade debtors	£ 3,900	£ -

All debtors relate to unrestricted funds.

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2023	Total 2022
Trade creditors	3,148	383
Taxation and social security	1,819	2,049
Other creditors	898	713
Accruals and deferred income	1,856	7,353
	£ 7,721	£ 10,498

Creditors totalling £961 (2022 - £5,000) relate to restricted funds.

11. DEFERRED INCOME

Grants received in advance

	Total 2023	Total 2022
Balance at 1 April	5,000	41,322
Released to statement of financial activities	(5,000)	(41,322)
	-	-
Deferred in the period	-	5,000
Balance at 31 March	-	5,000

12. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year

	Balance b/f 01/04/2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2023
General	£ 127,029	£ 109,283	£ (102,058)	4,059	£ 138,313

Comparative year

	Balance b/f 01/04/2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2022
General	£ 108,684	£ 22,782	£ (81,844)	77,407	£ 127,029

13. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2023 Total £
Unrestricted funds	63,012	75,301	138,313
Restricted funds	-	25,098	25,098
	£ 63,012	£ 100,399	£ 163,411

Comparative year

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2022 Total £
Unrestricted funds	68,246	58,783	127,029
Restricted funds	-	8,259	8,259
	£ 68,246	£ 67,042	£ 135,288

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year

	Balance b/f 01/04/2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2023 £
National Lottery Community Fund	3,194	83,900	(70,469)	-	16,625
Tudor Trust	1,200	-	(1,200)	-	-
City of York Council – Ward Funding	-	4,000	(2,877)	-	1,123
Two Ridings Foundation - Betty's Family Fund	3,398	-	(509)	-	2,889
Together with Young People York St John University - Prince's Trust	-	3,600	(3,605)	5	-
York Mind	467	849	(1,660)	811	-
Two Ridings Foundation – MBSR Therapy	-	1,696	(180)	-	1,983
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	-	4,980	(3,054)	(736)	1,190
City of York Council - HAF Easter	-	7,515	(3,806)	(1,545)	2,164
City of York Council – HAF Christmas	-	2,596	(257)	-	2,339
Friends Families and Travellers - Mentee	-	1,490	(1,490)	-	-
	-	20,000	(20,621)	(2,594)	(3,215)
	£ 8,259	£ 130,626	£ (109,728)	£ (4,059)	£ 25,098



Note 14.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative year	Balance b/f 01/04/2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2022 £
National Lottery Community Fund	3,714	85,060	(85,580)	-	3,194
National Lottery Community Fund - Covid Uplift Grant	-	41,322	-	(41,322)	-
Clothworkers	-	35,000	-	(35,000)	-
Tudor Trust	-	3,000	(1,800)	-	1,200
Two Ridings Foundation - GRTHM	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Two Ridings Foundation - Betty's Family Fund	-	3,906	(508)	-	3,398
Two Ridings Foundation - Together with Young People	-	2,200	(2,200)	-	-
York St John University	-	750	(750)	-	-
York Mind	-	1,696	(1,229)	-	467
YCVS GGS	1,085	-	-	(1,085)	-
Yorkshire MESMAC	-	4,398	(4,398)	-	-
	<u>£ 4,799</u>	<u>£ 179,332</u>	<u>£ (98,465)</u>	<u>-£ 77,407</u>	<u>£ 8,259</u>

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs and IT costs.

Tudor Trust

Funding towards improving the financial systems.

City of York Council - Ward Funding

Funding towards the Food Stall.

Two Ridings Foundation - Betty's Family Fund

Funding towards the running of the youth club.

Together with Young People

Funding towards Abigail's time participating in the 'Holding the Space' activity

York St John University - Prince's Trust

Funding towards learning support for young people who have struggled in mainstream education.

York Mind

Funding towards the women's wellbeing project.

Two Ridings Foundation - MBSR Therapy

Funding towards a Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction programme.

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Funding towards creating a Public Living Room including providing equipment and staff time.

City of York Council - HAF Easter

Funding towards Holiday Activities and Food for families.

City of York Council - HAF Christmas

Funding towards Holiday Activities and Food for families.

Friends Families and Travellers - Mentee

Funding towards a Professional Mentorship to recruit and develop a mentee Support Worker.

Clothworkers

Funding towards the building and renovation work at the Centre. This income has been fully spent on fixed assets in the year which has met the terms of the grant. The transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted funds in the prior year of £35,000 relates to this restriction being released. The capitalised building work is shown within unrestricted funds.

Two Ridings Foundation - GRTHM

Funding towards producing a video for history month.

Two Ridings Foundation - Together with Young People

Funding towards Violet's time spent participating in the York Multiple Complex Needs (MCN) Children and Young People Inquiry.

YCVS GGS

Funding towards the gardening project.

York St John University

Funding towards the purchase of furniture for the Centre.

Yorkshire MESMAC

Funding towards staff time spent on women's sexual health groups.

National Lottery Community Fund - Covid Uplift Grant

Funding towards responding to the Covid crisis and adapting the building to facilitate the revised programme.

YORK TRAVELLERS
TRUST



EST 1999

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1189827

Accounts



York Travellers Trust
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2022

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by YTT
Registered Charity number 1189827
Charity's principal address 20 Falsgrave Crescent
 Clifton, York, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	Resigned as Chair and appointed as Treasurer - 8 th November 2021
Martin Williams	Secretary	Resigned as Treasurer - 8 th November 2021
Caroline Hunter	Chair	Appointed as Chair – 8 th November 2021
Dinah Mulvenna		Resigned 1 st June 2021
Claire Wilton		
Lorraine Mulvenna		
Abbie North		

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, Director

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document Constitution
How the charity is constituted Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8th June 2020
Trustee selection methods Nomination and Co-option

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

- 1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
- 2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
- 3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
- 4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
- 5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
- 6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

- 1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
- 2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
- 3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
- 4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

It is my pleasure to introduce the Annual Report for 2021-22. I was appointed as Chair at our Trustees meeting on 19 October 2021. I would like to express my gratitude to Stephen Pittam, who preceded me as Chair. Stephen has moved to be Treasurer, allowing Martin Williams to focus on the role of Secretary.

During 2021 and 2022, the Covid pandemic has continued to impact adversely on people's lives. It has resulted in sustained and new challenges to everyday life with continued lockdowns in early 2021 and the slow reopening of society as we settled into a 'new normal' way of living. This exacerbated the already serious impact of Covid on the mental health and wellbeing of many people. Many individuals experienced increasing levels of stress and anxiety based on ever changing guidance and uncertainty around socialising and 'staying safe'. People were exhausted from the relentless rigours of the previous year and many services were hampered by reductions in staff capacity due to illness and the need to isolate as new variants of Covid prevailed. Reflection on YTT activity during this period, and consultation with YTT staff, revealed that the Trust continued to be a constant presence in the lives of clients, responding to changing needs and requirements.

The delivery of services to meet these needs was impacted by ongoing building works (see below) and staff absences but as this report demonstrates the Trust pulled together as a team to continue to support the community. Individuals felt valued, listened to, and supported in practical ways, as well as by the provision of advice and guidance, signposting, and advocacy. Welfare calls continued and an increased number of services

"It's the commitment of the team and a shared vision that propels YTT to not just give the community lip service – we follow through on what is said and get things done." **Director, YTT**

I want to thank all our staff for their commitment to YTT in this difficult year.

Achievements and Performance

SUMMARY

Throughout the last year, YTT has continued to support and empower people across a broad variety of areas, working flexibly and responsively to:

Engage | Help | Encourage | Offer | Enable

The following summary demonstrates what this support has looked like, while also providing information on other aspects for the work of the Trust.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

CAPITAL PROJECT

As reported in our 2020-21 Annual Report, in February 2021 YTT became tenant of the whole building at 20 Falsgrave Crescent. The plan was (with the support of our landlords the York Area Quaker Meeting (YAQM)) to undertake some building improvements to make the centre more accessible and welcoming alongside the introduction of a community café space.

There have been delays to the project due in part to VAT complications and the need to source new builders, and ongoing delays due to Covid. However, through 2021-22 we have largely completed the works, that includes a lift to the first floor. Whilst the nature of the capital project (and other building maintenance issues) has proved challenging at times e.g., particularly for office-based activities, we are excited to move into the final (completion) phase in 2022-23 and start delivering on the potential of the refurbished venue.

