



Annual Report and Financial Statements for Year Ending 31st August 2025



17 Trowlock Avenue, Teddington, TW11 9QT

Registered Charity 1190557

Contents

From the Chair.....	3
Charitable Aims and Objectives.....	4
How we deliver our aims and objectives.....	4
Summary of Activity.....	6
Impact.....	7
Fundraising Activity.....	12
Funders.....	12
Pro-bono Support.....	12
Volunteer Support.....	12
Financial Review.....	12
Structure, Governance and Management.....	14
Future Plans and Aims.....	15
Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighter Together.....	17
Statement of financial activities.....	18
Balance sheet.....	19
Notes to the Accounts.....	20

From the Chair

Over the past year, there has been increased recognition that relationships are central to happiness and wellbeing. Increasingly, evidence highlights the importance of laying these foundations early in life and nurturing social and emotional development during the ages of 0–5. Despite this progress, our society remains deeply divided, and loneliness and isolation are considered a “silent epidemic” for people over 75.

Against this backdrop, I am incredibly proud of the momentum of Brighter Together. Our work has never been more critical. We continue to see the incredible benefit of intergenerational relationships, and we’re delighted to showcase the case studies, testimonials and data that our incredible team continues to capture that demonstrates the impact of regular, meaningful intergenerational activity.

What we see on a weekly basis reflects the transformative power of consistent relationships between our youngest and oldest generations. Our programme strengthens social and emotional wellbeing for both children and older adults and contributes to more connected local communities.

During 2024–25, we more than doubled our delivery, responding to growing demand while maintaining the quality that sits at the heart of our programme.

We are particularly proud that every single child who took part in our programme showed a ‘significant’ or ‘very significant’ improvement to their social wellbeing – reflecting their increased confidence, and ability to engage positively and create connections with others. These outcomes underline the vital role that relationships play in a child’s early development.

As we move into 2026, our focus remains on reaching children and adults who stand to benefit most, while continuing to use evidence-based insight to refine and strengthen our approach. We are never standing still, and we look forward to seeing many more children and older people flourish in the year ahead.

Never standing still includes our governance, and we were delighted to welcome Nigel Slone as a new trustee this year. We are continuing to enhance the mix of skills and expertise of our board members, and looking to add additional members to complement the wonderful group of people already involved. Please do keep an eye out for opportunities if you would be interested in supporting us.

We are deeply grateful to our funders, partners and team, whose support and commitment have enabled us to grow as an organisation, extending our impact across lives and communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Melia', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Andy Melia (Chair of Trustees)

Charitable Aims and Objectives

Brighter Together connects two vulnerable groups: older adults living in care homes or attending day centres, and pre-school children at school or nursery. They participate in shared activities, aimed at tackling social isolation, improving social and emotional wellbeing for all participants, and boosting the children's development.

Our aims are to specifically:

- Reduce social isolation and loneliness;
- Improve the social and emotional wellbeing of older adults and children;
- Support the children's development against the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) characteristics of effective learning.

Our programme gives vulnerable older adults a purpose and responsibility. By bringing a group of young children into their lives on a regular basis to participate in structured nursery activities, our older participants share in the children's development and create strong relationships that will have a mutual benefit.

Within the care homes, day centres, and nursery schools, Brighter Together aims to work with those who will receive the most benefit from the project. The selection criteria are:

Older Adults:	Pre-School Children:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of social isolation for a resident. • Ability to engage in the sessions and the activities to a level that will benefit them, and the children involved. • Safeguarding considerations. • Consent to participate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of exposure to those over 65 years and whether that is on a consistent basis. • Assessment against the EYFS Goals. • Consent to participate.

How we deliver our aims and objectives

Our intergenerational programme connects a care home or day centre with a local nursery school who are then referred to as our 'partners'. The aim is to create a consistent partnership that will be maintained for a full academic year at a minimum.

Our partners work with us to select the group of older adults and children who will benefit from being part of the programme, based on the criteria in the table above.

The benefits experienced by children and older adults during our sessions are **transformative, creating connections that feel truly magical**. This success is built on rigorous research, thoughtful design and continual refinement. Our evidence-based practice and highly skilled team ensures every session delivers meaningful benefits.

There are 4 pillars to our work:



Designed by Experts

Our sessions are designed with input from an Advisory Board, using expertise in occupational therapy, dementia care, physiotherapy and early years education. Their insight ensures our programme is impactful, inclusive and grounded in best practice.



