

# THE EARLS COURT YOUTH CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1203387

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2023-06-05

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

## Contact

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**Address** 120 Ifield Road  
London  
SW10 9AF

**Phone** 02073737970

**Email** [abdi.aden@ecyc.co.uk](mailto:abdi.aden@ecyc.co.uk)

**Website** [earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** (1) TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES, SO AS TO DEVELOP THEIR PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL CAPACITIES THAT THEY MAY GROW TO FULL MATURITY AS INDIVIDUALS AND MEMBERS OF SOCIETY; AND

**Activities:** Youth Club

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

## Geography

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- City Of Westminster
- Hammersmith And Fulham
- Kensington And Chelsea

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£442,813	£338,830	-	-
2024-03-31	£181,308	£237,477	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Daisy Gili</b>	Chair	2023-03-20
Cllr Marie-Therese Anne Rossi		2023-09-25
MICHAEL RAMBAUT		2023-03-20
Mohamed Salih		2025-07-14
Roy Amlot KC		2023-03-20
THE LADY EMMA ARBUTHNOT		2023-03-20

**THE EARLS COURT YOUTH CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203387

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# Accounts

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# Earls Court Youth Club Annual Report 2024-2025





**Table of Contents**

**Message from the CEO.....3**

**QUARTER 4 - Inspiring futures, one experience at a time. Jun – Aug 2024 .....5**

V&A ART WORKSHOP @ BROMPTON LIBRARY.....6

NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS 2 - AN EARL'S COURTIERS PRODUCTION.....6

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME .....7

PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT AT THE PHYSIC GARDEN .....7

ARTS & CRAFTS .....8

A DAY IN YOUR LIFE WORKSHOPS.....9

FOOTBALL .....9

BAKING WORKSHOP.....10

KAYAKING.....11

ECYC FUN DAY: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY, INCLUSIVITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT .....11

CONCLUSION.....12

**QUARTER 1 - A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC. Sept – Nov 2024 .....14**

UNDER 8s .....14

YOGA FOR KIDS: CHANNELLING ENERGY, INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS.....15

JUNIOR CLUB (9-13 YEARS) .....16

URBAN ART .....16

TABLE TENNIS CLUB .....17

FRIDAY QUIZZES .....17

FOOTBALL .....17

SENIOR CLUB (13-19) .....18

BOXERCISE .....19

1:1 TUTORING .....20

FUTURE AMBITIONS (NEXT STEPS AND BUSINESS COACHING) .....20

STUDY SPACE .....21

GIRLS' NIGHT WELLNESS FROM WITHIN PROJECT .....21

CONCLUSION.....22

**QUARTER 2 - inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success. Dec – Mar 2025.....24**

JUNIOR CLUB.....24

RBKC YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS 13TH DECEMBER 2024 .....25

25TH MAYOR'S AWARDS CEREMONY - THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025 .....26

V&A WORKSHOPS 6TH DECEMBER 2024, 24TH JANUARY 2025.....26

A DAY IN YOUR LIFE AWARDS NIGHT – 27TH JANUARY 2025.....27

'IN BLOOM' DAKU COFFEE EXHIBITION (12TH DEC 2024 – 24TH FEB 2025).....28

FUTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME .....29

Wellness From Within Project – July 2024 to March 2025 .....29

GIRLS' NIGHT IFTAR DINNERS - RAMADAN 2025 .....30

STAFF TEAM DINNER: EID 2025 .....31

CONCLUSION.....31

**Quarter 3 - Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities. Apr 2025 – Jun 2025 .....32**

EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.....34

GIRLS' WELLNESS: MASSAGE AND AROMATHERAPY SESSIONS.....36

BOXFIT CLASSES .....36

CV WORKSHOPS.....37

YOUNG K&C: A STRATEGIC ANCHOR FOR YOUTH WORK IN RBKC.....38

SCHOOL EXCLUSION FOCUS GROUPS .....39

CONCLUSION.....40

**Reflections from the Chair .....41**

**Our Thanks .....42**

**In Loving Memory of Tianna Dagher 1979-2025 .....44**



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It is with immense pride that I present this year's Annual Report for Earls Court Youth Club. Over the past year, we have continued to grow, adapt and deliver on our vision and mission: to provide a safe, inclusive and inspiring environment where children and young people can thrive.

This has been a year of remarkable progress and resilience. From our youngest members in the Under 8s club to those preparing to take their next steps into higher education or work, we have supported every stage of their journey. Our educational attainment programme has gone from strength to strength, offering tailored tutoring, study spaces and one-to-one mentoring. Alongside this, our wellbeing initiatives, from Boxercise and Yoga for Kids to our Wellness From Within project, have ensured that mental health remains at the heart of our work.

We have celebrated our young people achieving extraordinary things. Their artwork, photography, performances and leadership have not only inspired the ECYC community but have been recognised more widely across the borough. From award-winning young leaders to public exhibitions and showcases, our members have consistently shown what is possible when talent is nurtured in the right environment.

The year also marked an important milestone in our relationship with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, with a substantial new grant allowing us to expand provision for both our Junior and Senior Clubs. This recognition underscores the critical role we play as one of two dedicated youth clubs in the south of the borough, relied upon by so many families.

Looking ahead, our ambition is clear: we want to deepen and expand our educational attainment programme, ensuring that every young person who walks through our doors has the support, confidence and skills they need to succeed academically. Alongside this, we will continue to grow our cultural, creative and wellbeing programmes, embedding opportunities that broaden horizons and prepare young people for the future.

Our objectives for the coming year are centred on three priorities:

- **Expanding academic support** through structured tutoring, revision zones and targeted mentoring.
- **Strengthening wellbeing programmes**, promoting resilience, positive mental health and self-expression.
- **Growing youth leadership and voice**, ensuring young people co-create the future of ECYC.

Through every programme and initiative, we want to help young people build the confidence, resilience and skills to shape their own futures. I would like to extend my thanks to our staff, trustees, funders, volunteers, partners and, above all, our young people, whose energy, creativity and determination are the true heartbeat of ECYC. Together, we have achieved so much and together we will continue to build a future where every young person in our community feels supported, inspired and able to achieve their full potential.

**Abdi Aden**, Chief Executive Officer, Earls Court Youth Club.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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## 2024-2025 Quarter 4 Report

Inspiring futures, one experience at a time.

June 2024– August 2024





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### QUARTER 4 - Inspiring futures, one experience at a time. Jun – Aug 2024

This quarter at Earls Court Youth Club has been one of growth, resilience, and collective achievement, as we navigated both the operational demands of the club and the diverse challenges faced by our members.

As the academic year came to a close, our staff team was pivotal in supporting members preparing for their GCSE and A-level exams all the way through to receiving their results. We provided not only weekly tutoring sessions and revision spaces but also much-needed outlets for stress relief and mental wellbeing throughout the whole period as we saw increased anxiety leading up to the results being released. During this high-pressure period, young people had access to an array of activities designed to maintain balance and foster holistic development. These included three weekly boxercise sessions, four football sessions, art therapy, a debate club, themed quiz nights, and cooking classes, culminating in shared meals each evening. These initiatives were not just recreational but served as vital coping mechanisms during an intense academic stretch.

Our efforts went beyond immediate academic support; we placed a strong focus on future aspirations through workshops on higher education, career pathways, employment, apprenticeships and entrepreneurship. One of the quarter's standout moments came when we hosted industry experts from a tech start-up. Their insights into emerging job markets, such as roles in AI and technological innovation, like AI engineers proved eye-opening for our young people. The discussion extended to the jobs predicted to become obsolete by 2035, prompting our members to embark on a journey of self-reflection, encouraging them to envision their place in the future job market 10 to 15 years from now.

*"I always wanted to work as bank teller, but now I realise that this job may no longer be there in the future, I have stopped focusing on just one job opportunity and this workshop has made me think about keeping my options open" AR (age 14)*

As the summer holiday programme concluded, it was clear that our young people had made significant strides, not just those preparing for exams, but also those transitioning from primary to secondary school or adjusting to new year groups. The programme itself, co-created with our young members, was both innovative and exciting, introducing fresh ideas and unique trips that had never been undertaken at the youth club before.

Discover the exciting highlights of this quarter's activities, showcasing just a glimpse of what we have to offer. Beyond these special events, we continue to run our regular favourites, including table tennis club, chess club, the Under 8's Club, Junior and Senior clubs, and, of course, Girls' Night. There's always something for everyone at the youth club!





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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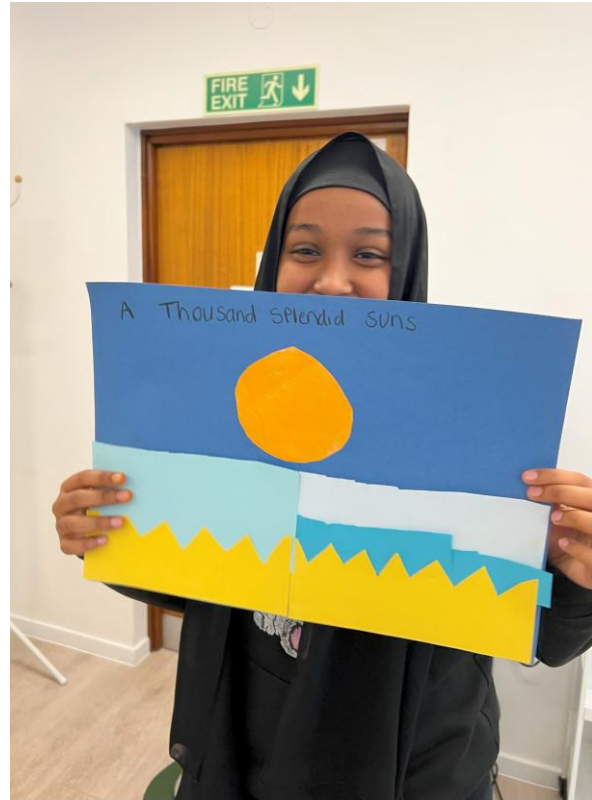


### V&A ART WORKSHOP @ BROMPTON LIBRARY

On the 6th of June, we had the pleasure of taking eighteen enthusiastic young individuals from the Earls Court Youth Club to Brompton Library. The young people participated in an inspiring workshop organised by the V&A, offering them the unique opportunity to redesign the covers of their favourite books. This engaging activity allowed them to delve deeply into the art of illustration and explore the nuances of visual storytelling. The feedback from the young participants was overwhelmingly positive; they expressed that they had gained substantial knowledge and insights into the world of illustration.

The workshop was led by Mireille, a distinguished lecturer at the Royal College of Art in London and the commissioning illustration editor of *Ambit Magazine*. Mireille's approach was particularly engaging, captivating the young artists with her expertise and passion for the craft.

The remarkable artwork created by these talented young individuals is currently on display at Brompton Library. We encourage you to visit and appreciate their creative efforts the next time you find yourself in the vicinity.



### NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS 2 - AN EARL'S COURTIER'S PRODUCTION

ECYC attended the Earl's Courtiers Production of "Night at the Musicals 2" on Friday 28th June 2024. The show featured talented young actors and actresses who captivated the audience with their performances from start to finish. A special thank you to Toby @ TLC for the invite.

It was an electrifying evening of musical theatre leaving our members inspired and now eager to step into the spotlight themselves. There was a variety of food and drinks including burgers and hot dogs, straight off the BBQ and we certainly took advantage of this!



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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### SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Our Summer Holiday Programme commenced on 25th July and concluded 25th August. While this report seeks to capture the spirit of the most popular activities, it is important to acknowledge the breadth of additional thoughtfully crafted activities that were on offer had the same care and intention as those featured and they include including ice lolly making, volleyball, movie marathons, handball, musical workshops, smoothie making and slime making.

Our aims for the summer programme went beyond mere entertainment and lasting memories. We are committed to creating a space where children and young people can learn valuable life skills, form meaningful relationships, and explore their creative potential in a safe and supportive environment. These activities were designed to foster resilience, teamwork and self-expression, qualities that are vital for children and young people growing up in urban settings.

Youth work requires a nuanced approach where every session is an opportunity to positively shape the lives of children and young people, helping them navigate the challenges they face in today's society.

### PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT AT THE PHYSIC GARDEN

The photography project, led by the renowned local photographer Alison Jackson, took place over three days at the Physic Garden. The project offered young people the opportunity to explore photography in a natural setting.

The variety of subjects; flowers, wildlife, rare plants and candid moments with peers, provided a rich learning experience. The successes included engagement with nature which they thoroughly enjoyed, particularly as none



of them were aware of the Physic Garden's existence before the project and the chance to explore a new environment was met with enthusiasm. Participants were able to immerse themselves in the project, taking photographs that showcased their creativity.

The daily debrief sessions with Alison Jackson were a highlight. Young people were eager to see their work displayed and appreciated the feedback and recognition from a professional photographer. Alison's selection of her favourite images motivated the participants and added a competitive yet supportive element to the project. Lastly, the trips were well attended on all days, indicating strong interest and commitment from the children and young people. Their excitement about the project was evident throughout. There were 90 unique users that participated in this three day immersive experience, with a total of 120 children and young people taking part.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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### ARTS & CRAFTS



This session was introduced to broaden the creative horizons of our members by providing them with the tools to allow their artistic direction to develop. We used pipe cleaners to create flower bouquets and experimented with various colours and flower arrangements. From the onset, we were able to gauge a positive reception from the young people who were eager to keep engaging in the activity even after they had had an initial try.

Arts and Crafts has often been used to reach more reserved individuals, who are more likely require a supportive and encouraging environment to come out of their shell and subsequently grow in confidence.