We would like to acknowledge the generous funding from the Clothworkers Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund Big that has made these work possible.

Images: floor repair and kitchen renovation



‘BEING THERE’ – AN ALLY AND PROVIDER OF EMOTIONAL AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT

Despite the challenges of building works, the team persevered to keep the building open (or find alternative venues) and managed to remain a constant presence for their clients. Welfare calls continued – checking in with members of the community – addressing isolation and making people feel valued which had an important impact on the sense of self-worth of many clients.

“The welfare calls worked well. Clients stuck with us; they knew we had their best interests at heart. We worked hard to keep in contact with them, trying to include them in anything we did.” **YTT Team Member**

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

The Trust has continued in its valuable role as ally for members of the GTC (Gypsy & Traveller Community).

“Having us there as an ally - feels a bit more secure for the families.”

YTT Team Member

The team feels the benefits of this support will be far-reaching as feedback confirms that clients feel valued by YTT and listened to. Support was provided around practicalities about how systems such as education and other local authority areas work. Support, advice, and guidance were also needed around benefits as the cost of living rose while some income streams remained uncertain.

Catch-up club

Catch-up Club is our longest standing group activity. It is a weekly activity for Traveller women. Attendance has fluctuated over the last year as we have tried to rebuild momentum after the lockdowns. The Club has also been impacted by the building works. In November/ December time we trialled using a private space in a community café five minutes away from our building to host Catch-up Club away from the YTT centre building works, but attendance dropped dramatically. This highlighted to us how much importance our clients place on our building and since then we have continued to run Catch-up Club from the centre, organising activities around the building work. Each week we do different activities including cooking, crafts (e.g., making hampers, cards, fascinators) and bingo and we always have a meal together. These activities allow conversations to happen naturally, and women often share what’s happening in their lives from family frustrations, worries about money, anxieties etc. Individual case work is often picked up from these sessions ranging from support appealing an unfair parking fine to support liaising with social services about the adoption of a grandchild. This year we have had a total of 18 women attend at least one (often more) Catch-up Club.

Images: Catch-up Club in centre grounds and a hamper making activity



IT support

In January 2022 we ran a four-week IT course in partnership with York Learning (<https://yorklearning.org.uk/>). 11 women started the course and nine completed it. Each completer received a free refurbished laptop at the end of the course and topics covered included: typing and using a mouse, online safety, browsing the internet, setting up and using an email address.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Citizens Advice York

In March 2022, we were pleased to offer face-to-face appointments with Citizen's Advice York at the YTT centre on Wednesday mornings for our community following a long period of absence due to Covid.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND REDUCING STIGMA AROUND MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The needs and requirements of our clients include an increase in support for mental health and well-being; with the team recognising that the impact of COVID on the mental health and wellbeing of the community and staff was amplified. Tackling the stigma around mental health and well-being became a priority, with staff continuing to create an environment of openness for clients where it was acceptable to talk about difficulties and seek support. This emotional support was enabled by the team focusing on building relationships which enabled clients to open up because of feeling a sense of trust. Support was also provided in respect of suicide prevention.

Women's Wellbeing Group

Our Women's Well-being Group was run as part of the York Mind Activities Programme, and we received funding from Mind (<https://www.mind.org.uk/>) – a national mental health charity – to pay for materials and a facilitator's time. We ran two 6-week programmes in September/ October 2021 and February / March 2022. A total of 14 women attended across the two groups, five of which were Travellers. This was our first formal group purposefully open to both GT (Gypsy & Traveller) and non-GT clients and it proved to be a very successful way of opening our centre and building relationships across communities. Feedback from participants included:

"I feel relaxed and at home. Feel very welcomed and that I can just be myself. Like how they go out of their way to meet my needs." Non-GT participant

"Liked interacting with new people. Would love group to have more sessions."
GT participant

"Lovely to learn about the Travelling community, made to feel very welcome. LOVELY LEADERS and activities very relaxed." Non-GT participant

The facilitator, Nicole Sky – a trained mental health nurse, did an excellent job at building relationships with the participants and facilitated safe conversations where people were able to learn from each other's different cultures and discuss their mental health.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Research with GT men

Towards the end of the financial year, NIHR: National Institute for Health and Care Research (<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>) funded us to carry out some participatory research with GT men to gain insight into their perceptions of mental health. We will report on the outcomes next year's Annual Report.

Women's and sexual health

Yorkshire MESMAC (<https://www.mesmac.co.uk/>) is one of the oldest and largest sexual health organisations in the country. MESMAC funded us that funded us to undertake GT focus groups on women's and sexual health. In total, 5 women attended 7 focus groups delivered by one of our support workers to have informal conversations with community members including about sexual health topics that are often taboo amongst the community. The group also designed culturally appropriate posters and flyers which will be displayed in the YTT centre once the building work is complete to let people know that they can speak to staff about those subjects if they wish to and to signpost them to other relevant organisations.

DELIVERING A BROADER AND BIGGER OFFER THAT REACHED MORE PEOPLE

Compared to last year, the team was able to be more pro-active and plan more long-term events and activities. Outreach activity was extended to York's Osbaldwick site in response to the highest need amongst the Community with undiagnosed Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and mental health and wellbeing problems. Two members of staff and a student worked with the clients through the provision of practical support. Having a male staff member, from July 2021, has also enabled YTT to increase the amount of work carried out with men.

"I feel we've come on leaps and bounds and provide a lot of different stuff, more support for the community and we're now spread more widely." **Director, YTT**

Events seemed to reach more people, with the weekly Food Stall (see below) continuing to be an effective way of reaching out, including to residents who were just passing by. The ability to host events such as picnics and a BBQ provided a much-needed opportunity for members of the Community to connect and socialise again.

We continued to undertake outreach activities to each of the three traveller sites in York including our site-based Family Clubs and Youth Clubs:

- Water Lane, Clifton
- Outgang Lane, Osbaldwick
- James Street, York.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Food Stall

Since April 2021, we have run 51 food stalls. These are held from 10.30am to 12.30pm every Thursday morning. There's been a total of 557 visits to the food stall with a group of 13 regulars who come most weeks and then others who come as one-off visits or less regularly. We have noticed a large increase in demand since Christmas and we anticipate it to continue to grow with the escalating cost of living crisis. The food stall is proving to be a good way to bring people into the YTT centre for additional support including emotional support and mental health signposting as well as financial support with benefit applications, applying for pension credits etc.

Images: Food Stall



The food stall has been funded by the Council's ward fund as part of a Covid response scheme. As this funding is coming to an end, we have reached out to FareShare (<https://fareshare.org.uk/>) – a charity that redistributes surplus food to charities – so that we can continue to offer our community food stall.

MAKING A HUGE LEAP IN REACHING GTC YOUNG PEOPLE

The work with young people represents a shift for the Trust, with the provision attracting teenagers for the first time in many years. As a GTC organisation, it is very difficult to work with GTC young people and attracting more funding to develop youth work has been identified as a priority for the Trust.

"We have finally done what I've been trying to do since we started and that's having a focus on young people – that has been a real shift. The age bracket we're reaching has changed, we were attended by 3–10-year-olds but now we're starting to attract teenagers who are starting to form their relationships so it's really meaningful stuff." **Director, YTT**

The young person focused approach of the Prince's Trust project (see below) was seen to be a key reason for its success, with young people able to choose what they wanted to do.

"[Child] left school and had no intentions to go back, but he comes here every week, he did the film and now he's back in school. They [YTT] listen to him and they understand him here and I wish it had been here before when my older kids were younger. It's a really good opportunity for travelling kids to come here."

Parent of young person engaging in YTT Prince's Trust youth project

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

“Young people made it theirs, so they could choose what they really want to do. It’s good for them as it’s only traveller kids that come. They can be themselves here, for example, they don’t feel the pressure to do things a certain way or spell things right.” YTT Team Member

We started running our Prince’s Trust sessions in May 2021(<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/>) – the Prince’s Trust believe that every young person should have the chance to embrace exciting opportunities, giving them the tools and confidence they need to try free courses and start careers. In total we had seven young people engage in the group and now have a core group of five who attend weekly. Topics worked towards include Managing Money, Participating in Exercise and Enterprise Project.