Session Structure

Each session is informed by the principles of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy, which successfully improves and maintains cognitive functioning in older adults. Our sessions align with the Early Years Foundation Stage framework to support children's learning and development in a meaningful way.



Bespoke Training

Our Session Facilitators and volunteers receive specialist training in how to engage older people and support high-quality intergenerational interactions. This includes accredited dementia training, ensuring every session is delivered safely, sensitively and effectively.



Community Involvement

We end each term with a special celebration that brings together friends, families and staff – a wonderful way to welcome the wider community into the care setting. This shared experience is a vital part of our approach, strengthening relationships across local communities.

Summary of Activity

During the 2024–25 academic year, Brighter Together experienced a significant period of growth while maintaining the quality and integrity of our delivery. We doubled the number of projects delivered compared to the previous year, expanding into a fourth London borough, Hammersmith & Fulham, an area identified for its high levels of social isolation and limited intergenerational provision.

We worked in partnership with 29 care homes, day centres and nurseries to deliver 16 weekly projects across the academic year. In total, 354 older adults and children participated, sharing 341 hours of structured intergenerational activity.

Alongside programme expansion, we invested in strengthening our internal operations to ensure sustainable growth. A bespoke relationship management database was developed with pro-bono support, significantly improving project oversight and efficiency. We also received pro-bono legal support to enhance our HR processes and strengthened our governance through the recruitment of an additional Trustee with healthcare and senior leadership experience.

Impact remained at the heart of our work. Using structured wellbeing measures, 97% of older participants demonstrated 'significant' or 'very significant' improvements in social wellbeing. Among children, 100% showed similar levels of improvement. These outcomes reinforce the role of high-quality intergenerational programmes in reducing social isolation and supporting emotional, social and developmental progress.

Partner feedback was exceptionally strong. Our Net Promoter Score for 2024–25 was +99, significantly above the +50 benchmark considered excellent. 99% of respondents rated the programme 10/10, with no detractors, reflecting the value and trust placed in our work despite ongoing pressures in the care and childcare sectors.

We continue to refine our curriculum using evidence from child development and ageing research to ensure participants receive maximum benefit. As illustrated in the case studies within this report, our programme contributes to increased confidence, purpose, speech and language development, and improved emotional and social wellbeing.

Outputs:

- Delivered **341** intergenerational activity sessions.
- Worked with **29** project partners.
- Developed **10 new** projects.
- Provided sessions to **172** older adults.
- Provided sessions to **182** children (aged 3-5 years).

Impact

We've continued with our triangulation method of measuring impact and evaluating our programme. This uses Leuven scale observations during sessions, which are reviewed alongside assessments and observations from nursery/care home/day centre staff and also questionnaires from parents, family members or friends who visit our older adult participants on a regular basis. This helps us develop a wider picture of how our programme is supporting both the adults and children involved both inside and outside of our sessions.

Impact for Older Adults

All of care home and day centre partners said that the sessions made a **significant contribution to older adults on the programme** across all 3 areas assessed: social wellbeing; emotional wellbeing; and physical health.

- **92%** of older adults made **significant improvement** in the areas of **emotional wellbeing** as a result of being part of the programme.
- **97%** of older adults made **significant improvement** in the areas of **social wellbeing** as a result of being part of the programme.
- **89%** of older adults made **significant improvement** in their **physical health** as a result of being part of the programme, as reported by care home and day centre staff.

Testimonials

"Thank you so much for making the sessions so enjoyable for Mike. He feels that he is doing something positive for the children and it gives him a real sense of achievement."

Heather, Wife of Participant.

"The programme improves the wellbeing of our members by bringing them happiness and giving them something to look forward to every week. It energizes them and gives them a sense of purpose knowing that they can share their skills and knowledge, and that they can contribute to the child's learning experience."

Sam Vaughnley, Centre Manager, The Elleray Centre.

Case Studies – Older Adults

From withdrawal to connection:

When 'A' first moved into the home, she was withdrawn and spent most of her time alone in her room, showing signs of depression. After she joined the Brighter Together sessions, the change was immediate.

'A' began anticipating the children's visits, often asking when the next visit would be. She now gets up early on the mornings the children come so she can be ready on time. She has developed a particularly strong bond with one little girl, who 'A' describes as 'adorable and well-mannered'.

When the half-term break came and the sessions weren't running, 'A' was very sad. She stayed in her room all day and declined to participate in any other activities, later telling us that *'It makes my day when the children come'*.