'Art therapy' is a method that is proven to heighten confidence and empower those who engage with it, leaving them feeling more positive than beforehand. Research by Girija Kaimal and Kendra Ray presented that "73% of the participants showed a beneficial increase in their feelings of self-efficacy after completing their art". When relating this crucial information to children and young people and the depth of issues that may limit their self-confidence and heighten insecurities, particularly in social settings, it is essential to apply methods of reversing said behaviours and leave them with a lasting impact that will positively shape their choices in terms of self-development.

We saw the impact of the confidence built in these sessions reach beyond the room, and certain participants were able to venture out into other areas and try new activities. Had it not been for the relaxed and supportive environment cultivated by staff in the session, the engagement would have been low and limited to the activity on hand.



*"My daughter was known to be shy and always found it difficult to make friends. Since doing art at ECYC in the summer she has found her passion and is now more confident than ever before"- Parent of CT age 8.*



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### A DAY IN YOUR LIFE WORKSHOPS

Alison Jackson facilitated a series of workshops to enhance the photography skills of children and young people at ECYC. She led ten sessions in total with a minimum of 15 participants for each one, tailoring them to the relevant needs of the group.



They were able to demonstrate strong self-confidence by taking the initiative to not only capture an image but also direct it. The pre-thought was integral to helping them understand that they can create the perfect image rather than simply waiting for it to arrive.

The outcomes of these workshops not only develop the young people in terms of technical skills but also in tangible results. These

images will be collected to bolster their personal portfolios and shortlisted to enter the Day in your life competition, whereby winners will be rewarded for their camera skills. These images could potentially be displayed in the Saatchi Gallery or Cadogan Hall. The overarching goal being to develop their profiles as artists by professionally exhibiting their work in world class venues.

### FOOTBALL

ECYC ran football sessions led by UEFA and FA-qualified coach Steve, a long-time friend of the club and a respected figure in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. These sessions were carefully designed to balance fun with meaningful engagement.



At ECYC, positive and constructive feedback was a cornerstone of the sessions. This approach boosted players' confidence, morale and overall performance. The sessions aimed to foster a love for the game while developing the mental toughness and motivation necessary for success in sport and life.

The outcomes of ECYC's summer football sessions were significant: participants developed teamwork skills, engaged in a physically active sport, made new friends and built relationships with community members they might not have otherwise encountered. They also improved their technical football skills and had valuable time away from digital devices, all while having fun.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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*"I had never played football before and I have never been interested in sports until I came to ECYC. Everyone has been really nice and that has made me want to join in and improve. I now come to football once a week and I really like it" – AO age 11. "Football at ECYC is really fun, I like doing the tournaments in the summer, everyone tries their best and wants to win and Coach Steve helps us to improve" - SE age 14.*

### BAKING WORKSHOP



The ECYC baking workshop offered young people a fantastic opportunity to combine the joy of cooking with valuable life skills. This hands-on experience allowed participants to explore food technology and the culinary arts while working together in a fun, engaging environment.

Under the guidance of trained chefs and volunteers, young bakers were introduced to essential baking techniques, including how to measure, mix, and bake ingredients step by step. For some, baking is a hobby or a way to satisfy sweet cravings, but it also offers a potential platform for entrepreneurship, social change and mental wellbeing. Baking requires focus and precision as even slight variations in ingredients can dramatically affect the outcome.



Feedback from the participants highlighted their appreciation for the tactile nature of the workshop, from handling kitchen utensils to working directly with ingredients, which enhanced their satisfaction in creating and later indulging in their baked goods.

The workshop also promoted personal responsibility, independence, and confidence, as many attendees valued the opportunity to collaborate, bond and learn from one another.

In summary, the ECYC baking workshop went far beyond just teaching young people how to bake. It provided a space for them to make mistakes, learn from them, and take pride in the simple yet fulfilling task of creating something from scratch – and, of course, enjoy eating it too.

*"I loved the baking class because it's like art but with food. And we got to eat everything after which was the best part!" – MM age 11. "I didn't think baking could be so fun. I learned how to make cupcakes, and they actually tasted amazing. I'm going to bake at home now!" – CT age 14.*



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### KAYAKING

Kayaking presented a perfect blend of physical challenge and outdoor fun.



In a community where football dominates, thanks to the presence of Chelsea and Fulham football clubs, kayaking offered many participants a completely new experience. Taking place on the iconic River the young people set off, learning skills that emphasised balance, coordination and teamwork.

Research shows that kayaking improves cardiovascular health, builds strength and enhances overall fitness. In addition to the physical advantages, nature-based activities like kayaking are known to reduce stress and boost mental

wellbeing. This was certainly true for the participants as feedback revealed the outings were not only fun but also therapeutic. Many young people expressed a newfound appreciation for the River Thames and the often-overlooked nature-based opportunities available in their community.

**We would like to thank London Sports Trust for making this opportunity available to our members.**

### ECYC FUN DAY: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY, INCLUSIVITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The ECYC Fun Day was a vibrant event that opened the doors of the youth club to the local community. Designed to celebrate the diversity of the area and the young people who regularly attend, it also provided an opportunity for families and neighbours to connect with the youth club that has long been a positive influence in their lives and community.

With an open-door policy, the fun day allowed local families to become familiar with ECYC and the range of opportunities it provides for young people. It showcased the youth club's ongoing commitment to fostering positive relationships between young people, their families and the wider community in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Families were treated to many activities, candy floss, slushies and other sweet delights throughout the sunny day, while parents were offered a moment of relaxation with soothing massages to help them unwind after the day's excitement. One of the highlights was a hot savoury meal and dessert prepared by ECYC's resident chef. This meal not only provided nourishment but also created a shared dining experience, where families could bond and connect with their community over a delicious, freshly made meal. The chef's





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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dedication to creating a memorable culinary experience added a special touch to the festivities, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who attended.



The day demonstrated ECYC's dedication to the power of coming together to celebrate, connecting local families, involving them in the youth club's mission and reinforcing its role as a positive force in the community.

*"We have lived on the same road as the youth club for 40 years and this was the first event of its kind. Seeing the local community come together was really something beautiful. It*

*made us feel more connected to our neighbours and for this we have to thank ECYC for organising this brilliant day"- Grandparent of MR.*

### CONCLUSION

This quarter has been a remarkable success, filled with vibrant energy and positive strides. From hosting engaging workshops that sparked creativity, to introducing initiatives that reduced anxiety and boosted confidence, the club has truly shone as a hub of development. Our various activity workshops and one-on-one support for those tackling GCSEs and A-Levels have made a tangible difference, empowering our young people to express themselves and take ownership of their futures. We've seen friendships blossom, skills sharpen and a renewed sense of belonging take root.



To conclude, this quarter has been a testament to the club's role as both a sanctuary and a launchpad, providing essential services that support the personal and academic growth of our young people while also preparing them for the evolving challenges ahead. With each passing week, we are reminded of the importance of community and the bright potential of those we serve.

**Here's to many more successes as we continue this meaningful journey together.**



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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## 2024-2025 Quarter 1 Report

A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC  
September 2024 – November 2024





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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### QUARTER 1 - A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC. Sept – Nov 2024

This quarter at Earls Court Youth Club (ECYC) has been one of **purposeful development**, where young people have been supported through **key transitions in their academic and personal lives**. As the year unfolds, we remain committed to **youth voice, inclusion and skills for life**, ensuring that every member feels valued and empowered. From sports sessions to wellness initiatives and community service projects, our co-created programmes have been designed to foster confidence, resilience and self-awareness- equipping young people with the tools they need to navigate their futures.

**Transition is a fundamental aspect of youth work**, shaping a young person's journey through education, personal development and preparation for adulthood. Whether moving from our Under-8s club to junior sessions, stepping up to senior activities, or leaving the youth club as a well-rounded individual ready for further education, employment or entrepreneurship, we provide the guidance and opportunities to support these milestones. Similarly, the transition from the first to second year of GCSEs or A-Levels presents crucial decision-making moments. To alleviate academic pressures and enhance achievement, our staff have offered dedicated study spaces, one-to-one tuition and tailored academic support.



We continue to champion **youth-led opportunities** that enable personal and social development. Young people have participated in urban art, themed film nights, career development workshops and shared community meals, fostering a strong sense of belonging and agency.

#### UNDER 8s



ECYC's **Under 8s club** serves as a vital foundation, providing young children with their first structured experiences in a youth work setting. As the only **reliable and consistent** youth club in the South of the borough, our Under 8s provision is more than just a starting point- it is a key part of a **holistic journey** that extends through our junior and senior clubs, offering a **seamless and trusted pathway** for young people as they grow.

The emphasis is on **play-based learning**, helping children develop core skills that will support their future

engagement. Early exposure to positive social environments lays the groundwork for their transition into our **junior club**, where they will continue to expand their experiences in a safe, inclusive and familiar setting.

#### FOOTBALL



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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At ECYC, our **Under 8s football sessions** have become a firm favourite, providing young children with an engaging and structured introduction to the sport.

Our holistic approach nurtures not only **physical** ability but also **social and psychological** growth, helping even the shyest participants gain confidence and self-esteem.

The sessions are specifically adapted to the skill level of participants, even complete beginners who have never played the sport before. Designed with fun at the forefront, we feel it is important for children to learn that sport and physical activities are enjoyable and that they **start building healthy habits from a young age.**



With **limited green spaces in the South of the borough**, access to free, high-quality football sessions for this age group is rare, making ECYC the only youth organisation in the area offering such a programme. The demand is so high that we now operate a waiting list, demonstrating the pressing need for accessible sports activities.

In a country where **childhood obesity is on the rise**, instilling a love for movement and play from an early age is crucial. Thanks to **three years of funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund**, we are proud to ensure that these football sessions will continue, providing a much-needed service for local families and helping young children build lifelong healthy habits.

### YOGA FOR KIDS: CHANNELLING ENERGY, INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS



This quarter, we introduced **Yoga for Kids** for the very first time and it has been a **joyful, energetic and transformative** addition to our Under 8s programme.

Young children are **bundles of energy, full of curiosity and excitement**, ready to leap, climb and explore the world around them. But just as movement is essential to their growth, so too is the ability to **pause, focus and tune into their emotions**. Yoga offers them the **best of both worlds**, blending **playful physical activity with moments of stillness and self-awareness**.

Our sessions are **anything but quiet and serious**- they are filled with **animal poses, storytelling and laughter**, turning each class into an adventure. Children **roar like lions, stretch like cats and balance like flamingos**, all while unknowingly strengthening their **coordination, flexibility and focus**. And the results have been undeniable- **timid children have found their voices, restless ones have discovered calm and all have grown in confidence.**

Parents have shared how their children have brought yoga techniques home, using breathing exercises to **calm themselves before bed or regain focus after a busy day**. Many have noticed an increased **awareness of their bodies** and a newfound **enthusiasm for movement and new experiences**.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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*“AM is one of these kids who was excitable about everything and bored within 5 mins, I have seen how he can now focus on activities for longer and when it comes to bedtime he now knows how to get himself into the right mood for bed “ AM’s mother.*

### JUNIOR CLUB (9-13 YEARS)



The Junior club is a bright and engaging space aimed at children aged 9 to 13. It offers a range of activities like Urban Art, Football Fun and Table Tennis club. As children **progress from the Under 8s club to the Junior club**, they are supported in their **continual development with an emphasis on independence, responsibility and honing their interests**. For those who have not progressed from the Under 8s, the Junior club assimilates them into a culture where the **development of their social and emotional resilience** is prioritised and where there is ample opportunity to engage with structured activities aimed at supplementing their academic and developmental needs.

### URBAN ART

As part of our **Cultural Capital programme** which aims to enhance and widen the cultural awareness of our members by exposing them to as much Arts and Culture as possible.

In these sessions participants have demonstrated significant progress in techniques such as **graffiti-inspired designs**, street art and mixed-media creations. Participants have **experimented with colours, shapes, textures and different tools** such as spray paint, powdered pigments, acrylic paint and felt tip marker pens.

Members have been encouraged to think about the message behind their artwork leading them to think on a deeper level. Not only have the sessions **encouraged self-expression but a chance to articulate their identities**. Much of the art work has been displayed across the club, giving the artists a sense of pride and the recognition they deserve.





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

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### TABLE TENNIS CLUB



The Table Tennis Club, as part of the Junior Club, has demonstrated **significant progress** in recent months. It has provided young people with a platform to **develop their hand eye co-ordination**, learn different serving techniques, mastering the forehand and backhand whilst maintaining accuracy and precision.

Notably, **two members are now training to represent the borough in the London Youth Games**. This achievement reflects the effectiveness of the club in nurturing talent and its ability to **motivate participants to reach competitive standards**. The progress made by these members has been a source of inspiration for their peers and underscores the club's value in offering meaningful opportunities for personal and athletic development.

### FRIDAY QUIZZES

Friday Quizzes have become a **highlight of ECYC's weekly activities**, offering a chance for young people to come together and test their knowledge. The **Quizzes are not just educational** – they are also designed to be fun, with engaging themes. The quizzes **foster a sense**

**of community with friendly competition** and a **focus on learning**, encouraging **curiosity and teamwork**. Participants are able to discover new information and share what they have learned.

The quiz sessions sparked lively discussions about race, identity and cultural appreciation, with team-based activities that allowed members to collaborate, share knowledge and support each other. It was **inspiring** to see young people from **all backgrounds coming together** to learn about **Black history** and **celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black communities**.

The Junior Club's participation in the Black History Month quizzes was especially **impactful** with many young people reporting that they had learned something new. For the girls' night, quizzes prompted discussions regarding the unique challenges at the **intersection of being classed as a POC and also being a woman**. The quizzes served as a **springboard for deeper conversations** about the **importance of diversity, inclusion** and understanding of **different cultures**.