Since coming to our Prince’s Trust sessions, one young person has made the decision to return to mainstream education – we supported him to reapply to school and attended meetings about how best he can be supported. He now attends school 4 days a week and comes to us one day a week.

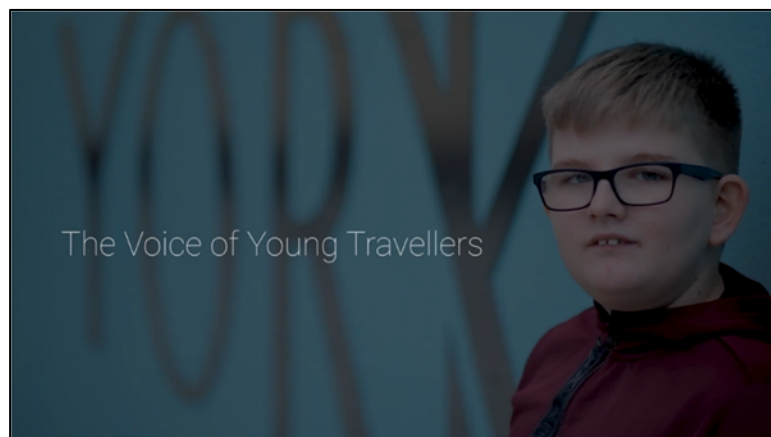
The sessions are now facilitated by the Education Outreach Coordinator at York St John University. The University of York are also recruiting an intern to support the group moving forward.

Film Project

Due to redundancies in our partner organisation, we didn’t have a tutor from October 2021 – January 2022 so during this time we worked on a film project with participatory film company Inspired Youth (<https://inspiredyouth.org/>). Three young people (and one older Traveller girl who volunteered on the project) created a film about stereotypes and what it’s like to be a young Traveller today. They were encouraged to think about what they wanted people to know about their culture and consider what their aspirations were for the future – all were filmed developing a skill they’re interested in.

The film can be watched here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4pHNA0zJ3o&t=299s>

Image: HUMAN – The Voice of Young Travellers title card



The film was premiered at Everyman cinema York and 72 people attended the screening including parents, community members, professionals from a variety of sectors including health & education and interested members of the public.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Youth Club

We started our weekly Youth Club in February 2022 with co-funding for activities and food from the Betty & Taylors Group fund. 15 different young people (aged 11-14-years-old) have attended at least one session and we have an average of eight attendees each week. It has been very successful in terms of bringing new families into the centre and engaging young people from the James Street GT site where we historically have less of a connection.

Young people have continued to return each week and enjoy cooking meals for each other as well as playing games, painting their nails and doing craft activities. Of the 15 young people who have engaged only 3 are in mainstream education, 1 is in an alternative provision and 11 are home educated and therefore not used to engaging with professionals or in group settings. This has been a real learning curve for the staff team as we have developed behaviour policies and learnt the best ways to engage the young people and manage challenging behaviour. We are pleased that the young people continue to attend each week and are looking forward to further developing this work.

Images: t-shirt making at Youth Club



Images: cooking and eating at Youth Club



YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

A key focus of the year was on strategic development, the team taking time to think strategically about priorities. The Trust is working towards systematic change, challenging discrimination, and increasing understanding of issues facing the GTC to better meet the community's needs.

Policing Bill

The policing bill that made its way through UK Parliament this year sparked controversy over its proposals to expand police powers and curb protests. The bill will also have a detrimental impact on GTC with the criminalisation of trespass and additional powers for police to deal with roadside camps.

This bill marks a pivotal moment in the longer-term erosion of the GTC right to nomadism and our local and national work to try and halt / change / clarify the bill has taken up quite a large amount of our time, including engaging with our local MPs. Ultimately, we were unsuccessful in our efforts [the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 was enacted on 28 April 2022], but we have gained valuable allies to continue the fight.

Local Authority

Our work on negotiating stopping nationally allowed us to have a conversation locally. The City of York Council (CYC) do not currently have an unauthorised encampments policy and movement is slow and frustrating on getting them to adopt any policy with a reluctance to change their policies and practices in general. We are still working closely with a strategic group of partners including CYC to challenge and change this. This strategic group has been helpful in providing links to other partners who had previously been unresponsive.

We are on the working group of a consortium of people funded by the local authority to develop an anti-racist strategy for York. One of our support workers will be trained up to facilitate a community consultation to understand what areas York's GT community would like the strategy to focus on and gather ideas about what actions need to be taken to make York an anti-racist city.

The Safe Space Conversations delivered to Local Government Association members, led to us working with several partners to produce some guidance around GTC planning.

York Local Plan

We have continued to engage in the consultation over the York Local Plan and the local planning inquiry. We have continued to employ Michael Hargreaves as our planning consultant to assist us to make sure that the Council's statutory duty to meet the accommodation needs of the Gypsy & Traveller community are fully complied with. Covid issues resulted in both Phases 2 & 3 of the Inspectors' hearings being postponed until the next financial year. We will report on the outcomes in our 2022-23 report.

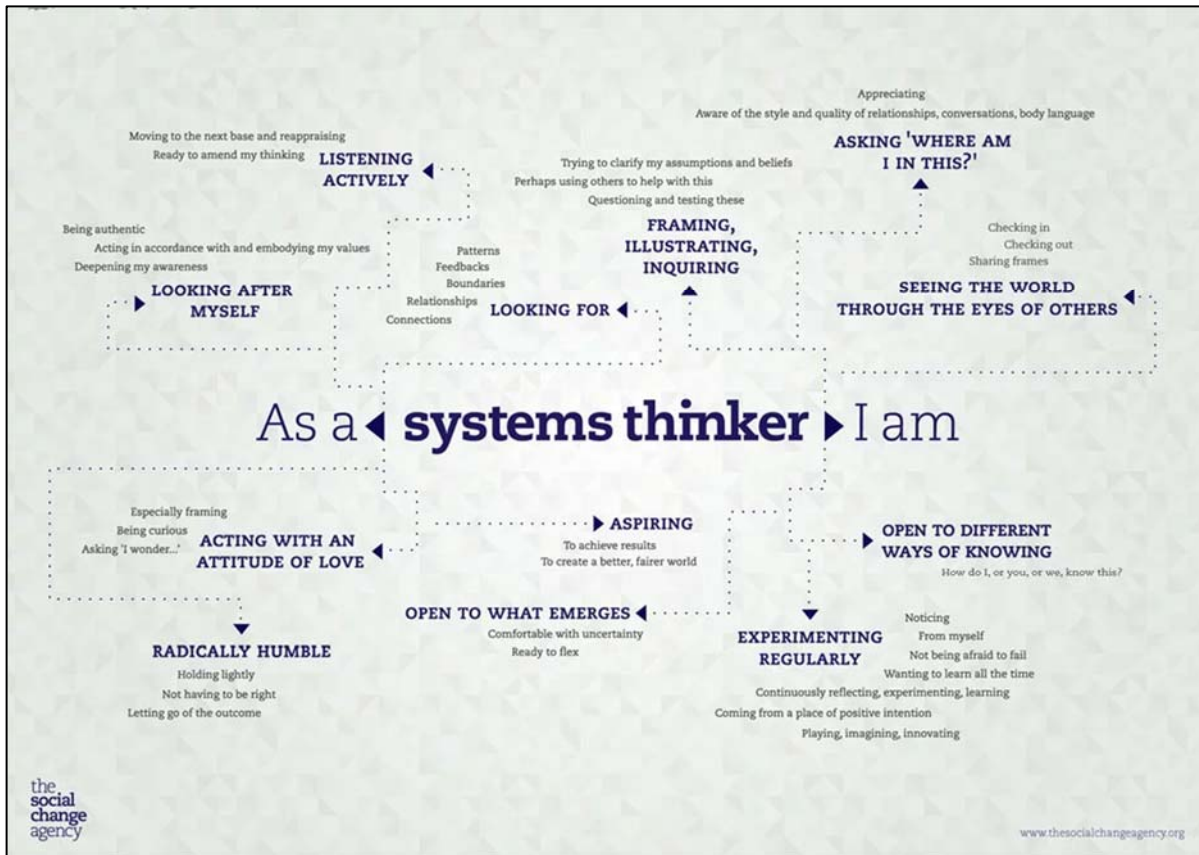
System Change

We joined the Systems Changers Network led by York MCN (Multiple Complex Needs) that provides a space to share experiences, forge links and build trusting relationships that lead to more collaborative actions with an overarching aim to create a fairer society for absolutely everyone (<https://www.yorkmcn.org/>).

