



# North Avenue Youth Centre

Reg Charity No.1197085

## Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

**Address:** North Avenue, Chelmsford CM1 2AL

**Trustees:** Trevor Andrews //  
Peter Bardwell (Chair) //  
Lucy Belcher co-opted 21 November 2024  
Lisa Cracknell resigned 12 March 2025  
Nicola Grieves //  
Graham Handscomb //  
Jane Humphreys (Treasurer)//  
Rebecca Mabey  
Martin Solder#  
Yvonne Spence

// Nominated by the United Reformed Church

# Appointed by Essex Youth Trust

Other trustees are elected/re-elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Custodian Trustees:** The United Reformed Church (Eastern Province) Trust are the custodian trustees of the premises

**Bankers:** Cooperative Bank Plc  
Miller Street  
Manchester M60 0AL

**Independent Examiner:** Roger Louth FCCA

**Governing document:** Constitution agreed 07.07.2021

### Objectives and activities

The aims and objectives of the North Avenue Youth Centre (NAYC) are to help boys and girls (age 8 to 18, or 25 with additional needs) through their leisure time activities so to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and as members of society, and that their conditions of life may be improved.

In order to achieve this, a full-time Centre Manager, part-time youth workers, and a combined administrator and fundraiser have been appointed. The grants awarded to NAYC allow it to run a varied programme of out-of-school activities for young people from the local area, which is one of great social deprivation. NAYC has the use of purpose-built facilities which include a sports hall and an outside all-weather play space.

In their role of guiding and monitoring the planning and delivery of these activities, the NAYC Trustees (known as the Management Committee) have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year saw NAYC continue its valuable work with the young people of the area. This was carried out in several different ways.

During school term times, centre-based activities ran on three evenings a week. Seniors (Year7 to age 15) remained the largest group. Their Friday evening cooking sessions grew in popularity as young people shared recipes from different heritages, and were often oversubscribed. At the request of the young people we were able to run these sessions on a number of holiday weeks.

Juniors (age 8 to Year6) met on Wednesdays. The group had a high proportion of members with additional needs. Activities focussed on social skills, communication and kindness, promoted through group games and challenges, sports, crafts and discussion.

Monday Olders (age 15 to 18) sessions increased in numbers. It remained a quieter session for activities exploring how to set boundaries and build respect.

The detached sessions (street-based youth work) ran twice a week in the neighbourhood. As some of the original contacts have dispersed into adult lives, a younger group have engaged with our staff on issues such as vaping and health, grooming and drugs. As a result of the sensitive and careful engagement over two or more years, some of these young people with challenging backgrounds started to attend the Friday cooking sessions and the Monday Olders sessions.

Surveys show that parents trust and appreciate the work done by team at NAYC. Their word of mouth is particularly important in encouraging the Juniors to attend.

Holiday sessions ran to the extent that funding was secured. At Easter over 80 eggs were shared. In the summer we took a group for five days to the EBGC camp in the Lake District. We also took some juniors and young leaders for two nights to Skreens Park. Other activities included a

sleepover at the Centre, an inflatables day for families, team challenges, and trainings sessions.

In October 90 young people attended the Halloween events, and 15 joined a bowling event.

The young people and families enjoyed another Christmas family day funded by Active Essex. We expanded the experience to 45 people focused on regular members and their siblings and parents who valued this opportunity to go to the pantomime and share a meal – something which otherwise was unaffordable.

NAYC also took part in several EBGC activities, including the adventure weekend on Mersea Island, and a drama group who performed at His Majesty's Theatre London as part of the Jack Petchey Foundation event 'Celebrate: a Life, a Vision, a Legacy'. One young person experienced a life-changing trip to Nepal.

Hylands School was unable to take forward the agreed project for young people who are struggling with school attendance. The person recruited by NAYC to deliver this work instead prepared a suite of materials suitable for providing activities to support such children. Over two half-terms in late 2024 and early 2025 these were deployed in The Boswells School with the school reporting improved attendance and engagement within lessons.

At the end of 2024 staffing was stable with a full time Centre manager, a part time senior detached worker, two youth support workers and fund-raiser office administrator, plus one person dedicated to the Schools project. We also highly value the 4 community volunteers and 12 young leaders.

The United Reformed Church (Eastern Province) Trust continued to discuss the transfer of ownership of the premises at North Avenue Christian Centre used by NAYC with The River Church (the other primary user of the premises). In early 2025 they made a proposal to replace the current hiring agreement with NAYC with a lease on similar terms. The Trustees accepted this in principle, but will review the details to ensure that NAYC can continue to operate effectively from the premises which were built to provide the home for activities.