### FOOTBALL





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Football sessions are focused on **building resilience, inner strength and teamwork**. Football is the ideal vehicle for developing these qualities as it teaches young people how to **communicate effectively, collaborate with others, persist in the face of challenges**, how to **deal with a loss** and also how to **win gracefully**. Through both practice and play, participants learn the value of working together towards a common goal - **skills that are transferable** to every aspect of their lives, from school to social settings.



A highlight of the football sessions this quarter amongst the junior cohort is the weekly tournaments which give the participants something to strive towards and foster a healthy sense of competition. The winners and runners-up are celebrated for their achievements which not only provides motivation but also teaches young people about handling success and failure. The experience of winning or coming close encourages a sense of pride, while losing teaches resilience and the importance of trying again. These lessons go beyond football, helping young people develop a growth mindset and a positive approach to adversity.

The focus remains on fair play, respect for teammates and opponents, and enjoying the game itself. While the competitive element is important, it is equally about personal growth - learning to push oneself, stay focused and perform under pressure and develop behaviour and social skills. The sport encourages discipline, respect and teamwork as they engage with their peers in a team-based activity, they also learn to resolve conflicts, collaborate, be leaders and support one another - skills that are invaluable in every area of life.

For many, football is a vital part of their routine - a time to focus on something positive and connect with others. The opportunity to step away from screens and engage in physical activity also supports their overall physical and mental health.

### SENIOR CLUB (13-19)

The Senior Club is designed to equip young people with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the **transition into adulthood**. Open to individuals aged 13-19, the club offers a dynamic space for exploring further **education pathways, entrepreneurship, apprenticeships and job opportunities**. Its purpose is to prepare members for **life beyond school, sixth form, or college**, empowering them to enter the real world with **confidence and clarity**.



The club also focuses on personal growth, fostering a strong sense of self, accountability and the tools to positively contribute to society and their communities. Activities such as Careers Development workshops, Boxercise and the Wellness From Within programme are thoughtfully designed to help members **build self-awareness, develop new skills and broaden their understanding of the world around them**.

Leadership opportunities are a cornerstone of the Senior Club, enabling young people to serve as role models for



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



the younger cohorts. By the time Junior Club members transition to the Senior Club or new members join, they become active contributors to the club's culture and success. This aligns with ECYC's mission of offering long-term support and fostering the holistic development of young people.

### BOXERCISE

Over the past quarter, the youth club's boxercise sessions have been successful in promoting **fitness, concentration, discipline and teamwork**. We have a **diverse group of participants** ranging over age, gender and ability.



Attendees have shown profound improvement in their boxing techniques, including **footwork, balance, agility and defensive skills**. Each session is structured to allow for gradual progression with new aims each week and members are encouraged to learn at their own pace whilst having their limits challenged on a weekly basis. Moreover, the physical benefits of our boxercise sessions have exceeded our expectations. It is rare to see a group of young people arriving early and enthusiastic to do a set of burpees. Nevertheless, the young people have demonstrated a commitment to these sessions which has been the result of a yearlong effort of cultivating a culture of

mutual and personal accountability, long-term development and discipline.

We aim to fully incorporate plyometric training into our boxercise sessions as we have been slowly introducing this through discussions with our member and as a means of warming up. Plyometric training is designed to mimic the demands of an actual fight. Research has shown that it can increase reactive strength which can improve rate of force development and fast twitch muscle fibres, thereby facilitating improved performance during athletic tasks such as jumping, sprinting and changing direction.

There are no other boxing clubs nearby and the monthly membership is too costly for the families for our members to afford. We are making boxing more accessible and giving young people the opportunity to do something they wouldn't normally be able to do.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### 1:1 TUTORING

ECYC has made significant strides in enhancing our members' **access to educational support** by providing one-to-one tuition sessions in English, Mathematics and Science. These **tailored sessions** are designed to provide **personalised academic assistance** to our young members, meeting their **individual learning needs** thus helping them **reach their full academic potential**.

1:1 tuition at ECYC aims to **bridge the educational gap** for students who require additional support outside of classroom hours. We have been able to identify specific learning challenges and create action plans tailored to the individual.

This quarter we witnessed a notable increase of interest following the success of our tuition services in the last quarter. Feedback from both tutees and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. Many students have reported an increase in their confidence when it comes to their academic ability. This has also been met with a greater enthusiasm and love for learning. For instance, one student who initially struggled with their mathematics A-level has reported that

*"with the extra help in Maths at ECYC, I feel a lot more confident in getting the grade that I need for university and I enjoy maths a lot more now"*. Stories like this underscore the impact of tailored attention and support.

### FUTURE AMBITIONS (NEXT STEPS AND BUSINESS COACHING)



'A New Year, a fresh start' is a saying that often embodies a **spirit of opportunity** and refresh. However, for older youth 'a new year, a fresh start' can evoke a wave of stress and anxiety. The looming reality of forfeiting the comfort of the classroom and stepping into the adult world can leave them feeling nervous, stuck and overwhelmed by uncertainty.

ECYC's **Future Ambitions** service was founded on the idea that each and every young person deserves the opportunity to **explore their passions and prepare for their future**. Our Future Ambitions service is designed to empower our members by **listening to their wants**, providing them

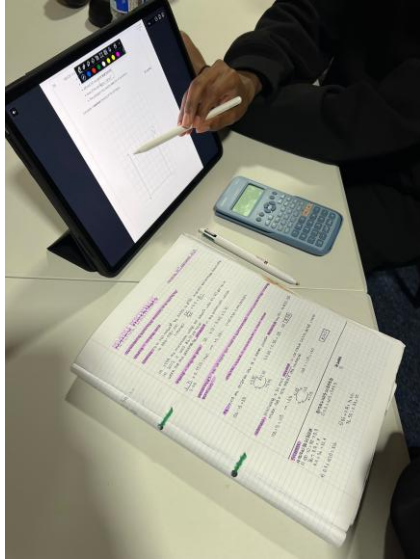
with **essential resources, guidance and help** build the right connections and attain hands-on work experience to get a feel for working life. From CV workshops, to mock interviews, to support in UCAS applications, we have been able to equip young people with the skills and confidence they need to navigate their career paths. By fostering an environment of support and exploration, we help our young members to discover their potential and make **well-informed decisions about their futures**, ensuring that they are best prepared to take the first steps in their careers.

This quarter alone we have helped 15 young people get work experience opportunities and 25 young people apply to higher education. Opportunity is buzzing during the teenage years and we at ECYC believe that by harnessing the individual potential of our young members we can help them become more equipped, experienced and knowledgeable for the life ahead.



### STUDY SPACE

study space at ECYC is offered to students who would like to make use of their hours outside of the classroom. It is particularly beneficial as many of our members have diverse needs with many not having access to facilities such as a good internet connection, a computer and a quiet space to air their thoughts. The space has been well thought out to provide an environment that is conducive with long-term memory retention and motivation. Starting with the environment, studies have found that students learning in naturally lit spaces achieve grades 25% higher than those in dimly lit spaces. This is why at ECYC the study spaces make full use of the natural light coming through the windows taking advantage of all the natural light possible and placing seating near the windows.



We also appreciate that noise is crucial to effective studying: some people prefer low level noise, whilst others work best in silence and there are times where both can be used to your advantage. Our upstairs study area benefits from sound proofing meaning that outside noise from the activities of the youth club does not hinder students' academic progress. Healthy snacks are also offered to students in between breaks to boost productivity and focus, and ensure that they are energised before resuming revision.

Looking into the next quarter the Study Space remains a vital resource for our members to focus on their studies, sharpen their revision techniques and **build greater academic confidence**. The continued use of this space and its popularity highlights the importance of it to our members. We are passionate about enhancing the Study Space in the coming quarter, exploring new ways to foster a love of learning, encourage academic focus and ensure that every young person has the tools and support they need to **thrive in and outside of the classroom**.

### GIRLS' NIGHT WELLNESS FROM WITHIN PROJECT

ECYC's *Wellness from Within* project is offered to girls between the ages of 14 to 19. The Project is aimed at **empowering girls** and the sessions explore important **topics affecting young females** such as social media, body image, dieting and eating disorders, self-esteem, personal hygiene, friendship dynamics and the pressures to conform to sociocultural ideals. The project explores these topics through different mediums, including role playing and drama workshops, massage therapy and self-care workshops.



These sessions provide a safe and creative space to navigate complex issues. By fostering dialogue and offering interventions, *Wellness from Within* aims to prevent issues such as eating disorders and build resilience among participants. By providing support through **culturally and racially sensitive approaches**, *Wellness from Within* ensures that the **girls' needs are met holistically**, empowering them to thrive in their personal and social lives.

ECYC takes pride in its partnerships with Tie-Dye Drama and Nikita Williams, a paediatric Eating Disorder Nurse,



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



working in the NHS. The structure of the workshops is fourfold:

1. The cultivation of a group agreement and rules that our young members are responsible for upholding. These rules are gone over at the beginning of every session to ensure that the rights, responsibilities, feelings and opinions of each member are respected;
2. The workshop moves into games targeted at warming up the participants. This gives everyone the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the space, feel comfortable and have some fun in preparation for the activities and discussions after;
3. The workshop moves into the main session which is either a group or independent activity. The main activity involves rehearsing and sharing back to the group the drama pieces that our young people have worked on. The wider group are encouraged to offer constructive and uplifting commentary, and ask questions to further the drama where appropriate;
4. Finally, the workshop assumes a calmer pace. Members are given the space to cool down by taking part in mindfulness and breathing activities. Then they are given the opportunity to reflect on the workshop session and celebrate their individual achievements, other members' accomplishments and those of the group as a whole.

Engaging in the arts has long been shown to have many benefits for wellbeing. By taking part in drama activities, young people at our girls' nights are given a safe space for self-expression through improvisation and role-playing; an avenue for developing communication and social skills by encouraging interaction between different cliques and friendship circles. The young members engage in acting as a form of catharsis and are given the space to act out their emotions and develop a greater sense of empathy as they role play different characters. This allows them to **explore different perspectives** which makes way for a greater understanding of others and themselves.

### CONCLUSION

The successes of this quarter have been the **result of at least 12 months of planning, partnership and collaboration**, and commitment and dedication to the comprehensive and specific needs of young people. We are starting to see the tangible outcomes of the hard work and thoughtful consideration that has gone into creating a fun, safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all who interact with and attend ECYC.

At the core of this quarter's successes is our commitment to empowering young people, helping them to unlock and develop confidence, link them with resources and opportunities to envision better futures for themselves, supporting them in launching their aspirations and navigating new challenges and journeys at whichever stage they are at.

ECYC continues to provide a structured yet flexible framework for young people to grow. This journey is not just about moving from one stage to the next- it's about fostering resilience, self-belief, and a sense of belonging that carries them through life's key transitions.

As we move forward, we remain committed to building on this foundation, ensuring that each and every young person who interacts with ECYC is given the opportunity to explore, grow and thrive.



ECYC AGM 24 September 2024

We are proud of the progress we have made this quarter and are excited to continue investing in the futures of the young people who make this youth club precisely what it is – a bright and inspiring place to be.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### A DAY IN YOUR LIFE **PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS**



## 2024-2025 Quarter 2 Report

inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success

December 2024 – March 2025





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### QUARTER 2 - inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success. Dec – Mar 2025

Each quarter brings new opportunities to deepen our impact, expand our offerings, and support the growth and development of the children and young people we work with. In the past few months, we have celebrated a wealth of achievements that highlight the incredible potential of our young members. A key highlight was the photography exhibition, which not only showcased the creative talents of our children and young people but also served as a celebration of self-expression and a powerful reminder of the diverse perspectives they bring to the world.



We are also immensely proud of the young people who have been nominated for or won prestigious awards, recognising their dedication, hard work, and leadership qualities, which have inspired both the club and the wider community.

Alongside these accomplishments, our Career Development Programme has made a significant impact, providing many young individuals with invaluable opportunities to gain work experience and secure apprenticeships, thus enhancing their career prospects and equipping them with the practical skills needed for future success.

Moreover, our collaborations with respected organisations such as the Victoria & Albert Museum have further enriched our members' development, offering exciting learning experiences and broadening their horizons by introducing them to new ideas, cultures, and career pathways.

### JUNIOR CLUB

We continue to play a vital role in supporting children and young people aged 9 to 13 through our Junior Club. We provide a structured, inclusive, and engaging environment that promotes emotional regulation, enjoyment, and personal growth.



Each session begins with a group check-in, encouraging active listening and open dialogue. This not only builds interpersonal skills but also sets a respectful and focused tone for the activities that follow.



Our rich and diverse programme, including creative pursuits like photography and film making; culinary activities such as baking, fruit salad preparation and chocolate apple decorating; and physical challenges like football, badminton, cricket, dodgeball and table tennis. These sessions are designed to foster

fine motor skills, creativity, and physical wellbeing, while ensuring that all members feel included and able to contribute ideas for future activities.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



ECYC maintains strong engagement with parents and carers, regularly sharing activity itineraries and updates on closures. This transparency helps build trust and encourages a wider sense of community ownership and involvement.

The Junior Club's approach also reflects wider youth work priorities across London, echoing the values of organisations like London Youth, which champion structured, youth-led programmes that empower young people and nurture their development. In summary, the Junior Club exemplifies high-quality, inclusive youth provision, offering a consistent, developmental space that meets the needs of local children and young people while aligning with both national standards and community priorities.



