



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From		Period start date			To		Period end date		
		Day	Month	Year			Day	Month	Year
		01	04	2024			31	03	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Sunderland Samba FC

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1197858

Charity's principal address

The Co-op Centre

White House Road

Sunderland

Postcode

SR2 8AH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	John Boyd			
2	Ola Tony-Obot	Chair		
3	Priscilla Sobitan	Treasurer		
4	Babatunde Sobitan			
5	Elizabeth Wanjiru Bibi	Secretary		
6	Yuri Bibi Wabuke			
7	Choman Nouraldin Omar			
8	Roselydah Eunice Anyango			
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Julie Maxwell	11 Edith Street, Jarrow, NE32 5HS

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees ('Association' Model Constitution) Adopted 4 th February 2022.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed or re-appointed at the Annual General Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Membership is open to all.

The trustees meet monthly to oversee and review the work. Regular feedback and research takes place with participants to guide and direct decision making.

All trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

We have safeguarding policies set by the Football Association to cover and guide our work with young people and vulnerable adults. This includes training and DBS checks for staff and volunteers.

We work closely with Sunderland Methodist Circuit, in particular through our club chaplain Rev John Purdy who supports our provision of health and wellbeing support for participants in our programmes regardless of background. We are also part of the Sunderland Inter-Faith Forum.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the CIO are;

1. For the relief of financial hardship in Nairobi, Kenya by providing or assisting in the provision of the necessary support to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.
2. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football.
3. To help young people, especially but not exclusively through leisure time activities, so as to develop their capabilities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society.
4. The promotion of racial and religious harmony for the public benefit by:
 - (a) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding between different racial groups and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths.;
 - (b) advancing education and raising awareness about different racial and religious groups to promote good relations between persons of different racial groups and different faiths;

In all cases working in City of Sunderland and Kenya.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

The main activities are as follows,

- Working with the Sunderland Samba Community Based Organisation in Nairobi, Kenya we support young women in the community to generate an income through community football activities, to take up educational and business opportunities, mentoring and support for female pupils at the CHAMRECC School in Kuria, Kenya.
- Community football and volunteering opportunities aimed at engaging young people in making a positive contribution to their local community in Sunderland
- Integrated health and wellbeing support
- Focus on Racial and Religious Harmony through presentations, discussions and role modelling

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

We are hugely thankful for all our volunteers who give their time freely to support others in the community and without whom we would not be able to function.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Kenya Project: Our women's team completed their second season in the Football Kenya Federation (FKF) National Super League Zone A. We travelled to the coast again for a number of matches which continues to be financially challenging but excellent opportunities for teambuilding and learning together and swim in the sea! We continue to offer small business support to all our players and ongoing support for CHAMRECC School in Kuria where we are actively supporting the education of young women, particularly around issues relating to Peace and Female Genital Mutilation.

We have expanded our player and team sponsorship opportunities for individuals and organisations to support the team in Kenya. We have received particular support from five of the Methodist churches in Sunderland. Castletown, Fulwell and Roker churches with player sponsorship. New Silksworth and Whitburn churches with fundraising donations. It is encouraging to connect and share the life stories of the team players with the people of Sunderland. Team Manager Maureen Obonyo, with the support of coach Joseph Odhiambo and volunteer coaches, co-ordinated the team's participation in the league as well as a number of cup and other community tournaments. She also ensured a variety of opportunities for personal development were available to team and community members.

Volunteering continues to be an important aspect of our Women's Team and Project in Kenya. Time is spent supporting the team, making home visits to team members and their families, distributing England Women's Kit donated by England FA to other community teams, sharing ideas for starting small businesses, social media and website updating. We continued to hold Safeguarding training for players and volunteers as well as an increased focus on mental health awareness. One of our UK Trustees, Tunde Sobitan, was able to visit the team in Kenya spending time with the players and reflecting together on the ongoing impact of the Covid pandemic as well as the increased stress and anxiety with the cost of living increasing. All were encouraged by this visit to continue with our work in Kenya with renewed energy to bring positive change in the lives of individuals and the community around the issues of poverty and wellbeing.

Festival of Football: Football coaching and creative activities for children aged 5-15 years in school holidays continued and took place over 5 separate weeks in February, May, August (2) and October as well as weekly on Tuesday evenings throughout the year.