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Image: systems thinker concept



Joining the Network has led to many fruitful conversations with partners. We keep in contact and make each other aware of how we can support each other across sectors and specialisms. It also led to our work forming the 'Together with Young People' (TWYP) group. TWYP is a group of 3rd sector organisations who work with the most disengaged young people, and we are keen to ensure they have a voice that is heard within York.

We have also spoken at several events discussing equality and discrimination, that went much wider than GTC. As with the System Changers Network, these events have given us a wider group of allies, such as York Speak Up Diversity (<https://speakupdiversity.org/>) and an invite from Lankelly Chase Foundation (<https://lankellychase.org.uk/>) to apply for funding.

Education

Through our partnership working with FutureHY – whose aim is to support young people to make well-informed decisions about their future education (<https://www.futurehy.co.uk/>) – we have been linked in with both York St John University and The University of York.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

We have had multiple conversations with York St John University who are currently in the process of creating a Social Work module. We have been involved in very early conversations around what it should include from a GT perspective and what the placements should look like.

We met with Helen Snelson, PGCE Subject Area Leader for History at the University of York, who is keen to ensure that GTC history is included on the curriculum in a real and meaningful way. This is a long-term project and is in its infancy at this stage.

To ensure sustainability of the Prince's Trust programme, York St John University have committed a member of staff to run the Prince's Trust sessions (refer to Activity section of this report) as part of their outreach and University of York are in the process of recruiting a graduate intern to support the sessions.

We have developed strong relationships within City of York Council Education, namely their Effectiveness and Achievement Inclusion Advisor. Conversations began by focusing on supporting families who are home schooling their children to meet the criteria needed to evidence their education to the local authority. These conversations, along with our experience of running the Prince's Trust project, highlighted a need for more holistic educational support for York's GT young people and the local authority have agreed to fund their Independent Quality Assurance Assessor for Alternative Provisions, to support us in developing a registered alternative provision for young people who are home educated and for those who are in mainstream education but need additional support to ensure that they stay there. We are in the very early stages of developing this and hope to work with existing providers to be able to offer functional skills in English and Maths alongside practical experience in mechanics, hair, and beauty etc. Our work with the local authority also highlighted a lack of data about the experiences of GT young people in York schools so we are working with the University of York to recruit a post-graduate intern to work with our support workers to conduct research into the experiences of GT young people in York education to use as evidence when developing our alternative provision offer.

PARTNERSHIPS – GETTING CLIENTS ACCESS TO THE SERVICES THEY NEED

The Trust has continued to develop connections with a significant number of national and local organisations, building on the power of networks. Locally, the strengthening of these partnerships and growing recognition of YTT's profile has enabled the Trust to support clients to engage other agencies and gain expert advice, mediation, and practical support. This was noted as important where clients won't engage with the services that are able to provide the specialist support needed.

“There is a fear that anyone in authority might want to see you as a Gypsy first and not a person. One client feared this and so she didn't want to engage with the service directly, but through our relationship with them we were able to see that there were other ways they could help. We were able to use our influence to get the advice she needed quickly.” **YTT Team Member**

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

"One client couldn't engage with the service that she should be engaging with but by checking conversations and building trust with her we were able to connect her with the right organisation so she could get the help she needed." **YTT Team Member**

Safe space conversation with professionals

We have had a good response from our Safe Space Conversation sessions this year. The format is warmly received and engaging. Of note:

- Six sessions with approximately 25 individuals per session have been carried out with the Local Government Association (LGA), who invited their membership from across the country, with a focus on GTC planning.
- Commissioned by Probation Services in the North East to carry out a Safe Space Conversation with the staff of their Approved Premises in addition to the development of a Safe Space Conversation handbook for them to refer to once back in practice.
- Sheffield Hallam University midwifery students, University of York social work students, York St Johns teacher students, BIG TALK Education (who are relationship education deliverers for primary schools), and the Trailblazer GP Group all requested and received Safe Space Conversation sessions.

"I thought the training was excellent. Really fascinating and very thought-provoking. It made me realize how little I knew (and still know) about these communities, and that I'd really like to know more." **Safe Space Conversation participant**

"From a training perspective, it was excellent at raising awareness and changing perceptions. Of course, it was just a tiny tip of the iceberg, and it would be amazing if they did a longer training programme over a number of sessions, where you could delve into more detail and have more discussions." **Safe Space Conversation participant**

"I really enjoyed the training and took so much from it. I found the trainers really interesting and personable, and it was great how comfortable and open they were to share their experiences. In truth I had no real idea of the extent of barriers entrenched in society for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers." **Safe Space Conversation participant**

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

RAISING THE PROFILE OF GTC

The profile of GTC in York has been raised, evidenced through an increase in support across the city from individuals and stakeholders engaging with the Trust – from the Museum to the High Sherriff of Yorkshire.

Images: The High Sheriff of Yorkshire in attendance at YTT events



The high-quality training delivered by YTT also plays an important role in raising the profile.

“We have a complaint about the training, you charge far too little for your expertise, thank you so much for the session you provided last week for the social work network group. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and I have shared this with the Trust Equality and Diversity.” **Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust**

“We’re working on an exhibition at the Museum and we’re getting invited to get involved in things so much more –we’ve got more friends now supporting our cause – got more allies. We try to make people understand the issue.” **Director, YTT**

Gypsy Traveller History Month

June is Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History month, a time to celebrate and to tackle prejudice, challenge myths and to amplify the voices of Gypsies, Roma, and Travellers. The theme of the 2021 Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller History Month was ‘Make Some Space’. As well as making space for teaching time, physical space and the authentic portrayal of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people in TV and the media, allies were being asked to make some space in their days to educate themselves on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller histories and cultures and how to support Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people to uphold their rights.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

We organised a series of coffee mornings across summer as well as a celebration event at Museum Gardens on Saturday 26 June as part of the History Month. The event included live music from Traveller artists, craft activities and an interactive timeline. Active engagements (asking questions, participating in crafts, games etc.) totalled 34 people, and passive engagements totalled over 20.

“Fantastic! It was lovely to learn about the Traveller people – Yek Folkey ” **Participant**

“Very friendly and welcoming. Great knowledge and fantastic music.” **Participant**

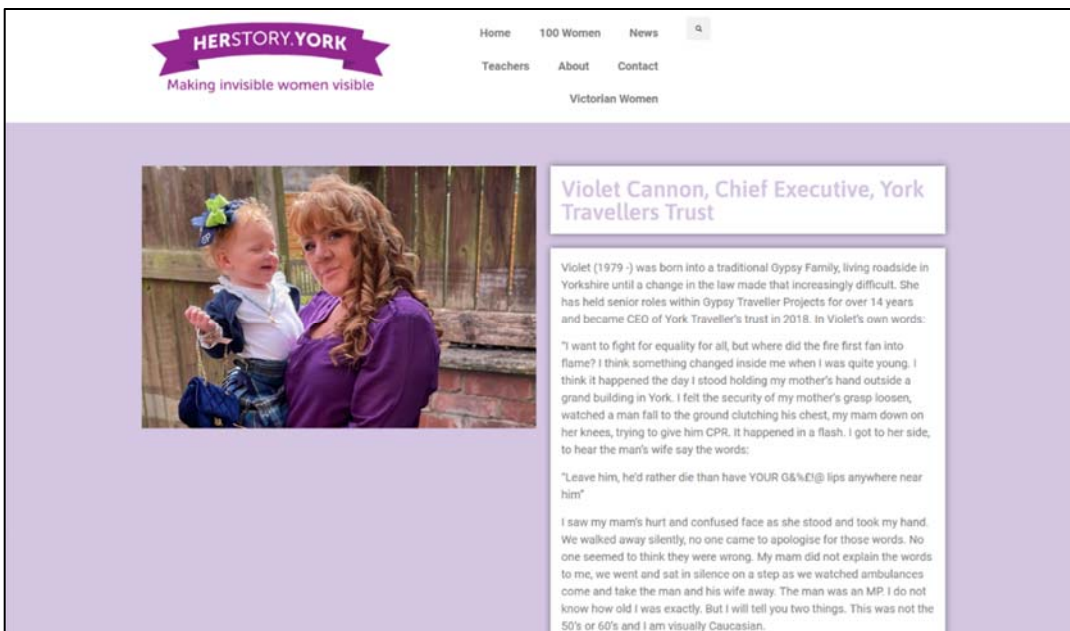
“Very interesting loved the music and enjoyed playing coits. Everyone was very informative.” **Participant**

“Great event and fantastic for the kids.” **Participant**

York Museums Trust

We have been working for some time with the York Museums Trust (<https://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/>), with plans to explore the available items within the museum and create an exhibition. We have also been included in the “Her Story” exhibition (<https://www.herstoryyork.org.uk/>) – a community history project that aims to make more women’s stories known and celebrated – and invited to comment on a recently acquired Laura Knight work, depicting a Gypsy Encampment.