### RBKC YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS 13TH DECEMBER 2024



The RBKC Young Leaders' Awards provided an inspiring opportunity to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of young people across our community. UA, MF, MH, KK, BA, and ST were all nominated, with many of them having nominations by the wider community and peers in several categories, and we are proud to share that three of them received awards. During the award ceremony, the speeches given about each of the winners highlighted the significant work and impact they had made in RBKC and beyond, much of which was directly tied to the opportunities and support

provided through ECYC. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both our young members and the team at ECYC.

In addition to the awards, we were also delighted to connect some of our members with paid opportunities such as youth fund assessors, allowing them to contribute to important decision-making processes that directly affect their peers. The event also featured a special mention for our very own Abdi Aden, who was recognised for his outstanding leadership and dedication as CEO of Earls Court Youth Club, further underscoring the impact that our youth club has had on the personal development of those involved.

The Young Leaders' Awards event was a truly remarkable day, filled with celebration, inspiration, and a sense of pride for all involved. The day highlighted the importance of believing in oneself and pursuing goals with determination, showing that with the right support and mindset, anything is possible. It was a day that not only honoured the achievements of our young people but also inspired others to make a difference in their own communities.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### 25TH MAYOR'S AWARDS CEREMONY - THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025



Fifteen winners of Mayor's Awards were announced on Thursday 27th March 2025 in a ceremony hosted by the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Will Lane. The recipients were put forward by members of the community and chosen by a judging panel to receive an award due to their extraordinary commitment to improving the lives of those who live, work, study and visit the borough.

Karim (see photo), our member was the first person to win two back-to-back prestigious awards - winning Volunteer Champion in 2024 awarded by RBKC Youth

Participation and winning Young Achiever in 2025 in the RBKC Mayor's Awards. Other notable nominees:

- Resilience Award (MF, Winner)
- Rising Leader Award (ST, Winner)
- Children & Young People's Plan Champion (UA & MH, Shortlisted)
- Voice of the Future Award (MH & ST, Shortlisted)
- Personal Breakthrough Award (BA, Shortlisted)

*"I'm winning the Sports Excellence Award next year. I may not have won this year, but next year I'll definitely be walking up on that stage. From now on, I'm going to work extremely hard and earn that award. I'm going to help run female basketball sessions at Kensington Leisure Centre as a volunteer, for young girls who might be interested in the sport. I'm also going to start running 5 to 10km for charities in the borough - from Chelsea and Westminster Hospital to organisations that support kids with special needs. On top of that, I'll be volunteering at ECYC to run female-only boxing sessions." MH*

### V&A WORKSHOPS 6TH DECEMBER 2024, 24TH JANUARY 2025

As part of an exciting new collaboration between Earls Court Youth Club and the Victoria and Albert Museum's Young People's Programme, young people took part in hands-on creative workshops led by emerging artist and designer Uma Shah. Delivered at ECYC, the sessions introduced participants to the world of fashion design through an engaging tote bag-making activity that combined basic embroidery and appliqué techniques.

Uma opened each workshop by sharing her inspiring personal journey into the design world, including her experiences working with high-profile brands and creatives. Her openness





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



and authenticity resonated deeply with the groups, encouraging young people to explore their own creative paths.

Across the sessions, the V&A provided a wide range of materials and Uma taught participants different sewing techniques and knots. Each session welcomed ten different young people, and every participant was able to take home a personalised tote bag they had created themselves - a proud and tangible result of their creativity.

We are particularly proud that one young person has since decided to begin designing her own tote bags during her university gap year, inspired directly from the experience.

We are deeply grateful to Uma for leading such inspiring sessions, and to Virginia Gallego (Learning Coordinator: Families and Young People), Catherine Nicholson (Senior Producer: Young People), and the wider V&A team for their partnership and continued belief in the creative potential of our young people and offering a meaningful springboard to launch their creative careers.



### A DAY IN YOUR LIFE AWARDS NIGHT – 27TH JANUARY 2025



Over 180 children and young people from Earls Court Youth Club took part in the 'A Day In Your Life' project during our Easter and summer holiday programmes. The workshops also open the door to wider opportunities- from modelling experiences and gallery exposure to prizes such as receiving a professional Canon camera and receiving photography courses delivered by world-renowned institutions like the University of the Arts London. For many of our young people, this is more than just a competition - it is their first time engaging with photography as an art form, their first opportunity to express their perspective through a creative medium and their first brush with the possibilities of a career in the arts.

On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 60 children and young people from ECYC were proudly shortlisted and 22 won awards at the *A Day In Your Life* Photography Awards Ceremony- a celebration of creativity, storytelling, and emerging talent and a powerful moment of recognition for our young participants.

To learn more about the project, visit: [www.dayinyourlife.co.uk](http://www.dayinyourlife.co.uk)



www.earlsourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### 'IN BLOOM' DAKU COFFEE EXHIBITION (12TH DEC 2024 – 24TH FEB 2025)

*In Bloom* was an exceptional opportunity for our young members to express their creativity through the powerful medium of photography. Hosted at DAKU Coffee shop on Kensington High Street, the exhibition ran from 12th December 2024 to February 2025, transforming the café into a vibrant gallery space that celebrated both the artistic talents of our youth and the spirit of local partnerships. This exhibition provided a professional platform for our members to share their work, giving them the rare opportunity to showcase their creativity to the wider community.

The exhibition, themed "In Bloom", showcased deeply personal photographs that used flowers as symbols of growth, resilience and transformation. Through their lenses, young photographers explored identity, emotion, and connection to nature- finding beauty in both the ordinary and extraordinary.

Some works captured the quiet elegance of flowers in bloom, while others used them more abstractly to express fragility, hope or strength. Together, the collection revealed diverse creative voices and offered young people a means to articulate feelings that might otherwise remain unspoken.



In addition to the emotional power of the photographs, *In Bloom* served as a catalyst for community engagement. The collaboration with DAKU Coffee helped amplify the reach of the exhibition, attracting a diverse audience of local residents and visitors. Many patrons of the café, who might not otherwise have encountered the work of our young members, were introduced to the exhibition and invited into a dialogue about youth identity, resilience, and the importance of creative expression. This created an invaluable opportunity for the community to connect with the young people's experiences in a meaningful way.

The exhibition also had a profound impact on the young photographers themselves. Many expressed a deep sense of pride and accomplishment in having their work publicly displayed. For some, it was the first time they had shared their art in such a visible setting, providing them with a powerful sense of validation and recognition.





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025

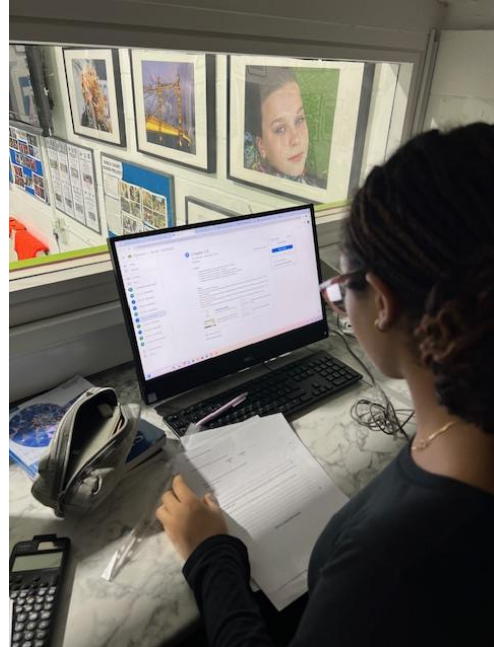


### FUTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Career Development Programme at Earls Court Youth Club is designed to help our young people envision a future for themselves and equip them with the tools, resources, and connections to work towards it. The programme is built around the idea that career development is not a one-size-fits-all process. Whether young people are navigating their next steps in education, seeking work experience, or exploring career paths, we offer personalised support to guide them through the different stages of their journey.

For some, like AS, the programme provides critical assistance with practical tasks such as applying for apprenticeships. For others, like SZ, who is taking a gap year, we focus on helping them build meaningful connections and gain relevant experience in the field they are passionate about. In SZ's case, we helped them connect with the V&A, where they secured an apprenticeship opportunity and the experience has proved instrumental in setting her on her entrepreneurial path.

The programme also extends to higher education support. We have helped young people navigate the complexities of UCAS applications, guiding them through the process of applying to some of the world's most prestigious universities,



and offering advice on crafting standout personal statements. Our team delivers practical workshops on a wide range of career-building skills, including developing a personal brand, mastering interview techniques, writing professional emails and conducting mock interviews. These sessions are designed not only to refine our young people's professional skills but also to empower them to recognise and articulate what makes them unique in a competitive landscape.

### Wellness From Within Project – July 2024 to March 2025

The *Wellness From Within* project was introduced at Earls Court Youth Clubs Girls' Night sessions to address the growing concerns surrounding young people's mental health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on increasing awareness and understanding of eating disorders.

The sessions were delivered in partnership with three external providers who worked alongside our team. Together we offered a diverse and engaging programme, including drama-based workshops, a skincare and wellness corner,



massage and essential oil-making activities, and inclusive sports challenges.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



This variety allowed young people to engage in different activities that supported their wellbeing in both physical and emotional ways. Throughout the project, participants were encouraged to reflect on their experiences, share their thoughts, and learn how to recognise signs of mental health difficulties in themselves and their peers.

Through partnership with healthcare professionals, the project strengthened links with the National Health Service STRIDES service, enabling timely referrals for specialist support when needed.

To conclude, the *Wellness From Within* project has made a lasting difference both to young people and the organisation itself. It has increased confidence and awareness amongst participants and youth workers, equipping them with the knowledge and support networks necessary to seek help and support others. This project has certainly set a foundation for future youth-consulted wellbeing initiatives at ECYC, ensuring that mental health awareness and support remain at the heart of everything we do. Looking ahead, we hope *Wellness From Within* can grow beyond our Girls Night sessions, as the meaningful conversations and positive sentiment as a result of the project and the impact of it, is clear to see.



### GIRLS' NIGHT IFTAR DINNERS - RAMADAN 2025



During the month of Ramadan, ECYC hosted a special series of Iftar dinners during the Girls' Night. Each week, our Girls' Night members opted to choose a local restaurant to share a meal and enjoy each other's company in a relaxed and festive atmosphere. This series brought warmth, conversation, togetherness, diversity and community to our youth club outside of our usual setting all whilst supporting local businesses.

These evenings proved to be more than just dinners – they were a chance for our girls to celebrate the holy month in a way that was either personal to them or meaningful to their peers, whilst also creating an inclusive atmosphere for them all to connect and learn. It felt special to see the girls take initiative and ownership of the experience - from choosing the restaurants to shaping the tone of the evenings. These dinners reinforced the value of offering activities that are co-designed with the young people who benefit from our services. A reminder of the value in meeting

young people where they are - this is with respect and the space and encouragement to be their authentic selves.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### STAFF TEAM DINNER: EID 2025

To mark the end of ECYC's successful Ramadan activity rotation, the entire ECYC staff team enjoyed a comforting meal out for Eid. Indeed, our Girls' Night members were not the only ones to celebrate the festive period; ECYC staff connected over food, drinks and dessert at Gloucester Road's five star rated Baba Ghanouj, a beloved local restaurant just a stone's throw away from ECYC.

An opportunity for camaraderie and building bridges across all levels and positions. From trustees to senior youth workers, to junior staff, to young leaders and volunteers. As the conversation flowed our team could put faces to the key figures that make ECYC and reflect on the importance of the month of Ramadan and what it means to the young people, staff team, parents and neighbours. ECYC is not just a place of work, but a community built on diversity, collaboration and care.



Creating intentional spaces for connection- not just for the children and young people that we serve, but within our team as well. If there is anything that this dinner taught us it is that ECYC staff team dinners need to happen more frequently - at least once quarterly!

### CONCLUSION



This quarter has been a meaningful and inspiring period of growth for ECYC. From member and staff dinner outings which took us outside of the ECYC walls allowing us to explore different cultures and celebrate inclusivity, to our collaborations with the V&A which provided a space to explore new interests and career opportunities; this quarter has been marked by continuity, learning and growth.

From the last quarter to this, we have seen and enjoyed the fruit of our co-created labour. We have seen an increase in engagement in activities as well as a boldness from our young people in articulating how ECYC can continue to fill the gaps in the voluntary sector with regards to youth services.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to creating spaces that nurture the individual needs, personalities, dreams and futures of the children and young people we serve.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



## 2024-2025 Quarter 3 Report

Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities.

April 2025 – June 2025



Young Leader teaching Under 8s



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### Quarter 3 - Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities. Apr 2025 – Jun 2025

This quarter marks an exciting milestone in ECYC's journey. For the first time ever, we have transitioned from being recognised by Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) for our work with the Senior Club to now include our Junior Club. This change comes as part of the most substantial grant we have received from RBKC since 2015 and it is a powerful reflection of the standard of work we have achieved and continue to achieve during these times of government cuts.



The increased funding also recognises the threefold rise in demand for our services, as well as the critical role we play as the only functioning youth club in the south of the borough. Sustained investment in high-performing organisations like ours directly strengthens the fabric of the borough.

Whilst this grant is for an initial period of at least 3 years and at most 5 years, we can be confident that outstanding service providers should receive the full 5 years and therefore we can finally plan our services in a more sustainable and strategic way. By supporting children and young people to thrive, we are not only fostering a safer, more engaged community, we are also doing vital groundwork on behalf of the Council. Our efforts reflect and amplify RBKC's commitment to future generations, ensuring that local funding is going where it matters most.

