

Pro-Active Community Annual Return

Charity Number 1191570

1/04/24 to 31/3/2025

Registered address

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Reigate

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www.proactivecommunity.org.uk





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|  | <p>"I am Micheal Farrington, and I was the Chair of the Pro-Active Community In 2024/25.</p> <p>"I love being Chair you get to attend lots of events and tell people what it is like to have a learning disability and physical disability. I have faced much discrimination in my life, and this is my chance to make a difference to people like me "</p> |
|  | <p>We are a charity that supports people with learning disabilities and autistic people, run by people with learning disabilities and autistic people. We are a campaigning charity for the rights of disabled people and that we have a voice at the table.</p> <p>"Nothing about me without me"</p> |

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| Our Board Members | | Our Board members: | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  | 1. Edward Cooke | Board No. | Name | Date started |
| | | 1. | Edward Cooke | 5/5/20 |
|  | 2. Nicki Fraser | 2. | Nicki Fraser | 5/5/20 Retired September 25 |
| | | 3. | Leanne Yeo | 6/5/20 |
| | | 4. | Lizzie Wheeler | 7/5/20 |
| | | 5. | Michael McLachlan | 7/5/20 |
| | | 6. | Jade Vallance | 9/6/20 |
|  | 3. Leanne Yeo | 7. | Michael Farrington | 29/9/21 |
| | | 8. | Matthew Leadbeater | 29/9/21 |
| | | 9. | Matthew Swinburn | 2023 |
| | | 10. | Emma Jane Levallee | 2023 |
|  | 4. Lizzie Wheeler | 11. | Helen Guest | 2023 |
| | | | | |

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|  | 5. Michael McLachlan | |
|  | 6. Jade Vallance | |
|  | 7. Michael Farrington | |
|  | 8. Matt Leadbeater | |

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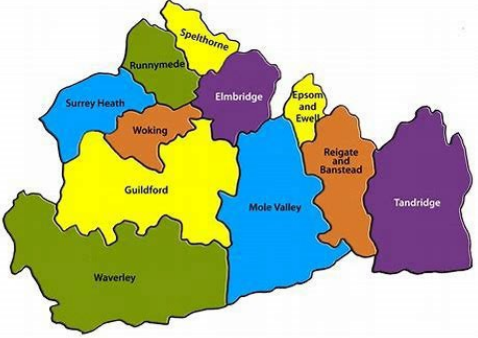



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|  | 9. Matthew Swinburn | |
|  | 10. Emma Jane Levallee | |
|  | 11. Helen Guest | |
|  | We have 11 people on our Board as registered Board members, plus an additional 20 who support the Board and 200 as part of our wider networks. | |

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|  | <p>We are based in Surrey but also work in other areas in the South-East such as West Sussex and Brighton and Hove.</p> |
|  | <p>We ensure services, providers, local and national governments hear our voice on what matters to us. We are a campaigning group for the rights of disabled people.</p> <p>We want people with learning disabilities and autistic people to use their right to vote and know what they are voting for</p> <p>Kier Starmer Labour party was Prime Minister for this report 2024/2025.</p> |

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|  <p>A graphic showing a spiral-bound notebook with the word "Plans" in bold black text. Below the text is a small photograph of three people (two men and one woman) sitting around a table, looking at a document together.</p> | <p>We support co-production as equal partners in developing and shaping services that meet our needs.</p> <p>We have worked alongside many different people to ensure co-production has happened in the last year.</p> |
|  <p>A graphic showing a green pencil pointing to a checklist. The word "Quality" is written in a large, stylized font. The checklist has four items: "Excellent" (checked with a green box), "Good" (unchecked), "Average" (unchecked), and "Poor" (unchecked).</p> | <p>We audit services (people's homes) to make sure support staff and providers understand what it is like to have a learning disability and be an autistic person who relies on services for everyday support.</p> <p>We monitor that people have their voice heard and people have rights and choices.</p> <p>We have a contract with Active Prospects, a charitable care provider, to do all their quality checking.</p> <p>We are experts by experience and our members are co-trainers for the Oliver McGowan mandatory training program that is currently being rolled out nationally for all health and social care staff.</p> |
|  <p>A photograph of a man with short dark hair, wearing an orange t-shirt with a white "dp" logo. He is holding a grey megaphone to his mouth and gesturing with his right hand.</p> | <p>We train and empower people to have the skills to speak up in a range of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support public speaking • Presentations • Q and A sessions • Feedback collection |