Image: Her Story article on our Chief Executive



YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Images: Input into Laura Knight 'Early Morning in a Gypsy Camp' label, York Art Gallery



WORKFORCE UPDATE

The Trustees, concerned to be good employers, commissioned a comprehensive salary benchmarking exercise which resulted in a new salary structure, including five-point scales to allow for professional progression in addition to a cost of living award.

Abigail, our Community Development Worker (Wellbeing) has been essential to the ongoing development and delivery of our activities, moving into a full-time post following the successful application to a Betty & Taylors Group fund.

Our original Community Development Worker (Trainee) took an extended leave of absence due to before deciding she was no longer able to continue in employment. We subsequently recruited Rodney who has led on several of our youth engagement activities with great success.

Towards the end of 2021 our Centre Manager left YTT for other horizons. We started our recruitment process for their replacement at the end of the financial year, and an appointment was successful made in July 2022.

Staff attended a range of training courses.

EVALUATION UPDATE

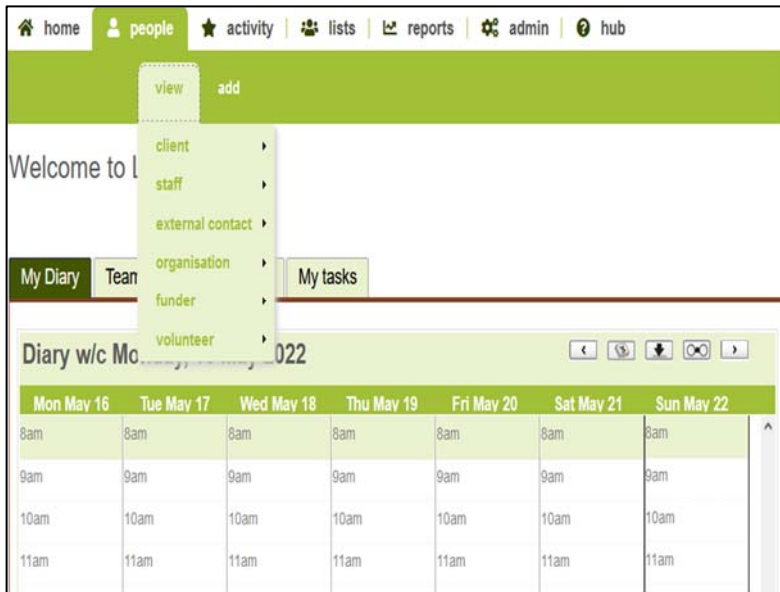
Early in the Big Lottery Safe Space Project, monitoring and evaluation were recognised as areas where additional support was required, and the involvement of a team of external consultants (Sara Mair of Mair Education, and Adam Billson of Billson Consulting Ltd) was secured.

Sara and Adam have continued in 2021-22 to work with York Travellers Trust, meeting regularly as part of an 'Evaluation Steering Group' to continue to develop and embed a robust approach to evaluation. We decided to use charity database system called Lamplight (<https://www.lamplightdb.co.uk/>) that creates personal profiles, records work, and tracks onward referrals. Outcome monitoring forms have also been created and tested within the service with the intention to thread these into day-to-day practice so YTT is better placed in consistently measuring and reporting on the impact they have on their, and the wider, community's' health, well-being, and welfare.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Image: Lamplight landing page



FUNDING

In addition to our major funder, the National Lottery Community Fund, YTT has secured funding from several other sources including the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, University of York, the Two Ridings Community Fund, Betty & Taylors Group fund, Prince's Trust, the Tudor Trust, Yorkshire MESMAC and MIND, which have contributed to salary and running costs. We are very grateful to all our funders and supporters without which the work described in this report could not have been undertaken.

Plans for future periods

As indicated above this year we have started to work more with young people. Our aim is to grow this activity, and to partner with other organisations to provide Alternative Provision for young people in the GTC. We are also looking to strengthen our work on health and well-being.

As the works to the building are completed, we are planning to make more use of the space both for our activities and to attract other users to fund our activities.

2022/23 will be important for our engagement with the consultation over the York Local Plan and the local planning inquiry.

In addition, we foresee that 2022/23 will be a year when the Gypsy and Traveller culture will be under threat through national legislation, and we will be working with others throughout the country to play our part in making sure the Gypsy and Traveller voice is heard and respected.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Financial Review

Financial Review

Whilst for the second year income remained at a historically high level (compared to income levels prior to transferring to a CIO on 8 June 2020), this year expenditure also grew significantly, as the work to refurbish and re-design the building to better suit the Trust's programmes progressed significantly. The increased income and expenditure relates closely to the building work. Income of £202,114 (2021 - £215,849) was received during the year. Expenditure totalled £180,309 (2021 - £102,366). This resulted in a modest net surplus of £21,805 (2021 - £113,483). Our total net current assets at £67,042, remain at a similar level to the previous year (2021 - £65,287).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be limited to three months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in the order of £15,000. Free reserves, being unrestricted funds not committed to fixed assets, amounted to £58,783. This is well in excess of the target reserves, however, we are carrying forward funds to cover the completion of the renovation project.

Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

Stephen Pittam
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the year ended 31 March 2022.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust 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.

Adrian Rodaway BA, BFP, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

22 September 2022

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	22,780	179,332	202,112	215,845
Investments		2	-	2	4
Total Income		22,782	179,332	202,114	215,849
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		81,844	98,465	180,309	102,366
Total Expenditure	4	81,844	98,465	180,309	102,366
Net (Expenditure) / Income	3	(59,062)	80,867	21,805	113,483
Transfers between funds		77,407	(77,407)	-	-
Net movement in funds		18,345	3,460	21,805	113,483
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2021		108,684	4,799	113,483	-
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2022		£ 127,029	£ 8,259	£ 135,288	£ 113,483

The notes on pages 23 to 29 form part of these accounts.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022**

Charity number: 1189827

	Notes	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	7	68,246	48,196
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		77,540	113,090
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(10,498)	(47,803)
<i>Net current assets</i>		67,042	65,287
Total assets less current liabilities		135,288	113,483
Total Net Assets		£ 135,288	£ 113,483
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	10	127,029	108,684
Restricted funds	12	8,259	4,799
Total Charity Funds		£ 135,288	£ 113,483

Approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

The notes on pages 23 to 29 form part of these accounts.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	Between 1.67% and 2% per month straight line - being the remaining term of the property lease
Office equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£
Grants	18,276	179,332	197,608	97,178
Donation from York Travellers Trust (Charitable Trust)	-	-	-	117,114
Other donations	4,504	-	4,504	4,504
	<u>£ 22,780</u>	<u>£ 179,332</u>	<u>£ 202,112</u>	<u>£ 218,796</u>

In 2021, income from donations and legacies amounting to £82,785 related to restricted funds.

3. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation	19,856	1,581
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,320	900
Other fees paid to Examiner	3,879	2,085
	<u>3,879</u>	<u>2,085</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities				
Wages and salaries	25,697	68,941	94,638	73,760
Staff and volunteer expenses	3,919	1,279	5,198	2,285
Sessional work	6,560	2,920	9,480	3,360
Activities and outings	883	7,263	8,146	2,741
	<u>37,059</u>	<u>80,403</u>	<u>117,462</u>	<u>82,146</u>
<i>Governance costs:</i>				
Independent examiner's fees	1,320	-	1,320	900
<i>Support costs:</i>				
Consultancy and advice	-	1,800	1,800	965
Rent and rates	1,288	14,255	15,543	6,427
Insurance	1,273	-	1,273	-
Heating and lighting	5,466	-	5,466	981
Office costs	7,988	2,007	9,995	4,721
Subscriptions	186	-	186	301
Repairs and maintenance	598	-	598	494
Professional fees	3,879	-	3,879	3,285
Sundry expenses	2,930	-	2,930	247
Computer costs	-	-	-	318
Depreciation	19,857	-	19,857	1,581
Total support costs	<u>43,465</u>	<u>18,062</u>	<u>61,527</u>	<u>19,320</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>£ 81,844</u>	<u>£ 98,465</u>	<u>£ 180,309</u>	<u>£ 102,366</u>

In 2021, expenditure on charitable activities amounting to £77,986 related to restricted funds.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross salaries and wages	87,205	66,328
Employer's NIC	2,178	1,392
Employer's pension contributions	3,695	3,090
Cleaner	1,560	1,240
Other staff costs	-	1,710
	<u>£ 94,638</u>	<u>£ 73,760</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 5 (2021 - 5) . There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2021 - none).

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO) and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £56,059 (2021 - £45,779).

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

7. FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £	Fixtures & fittings (Building improvements) £	Total £
<i>Cost:</i>			
At 1 April 2021	4,097	45,679	49,776
Additions	632	39,275	39,907
At 31 March 2022	<u>4,729</u>	<u>84,954</u>	<u>89,683</u>
<i>Depreciation:</i>			
At 1 April 2021	819	761	1,580
Charge for the year	902	18,955	19,857
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,721</u>	<u>19,716</u>	<u>21,437</u>
<i>Net book values</i>			
31 March 2022	<u>£ 3,008</u>	<u>£ 65,238</u>	<u>£ 68,246</u>
31 March 2021	<u>£ 3,278</u>	<u>£ 84,193</u>	<u>£ 48,196</u>

All fixed assets relate to unrestricted funds.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

8. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Trade creditors	383	569
Other creditors	2,762	4,574
Accruals and deferred income	7,353	42,660
	£ 10,498	£ 47,803

Creditors totalling £5,000 relate to restricted funds.

9. DEFERRED INCOME

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants received in advance		
Balance at 1 April	41,322	-
Released to statement of financial activities	(41,322)	-
	-	-
Deferred in the period	5,000	41,322
Balance at 31 March	5,000	41,322

10. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2022
General	£ 108,684	£ 22,782	£ (81,844)	77,407	£ 127,029
Comparative year		Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2021
General		£ 133,064	£ (24,380)	-	£ 108,684

11. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2022 Total £
Unrestricted funds	68,246	58,783	127,029
Restricted funds	-	8,259	8,259
	£ 68,246	£ 67,042	£ 135,288

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

11. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND (CONTINUED)

<i>Comparative year</i>	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	2021 Total £
Unrestricted funds	48,196	60,488	108,684
Restricted funds	-	4,799	4,799
	<u>£ 48,196</u>	<u>£ 65,287</u>	<u>£ 113,483</u>

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS

<i>Current year</i>	Balance b/f 01/04/2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2022 £
National Lottery Community Fund	3,714	85,060	(85,580)	-	3,194
National Lottery Community Fund - Covid Uplift Grant	-	41,322	-	(41,322)	-
Clothworkers	-	35,000	-	(35,000)	-
Tudor Trust	-	3,000	(1,800)	-	1,200
Two Ridings Foundation - GRTHM	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Two Ridings Foundation - Betty's Family Fund	-	3,906	(508)	-	3,398
Two Ridings Foundation - Together with Young People	-	2,200	(2,200)	-	-
York St John University	-	750	(750)	-	-
York Mind	-	1,696	(1,229)	-	467
YCVS GGS	1,085	-	-	(1,085)	-
Yorkshire MESMAC	-	4,398	(4,398)	-	-
	<u>£ 4,799</u>	<u>£ 179,332</u>	<u>£ (98,465)</u>	<u>£ (77,407)</u>	<u>£ 8,259</u>
<i>Comparative year</i>		Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2021 £
National Lottery Community Fund		70,644	(66,930)	-	3,714
Joseph Rowntree Foundation		4,971	(4,971)	-	-
Two Ridings Foundation		2,000	(2,000)	-	-
City of York Council		4,000	(4,000)	-	-
YCVS GGS		1,170	(85)	-	1,085
		<u>£ 82,785</u>	<u>£ (77,986)</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 4,799</u>

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs, IT costs and overheads.

National Lottery Community Fund - Covid Uplift Grant

Funding towards responding to the Covid crisis and adapting the building to facilitate the revised programme.

Clothworkers

Funding towards the building and renovation work at the Centre. This income has been fully spent on fixed assets in the year which has met the terms of the grant. The transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted funds of £35,000 relates to this restriction being released. The capitalised building work is shown within unrestricted funds.

Tudor Trust

Funding towards improving the financial systems.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Funding towards staff salaries.

Two Ridings Foundation - GRTHM

Funding towards producing a video for history month.

Two Ridings Foundation - Betty's Family Fund

Funding towards the running of the youth club.

Two Ridings Foundation - Together with Young People

Funding towards Violet's time spent participating in the York Multiple Complex Needs (MCN) Children and Young People Inquiry,

YCVS GGS

Funding towards the gardening project.

York Mind

Funding towards the women's wellbeing project.

York St John University

Funding towards the purchase of furniture for the Centre.

Yorkshire MESMAC

Funding towards staff time spent on women's sexual health groups.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1189827

Accounts



York Travellers Trust
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the period ended
31 March 2021

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the period ended 31 March 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by YTT
Registered Charity number 1189827
Charity's principal address 20 Falsgrave Crescent
 Clifton, York, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	Resigned as Chair and appointed as Treasurer - 8 th November 2021
Martin Williams	Secretary	Resigned as Treasurer - 8 th November 2021
Caroline Hunter	Chair	Appointed as Chair – 8 th November 2021
Dinah Mulvenna		Appointed 8 th June 2021
Claire Wilton		
Lorraine Mulvenna		
Abbie North		Appointed 15 th February 2021

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, Director

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document Constitution
How the charity is constituted Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8th June 2020
Trustee selection methods Nomination and Co-option

The charitable activities of York Travellers Trust (1084620) were transferred to the CIO on 9th June 2020.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

- 1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
- 2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
- 3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
- 4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
- 5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
- 6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

- 1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
- 2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
- 3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
- 4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Governance

As noted above, in June 2020 YTT changed from an unincorporated Charitable Trust to a CIO. The change has been seamless for our clients and funders.

In February 2021 we welcomed a new member Trustee – Abbie North. Abbie, a law graduate, has experience in supporting the Gypsy and Travelling Community planning law matters.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Objectives and Activities (continued)

Building

The other tenant of our building moved out in December 2020. We took this opportunity to renegotiate our lease with our landlords York Area Quaker Meeting (YAQM). That negotiation led to a new lease of the whole building in February 2021.

We are very grateful to YAQM for their generosity in recognising the effects of the pandemic on YTT and adjusting our rent accordingly.

With the security of tenure achieved, the YTT Director has been successful in securing additional funds from the National Lottery Community Fund to enable us to embark on a programme of renovation work to make the building fully accessible; and better adapted to the needs of our programme. This work will be completed in the next financial year.

Achievements and Performance

Overview

Not surprisingly the 2020-21 period has been dominated by our response to the Coronavirus (COVID) pandemic. As we emerge from a tumultuous period of lockdowns and widespread restrictions enforced to suppress the spread of COVID, YTT's clients have, and continue to, experience the impact of the pandemic in many ways – from limitations to important social events, inability to work and related financial implications, restrictions to movement and forced periods of confinement at home with family, limited access to health and support services to serious implications on mental health and wellbeing.

Throughout the period, YTT continued to support and empower people across a broad variety of areas, working flexibly and responsively to:

Engage | Help | Encourage | Offer | Enable

The following summary demonstrates what this support has looked like and shares stories of the very real difference it has made to YTT's clients during an exceedingly difficult time.