Rather than putting on short-term or one-off activities, we now prioritise building long term, structured programmes that respond to the everchanging needs of the children and young people we serve

All activities are led by experienced and skilled staff who do more than just deliver sessions. They build trusted relationships and act as positive role models. Through their support, we nurture young people to become self-starters- confident, well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills, mindset and drive to thrive beyond the youth club. The social return of this work is clear: empowered young people, stronger families and a more resilient community.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

This quarter kicked off with the Easter Holiday Programme, which was one of the busiest we have had yet, running across four days of the Easter break. Curated in consultation with our members, the programme was designed to cater for all three age groups, the Under 8s, Junior Club, and the Senior Club, delivering activities which promote personal and social development, physical wellbeing, creativity and fun.



Brimming with excitement, the programme began with a highly anticipated Easter Extravaganza. In the Easter egg hunts members worked together to search for hidden treasure and solve riddles and clues, building their teamwork and problem-solving skills. Egg and spoon races were another hit which invited in an atmosphere of friendly competition.

Creativity and self-expression were also a central theme throughout the holiday programme, and were nurtured through hands-on activities such as baking, slime making, arts and crafts and bracelet making.

In the baking sessions, Under 8 and Junior Club members worked together to measure, mix and create their own Easter themed treats to take home to share with their families, some decorated with mini eggs, edible bunnies and gardens made of buttercream. In the bracelet making workshops, they designed personalised jewellery demonstrating their artistic talents and tuning their fine motor skills, whilst creating something to be proud of!

Our Senior club advanced programme was tailored to meet the evolving emotional, physical and social needs of our older cohort.

Sports activities played an important role. Our football tournaments drew a lot of attention and enthusiastic participation. These sessions were fully booked prior to even starting. Matches struck a perfect balance of competitiveness and friendly sportsmanship, allowing our Senior members to develop teamwork, leadership skills and technical ability.



Boxercise was another way that physical wellbeing was prioritised and included not only boxing technique but aerobic exercise in the form of HIIT training to improve physical fitness. These sessions were catered to varying ability levels and were filled with energy, promoting self-confidence, resilience and enhanced focus and provided our young people with a healthy physical outlet.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Academic support was woven into the heart of the programme, illustrating ECYC's dedication to supporting the educational journeys of our members. In addition, personalised one-to-one tutoring was offered to our members and further guidance was provided through our Future Ambitions and UCAS Masterclass workshops.

In addition, young people with an interest in creative expression and music were able to take part in our DJ workshops, learning the basics of mixing, beat matching and performing. It was inspiring to have our members become live DJs mixing beats for our boxercise members to sweat it out to, adding a new dimension to the atmosphere. The young DJs worked intentionally to select and mix tracks that matched the intensity of the workouts, elevating the pace with

motivating beats during high energy moments and shifting the tone to more calm and rhythmic beats in times of recovery. The result was music and fitness working in perfect harmony.



*"The only thing I thought I could do in life was boxing but then I discovered DJing and now I love it even more than boxing" JL, aged 17.*

ECYC's Easter holiday programme was a success in and of itself, but an even better way to commence this new quarter. It served as a demonstration of ECYC's unwavering commitment to giving a holistic service that puts the development and growth of young people at the forefront.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### GIRLS' WELLNESS: MASSAGE AND AROMATHERAPY SESSIONS

ECYC introduced the mother and daughter duo, Debbie and Asha, to deliver sessions for girls on Fridays that promote relaxation, self-care and self-expression through massage, the creation of homemade beauty products and various self-care treatments.



Debbie, the mother of the duo, provided the girls with weekly chair massages, introducing them to a means of reducing stress and anxiety that they might not otherwise have accessed or felt comfortable exploring. Initially, some girls were eager to participate while others were more sceptical. However, thanks to Debbie's ability to educate, reassure and engage the girls, within three weeks all participants would rush to be among the first to receive these treatments.

Asha, the daughter of the duo, became a trusted sounding board for discussions on education, friendships, self-expression, body positivity, online safety, values and community life. Debbie's presence offered an impartial, non-judgemental adult figure, creating a safe and supportive space for the girls to share their thoughts and concerns. A mutual trust has developed between the girls and the mother and daughter duo, flourishing since their collaboration with ECYC. Notably, 100% of the girls reported that they enjoyed the programme more than they had initially anticipated, and 100% agreed they felt they were in a safe

space to discuss any topic.

Asha has also taught the girls how to create their own body oils and scrubs. The feedback on these body scrubs was outstanding; the girls used them daily, shared them with their families and repeatedly requested opportunities to create more. Through this programme, the girls have learnt the importance of taking time for themselves or "Wellness from Within" as we call it, practising mindfulness and understanding the benefits of aromatherapy. It has been truly inspiring to witness even the most reserved young women grow in confidence and self-expression week after week.

*"I didn't want to do the massage at first, but I'm glad I tried it, it is so relaxing. And I love making oils and soaps to share with my family."*  
MF, aged 16

### BOXFIT CLASSES

Driven by our young members' passion for boxing and martial arts, we launched an exciting new programme led by one of our talented team members who brings over 12 years of boxing experience. Designed to build both foundational skills and personal growth, the sessions focus on discipline, confidence and technique- consistently attracting 10 dedicated participants since launching.

Through structured training, participants have not only learned boxing but have also improved their physical fitness and well-being, using this session as a stress outlet. The sessions have inspired members to push beyond their limits, while also fostering a strong sense of camaraderie, contributing to a supportive and uplifting atmosphere within the club. Over the 12-week period, we have observed significant improvements in participants' confidence and social skills.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Formerly timid individuals have grown into more confident and outgoing personalities, while those with disruptive tendencies have shown significant improvements in discipline. For many, boxing has become a powerful tool for personal growth, fostering self-control and respect in a setting where disruptive behaviour is not tolerated.



As a youth club, we recognise the link between exercise and mental well-being\*, and we aim to instil positive habits early on in our members, encouraging them to look after their physical health and use it as a tool to navigate personal and professional obstacles.

\*According to the Move Your Mental Health Report by the John W. Brick Foundation, which reviewed over 1,100 studies from 1990 to 2022, 89% found a positive association between physical activity/exercise and mental health.

*"I think that the boxing sessions are very good for my health, while also being great to relieve stress. We have a very nice and professional coach who helps us a lot. I have noticed big improvements since I started attending the sessions. The coach pays attention and helps us improve our technique. The sessions are never boring, and we all enjoy them because we are always working hard and encouraging each other." LF, aged 16.*

### CV WORKSHOPS

The CV workshops were developed to challenge "poverty of imagination".

The first issue we have identified is the stifling of young people's potential by their surroundings and the lack of ambition in their environment. It is crucial for them to aim higher than they believe they can achieve, despite their circumstances.



The second issue we have identified is a lack of research skills. While some members have clear aspirations, they often struggle to take the first step, not due to a lack of ambition, but because they lack the ability to navigate the vast information available to them.

The third consideration is that our work with young people isn't about completing tasks but about building long-term skills. We aim to guide them to discover answers themselves rather than simply providing answers, echoing the wisdom of "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime."

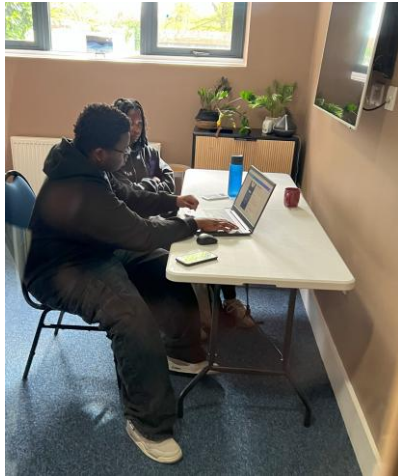


www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



The CV Workshops were designed with these three ideas in mind. Participants were able to identify areas for improvement within their CVs and understand what elements they needed to include to stand out in job applications or college admissions. Young people motivated and encouraged each other through peer-to-peer development, where participants could share experiences, offer advice and learn from one another's journeys.

One of the key aspects of the workshops was helping young individuals envision their future aspirations and map out the steps needed to achieve them and identify the type of person they wanted to become to fulfil those aspirations. From there, we collaboratively explored what kind of CV would best reflect their skills, experiences and ambitions, whether it be securing an apprenticeship or gaining a place at their desired place of study.

*“During my time with Danielle I was able to build the perfect CV. Danielle helped me gather all my accomplishments, and she helped me to word my CV to impress employers and correct mistakes I made and realise the different skills I actually have” BB, 17.*

### YOUNG K&C: A STRATEGIC ANCHOR FOR YOUTH WORK IN RBKC

As part of this quarter's activities, we were pleased to welcome Young K&C to ECYC for a filming session capturing the impact of youth organisations across the borough. This visit included a half-hour interview with our CEO, reflecting on how Young K&C has supported ECYC's growth, development and wider contribution to the youth sector.

Since the closure of Epic CIC, the borough's former mutualised youth service, youth organisations were left without a central support network or coordinated strategy. The emergence of Young K&C has fundamentally reshaped this landscape. Young K&C now fulfils a vital role by providing the infrastructure, leadership and connectivity that would traditionally be expected of a local authority youth service. Through policy guidance, safeguarding and governance support, and a wide range of professional development opportunities, Young K&C has helped shape and strengthen our internal systems and practices. Most of our team have benefitted from the training they provide which has helped raise the quality and consistency of our delivery.



Just as significantly, Young K&C has fostered a sense of shared purpose across the borough. Their regular forums, partnership events and funding opportunities have enabled us to build meaningful relationships with local youth organisations, schools and other stakeholders. This has led to joint projects, improved referral pathways and a deeper understanding of the complex needs facing young people in RBKC.

Crucially, Young K&C has also amplified our voice. Through their advocacy, ECYC has been able to contribute to borough-wide discussions and ensure that the experiences and needs of our members are represented at strategic levels. Thanks to their continued support, we no longer feel isolated in our work. We feel part of a wider, coordinated youth service effort that is collaborative, strategic and impactful.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

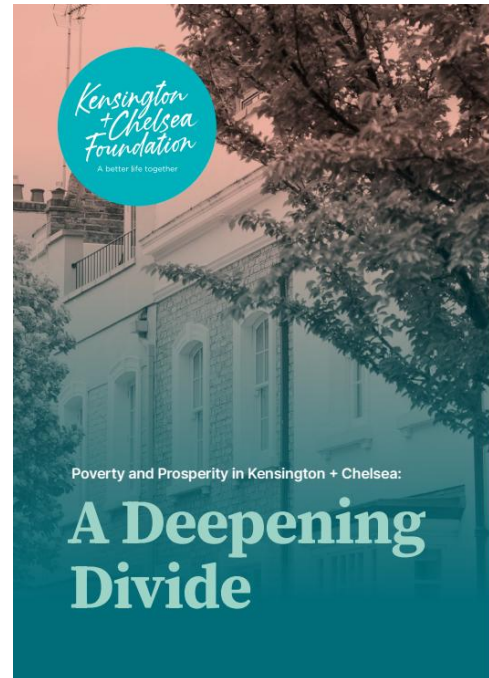
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### SCHOOL EXCLUSION FOCUS GROUPS

Kensington & Chelsea Foundation conducted focus groups and interviews on School Exclusions which brought together practitioners from diverse professional backgrounds working within the Royal Borough - particularly those supporting children and young people who have either been excluded from school or are at serious risk of exclusion. It was a timely and important opportunity for ECYC team to participate and reflect on our ongoing work with some of the borough's most vulnerable young people by providing valuable insights from our first hand experiences.

At ECYC we see the damage school exclusion has on a young person and their family. Exclusions often lead to emotional distress, anxiety and social isolation, and is something that strips a young person of their of identity and confidence at a critical developmental stage in their life. This trauma is often compounded when they are left without access to mental health services or trusted adult relationships in the aftermath. In some cases, exclusion is the starting point of wider disengagement from society, increasing the risk of involvement in antisocial behaviour or exploitation, especially when alternatives are scarce and uncoordinated.



From our everyday work, we also know that there are amazing possibilities for transformation when young people are met with compassion, structure and support. What emerged from the focus groups was a shared understanding that exclusion is not just an educational matter- it is a systemic issue that intersects with social inequality, mental health, safeguarding and opportunity.

Multiple practitioners in the focus group identified several persistent and deeply troubling trends:

- the disproportionate exclusion of students from Black and Mixed heritage backgrounds.
- Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) also face significantly higher exclusion rates.
- Students who are from Global Majority backgrounds and have SEND experience have the highest rate of exclusions.
- There is a lack of transparency and accountability in how exclusions are recorded and understood

This reflects a deeper, systemic issue: many families from Global Majority communities come from low-income and low-education backgrounds, which often limits their ability to navigate the complexities of the school system or advocate effectively for their children.

Hidden exclusions such as off-rolling or informal removals were also raised as a serious concern, often escaping scrutiny. Whilst not labelled as "excluded" they have similar consequences for the child involved. Failure to have culturally competent staff or reintegrate excluded students effectively, leaving them without consistent access to education, support, a sense of belonging all lead to a cycle of exclusion that stigmatises, marginalises and increasingly detaches young people from their own futures.