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|  | <p>We are part of research projects to ensure people understand learning disabilities and autism.</p> <p>We have partnered with the University of Surrey to help achieve better outcomes for people, such as training for midwives on how to support parents with a learning disability.</p> |
|  | <p>We ensure people are rewarded for their time and talents. We support people to be paid for expert by experience work at a fair rate.</p> <p>We celebrate and let people know what can be achieved.</p> |
|  | <p>We support inclusion and fight discrimination. We support training, research and sharing knowledge so people know about abuse, mate crime, and their rights.</p> <p>We run workshops and conferences on key subjects.</p> <p>We co-produce easy read resources.</p> |
|  | <p>We support a range of other forums such as the Surrey People's Group in partnership with Surrey County Council.</p> |

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We campaign and say when things are not right. We want people to know about the impact on disabled people especially learning disabilities and autistic people who may have hidden disabilities. We campaign on issues such as:

- Environmental concerns
- Access to local amenities
- Public transport
- Funding and benefits
- Social care
- Health inequalities



We fundraise and support our communities and each other. We use peer support to draw on the skills of our members to help each other and not rely on paid services all the time.



We give back and use our skills to help others. We are passionate that we can contribute to our local neighbourhoods and often join other campaigns:

- Macmillan coffee mornings
- Children in Need
- Comic Relief
- Community Cookalongs

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|  | <p>We arrange events, conferences, and social gatherings.</p> <p>We are part of Learning Disability England and other key membership organisations and will attend conferences, often speaking and campaigning on key subjects.</p> |
|  | <p>We support face-to-face and digital communication. We train people to be able to use Teams and Zoom so they can join meetings or campaigns and conferences.</p> <p>We have been awarded a grant to support disabled people in 2025/2026 to use AI.</p> |
|  | <p>We support Makaton training and have our own expert by experience Elizabeth Wheeler who shares her Makaton skills.</p> |
|  | <p>We work in partnership with key organisations such as Active Prospects who support us with our administration, marketing and connections.</p> |

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What the Pro-Active Community has achieved in the last year? 2024/2025



Pro-Active Community members have been involved in the following co-production projects – as leaders or members of the group:



- University of Glasgow – Diabetes UK – My Desmond App for Learning Disability
- Books Beyond Words – Surrey Hills new title, Online bullying trial and as panel members for their recruitment
- Co-produced the SCIE Housing Toolkit resources
- Presented to the Surrey First Community Forum about the importance of accessible communication
- Supported Active Prospects in their Surrey 3 Peaks Challenge to fund raise for essential sensory equipment for supported adults across their homes.
- Worked with Three Hands on a National Finance product and their Loneliness and Isolation project
- Participated in the Housing Consultation for Surrey CC
- Working for the 3rd year with Dr Anna Cox and The Together Project to deliver learning disability awareness training to undergraduate midwives at University of Surrey. <https://www.surrey.ac.uk/research-projects/together-project-supporting-delivery-good-practice-maternity-services-parents-learning-disabilities>
- Opening the Active Prospects Joint Governance Day with Makaton raising awareness of alternative communication needs
- Co-produced a guidance leaflet for learning disability for inpatients at Caterham Dene
- Members worked with Surrey Coalition to research the current services for adults

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with support or accessibility needs in Surrey

- Monthly Quality Checker visits continue across Active Prospects homes.
- Winners of the SCIE Social Impact Award 2025
- Members joined the Steering group for East Surrey College to develop supported adult courses
- Members took part in the first Accessible Cooking course helping to co-produce the format and content
- Presented at the Accessify Launch to showcase the importance of Hospital or Care Passports and accessible communication
- Helped to shape the first accessible easier to read Sodium Valproate patients leaflet
- Worked with Surrey People's Group to host Managing my Health event to celebrate Learning Disability Week 2025, with a grant from Unum.

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Our Financial results and plans



We are on track with our budget and finances.

All work carried out by the Pro-Active Community is based in the UK.

Accounts are from April 2024-March 2025

Pro-Active Community does not own or lease a property.

The accounts have been prepared to comply with the rules of the Charity Commission and SORP 102.

The costs charged across to the Pro-Active Community show a true picture of the dedicated costs of The Pro-Active Community.