The summary is based on a range of evidence gathered through the following methods:

- Fortnightly meetings with the Safe Space Project Evaluation Steering Group.
- Surveys with clients (October to December 2020)
- Focus group with YTT staff (December 2020)
- Anecdotal evidence from social media

Understanding the impact of covid on York's gypsy and traveller communities

The COVID pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on people's lives. It has resulted in sudden, major changes and disruptions to the everyday life of people as well as in some cases having a serious impact on mental health and wellbeing. Consultation with clients revealed a snapshot of the aspects of the pandemic that had caused the greatest impact included:

- Increased periods of confinement at home putting increased pressure on family relationships and workloads.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Achievements and Performance (continued)

- Major changes to routine – inability to attend important social events and traditional gatherings that form a vitally important part of GTC culture and the chance for people to meet – such as Appleby Horse Fair, weddings, and funerals.
- School closures – the challenges of having to educate children and young people at home, difficult for some children and hard for their parents to support.
- The inability to see family and friends and take part in leisure time activities.
- The inability to work and loss of income.
- Having to adopt new protective measures such as social distancing and increased preventative measures such as places not accepting cash.
- Fear that things would never be the same again.

Support provided during the pandemic and the difference it made

The YTT team provided support during the pandemic in a variety of ways with the team having to change the main ways they offered support to clients – moving from face-to-face to remotely. This represented a significant challenge in the early days of lockdown as staff attempted to think and plan how to make things work. Staff faced additional challenges of differing levels of computer literacy amongst staff and clients and the added complication of limited access to laptops and mobile phones.

Whilst the Centre had to close, staff were a constant presence in the lives of their clients and other members of the Gypsy and Traveller Community (GTC). Flyers with contact details were distributed to the York GTC sites letting the communities know that even though the office was closed staff were available offering support. Members of the GTC were consulted via social media and where possible face-to-face when members of the team visited sites to identify need.

“We’re a face-to-face contact organisation and all of a sudden we needed to provide support over the telephone. The hardest thing was thinking how we are going to do this, how we are going to make it work but the team figured it out and it has worked.”

YTT Director

Some of the methods called for the team to equip themselves very quickly with new skills such as using online platforms and social media. This represented a significant achievement for the team, with lessons learned in the different ways that they can continue to work and interact with members of the GTC. Advances were also made in IT skills and confidence with members of the team joining Facebook and doing things outside of their skillset or comfort zone.

Some of the ways the team supported clients was through the provision of:

- Virtual social activities – e.g., crafts, bingo sessions.
- Food, craft, and activity packs delivered to sites.
- Welfare calls.
- Weekly food stall.
- Helping people understand Government Guidelines and related implications.
- Advocacy for members of the local GTC as well as people from other parts of the country.
- Being there and listening to people.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Achievements and Performance (continued)

"It's [YTT] helped me when I've needed help. You know that they're only a phone call away if you need anything. Because I've not been able to get to the centre they've come to me which has really helped. 10-minute crafts for my son has helped because sometimes I run out of things to do with him because we have to [be] inside all the time."

Member of the GTC, YTT

Activity Summary

Examples of individual client work

We continued to provide support for the most vulnerable individual members of the GTC. Examples include:

- Support to a young couple going through child protection proceedings for their unborn child. Attendance at 14 professionals' meetings with them to act as an advocate and provide emotional support. Additional support provided to the couple with referrals for mental health support and challenging discriminatory comments made by a social worker in the case.
- Support to a couple who were kicked off the pitch they were staying on because of a family dispute. For a while they were sleeping rough, and practical support was offered such as food, blankets, and a space to come in for a hot coffee etc. Support was also offered to complete an application for a Travellers site in Bridlington and apply to North Yorkshire Home Choice for housing in York. The couple are now living on the site in Bridlington and have been signposted to support organisations and food banks in the area.
- Successfully applied for a washing machine from Children in Need (CIN) for a family where the mum had lost her cleaning job at the start of the pandemic and they had a new, premature, baby. Support with food parcels and collecting donations from other organisations for their baby. A Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) referral was made for support challenging issues with wages.

Examples of young people work

We have worked closely with City of York Council and local schools. Safe Space Training was delivered to the heads or deputy heads of all York schools that raised awareness of YTT, GTC and demonstrated a willingness to support them with their work with Gypsy and Traveller young people. Further support has since been provided to five schools in support of seven different GTC families. Early stages in terms of case work from this with ongoing conversations with the young people, their families, and school staff about what support is needed alongside awareness raising for options / responsibilities of home schooling.

Individual support was given to a 14 year old who was unable to be taught onsite at the Pupil Referral Unit in York for several reasons, so she now receives all her education at the YTT Centre over 4-days-a-week, taught by two teachers from the PRU. She is being encouraged in her art lessons to paint a mural to be displayed on the wall in the YTT Centre. In addition, she has started to receive tailored 2:1 support sessions (delivered by YTT's Community Development Lead and student social workers). The focus of these sessions is to carry out various creative activities that look at emotions and managing conflict but with the scope for this to change and be responsive to her needs. Plans and reflections are being captured by the

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

team to determine whether this is an effective delivery model that could be replicated with other complex clients in the future.

We have worked with FutureHY York & North Yorkshire (<https://www.futurehy.co.uk/>) – part of the UniConnect programme that supports young people to make well-informed decisions about their future education and to reduce the gap in higher education participation between the most and least represented groups – to set ourselves up as a Prince's Trust Achieve Centre so that we can deliver qualifications for young people. FutureHY are funding the cost of entering young people for the accredited qualification, and are providing one member of their staff to lead facilitate the sessions with our team supporting them. Four of our young people are currently signed up to receive the service.

Online events

Since January 2021, YTT have been hosting two events per week on Facebook Rooms. On Tuesdays there is **Coffee and Catch Up** and on Thursdays **Bingo**. 10 different individuals have attended the events at least once and there is a small core group of four who attend regularly.

There was a one-off Facebook Live event in November 2020 as part of the **Being Human Festival** (<https://beinghumanfestival.org/>) – each year the festival brings together universities, museums, galleries, archives, independent research organisations, community and commercial partners to make research in the humanities accessible to non-specialist audiences and demonstrate its relevance to our everyday lives. YTT worked with a local historian and filmmaker from the University of York to create short films about the different types of traditional Gypsy flowers and Gypsy music. All the videos are available on Youtube.

YTT worked with York Museums Trust to do a takeover of their Twitter account for **Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month (GRTHM) 2020** (<https://ytt.org.uk/2020/06/26/grt-history-month-museum-takeover/>). Our GTC was asked to share historical objects, crafts, photos, stories etc of things that meant something to them and / or the Gypsy and Traveller Communities as a whole. There was a real sense of excitement and interest on the Facebook page as people were sharing and the Twitter takeover had 3,130 engagements – much higher than other Twitter takeovers York Museums Trust has done.

Activity packs

Following consultation with the GTC, in January, 34 activity packs were provided to Gypsy and Traveller families (kids and adults alike!) with materials and activity instructions that could be done together during the second national lockdown. The packs were well-received which led to a further 36 packs being distributed over the Easter break that included simple Easter based craft activities e.g. egg hunt clues and a competition.

Food stall

Some ward funding was received in February 2020 for the purchase and distribution of food to the GTC and local community. This food has been offered to those in need throughout the pandemic, using a weekly food stall, and represents an opportunity to strengthen connections with the local community and support them with their other needs at the same time. In 2020 was a total of 309 food stall visits, and 168 food parcels delivered directly. So far in 2021 there have been a total of 273 food stall visits, and 5 food parcels delivered directly. Almost all the stall visits have been from non-GTC. Links with the local primary school

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

have been established so that any leftover fresh goods from a week's food stall go through them to their families in need.

Sports packs

The funding from Sports England we received in 2020 allowed us to distribute 88 sports packs. The vast majority went to young GT people, but some went to the families of regulars from the food stall. In June 2021, the Centre will start to offer a programme of boxing classes for young people run by a local ex-professional boxer who is a Traveller himself. Later in the year this will be extended to include boot camp sessions for young people led by a member of the GTC.

Cultural competency training for professionals

Delivery of Cultural Competency Training was moved online and delivered multiple times across the year including to Area Inspectors for North Yorkshire Police, Teaching Students at York Saint Johns, York Healthwatch, and Probation Services.