The panel discussed a number of approaches that have shown promise in both local and national contexts. There was strong agreement on the need for early intervention, with some participants emphasising the importance of identifying potential difficulties as early as primary school. This preventative approach would involve schools working more closely with link-workers and youth organisations to respond to behavioural concerns with care rather than punishment. Equipping educators and community practitioners with the skills to de-escalate situations and understand trauma-related behaviour was seen as critical to reducing avoidable exclusions,



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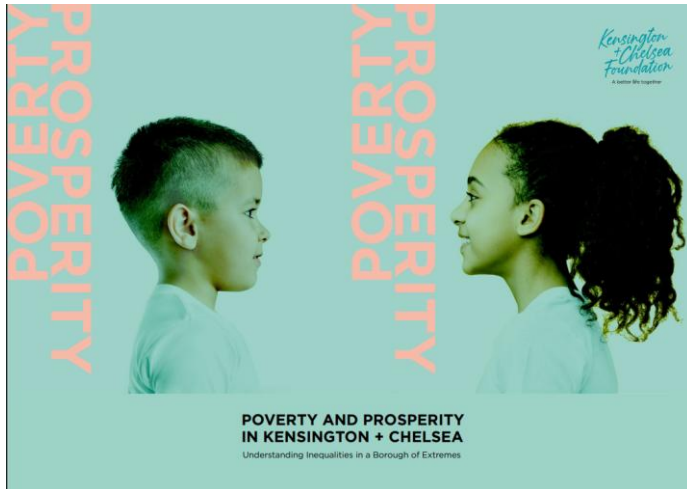
## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



especially with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Grenfell Tower incidents. At the same time, the focus group stressed the importance of working more closely with SEND professionals to ensure that support plans are in place early and are personalised and responsive to individual needs, rather than relying on last-resort measures like exclusion or referral to Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and Alternative Provisions (APs).



The focus group called for better collection and analysis of data to improve transparency and accountability to ensure that interventions are grounded in reality and that hidden exclusions are brought to light. Several practitioners, including ourselves, spoke about the importance of building inclusive, community-rooted approaches that involve families and the young people themselves in designing solutions, putting families in the same rooms as SEND advocates and ensuring that families know the appropriate channels that they can mobilise to better advocate for the children and young people that they love.

The focus group recognised that school exclusion in RBKC is part of a wider crisis. Youth clubs like ECYC play a vital role in this landscape, offering not just after-school programmes, but essential social, emotional and practical support that helps young people stay connected to education, feel valued and develop their potential irrespective of their start in life. Our work is rooted in lived experience and aimed at making long-term change.

We remain committed to playing our part in raising awareness and advocating for children and young people who are affected by exclusion. We will keep listening to the voices of young people and their families, and work alongside schools, local authorities and community partners to co-create better pathways for inclusion and begin to reverse the damage of exclusion and create a borough where every child and young person is supported to thrive. This is a topic we feel very strongly about at ECYC and we would like to thank Kensington + Chelsea Foundation for spearheading this important initiative.

*Victoria Steward Todd, Director, K+C Foundation: "The K+C Foundation is committed to understanding the underlying issues behind school exclusions in K+C so that we can support the development of effective interventions. We were delighted to have so many practitioners involved in the first focus group in our research exploring the emotional and mental health impacts of exclusions on young people in our community. The voices of young people and their families are so often missing from this discussion and local partners like ECYC have been critical in ensuring we capture their testimony and learn from their experiences."*

### CONCLUSION

This quarter, we set out to do more, and we did! From an epic Easter Holiday Programme to confidence-boosting CV workshops, wellness sessions, and BoxFit classes, we kept things fresh, focused and full of energy. With new long-term funding and stronger partnerships in place, we are expanding our reach and increasing our impact. The young people of ECYC deserve the best, and that is exactly what we are building, one brilliant session at a time.





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## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Every year at Earls Court Youth Club tells its own story. Some years are about laying foundations, others about holding steady. This year has been about lift-off.

What has struck me most is not just the number of programmes we have delivered, nor even the awards and recognition our young people have achieved- though there have been many. What stands out is the sense of momentum, the feeling that ECYC has become a place where possibility is alive, where children and young people are not only supported but are daring to dream bigger.

You see it in the eight-year-old who builds confidence and makes friends through sports sessions, in the teenager who picks up a camera and suddenly imagines a career in the arts, in the group of girls who start with curiosity in a wellness session and leave with resilience and self-belief. These sparks of discovery are what ECYC does best, they are the quiet revolutions that change futures.

This year also reminded us that resilience is built not just in individuals but in institutions. With demand for our services at an all-time high, the multi-year grant secured from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea could not have come at a more important moment. It gives us breathing space, but more importantly, it affirms the borough's trust in us to nurture the next generation.

For me as Chair, the joy lies in the people who make all this possible. Abdi's leadership has been outstanding- bold, compassionate and unwavering. Our staff bring energy and dedication that would rival any professional team in the country. Our trustees, volunteers, partners and supporters continue to back us with wisdom and generosity. And then, of course, there are the young people, who keep surprising us, challenging us and reminding us why we do this work.

Looking ahead, the club is poised for even greater things. Expanding educational support, deepening wellbeing programmes and amplifying youth leadership are exciting goals. But my hope goes beyond targets. My hope is that ECYC continues to be a place of belonging, a club where young people can walk in with uncertainty and walk out with possibility.

As we approach our 50th anniversary, I am reminded that ECYC's story is not just about survival but about vision, creativity and courage. Here's to the next chapter and to the extraordinary young people who will write it with us.

#### **Daisy Gili**

Chair of Trustees  
Earls Court Youth Club



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### OUR THANKS

We begin this New Year with heartfelt gratitude to all who stand with us. Your generosity and advocacy enable us to deliver vital services, respond to emerging challenges, and strengthen the communities we serve.

#### TO OUR FUNDERS

Your commitment provides the resources that sustain and grow our work:

- BBC Children in Need
- Earl's Court Community Trust
- Earls Court Development Company
- Earls Court Development Fund
- Foyle Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- John Lyon's Charity
- Julia Rausing Trust
- Million Hours Fund
- RBKC City Living Local Life Fund
- RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund
- The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation
- The Lightbulb Trust
- The Linbury Trust
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Youth Commission
- Young K&C
- St Mary The Boltons

#### TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND ADVOCATES

We are grateful for your time, encouragement, and collaboration which help in amplifying our mission:

- Redcliffe Ward Councillors
- Alison Jackson,
- London Film Academy
- London Youth
- St Mary The Boltons
- The Feathers Association
- The Mosaic Rooms
- Chelsea Football Club Foundation
- Young K&C
- Together, funders, supporters, and advocates create the foundation on which we can continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you for believing in us and for helping us make a lasting difference.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

## ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



### IN LOVING MEMORY OF TIANNA DAGHER 1979-2025

We remember Tianna with deep affection and profound respect. She founded A Space Between during the pandemic, guided by her belief in the power of art to connect people of all ages across the world. Although she was taken from us far too soon, her work continues to leave a lasting mark our community and far beyond.

Tianna was not only a visionary but also a mother, a wife and a friend. She gave freely of her time, her energy and her warmth, even when her own health was failing. Her kindness was instinctive and her generosity without condition. She believed in the potential of others and dedicated herself to creating opportunities where people, especially young people, could discover their own voices. Those who worked with her remember not only her creativity but also the quiet strength and humility with which she lived her life.

Every Thursday for almost two years, Tianna gave her time to run workshops for elderly members at the youth club. From this steady commitment grew projects that connected young people with older generations, and even built bridges between those in hospital and those living in the community. What stands out most is that in all this time she never asked for anything in return. Week after week she gave freely of her energy and resources, often at great financial cost to herself. She carried that burden quietly, without complaint or expectation, motivated only by the good she could do for others. For this selflessness, and for the generosity that defined her life and work, we will forever cherish her.



Her partnership with Earl's Court Youth Club brought lasting change. During the pandemic, she helped us reach families and elderly members through Art Therapy kits that lifted spirits and created moments of joy at a time of great isolation. Later, in 2022, she returned to the club with A Space Between to run a series of Creative Wellbeing Workshops. Sixteen young women from our Friday evening sessions took part, aged between 12 and 20. Over four weeks they explored how creativity could give back, how it could heal, and how it could be shared as a gift. The young women produced their own colouring book, designed to be donated to patients at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and to local elderly groups for use in therapy sessions.

The culmination of this project was a visit to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, where the young women saw their designs on display. They also saw them coloured in by elderly members of our community, bringing to life the exchange that Tianna so passionately championed. For our members, it was a moment of pride and joy to witness their work in a public setting and to share it with their families. One member reflected, "I was really proud to see my work not only coloured by the elderly but on show at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital where my family were able to see it on public display." It was a moment that captured the essence of Tianna's vision: art as a bridge between generations, a means of healing, and a lasting connector of lives.

Her absence is deeply felt, but her influence is everywhere: in the smiles of the young people she inspired, in the pride of families who saw their children's art displayed in hospital corridors, and in the countless acts of generosity she modelled through her own life. Tianna was loved by all who met her, and she will remain forever in our hearts. We are grateful beyond words for all that she gave us, and as a youth club we are committed to carrying forward her vision of art as a bond between generations, communities and lives.

Earls Court Youth Club would like to thank Tianna and her family for all that they gave to our community. Though she is no longer with us, she will always remain part of ECYC family, indefinitely and with love.

**The Earls Court Youth Club**  
Report and Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2025

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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**Company number** CE032518

**Charity number** 1203387

**Registered office and operational address**  
120 Ifield Road  
London  
SW10 9AF

**Trustees** Trustees are the people responsible for controlling the work, management and administration of the charity on behalf of its beneficiaries, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Roy Amlot KC

The Lady Emma Arbuthnot

Daisy Gill (Chair)

Michael Rambaut

Cllr Marie-Therese Anne Rossi

Mohamed Salih (Appointed 14 July 2025)

**Key management personnel** Abdi Aden (CEO)

**Accountants** Haggards Crowther  
Independent Examiner  
Heathmans Hosue  
19 Heathmans Road  
London  
SW6 4TJ

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Accountants' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 and set out on pages 4 to 12

#### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145 (5b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 29/09/2025



Andrew Haggard FCA  
Haggards Crowther  
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House  
19 Heathmans Road  
London  
SW6 4TJ

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 (12 months) Total	2024 (Restated - 8 months) Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations, gifts and fund raising	4	67,865	212,989	<b>280,854</b>	122,635
Government and local authority grants	5	152,563	7,164	<b>159,727</b>	88,746
Investment income		-	2,232	<b>2,232</b>	8
<b>Total income</b>		<u>220,428</u>	<u>222,385</u>	<u><b>442,813</b></u>	<u>211,390</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Direct charitable expenditure	6	145,386	162,719	<b>308,104</b>	208,642
Management and administrative	7	14,499	16,227	<b>30,726</b>	28,834
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>159,884</u>	<u>178,946</u>	<u><b>338,830</b></u>	<u>237,476</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		60,544	43,439	<b>103,983</b>	(26,086)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>63,141</u>	<u>37,521</u>	<u><b>100,662</b></u>	<u>126,748</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>123,685</u></u>	<u><u>80,960</u></u>	<u><u><b>204,645</b></u></u>	<u><u>100,662</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2025

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	Note	2025 (12 months) £	2024 (Restated - 8 months) £
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Accrued income	11	47,210	30,082
Cash at bank		305,415	76,682
Petty cash		200	200
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>352,825</b>	<b>106,964</b>
<b>Current liabilities:</b>			
Deferred income	12	137,905	-
Accruals		9,945	5,972
Pensions		330	330
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>148,180</b>	<b>6,302</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>204,645</b>	<b>100,662</b>
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted funds		123,685	63,141
Unrestricted funds		80,960	37,521
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<b>204,645</b>	<b>100,662</b>

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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	2025 (12 months)	2024 (Restated - 8 months)
Note	£	£
<b>Cash used for operating activities:</b>		
Net movement in funds	<b>134,064</b>	(26,086)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Decrease / (Increase) in deferred income	<b>(47,210)</b>	(30,082)
Increase / (decrease) in deferred income	<b>137,905</b>	-
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	<b>3,974</b>	6,302
	<hr/> <b>228,733</b>	<hr/> (49,866)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		
	<b>228,733</b>	(49,866)
<b>Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		
	<hr/> <b>76,882</b>	<hr/> 127,748
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		
	<hr/> <b>305,615</b>	<hr/> 76,882
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>		

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long-term financing arrangements.

# The Earls Court Youth Club

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

### 1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Practice (effective 1 January 2019) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Earls Court Youth Club meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) to these accounts.

### 2 Charity Details

The Earls Court Youth Club is registered with the Charities Commission under the registered number 1203387

### 3 Accounting policies

#### a) Transition to financial reporting standards

These statements comply with FRS 102 and have been prepared on the accruals basis to give a true and fair view in the current year as gross income exceeded £250,000. All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received, and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where there are terms or conditions attached to incoming resources, particularly grants, then these terms or conditions must be met before the income is recognised as the entitlement condition will not be satisfied until that point. Where terms or conditions have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether they can be met then the relevant income is not recognised in the year but deferred and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income.

#### b) Government grants

The charity has received government grants in the reporting period.

#### c) Income from interest, royalties and dividends

All income from interest, royalties or dividends are included in the accounts.