## **Financial Review**

NAYC continues to rely primarily on grant funding to operate. In 2024 we were grateful to Essex Youth Trust for increasing their funding towards our core costs to £16,800. We secured a further £78,267 in grants, of which £16,000 from the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner supported the new Schools Project. Our thanks go to Essex Community Foundation (specifically, the Acorn Fund, the Dulverton Trust Fund, the Four Acre



Core Cost Fund, the High Sheriffs' Fund, the FW Charitable Fund, and the Margaretting Fund), Chelmsford City Council, Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services, Active Essex, the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, and the Roger and Jean Heath Charitable Fund. We were pleased once again that our young people were able to enjoy awards from the Jack Petchey Foundation with three awards spent. Our members generated over £3500 from activities.

Overall expenditure in 2024 of £103,148 was £2,783 more than total income. The total assets of the charity therefore fell to £52,802.

The reserves policy of NAYC is to hold sufficient cash to cover six to nine months' expenditure. At the end of 2024, unrestricted cash held totalled £33,311, equivalent to around three months' planned expenditure of £118,000 for 2025.

### **Looking forward**

- NAYC aim to continue to hold the current level of sessions and to increase the variety of activities taking place during holidays, all of which are intended to provide a safe space and opportunity for young people to gather away from the risks and challenges of local gangs
- We aim to develop the Schools Project on a sustainable basis
- We aim to strengthen the team, both staff and volunteers, and ensure they have appropriate opportunities for training and development.

### **Declaration**

This report and the accounts were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 24th April 2025

Signed: 

Position: Chair

# NORTH AVENUE YOUTH CENTRE

Charity Number 1197085

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted general funds £	Unrestricted designated funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>	<b>1</b>					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	28304	0	68050	96354	86510
Charitable activities	3	3573	0	0	3573	4036
Investments	4	438	0	0	438	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>32314</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68050</b>	<b>100365</b>	<b>90546</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>						
Raising funds	5	6596	0	0	6596	6404
Charitable activities	6,7	88503	0	8049	96552	86279
<b>Total</b>		<b>95099</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8049</b>	<b>103148</b>	<b>92683</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-62784</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60001</b>	<b>-2783</b>	<b>-2137</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>51150</b>		<b>-51150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-11634</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8851</b>	<b>-2783</b>	<b>-2137</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 January 2024</b>		<b>54060</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>55586</b>	<b>57723</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 December 2024</b>		<b>42425</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>10287</b>	<b>52802</b>	<b>55586</b>

# NORTH AVENUE YOUTH CENTRE

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted general funds £	Unrestricted designated funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Tangible assets	8	141	0	0	141	315
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		141	0	0	141	315
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	9	9232	0	0	9232	783
Cash at bank and in hand	10	33311	90	10312	43713	55108
<b>Total current assets</b>		42543	90	10312	52946	55891
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	259	0	26	285	620
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>		42284	90	10286	52661	55271
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		42425	90	10286	52802	55586
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>						
Restricted income funds	12			10287	10287	1436
Unrestricted funds		42425	90		42515	54150
<b>Total funds</b>		42425	90	10287	52802	55586

APPROVED by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Pete Bardwell  
Chairman

## **NORTH AVENUE YOUTH CENTRE**

### **Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2024**

#### **1a. FORMATION OF CHARITY**

North Avenue Youth Centre was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registration number 1197085 on 13 December 2021.

#### **1b. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2015 - FRS 102) issued by the Charity Commission, and the Charities Act 2016. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted, and the principal accounting policies set out below are applied consistently.

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

##### **Income**

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities 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 established with sufficient reliability.

Grants are recognised when the general recognition criteria are met, and any applicable performance conditions are met.

Grant money unspent at the end of the period is considered to be a liability if repayment is probable.

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

##### **Expenditure and liabilities**

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

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.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

The premises used by NAYC are owned by the United Reformed Church (Eastern Province) Trust with whom NAYC has an agreement for use of the premises until 2046 in the first instance.

Tangible assets with a purchase value over £100, other than those purchased wholly by a specific grant, are depreciated over a period of 5 or more years.