Strategic work

YTT Director, Violet Cannon has been campaigning at a national level about how the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill 2021 not only restricts protest, but has the potential to legislate the GTC's ancient cultural practice of nomadism out of existence.

YTT worked closely with several national and local partners during this last year, allowing us to continue working proactively to support the Gypsy and Traveller families. This has included City of York Council to develop a strategic working group, the group includes representations from Education, Health, Accommodation, Police, Community Safety and Elected Members. We have also linked in with Children and Adult Services, Probation, numerous schools including all of the secondary schools in York, York Race Equality Network, Older Community Advocacy York, York CVS, York Human Rights City Network and various boards to integrate GTC into the conversations happening in the city including the planned "diversity festival". We are also members of the System Changers projects in York which has given us many allies within the city.

Workforce Update

In 2020-21 the Trustees undertook a salary benchmarking for all staff with the support of an external organisation – *Roots HR*. The outcome of the review was reflected in the salaries of staff from April 2021.

As part of the Safe Space Project, YTT set out to recruit a Community Development Lead, and a Trainee Community Development Support Worker. Abigail joined YTT as Community Development Lead in April 2020.

A member of the GTC was recruited as the Trainee Community Development Support Worker but unfortunately to ill-health throughout the lockdown, their hours have been redistributed to the Community Development Lead and Centre Manager to ensure continued operation of activities during the pandemic.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Evaluation Update

Monitoring and evaluation were recognised as areas where additional support was required. A brief for an external consultant was published to assist with the effective delivery of the Safe Spacer Project through the development of a robust monitoring and evaluation plan. Following the award of the contract to Mair Education and Billson Consulting Limited in September 2020, our external consultants have got to know YTT, participated in our Cultural Competency Training, and reviewed current data collection and monitoring practices.

A fortnightly Evaluation Steering Group Meeting was established with key members of YTT, the evaluation consultants, and a member of the GTC (feeding in client views). A review of Customer Relationship Management Systems was undertaken, and a decision was made to secure Lamplight – a complete charity database system. The Evaluation Steering Group has continued to work with Lamplight to design and implement the new system that was tested and refined through the early months of 2021, so that the system was ready to launch in the 2021-22 year.

Alongside this, the Evaluation Steering Group have developed new evaluation and outcome monitoring forms.

Finance and Funding

This comprehensive programme of work has been made possible by the continuing support of all our funders. We are grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund, the Henry Smith Charity, the Tudor Trust, the Two Ridings Community Foundation and Sports England, Green Spaces, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust for offering us the necessary resources to undertake this important work.

Plans for future periods

We moved into the new financial year still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. We will continue to adapt our services to support our community through the pandemic.

The extent to which we will be able to use our building is still uncertain, but the forthcoming year will be an important one for YTT insofar that we will be implementing our plans to refurbish our building, making it accessible both in terms of being more welcome to all, but particularly for members of our community who live with physical disabilities. This will make a big difference in terms of developing our Safe Space project.

We will continue to work on our four priority areas of education and training; advice and advocacy; strategic work to build community cohesion; and promoting an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller community.

In addition, we foresee that 2021/22 will be a year when the Gypsy and Traveller culture will be under threat through national legislation, and we will be working with others throughout the country to play our part in making sure the Gypsy and Traveller voice is heard and respected.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial Review

Financial Review

Income of £215,849 (£82,785 restricted) was received in the period. This includes the transfer of funds totalling £117,114 (£27,826 restricted) from York Travellers Trust (Charitable Trust). Expenditure totalled £102,366 (£77,986 restricted). This resulted in net income of £113,483 (£4,799 restricted).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be limited to three months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in order of £10,000. Reserves at the year end were well in excess of that and will be applied to the charitable purposes.

Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

Stephen Pittam
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the period ended 31 March 2021.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Trust 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.

Adrian Rodaway BA, BFP, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
York
YO30 7XZ

25 January 2022

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	133,060	82,785	215,845
Investments		4	-	4
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		133,064	82,785	215,849
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		24,380	77,986	102,366
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure	4	24,380	77,986	102,366
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income	3	108,684	4,799	113,483
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		108,684	4,799	113,483
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2021		£ 108,684	£ 4,799	£ 113,483
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021
Charity number: 1189827

	Notes	Total £
Fixed assets:		
Tangible assets	7	48,196
		<hr/>
Current assets:		
Cash at bank and in hand		113,090
		<hr/>
Liabilities:		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(47,803)
		<hr/>
<i>Net current assets</i>		65,287
		<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		113,483
		<hr/>
Total Net Assets		£ 113,483
		<hr/> <hr/>
The funds of the charity:		
Unrestricted funds	9	108,684
Restricted funds	11	4,799
		<hr/>
Total Charity Funds		£ 113,483
		<hr/> <hr/>

Approved by the Trustees on 25 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Hunter
Chair

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

**YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

The period of account is from 8 June 2020 to 31 March 2021. These are the Charity's first accounts and, therefore, there are no comparatives.

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from grants and donations are included in the period in which they are received.

Investment income is accounted for when receivable.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	1.67% per month straight line
Office equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
Grants	42,219	54,959	97,178
Donation from York Travellers Trust (Charitable Trust)	89,288	27,826	117,114
Other donations	1,553	-	1,553
	<u>£ 133,060</u>	<u>£ 82,785</u>	<u>£ 215,845</u>

3. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:	£
Depreciation	1,581
Independent Examiner's remuneration	900
Other fees paid to Examiner	<u>2,085</u>

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Charitable activities			
Wages and salaries	11,408	62,352	73,760
Staff and volunteer expenses	2,285	-	2,285
Sessional work	1,585	1,775	3,360
Activities and outings	-	2,741	2,741
	<u>15,278</u>	<u>66,868</u>	<u>82,146</u>
<i>Governance costs:</i>			
Independent examiner's fees	900	-	900
<i>Support costs:</i>			
Consultancy and advice	965	-	965
Rent and rates	-	6,427	6,427
Heating and lighting	-	981	981
Office costs	1,011	3,710	4,721
Subscriptions	301	-	301
Repairs and maintenance	494	-	494
Professional fees	3,285	-	3,285
Sundry expenses	247	-	247
Computer costs	318	-	318
Depreciation	1,581	-	1,581
Total support costs	<u>8,202</u>	<u>11,118</u>	<u>19,320</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>£ 24,380</u>	<u>£ 77,986</u>	<u>£ 102,366</u>

5. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	£
Gross salaries and wages	66,328
Employer's NIC	1,392
Employer's pension contributions	3,090
Cleaner	1,240
Other staff costs	1,710
	<u>£ 73,760</u>

The average number of employees in the year was 5. There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year.

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO) and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £45,779.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

7. FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £	Fixtures & fittings £	Total £
<i>Cost:</i>			
Additions	4,097	45,679	49,776
At 31 March 2021	4,097	45,679	49,776
<i>Depreciation:</i>			
Charge for the year	819	761	1,580
At 31 March 2021	819	761	1,580
<i>Net book values</i>			
31 March 2021	£ 3,278	£ 44,918	£ 48,196

All fixed assets relate to unrestricted funds.

8. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Total £
Trade creditors	569
Other creditors	4,574
Accruals and deferred income	42,660
	£ 47,803

All creditors falling due within one year relate to unrestricted funds.

9. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

<i>Current year</i>	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2021
General	£ 133,064	£ (24,380)	-	£ 108,684

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted funds	48,196	60,488	108,684
Designated funds	-	-	-
Restricted funds	-	4,799	4,799
	£ 48,196	£ 65,287	£ 113,483
	£ 48,196	£ 65,287	£ 113,483

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

<i>Current year</i>	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2021 £
Big Lottery Fund	70,644	(66,930)	-	3,714
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	4,971	(4,971)	-	-
Two Ridings Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
City of York Council	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
YCVS GGS	1,170	(85)	-	1,085
	£ 82,785	£ (77,986)	£ -	£ 4,799
	£ 82,785	£ (77,986)	£ -	£ 4,799

Big Lottery Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs, IT costs and overheads.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Funding towards staff salaries.

Two Ridings Foundation

Funding towards staff salaries.

City of York Council

Funding towards staff salaries.

YCVS GGS

Funding towards the gardening project.