#### d) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts, less any trade discounts.

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 4 Income from donations, gifts and fund raising

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 Total (12 months)
	£	£	£
<b>Income from current period:</b>			
Children in Need	22,166	-	22,166
Donation	-	3,215	3,215
Earls Court Development Company Community Fund	-	7,500	7,500
Foyle Foundation	8,301	-	8,301
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	15,014	15,014
JD Tooley	-	-	-
John Lyon's Charity	-	16,566	16,566
Julia Rausing Trust	37,397	-	37,397
Lightbulb Trust	-	-	-
Million Hours Fund	-	48,957	48,957
The Linbury Trust	-	14,265	14,265
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	85,473	85,473
Young K&C	-	22,000	22,000
West London Zone	-	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>67,865</b>	<b>212,989</b>	<b>280,854</b>

#### Prior period comparative

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 Total (Restated – 8 months)
	£	£	£
<b>Income from prior period:</b>			
Children in Need	-	-	-
Donation	-	100	100
Earls Court Development Company Community Fund	-	10,000	10,000
Foyle Foundation	849	-	849
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-
JD Tooley	-	675	675
John Lyon's Charity	-	-	-
Julia Rausing Trust	8,000	-	8,000
Lightbulb Trust	35,000	-	35,000
Million Hours Fund	-	22,862	22,862
The Linbury Trust	-	31,364	31,364
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-
Young K&C	-	12,000	12,000
West London Zone	-	1,785	1,785
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>43,849</b>	<b>78,786</b>	<b>122,635</b>

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 5 Income from government and local authority grants

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 (12 months) Total £
	£	£	£
<b>Income from current period:</b>			
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Program	18,263	-	<b>18,263</b>
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)	60,420	-	<b>60,420</b>
RBKC City Living Local Life	30,000	-	<b>30,000</b>
RBKC Rental Income	-	7,164	<b>7,164</b>
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	43,880	-	<b>43,880</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>152,563</b>	<b>7,164</b>	<b>159,727</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### Prior period comparative

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 (Restated – 8 months) Total £
	£	£	£
<b>Income from prior period:</b>			
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Program	1,868	-	<b>1,868</b>
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)	86,878	-	<b>86,878</b>
RBKC City Living Local Life	-	-	-
RBKC Rental Income	-	-	-
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>88,746</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>88,746</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 6 Direct charitable expenditure

	2025 (12 months)	2024 (Restated - 8 months)
	£	£
Subcontractors	141,131	98,748
Salaries, wages, and related expenses	80,652	53,887
Food for sessions	48,194	27,197
Volunteers	12,865	1,580
Consumables for sessions	12,412	17,465
Summer program	4,608	-
Employer's national insurance contribution	3,925	3,925
Employer's pension contribution	2,201	1,519
Transport and travel	1,816	4,321
Staff training	300	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>308,104</b>	<b>208,642</b>

The charity employed one member of staff with a salary over £ 60,000 in the period.

#### 7 Management and administrative expenditure

	2025 (12 months)	2024 (Restated - 8 months)
	£	£
Professional fees	8,296	3,873
Rates and Utilities	6,492	5,225
Repair and maintenance	5,263	4,179
Audit and accounting fees	3,848	2,994
Printing and stationery	2,269	2,762
Insurance	2,040	2,029
Equipment and IT	1,884	7,180
Subscription	628	589
Bank	6	2
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>30,726</b>	<b>28,834</b>

#### 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporate tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 9 Fixed assets

- a) The cost of the club building, amounting to £ 49,996, has not been capitalised nor shown on the face of the balance sheet. The land on which the building stands is leased from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea via a 20-year license agreement currently charged at a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum.
- b) Since 1 April 1989, the charity's policy has been to expense fully fixtures and fittings at their cost and in the period in which they were purchased.

#### 10 Affiliated charity or clubs

The charity is not affiliated with any other charity or club.

#### 11 Accrued income

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total (12 months) £
Children in Need	3,686	-	3,686
Million Hours Fund	-	3,358	3,358
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Programme	1,689	-	1,689
RBKC City Living Local Life	30,000	-	30,000
The Linbery Trust	-	1,628	1,628
Young K&C	-	6,850	6,850
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>35,375</b>	<b>11,836</b>	<b>47,210</b>

#### Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total (Restated – 8 months) £
<b>At 1 July 2023</b>	-	-	-
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Programme	1,868	-	1,868
Foyle Foundation	849	-	849
The Linbury Trust	-	27,364	27,364
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>2,718</b>	<b>27,364</b>	<b>30,082</b>

Accrued income relates to funds granted for the period but were not yet received by the end of the period.

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 12 Deferred income

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total (12 months) £
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	-	-	-
Foyle Foundation	849	-	<b>849</b>
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	4,986	<b>4,986</b>
John Lyon's Charity	-	33,434	<b>33,434</b>
Julia Rausing Trust	37,603	-	<b>37,603</b>
RBKC	19,334	-	<b>19,334</b>
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	10,970	-	<b>10,970</b>
The National Lottery (Community Fund)	-	30,729	<b>30,729</b>
	<u>-</u>	<u>30,729</u>	<u><b>30,729</b></u>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u><u>68,756</u></u>	<u><u>69,149</u></u>	<u><u><b>137,905</b></u></u>

Deferred income relates to monies received which have been allotted to cover a future period which has not yet occurred.

## The Earls Court Youth Club

### Accountants' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 and set out on pages 4 to 12

#### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145 (5b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 29/09/2025



Andrew Haggard FCA  
Haggards Crowther  
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House  
19 Heathmans Road  
London  
SW6 4TJ

**THE EARLS COURT YOUTH CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203387

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# Accounts

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**EARLS COURT YOUTH CLUB**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2024**





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk



## Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	4
<b>QUARTER 4: JUNE 2023 – AUGUST 2023.....</b>	<b>5</b>
GIRLS FITNESS/FOOTBALL.....	6
BESPOKE GCSE SESSIONS:.....	7
A-LEVEL RESULT SUCCESS – HOT OF THE PRESS.....	8
TOOLS FOR SOLIDARITY.....	8
QUIZ AND CONVO:.....	9
INTEGRATION PROJECT WITH WEST LONDON ZONE.....	10
ECYC MAKE OVER.....	11
SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.....	12
<i>A Day in Your Life Project.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Reimagining Your Home Project.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Pamper for an Afternoon.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>The Selfie Scavenger Hunt.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Football and Fitness.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>'MET' in the Summer.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Ifield Road Mural Restoration.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Summer Weekly Quizzes.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>AR and VR workshops.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>ECYC Dining.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Other Summer Holiday Programme Activities.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<b>QUARTER 1: SEPTEMBER 2023 – NOVEMBER 2024.....</b>	<b>18</b>
UNDER 8 PROGRAMME.....	19
JUNIOR CLUB.....	21
SENIOR CLUB – FEMALE ONLY SESSIONS.....	23
BLACK HISTORY MONTH.....	26
<b>QUARTER 2: DECEMBER 2023 – FEBRUARY 2024.....</b>	<b>27</b>
JUNIOR CLUB.....	28
SENIOR CLUB.....	30
<i>Girls Football.....</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Eat Club.....</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Holistic therapy.....</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Youth Council Social Action Fund.....</i>	<i>31</i>
EDUCATION ATTAINMENT AND MENTORING.....	33
COMMUNICATION IS KEY.....	34
PLACEMENT.....	35
REFRESHER TRAINING.....	36
ELDERLY CHRISTMAS LUNCH.....	36
<b>QUARTER 3: MARCH 2024 – MAY 2024.....</b>	<b>38</b>
YOUNG LOCAL ARTISTS.....	39
THE ACCELERATE PROGRAMME.....	40



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



ECYC Dining.....	42
GIRLS NIGHT.....	42
QPR WOMEN VS CAMBRIDGE WOMEN .....	43
A NEW MET FOR LONDON.....	43
CHESS CLUB.....	44
FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB PLAYER VISIT.....	45
FIRST AID TRAINING.....	46
EXPLORING THE IMPACTS OF SMARTPHONES ON CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS .....	46
YOUNG K&C ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE .....	47
<b>CORE YOUTH WORK PROGRAMME .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>CHAIR’S REPORT .....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>OUR THANKS .....</b>	<b>51</b>



PC Lee,  
local ward police officer who has helped young people to build a positive relationship with the police.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## INTRODUCTION

I am delighted to report that our membership has grown consistently over the last five years. In particular, we have made great strides in addressing gender inequality, with female membership now standing at an impressive 45%. This reflects our commitment to ensuring that all young people, regardless of gender, have equal access to opportunities.

At ECYC, we encourage young people to explore new possibilities while providing support to overcome obstacles that may stand in their way. Our youth work approach is centred on personal development, and this is complemented by a variety of recreational activities, group work, and projects. A key feature of our work is the youth-led approach, where young people are actively consulted about the issues they face, the interests they want to pursue, and the progress they aim to make. This helps foster a sense of ownership and empowerment among our members, allowing them to take charge of their own journeys.

ECYC serves as a social and cultural safe space where young people feel a sense of belonging and have the opportunity to learn more about themselves through the wide array of projects we offer. Some of our key achievements over the past year include:

- Providing aspirational and achievable goals that have genuinely changed lives. This is evident through the educational success of our members, with 90 young people attaining higher educational outcomes in both GCSE and A-Levels.
- Our 'Cultural Capital' programme has made substantial progress, particularly through the outstanding 'Day in Your Life' project, which culminated in a Gala exhibition at Cadogan Hall. Thirty-two of the shortlisted young people went on to win first or second prizes in their respective categories.
- Supporting excluded young people to reintegrate into mainstream education, offering them a pathway to re-engage with learning and personal development.
- Partnering with local police, including our Dedicated Ward Police Officer and the Youth Engagement & Diversion Team, to maintain low crime levels and ensure the safety of our community.
- Addressing the 'poverty of imagination,' which often limits personal growth and achievement, by providing creative outlets and new experiences.
- Celebrating Black history throughout the year, not just during a designated month, in order to raise awareness, foster inclusivity, and educate young people on cultural heritage.
- The large monochrome portraits, taken by young people at ECYC, will be on public display at Warwick Road, visible from Earl's Court Tube Station, with some portraits reaching up to 3.1 metres in height. This project showcases the incredible talent within our club and connects our young people to the wider community.



It can take years to build programmes with real impact as seen in the body of this AGM report and we remain concerned about the future of youth work in a fresh climate of government cuts. We continue to be grateful for the funding we do receive and for our dedicated management committee that works tirelessly to help raise funds, and we continue to rely on external charities and trusts to secure the restricted funds necessary to deliver our programmes.

**Abdi Aden, ECYC CEO**



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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## GIRLS FITNESS/FOOTBALL

Following the success of the Women's Euros last summer, we knew it was important to continue grassroots football for girls here at Earls Court Youth Club (ECYC).



Historically it has been difficult to sustain a committed group of girls for weekly football training on our female only Fridays. This all changed when we changed our approach by focusing on increasing fitness levels which would allow the playing of a football match to be more enjoyable. We did this by breaking up the session into smaller bite-sized activities which culminated in a match.

The sessions now include 4 timed stations with the girls rotating around with just a 10 second break between each station. The stations included various exercises which challenged their cardiovascular health and also provided them with good strength and conditioning coaching. Following this, there would be another round of football-based stations working on dribbling, passing, shooting, attacking and defending 1v1. Each session would end with a game.

This new approach of fitness elements + game has proved successful, and we have seen an increase in the uptake and competitiveness of the sessions.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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## BESPOKE GCSE SESSIONS:

Following below-average GCSE Mock Exam results (grades 1 or 2) from our members, our year 11 cohort expressed a need for tutoring in GCSE English Literature and Language. And so, in January 2023, we rolled out tutoring sessions three times weekly, with the hopes of improving grades before their exams in May. This was open to all young people, with a focus on those who had the lowest results. The session was booked on a first come, first serve basis with limited spots due to staff capacity. The young people agreed to certain terms and conditions to ensure full commitment and to help them understand the importance of accountability. The sessions ran on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 18.00-21.00 with 7 young people initially being tutored per session.

The sessions focused on both parts of the GCSE English exam and were structured in a way so young people were able to get the most out of the one-to-one feedback. Young people developed their writing structure, as well as their analytical and descriptive skills with them being assigned homework every week so they could continue honing these skills at home. We then shifted the focus to replicating this increased standard of writing in exam conditions.

A big focus during our tutoring sessions, was how to deal with exam stress and the impact exams can have on their mental health. By thoroughly preparing our young people, we helped reduced their anxiety surrounding exams and teach them coping methods. The Mental Health Youth Worker was also present at a few sessions, in order to help those struggling with the workload.

These sessions had a lasting impact on these young people with a massive improvement in their overall work ethic observed by all ECYC staff. Whilst they initially might have joined the tutoring sessions due to familial pressure and fear of failure; they have now demonstrated a commitment to not only their English exams, but all subjects. The young people have gone above and beyond; at times showing up earlier for a longer session. Whilst most were initially hoping to pass (grade 4), some have set their sights on grade 6 and 7s with the hopes of studying English at A-level. In August when the results were published, we are pleased to report that 24 out of the 29 participants not only gained at least a 5 but also successfully gained entry into their first choice sixth form.

A key recurring theme in the feedback we received was how much their confidence improved and in turn, the positive domino effect it had on their grades and mind-set.

*"I got 6 in English lit and 6 English Language and as a result I'm able to continue onto 6 form- which seemed near-impossible back in September" DK*

*"I am pleased to inform you that MM had his GCSE results, which were an astounding success! And he has since gained admission into his 1<sup>st</sup> choice 6 form!" Mother of young person with SEND.*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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## A-LEVEL RESULT SUCCESS – HOT OF THE PRESS

Among ECYC's senior cohort, 65 attend secondary schools within RBKC and neighbouring boroughs. This year, **35 of our members have attained an unprecedented feat of securing enrolment into twelve Russell Group universities**. Aside from the fortitude and determination of the individual students, this achievement would not have been possible without the roster of holistic initiatives provided by ECYC - ranging from UCAS workshops, tailored work placements, and Masterclasses delivered by our dedicated partners who voluntarily offered to extend key knowledge in their respective fields.

## TOOLS FOR SOLIDARITY

In continuation with our partners at Mosaic Rooms, the gallery commissioned RESOLVE Collective for their 2023 Family Artist and Outdoor Play commission under the heading 'Tools for Solidarity' – this is the second time we have collaborated in the past 18 months.

Beginning in mid-April until end of June we ran 5 workshops with the objective of animating the ways in which children identify with solidarity, and senses of belonging and togetherness; using play in a more interactive and self-led manner. This project has already travelled worldwide with the description "from a School in Palestine to a Youth Club in the United Kingdom - the Earls Court Youth Club".