The impact of the programme for 'A' extends beyond these sessions. Brighter Together has encouraged her to take a more active part in the life of the care home, and she now joins in other activities and is more sociable with other residents.

Moments that matter:

Living with dementia means that B. initially experienced high levels of anxiety and disorientation when she first joined the Brighter Together sessions at The Avenue Club, Kew.

But the moment the children arrive, B.'s face glows with happiness. She greets them with smiles and praise, instantly showing that her ability to connect and share joy remains beautifully intact.

One of the most powerful moments comes during singing with the children. Although B. needs support with many everyday tasks, she sings every word perfectly and joins in the actions.

In these moments, music seems to gently bypass cognitive barriers, unlocking memories that light up her life.

Perhaps the most moving evidence of the sessions' impact came from B's son.

"Mum's face lit up when I mentioned the get together... 3 hours later. She genuinely recalled something of it and felt something very positive. Normally Mum doesn't recall what she did earlier that day... on Monday, it was different."

For B. and her family, these moments matter. Brighter Together helps create meaningful emotional connections and joy that stay with participants long after the sessions end.

Impact for Children

All of our nursery schools said that the sessions made a **significant contribution** to the children across the 3 areas of **social and emotional wellbeing, and development**.

- 100% of children made noticeable improvement in their **social wellbeing** as a result of being part of the programme.
- 90% of children made a noticeable improvement in their **emotional wellbeing** as a result of being part of the programme.
- 91% of children made noticeable improvement in their development (against the EYFS characteristics of effective learning) as a result of being part of the programme.

Testimonials

"Cassandra talks a lot about 'meeting the old people', speaks joyfully about the activities she has done with them and what an enjoyable experience it has been. The project has given her greater confidence in her behaviour towards adults of all ages."

Frances Hedges, Parent of Cassandra.

"The programme provides exposure to diversity which creates more inclusive communities. Children talk positively about ageing and older people.

It also fosters a greater understanding of disability as children learn to work within the boundaries and physical limitations of their older friends."

Celia Tilli, Nursery Director, Monty's Nursery & Pre-School.

"T has delayed speech and is receiving speech therapy. After attending sessions at the care home, T began to open up and started sharing stories about their holidays, home, toys and more. The activities and singing helped a lot with T's learning of new words."

Asha Kalfe, Greenwood Nursery.

Case Studies – Children

Growing confidence through connection:

At the start of the project, G. (age 4) was very shy and hesitant to take part in activities without the reassurance of a familiar adult. They observed quietly and were reluctant to express themselves or engage independently.

As the project progressed, G. began to grow in confidence. They started to participate more openly in activities and no longer relied on adult support to join in. Through regular contact with care home residents, G. formed meaningful emotional connections that fostered a strong sense of trust and emotional security.

By the end of the project, G. was more confident in expressing themselves and engaging. For children like G. who have

limited contact with extended family, the intergenerational relationships formed through Brighter Together offered warmth, consistency and connection that might otherwise be missing, supporting both emotional development and a sense of belonging.

Case Studies – Children

Learning to embrace differences:

Before joining Brighter Together, L. (age 4) was hesitant around difference. Although his aunt uses a wheelchair, he struggled to connect with her and often avoided unfamiliar situations. When his Mum suggested joining the sessions, L. was reluctant and unsure what to expect.

After just a few sessions, L's confidence grew noticeably. His Mum observed a clear change in how L. interacted with his aunt – he became more curious, open and accepting.

As L. settled into the sessions, he began talking enthusiastically at home about the residents and the activities they shared.

When one of the residents was unwell, L. spent time with her and made her smile and laugh.

L. spoke about how good it felt to laugh together and to know that he had helped. Through Brighter Together, L. has developed confidence, empathy and a strong sense of purpose.

Impact for our communities

Although the children and older adults are our focus for our impact, our third aim is to strengthen our communities through intergenerational connections. This year we've seen a number of examples of our projects coming together outside of our weekly activities. This has included having the adults attend the graduation celebrations of nursery children who will be moving up to school at the end of the year, the children visiting the day centre for a Christmas party or the families of the children attending the care home open day during 'care home open week' in June.

We were also delighted to showcase the impact of intergenerational activities for those living with dementia during 'Dementia Action Week' in May 2025. We were joined with people from the borough of Richmond-upon-Thames and a local nursery school for a space themed activity that demonstrated the power of connecting the young and the young at heart to explore, learn and have fun together.