# NORTH AVENUE YOUTH CENTRE

Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted general funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted income funds	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>2 Donations, grants and legacies:</b>					
Donations and gifts	387	-	-	387	519
Grants	27,917	-	68,050	95,967	85,991
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,304</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,050</b>	<b>96,354</b>	<b>86,510</b>
<b>3 Charitable activities:</b>					
entrance money	2,059	-	-	2,059	1,859
YC activity receipts	1,514	-	-	1,514	2,178
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>4,036</b>
<b>4 Income from investments:</b>					
Interest income	438	-	-	438	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>0</b>
	Unrestricted general funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted income funds	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>5 Expenditure on raising funds:</b>					
Incurred seeking grants	6,596	-	-	6,596	6,404
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,596</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,596</b>	<b>6,404</b>
<b>6 Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
<b>Staff costs:</b>					
Salaries	61,517	-	-	61,517	53,877
Training	40	-	-	40	215
Travel etc expenses	434	-	-	434	40
Recruitment	76	-	-	76	-
<b>Youth Centre activities</b>	<b>14,225</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,049</b>	<b>22,274</b>	<b>20,007</b>
<b>Building costs:</b>					
Rent	12	-	-	12	12
<b>Charity administration:</b>					
Insurance	1,033	-	-	1,033	964
Communications	1,260	-	-	1,260	1,131
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-
Payroll services	327	-	-	327	314
Sundry costs	406	-	-	406	545
<b>Support costs:</b>					
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	-	-	-
Contribution to North Avenue Christian Centre	9,000	-	-	9,000	9,000
Depreciation	174	-	-	174	175
<b>Total</b>	<b>88,503</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,049</b>	<b>96,552</b>	<b>86,279</b>

## 7 Staff and Trustee Costs

Salaries and wages	73320
Social security costs	4357 fully reimbursed by NI allowance
Pension costs	1220
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>78897</b>

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000

NAYC has arranged with the NEST pension scheme for eligible employees to be enrolled

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with NAYC in the year  
neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year

No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity

The trustees are the key management personnel of the charity

The average monthly head count was 6 employees

## 8 Tangible assets

Equipment since 2017, value at 1 January 2024	315
Additions	0
Depreciation allowed in year	-174
<b>Carried forward 31 December 2024</b>	<b>141</b>



## 9 Analysis of debtors

	Unrestricted general funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted income funds
EYT Grant due	8400		
Insurance in advance	832		
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,232</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

	2024 £	2023 £
EYT Grant due	8,400	0
Insurance in advance	832	784
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,232</b>	<b>784</b>

## 10 Cash at bank and in hand

	Unrestricted general funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted income funds
Co-operative Bank current account	3152		
Co-operative Bank savings account	30036	90	10312
Floats	125		
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,312</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>10,312</b>

	2024 £	2023 £
Co-operative Bank current account	3152	55,036
Co-operative Bank savings account	40438	-
Floats	125	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,714</b>	<b>55,108</b>

## 11 Analysis of Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Unrestricted general funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted income funds
Pay costs for December	259		26
Payment for Christmas outing			
<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26</b>

	2024 £	2023 £
Pay costs for December	285	234
Payment for Christmas outing	-	386
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>620</b>

## 12 Funds and grants

The Jack Petchey Foundation makes grants and awards that are Restricted in terms of their use and time availability  
In 2019 Chelmsford City Council made a grant of £18250 for a community defibrillator, improved lighting and equipment.  
In 2020 Essex County Council topped up the defibrillator grant to cover a shortfall in installation costs  
In 2021 Active Essex through EBGC awarded £2500 for use with families to cope after the winter of Covid-19  
In 2024 the PFCC provided £16,000 of grant funding to establish the Schools project  
In 2024 a restricted income grant of £15,000 was received from Essex Community Foundation, for core costs

Movement on Restricted funds during the year:

	Jack Petchey	Schools project	Defibrillator	Winter Covid
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2024	300		24	1112
Receipts	900	16000		
Expenditure	-1200	-6428		-421
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2024	0	9572	24	690

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2024	1,436	1794
Receipts	16,900	900
Expenditure	- 8,049	-1258
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,286</b>	<b>1,436</b>

Funding from other bodies which is not for core running costs is Designated for specific purposes. These are currently the purchase of equipment.

Movements on Designated Funds:

	Equipment
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2024	90
Receipts	0
Expenditure	0
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2024	90

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2024	90	310
Receipts	-	0
Expenditure	-	-220
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

### Report to the trustees

Charity Name  
North Avenue Youth Centre

### On accounts for the year ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1197085

### Set out on pages

5 pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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:

Date:

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

Name:

Roger Louth

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (retired)

Address:

18 St Vincents Road, Chelmsford, CM2 9PS