It was great to see the group relating to each other positively and bonding as a team with many of the same young people attending through the year. We continued to offer chess matches during our lunchtime breaks through which participants learned new skills and how to focus. We were joined by a variety of guests including Sunderland Samba FC players, Sunderland Women's Team Player and the Mayor of Sunderland. The Mayor attended one day in August shortly after riots had taken place in the city and the young people were able to have a conversation together about their experience, feelings and concerns. Young people also had the opportunity to ask our volunteers questions about their lives, enabling volunteers to share their stories, experiences, hopes and aspirations with the young people. The success of the Festival of Football was made possible through the great support we received from our volunteers who all played a huge part in making it a great time for the young people where they learned about each other and also developed new skills.

Community Football: We held our community training sessions throughout the year on Tuesday evenings at Ashbrooke Sports Club and Farringdon Community Academy. Community sessions bring together local people, asylum seekers, refugees and international students for fun, football and friendship.

Football culture often feels like it's all about looking after yourself and your own team. We have talked about what care for self and others might look like with the young people and adults at our Festival of Football (5-15 year olds) sessions as well as our Under 21s and Open Age Community sessions which take place every Tuesday. We also actively support individuals together with Club Chaplain, Rev John Purdy. For example, we supported one of the players in our team with a loan, an International Student struggling to pay the last payment of his course fees and being threatened with deportation as a result. Also ongoing pastoral support to one of our players who has been struggling with drug and alcohol addiction over a number of years but is currently in recovery.

We continued to connect with many new people through our links with Sunderland Inter-Faith Forum, Friends of the Drop In, University of Sunderland Inter-Faith chaplaincy team and increasing our social media presence. We held community football matches to bring people together throughout the year and for special events during Refugee Week and Inter-Faith Week. We focus on our themes of 'Unity through Football', 'Welcome and Wellbeing' and 'One Game One Community' to reflect together on putting these into practice and tackling racism in grassroots football and our local communities.

Volunteering: Our football sessions gave opportunities for our volunteers to deliver informal football sessions to young people alongside experienced football facilitators. Volunteering and training opportunities were made available to all aged 16 years and older. 10 new volunteers gained face to face experience of working with young people whilst undertaking various training programmes such as the Football Association Playmaker Course, Emergency First Aid and Safeguarding. Volunteers continue to join us on the journey of learning and discovery through our focus on racial and religious harmony in the local football community context. Fundraising throughout the year with the men's team helped to subsidise food and costs for those on limited income for the NCFF weekend away. We have maintained contact with some volunteers and those in Kenya through social media and encouraged those in challenging situations. We aim to continue recruiting more volunteers with opportunities for training and support.

14 volunteers took part in the Sunderland 10k run raising over £1000 for Samba Women's Team in Kenya.

10 volunteers were vital in enabling us to run our Festival of Football for children and young people for 3 days in every half-term holiday and the summer holidays.

2 volunteers attended StreetGames Activator training at the Beacon of Light. They learnt fun games linking to the Olympics and Paralympics which we incorporated into our summer holiday youth sessions.

2 young volunteers attended the Tyne & Wear High Sherriff Award presentations at the Beacon of Light. They received an award on our behalf for outstanding work in the community with young people.

We helped plan the Sunderland Refugee Week 5-a-side Tournament at which 4 volunteers took part and we provided shorts and socks for players who needed them.

At the Barnes Park Family Fun Day, helped by 6 of our volunteers over 3 days, we led 16 workshops, each lasting 30 minutes with classes of Primary School children, with African Drumming, Fun Football and Swahili Singing on the topic of diversity, peace and hope.

11-a-side team: The team played in the Premier Division of the North East Christian Fellowship League representing Sunderland Methodist Circuit. We finished in 6th place. Many new players joined the team both for matches and training. We have continued to connect in particular with the growing Nigerian community in Sunderland and have around 60 young Nigerians now participating with the team and other activities.

A squad of 30 players took part in our annual trip to the National Christian Football Festival in Shropshire. This year we added an U21s team to our regular team building on the development of our U21 sessions on Tuesday evenings and monthly 11-a-side training matches. The teams again consisted of a real mix of age, background and culture. It was another great weekend together and alongside the football we did team building activities and learning about the different faiths and cultural identities within the team. We were the eventual winners (in a penalty shoot-out) picking up the cup for the third time.

Methodist Church Partnership Work: Our charity grew out of work of the Sunderland Methodist Circuit and we continue to work closely together in particular with support from Rev John Purdy who is our club chaplain supporting and welcoming people of all faiths and none. We started to use the 12 practices of the Methodist Way of Life as our monthly themes to help us reflect within our inter-faith and multi-cultural footballing context. For example, one of the practices is 'Care' so we thought about how care in football extends beyond the pitch, encompassing player welfare, injury prevention and mental health support. This works alongside our charitable objectives supporting young people, promoting healthy living, racial & religious harmony, and responding to poverty in Kenya.