"The programme helps bridge the gap between generations in the community. A great example of this was when we were invited to join the children for their graduation ceremony at Bushy Tails nursery. It was a great opportunity for our members to interact with the children and their parents and really feel part of a local community event. Thank you."

Sam Vaughnley, Centre Manager, The Ellera Centre.

Case Studies

A growing community in Wandsworth:

One of our most heartwarming new projects takes place at George Potter House in Wandsworth, where over half of the residents live with dementia. Through the weekly sessions with local nursery children, the project has blossomed into a meaningful and lasting connection between two often separated age groups. These new bonds have become so valued that the children are invited to a special shared lunch with the residents every term - a gesture that marks a deepening partnership between the nursery and the care home.

During these lunches, the care home staff go above and beyond to ensure it's a special and inclusive experience. Picture-based menus are created so the children can easily see what will be served. The dining room is filled with warmth as children and residents, now familiar companions, gather around one long table.

Their shared laughter and conversation creates an atmosphere that lifts the spirits of everyone in the room. This project has begun the cultivation of a caring, inclusive community. It's a shining example of how intergenerational work can stitch stronger threads into the fabric of a neighbourhood.

"I like Mo. I like the chips." Caleb, age 4

Fundraising Activity

The total income for the period 1st September 2024 – 31st August 2025 was £ 184,610.75.

Fundraising increased this year and 25% of our income for this period has come through fundraising including Just Giving (our online giving platform), Get Lucky Local lottery and individual giving.

Funders

Brighter Together is extremely grateful to the following funders for the generous support they gave in 2024-25:

- Betty Messenger Foundation
- City Bridge Foundation
- Hampton Fund
- National Lottery
- Salters' Charitable Foundation
- The Grocers' Charity
- Woodroffe Benton Foundation

Pro-bono Support

During this year we have been incredibly fortunate to have benefitted from the very kind support from Wiggin law firm from their dedicated and generous staff.

Volunteer Support

During this year, we have developed our volunteer team supporting our sessions. We now have volunteers supporting in 38% of our projects and our team of volunteers have provided 232 hours of their time. Our volunteers bring with them a wealth of expertise from a range of professional and personal backgrounds that has strengthened our team. The volunteers support participants to maximise the benefits of the sessions and their work has strongly contributed to the high level of impact which you'll see in this report.

We have also been fortunate to be supported voluntarily by an IT specialist who generously built a database to streamline our relationship management with our partners. This equated to over 20 hours of voluntary time.

Financial Review

Our total income for the year was £184,610.75. This was our fifth operating year and covered a 12-month period from 1st September 2024 – 31st August 2025. Expenditure totalled £98,975.29. Our net surplus was £132,258.03. The surplus equates to grant funding received during the 2024-25

financial year for the delivery of 7 projects across 2025-26 and a mix of restricted and unrestricted funding which has been designated for salaries during the 2025-26 year.

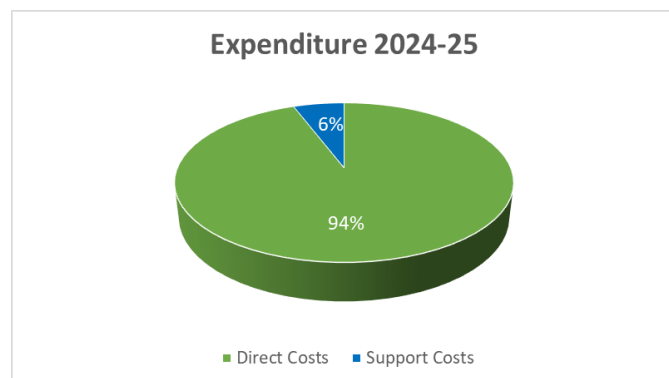
Income consisted of a mix of grants and donations from multiple sources and provided sufficient resources to enable Brighter Together to deliver activities in line with our charitable aims and objectives. Trustees continually review our funding and income plans to secure further financial resources necessary to deliver our programme.

Expenditure

We have allocated the costs of delivering our sessions to 'direct costs'. These account for 94% of our expenditure.

'Core costs' account for 6% of our expenditure and include:

- Staff travel
- Office costs
- Volunteer expenses
- Marketing
- Insurance
- Accounting software
- IT & technology costs.