These are then offset with a grant currently from Active Prospects but as the Pro-Active Community grows, we would look to obtain alternative funding for these costs.

Accounts were approved on the 30 September 2025 at the AGM.

The Chair and Secretary of the Board will sign on behalf of all Boardmembers.

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| | <p>We would like to thank the following organisations which have provided us with grants this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Surrey CC £200.00 fruit for managing my health. • Unum Foundation £4,875.00 Wellbeing event grant • Walker Foundation £700.00 grant donation |
|  | <p>We are still working in partnership with Active Prospects to support our members with administration of the charity</p> <p>This is done with a Service Level Agreement with Active Prospects to ensure we are independent.</p> |
|  | <p>We bank with NatWest.</p> |

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Key risks




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|  | | <p>We are worried about funding for services for people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>We are worried that additional costs for care providers may mean fewer providers and less care for people.</p> |
|  | | <p>We are worried about the future of social care and the pace of social care reform.</p> <p>The Labour government is not talking about social care.</p> |
|  | | <p>We are worried that people might not have staff to support them to be part of the Pro-Active Community as there is a recruitment shortage.</p> |

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Our Future Plans

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|  | <p>To start a forum in West Sussex called the West Sussex People's Group</p> |
|  | <p>To increase our fundraising potential to have paid roles, buy our own equipment and train our members. Currently 2 paid roles</p> |
|  | <p>To increase our income through selling our services such as Quality Checkers and consulting on key projects.</p> |
|  | <p>To put on a national conference to tell people about our work, impact of social care reform on people with learning disabilities and autism.</p> |

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| <p>Our Charter</p>  | <p>To review our charter.</p> |
|  | <p>To increase our profile and attract new members.</p> |
|  <p>Learning Disability England</p> | <p>To continue to link with other national organisations such as Learning Disability England and increase our campaigning.</p> |
|  | <p>We want our Board and wider membership to be more diverse.</p> |

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Pro Active Community
Statement of Income and Expenditure
Year Ended 31st March 2025

| | 2024/25 | 2023/24 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income | £ | £ |
| Grants and Fundraising | 8,598 | 30,231 |
| Donations | 75,000 | 50,000 |
| Total Income | 83,598 | 80,231 |
| Expenditure | | |
| Salaries | 26,481 | 24,714 |
| Activities and Events | 6,353 | 6,369 |
| Food and Sustenance | 129 | 878 |
| Travel and Accommodation | 50 | 2,448 |
| Gifts and Entertainment | 220 | 216 |
| Subscriptions | 483 | 493 |
| Sundries | 324 | 527 |
| Insurance | 221 | 215 |
| Computers and Equipment | 0 | 579 |
| Service Charges | 48,663 | 43,080 |
| Total Expenditure | 82,925 | 79,519 |
| Final Surplus/(deficit) | 673 | 712 |


Service Charges are listed below


| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Salaries | 19,933 | 18,900 |
| Management and operational support Allocation | 21,000 | 20,000 |
| IT Support Costs | 1,050 | 1,000 |
| Proactive community guide | 380 | 380 |
| Hosting Squirespace | 300 | 300 |
| Other | 6,000 | 2,500 |
| Total Service Charges | 48,663 | 43,080 |


**Pro Active Community
Balance Sheet
Year Ended 31st March 2025**

| | 2024/25 | 2023/24 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | |
| Accrued Income | 0 | 0 |
| Debtors | 26,337 | 8,240 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 39,874 | 32,297 |
| Current Assets | 66,210 | 40,538 |
| Less current liabilities | | |
| Deferred Income | (25,000) | 0 |
| | (25,000) | 0 |
| Net Current Assets | 41,210 | 40,538 |
| Creditors | 0 | 0 |
| Net Assets | 41,210 | 40,538 |
| Capital & Reserves | | |
| Restricted Funds | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 41,210 | 40,538 |
| | 41,210 | 40,538 |
| | 0 | 0 |

These Accounts were approved at the AGM on:
30/09/2025


Matt Leadbeater
Board Member


Edward Cooke
Board Member


Jade Vallance
Secretary

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Pro-Active Community
(Charity Number 1191570)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Pro-Active Community for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Pro-Active Community, 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.

Signed:



Name: PETER REDWOOD

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):
ACA

Address: THE LAKEHOUSE
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WEST HATHLEY
RH19 4QY