15 of our volunteers again staffed the sports venue at the 3Generate Weekend at the NEC in Birmingham in October through our partnership work with The Methodist Church. Sports included football, basketball, netball, table-tennis, boccia, curling, cycling and boxing. 1800 young people attended the event and our volunteers were able to share the work of Sunderland Samba, in particular our anti-racism work and Kenya Project together with a Participative Sports Liturgy we created for the event.

We welcomed Helen Cameron and Carolyn Godfrey, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, to one of our weekly training sessions for children and young people as well as our U21s session. They met some of our diverse community through which we encourage learning about difference and finding our purpose in life. Helen shared with us the importance of standing together against oppression and for justice.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Reserves Policy for Sunderland Samba FC is to hold no more than a sum equivalent to 6 months average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our main sources of funding this year have been grants, donations and fundraising.

Section F Other optional information

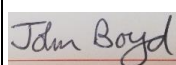
--

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

John Boyd

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Trustee

Date

25/01/2026

Sunderland Samba FC

Accounts 2025

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

**Balance Sheet &
Statement of Financial Activities**

Examined and Prepared by:

Julie Maxwell MICB
11 Edith Street
Jarrow
NE32 5HS

**Statement of Financial Activites 1st April 2024- 31st March
2025**

Income	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	
Grant Income	28,955	35102
From Charitable Activities	3,788	6952
Other Income	3,104	1589
Total Income	35,847	43,643
Expenditure		
Office and Administration	5,332	5927
Events and Fundraising	24,992	10228
Kenya Project	17,601	12492
Total Expenditure	47,925	28,647
Surplus/(deficit) for year	-12,078	14,997
Opening Reserves	21,582	6,585
Closing Reserves	9,504	21,582
Represented BY:		
Kenya Project	2,000	5,000
Post Code Neighborhood Fund	4,000	12,695
Community Foundation	1,500	3,509
Unrestricted Funds	2,004	377
Total Funds	9,504	21,582

Balance Sheet as at 1st April 2025

ASSETS		2025	2024	
Fixed Assets				
	Total Fixed Assets	£0.00	0	
Current Assets				
Cash at Bank	9,503.97		21581.39	
	Total Current Assets	£9,503.97	21581.39	
	TOTAL ASSETS	£9,503.97	£21,581.39	
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	£0.00	0	
	Balance of Accounts	£9,503.97	£21,581.39	
Represented by				
Restricted Funds:				
Post Code Neighborhood Fund	4,000.00		12695	
Kenya Project	2,000.00		5000	
Community Foundation	1,500.00	7,500.00	3509	21204
	0.00			
Unrestricted Funds		£2,003.97	£377.39	
	Balance of Accounts	£9,503.97	£21,581.39	


I have examined the bank statements and accounting records of Sunderland Samba FC; nothing has been brought to my attention to warrant me to question those records and I confirm that the above represents a true and accurate financial statement.

Signed: 

Date: 08/08/2025

Approved by the Board of Directors on: 25/01/2026

By:

Yuri Bibi Wabuke (full name)  (signature)

Ola Tony-Obot (full name)  (signature)

Income and Expenditure Account 2025

Income

Grant Income	£	£
Sunderland City Council Community Chest	3,000.00	
People's Postcode Grant	14,500.00	
Sheriff Award	1,000.00	
Sir James Knott	5,000.00	
Sported Grant	2,000.00	
MYA Ltd Grant	2,500.00	
NCFF	955.00	28,955.00
Fundraising		
Festival of Football	14.00	
Kenya Project fundraising	1,101.56	
Kenya Project CHAMRECC	1,832.45	
Team Fundraising	750.00	
Misc	90.00	3,788.01
Other Income		
Student Support	575.00	
Donations	2,529.96	3,104.96
Total Income		35,847.97

Office and Administration

Fines	69.00	
Accounts	150.00	
Insurance	252.00	
Office & Internet	4,389.83	
		4,860.83

Events and Fundraising

Pitch & training facilities	11,495.28	
Sessional Work	4,130.29	
NECFL Fees	310.00	
Minibus	961.98	
Transport and Parking	222.89	
Events and resources	2,021.25	
F and F Worker Salary Costs	5,850.00	
Expenses	471.44	
Kenya Project	17,601.43	
		43,064.56

Total Expenditure	47,925.39
Income - Expenditure	-12,077.42