Risk Assessment

Trustees have identified financial sustainability as the biggest risk to Brighter Together, which underpins many other identified risks. Ensuring long-term funding will enable the charity to effectively embed the progress we have made so far, and trustees and our Founder continue to explore funding partnerships and grants to secure this. Alongside this, trustees have developed mitigation plans, including alternative funding sources and the use of volunteers, to ensure continuity of service provision in the event funding bids are not successful in the short-term.

Reserves Policy

The trustees of Brighter Together aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to be able to invest in the development of either our services or the reach of our programme if there is an opportunity to do so, as well as ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The level of financial reserves will be reviewed when any major changes occur, for instance where Terms and Conditions from funders are updated or if we employ a new member of staff on salary. Use of the reserves require the trustees' approval.

Going Concern

Trustees are confident that Brighter Together remains a Going Concern. Brighter Together has levels of reserves that are in accordance with our reserves policy, of maintaining free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure.

In addition, there is enough restricted funding for the continuation of our charitable activities for at least the next 6 months, and enough unrestricted funding to support any other charitable requirements that are not directly related to the services we provide. This is in accordance with the charities' reserves policy.

Structure, Governance and Management

Status and Governing Document

Brighter Together is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), registered charity number 1190557. Its governing document is a Constitution and Registered Charitable status was granted on 24th July 2020.

Charity

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011.

Governance and Internal Control

The day-to-day activities of the Charity are monitored by the Trustees. Board meetings are held on a quarterly basis at a minimum.

Future Plans and Aims

As Brighter Together continues to grow, we have been thoughtful and ambitious about what comes next. Drawing on our learning, our partnerships and the voices of those we work with, we are excited about the future and the difference we can make.

The 3 key aims we have for the forthcoming year include:

1. **Extending our reach.** Over the coming years, we will focus on growing Brighter Together's reach across London and the country. Our expansion will be guided by need, prioritising communities where social isolation among older people is highest and where early years children face greater barriers to achieving a good level of development.
2. **Innovating to meet new needs.** We are committed to learning, reflection and innovation. We plan to explore and test new programme ideas that respond to the evolving needs of our communities and partners. This will allow us to work in diverse settings, connect with new groups and support more people in the future.
3. **Amplifying our voice.** Drawing on our experience and partnerships, we will help raise the profile of intergenerational activity in the UK and contribute to wider conversations about connection, wellbeing and community. By amplifying the voices of our participants and partners, we hope to inspire others and influence how intergenerational approaches are understood and valued.

Legal and Administrative Details

Registered name and address

Brighter Together, 17 Trowlock Avenue, Teddington, TW11 9QT.

Registered charity number

1190557.

Trustees Board

Since Brighter Together was formally constituted on 24th July 2020, all the following Trustees have remained on the Board:

Andrew Melia (Chair) – reappointed July 2025

Parita Doshi – reappointed July 2023

Dr Susan Allingham – reappointed June 2024

During the 2023-24 period, we also recruited Boyana Ivanova, and during this period we further strengthened our Board by recruiting Nigel Slone, who has a valuable background in healthcare.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 4931, Swindon, SN4 4PL.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FR102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with charity law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence to take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included in the Charity's website.

This report was approved by the Trustees, and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Andrew Melia

Chair of Trustees

Date: 17th February 2026

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighter Together

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brighter Together for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Brighter Together 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 Brighter Together'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 Brighter Together 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.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Hadadi'.

Muntazir Hadadi FCA

5 Cumberland Close, St Margarets, Twickenham, TW1

Date: 27 February 2026

Statement of financial activities

BRIGHTER TOGETHER
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2025

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	34,951	-	-	34,951	58
Charitable activities	61,890	87,770	-	149,660	82,220
Total	96,841	87,770	-	184,611	82,278
Resources expended (Note 6)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	375	-	-	375	179
Charitable activities	6,608	91,992	-	98,600	77,294
Total	6,983	91,992	-	98,975	77,474
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	89,858	4,223	-	85,635	4,804
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	89,858	4,223	-	85,635	4,804
Net movement in funds	89,858	4,223	-	85,635	4,804
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	31,040	15,583	-	46,623	41,818
Total funds carried forward	120,898	11,360	-	132,258	46,622

Balance sheet

	Notes	As at 31st August 2025	As at 31st August 2024
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets		£0.00	£0.00
Computer Equipment		£0.00	£0.00
		£0.00	£0.00
Current Assets			
Cash in Bank	5	£133,267.07	£49,327.61
Debtors	7	£0.00	£492.16
TOTAL Assets		£133,267.07	£49,819.77
Creditors			
Current Liabilities	6	£1,009.04	3,197.20
TOTAL			
Net Current Assets		£132,258.03	£46,622.57
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		£132,258.03	£46,622.57
Net Assets		£132,258.03	£46,622.57
Funds of the Charity	8		
Unrestricted funds		£69,293.09	£17,187.60
Restricted funds		£62,964.94	£29,434.97
TOTAL FUNDS		£132,258.03	£46,622.57

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

Brighter Together has levels of reserves that are in accordance with our reserves policy, of maintaining free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. Our free reserves currently stand at £44,279.

In addition, there is enough restricted and designated funding for the continuation of our charitable activities, including salaries, for at least the next 6 months.

1.3 Change of accounting policy

The accounts present a true and fair view.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.5 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Note 2 – Accounting policies

2.1 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources; it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP). In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).

Brighter Together has not received government grants in the reporting period.

Contractual income and performance related grants are only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.

Brighter Together has incurred expenditure on support costs.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.3 Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g., allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.

2.4 Assets

The charity holds no tangible fixed assets.

Note 3 – Analysis of Income

Analysis		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	28,635	-	-	28,635	58
	Gift Aid	6,316	-	-	6,316	-
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	50,000	87,770	-	137,770	72,595
Total		84,951	87,770	-	172,721	72,653
Charitable activities:		11,890	-	-	11,890	9,625
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	11,890	-	-	11,890	9,625
TOTAL INCOME		96,841	87,770	-	184,611	82,278

Note 4 – Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year			Last year		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds
Expenditure on raising funds:			£			£
Incurred seeking donations		-	-	42	-	42
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	375	-	375	137	-	137
Total expenditure on raising funds	375	-	375	179	-	179
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Delivery of Intergenerational programme	2,474	90,782	93,255	7,511	56,107	63,617
Delivery of Intergenerational Play 2024	-	-	-	-	10,235	10,235
Total expenditure on charitable activities	2,474	90,782	93,255	7,511	66,342	73,852
Other						
Operations (payroll, insurance, DBS, Technology etc)	511	662	1,173	698	-	698
Office Space	3,483	-	3,483	2,353	-	2,353
Stationery	-	-	-	55	-	55
Travel Costs	-	549	549	336	-	336
Team Building	140		140			
Total other expenditure	4,134	1,210	5,345	3,442	-	3,442
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6,983	91,992	98,975	11,132	66,342	77,474

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Activity or programme	This year			Last year		
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Session Delivery	89,592	-	89,592	73,387	-	73,387
Training	756	-	756	465	-	465
Resources	2,908	-	2,908	-	-	-
Total	93,255	-	93,255	73,852	-	73,852

Note 5 – Cash at bank and in hand

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	
Short term deposits	
Cash at bank and on hand	
Other	-
Total	

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
133,267	49,328
-	-
133,267	49,328

Note 6 – Creditors and Accruals

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals and deferred income	-	132	-	-
Taxation and social security	1,009	3,065		
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	1,009	3,197	-	-

Note 7 – Debtors and prepayments

	This year £	Last year £
Grant - Heathrow Community Trust	-	492.2
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Total	-	492.2

Note 8 – Funds of the charity

	At 01.09.2024 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.08.2025 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	29,434.97	89,858.12	119,293.09
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	17,187.60	-4,222.66	12,964.94
TOTAL FUNDS	46,622.57	85,635.46	132,258.03

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	96,841.00	6,982.88	89,858.12
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	87,770	91,992.41	-4,222.66
TOTAL FUNDS	184,610.75	98,975.29	85,635.46

The charity ended the financial year with a higher than usual cash balance. This reflects income received in advance for project delivery in 2025–26 and a final unrestricted grant from the Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation.

The trustees have designated a portion of unrestricted funds, including part of this grant, to support staff salaries and planned growth activity over the 2024–26 period and to provide financial resilience in the context of a challenging funding environment.

There is a £4,223 deficit on restricted funds for the year. This arises from the timing of grant income received in the prior financial year (FY 2023–24) from City Bridge Foundation and Hampton Fund for programme delivery in FY 2024–25. The income was recognised and carried forward as restricted funds in FY 2023–24 and has been applied to programme expenditure in the current year. The deficit therefore reflects the planned utilisation of previously received restricted funds rather than an overspend or funding shortfall. The restricted fund balance at year end remains £12,964.94.

Funds received for specific projects have been carried forward in line with delivery commitments.

Note 9 – Transaction with trustees and related parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or related entity.