The workshops were facilitated at ECYC, every Thursday from 4.00-5.30PM and each week participants of the younger ECYC membership (6-12years old) were presented with a different task, working on the evolving play structure, by making, drawing and using other creative tools in order to explore the theme; 'Tools For Solidarity'. This manifested into a semi-permanent installation at The Mosaic Gallery; which was unveiled by ECYC members at a launch event

in June 2023 which included family workshops.

The idea is for the installation to evolve and grow throughout the summer, exploring cultural and social practices of solidarity within communities both locally and internationally. At ECYC, this project was a positive way of encapsulating children's perceptions, particularly since the coronavirus has impacted on the themes highlighted within the project.

*"I really enjoyed the workshop as it was fun, and I learnt different skills like using tools such as; drills, saws, hammers – which I have never done before" AM*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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## QUIZ AND CONVO:

At ECYC, we introduced a programme 'Quiz and Convo' in order to challenge the pre-conceived notions of the young people. The quiz was created to elicit conversation on controversial topics within today's climate and to educate the young people with topics ranging from mental health, sexual health and inclusivity including LGBTQ+ and Disability awareness. One of the more fruitful discussions focused entirely on the BAME females within the workforce where the young people considered the barriers to entry and how to overcome them. This inspired the girls to research their respective industries they were interested in and formulate their next steps.

The session ran weekly on Fridays, it was open to those over the age of 12 due to the mature themes that were discussed. There was a monetary incentive of £20 per week with 50p being rewarded for every correct answer. The gamification was designed to lower participant's inhibitions while simultaneously raising awareness, the objective was to enable our members to navigate future social, educational and work place politics by being sensitive to the ever evolving society around them. It also allowed the facilitator to monitor behaviours and manage ignorant comments from the young people.

The quizzes were well received by the young people, most likely due to the monetary incentive, however as the topics grew more serious, we limited the number of participants leading to more meaningful conversations. Battling young people's pre-determined opinions regarding the topics was a hurdle we faced, some being damaging stigmas which may have been influenced by their home life, upbringing, religion, social media or friendship group. By facilitating the quiz in a certain manner, we were able to evolve their views whilst also educating them on how to remain respectful.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



A key principle throughout the administration of the session was that respect was a bare minimum. All young people upheld this principle and due to this we were able to create a safe space where they could share their views. The healthy debates amongst the young people fostered a good bond and relationship within the group. Due to this, we are introducing Quiz and Convo as a recurring programme with a new cohort in the new academic year.

Through this programme we were able to enlighten the young people in a fun manner whilst also fostering their competitive spirit. When engaging in the conversations, the young people showed great personal strides, as they were able to articulately convey their opinions in a calm, coherent manner. One young person mentioned that they had never considered the importance of mental health and had a preconceived notion that it was a sign of weakness. However, after the session, they understood how crucial it was to general well-being and how it can severely impact lifestyles. They also mentioned how discussing ways to improve your mental health was interesting and something they would explore further. This clearly illustrated the importance of these conversations, as by educating the young people we are equipping them with healthier habits and skills to translate to other avenues of their lives.

## INTEGRATION PROJECT WITH WEST LONDON ZONE



The Lightbulb Trust Integration Challenge initiative saw West London Zone (WLZ) and Earls Court Youth Club, come together to deliver an inspiring programme, which sought to encourage good mental well-being, positive relationships, good progress, attainment, confidence and aspiration in the young people they work with and to help them gain the skills they need to socially, emotionally and academically thrive in adulthood.

The programme aimed to coordinate a wide variety of resources and activities to ensure that children WLZ work with, who are of the ECYC catchment area, have access to our services. The programme was supported by Link Workers from WLZ, who act as trusted adults and mentors, 'linking' children from Ashburnham and

Park Walk School and their families to the services already in place locally; such as ECYC etc.

13 young people from the above schools who the Link Workers believed would benefit most from the project were chosen and this formed the first partnership for ECYC and WLZ, with the programme running for 6 weeks.

The feedback from the children and young people who attended, suggested that the project enabled them to gain access to a service they may not have known about before, as well as, building on their social skills etc. so much so, that 5 joined ECYC summer holiday programme.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

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## ECYC MAKE OVER

ECYC received a transformational make over by Willmott Dixon as part of their Social Value scheme. Their dedicated team were able to:

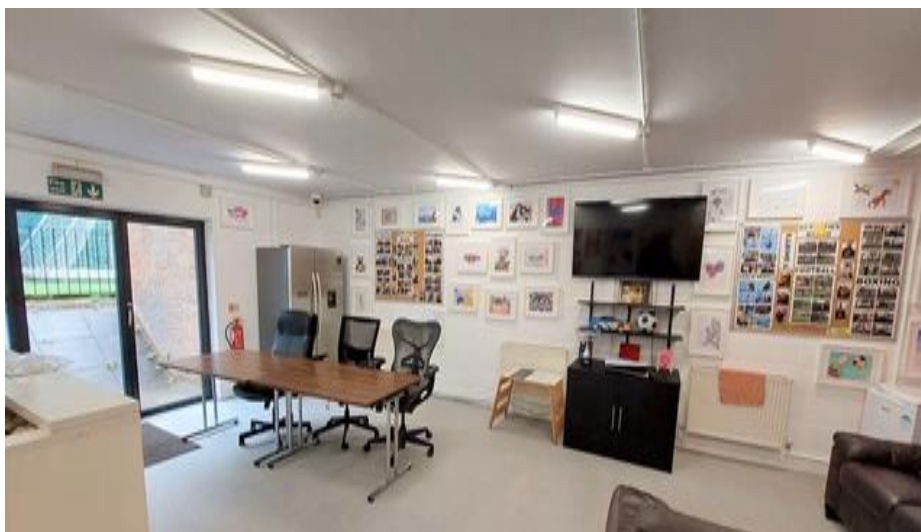
- 📦 Replaced all of our worn-out carpets, giving the office, computer and wellness rooms a fresh look and feel.
- 🖌️ Completely repainted the centre, breathing new life into its surroundings.
- 🪑 Generously donated new chairs and a fridge freezer, enhancing functionality.
- ♿ Improved accessibility.
- 🏆 Constructed a trophy shelf, to showcase the young people's achievements.



🌳 Transformed the outdoor area, including the football pitch and benches, for enjoyable social use.

🏠 Tackled damp walls and ceilings, creating a safer and more comfortable environment.

*"I was much impressed with their work, children and young people are enjoying the fresh look of the youth club. It's made it more enjoyable to use and it's an incentive to prompt the children and young adults to keep the spaces clean and tidy." AA*





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

24<sup>th</sup> July – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023

At ECYC, we ran the longest summer holiday programme ever. It ran over 5 weeks with the aim of giving support to children and young people to explore their 'hidden talents' and gave parents a rest bite before school reopened in the autumn.

### A Day in Your Life Project



Alison Jackson Studios facilitated photography workshops for children and young people during the summer. The sessions entailed posing in designer clothes from Stella McCartney, Adidas, and Vivienne Westwood etc. meaning they got to 'feel' like models, changing outfits every so often.

There was an opportunity for them to be photographers as well as models depending on their preference, as well as a chance to switch; in order to identify which one they preferred.

The project ended with 5 children and young people being given spaces at Pop School and Stage Academy, 15 young people being shortlisted for a casting call; this enabled young people and their parents to meet with talent agents/scouts and gain such experience.

As a final part of the project, budding photographers were invited 'backstage' of the Science Museum to take pictures of the employees, learn how to direct models, learn how to take pictures using different lighting, and the importance of using your body to portray different angles. Additionally, they also had exclusive access to the Museum's studio; which is where they photographed all the artefacts at the Museum for their online catalogue.

This opportunity enabled young people to explore the many facets of photography and broaden their understandings and forming lasting skillsets.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)

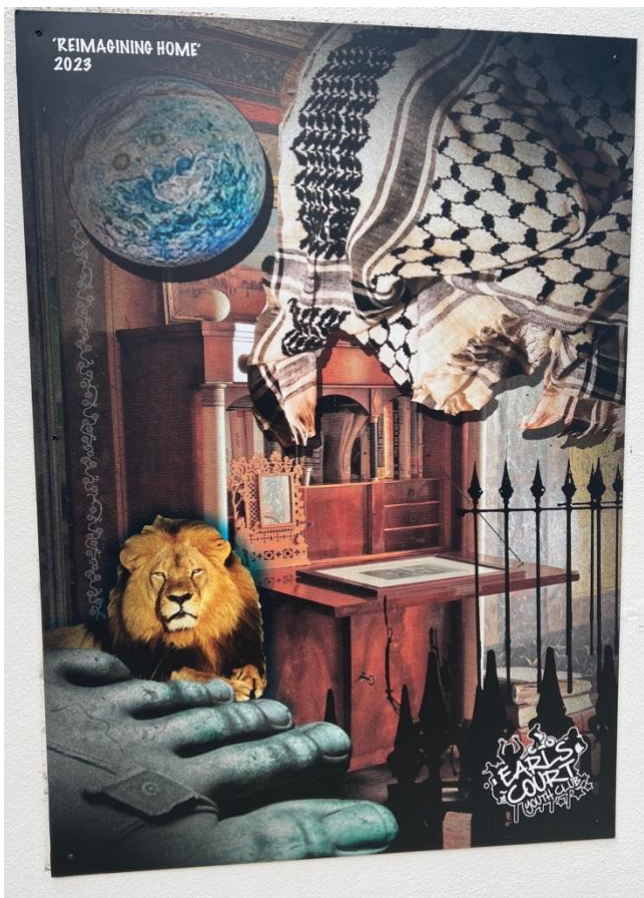


1 young person who stood out for his attention to detail, when taking pictures expressed:

*'Before attending these photography workshops, I had no idea I was any good with a camera, and now the opportunities that have been facilitated, have shown me how much more I can achieve'. R.S*



## Reimagining Your Home Project



This dibond above is outside ECYC

Over a decade ago, previous ECYC members participated in a project, whereby they created art dibond panels, and their work was showcased across the youth club ever since. This year, we felt it was important to facilitate the project again, to substitute the previous dibond panels, with some created by new ECYC members – it felt somewhat like a time capsule.

This year's project was themed around 'Reimagining Your Home'. Whereby young people worked in collaboration to explore the topics of memory, identity and the poetics of everyday and local architecture/city landscape, in and around their local area of Earls Court.

This inspired the creation of visual narrative and content, in tandem with young people's voices and contribution around the proposed theme.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Moreover, we were fortunate enough to be donated 4 outside benches, which the young people felt looked dull – thus we facilitated an art project; whereby the children and young people were encouraged to be creative and express themselves, by spray painting and painting thought-provoking words onto the bench.

## Pamper for an Afternoon

Some of our female members who worked hard during the year to earn ECYC coins were unable to use them take part in the planned Summer Holiday Programme so as a way of celebrating the finale of GCSE and A Levels and farewell to those going to university outside of London, we facilitated a pampering session for 15 ECYC girls, which entailed beauty treatments of their choice.

The session was an opportunity for the young women to reflect on the year thus far; identifying some highs and lows, as well as, starting to mentally prepare for new endeavors come September.

It is worth bearing in mind, the importance of the positive relationships that are formed with children and young people at ECYC, and thus the need to inspire them in moving onto the next chapter of their lives, as well as, bidding them farewell.

*“I was anxious at the idea of moving so far from my family, in order to study Neuroscience at Leeds University, but after a lengthy conversation with staff at ECYC, I felt encouraged and ready for this move”. R.M*

## The Selfie Scavenger Hunt

Alongside Police Officers from our local ward, we facilitated a weekly scavenger hunt around Earls Court, which required young people to team up and use professional cameras in order to take selfies of each answer, for the questions posed. This activity enabled them to learn more about Earls Court Youth Club; as all the questions related to a part of the our history.

*“As a new ECYC member, I really enjoyed this activity, as I did not know that the club had been around since the 1970’s and has been an asset to Earls Court ever since”. A.O*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## Football and Fitness

We facilitated football tournaments and training over the summer, focusing on equipping young people with good sportsmanship, teamwork skills as well as, supporting those who are keen on playing professionally. At ECYC, sport offers an outlet whereby young people are able to keep fit whilst having fun, the summer was no exception to this.

After recognising that some of our young people were not physically fit, but were keen on playing Football, we combined it with a fitness session, this enabled them to build on technical and co-ordination skills, as well as stamina.

Young people were given incentives, that were not focused on skillset; rather acquiring more humanistic values, such as being kind to others who may not have the same ability or strength etc.

## 'MET' in the Summer

For the fourth year running, our local ward Police Officers; PC Lee Overy and PC Danny Wright supported the facilitation of our summer holiday programme; from driving the minibus, to helping with wardrobe during photography workshops. This year, we were fortunate enough to also have the support of The MET Youth Engagement and Diversion Team – PC Andres, and two of his colleagues, who helped us serve food, facilitated chess club sessions and restorative art projects.

Their support has enabled young people to gain a relationship with the person behind the uniform, reducing the likelihood of stereotypes associated with the uniform; as well as, offering Officers an opportunity to get to know young people in a safe space where there are no power dynamics at play - particularly as the police officers get to know the young people on a first name basis rather than using their formal title such as PC Overy.

As a result, we have seen the development of positive relationships, which have already reduced crime on Ifield road - and the surrounding areas.

*"When I first started this venture with ECYC the young people used to cross the road, not make eye contact and avoid me at all costs. Now they cross the road to come over and say hi and they are no longer worried about being seen with me in my full uniform. We all feel part of the same community." PC Lee Overy*

## Ifield Road Mural Restoration

Murals have a history rooted in social, political, and cultural engagement, thus we felt it pivotal to restore a mural that plays a huge part of ECYC history, as it has been seen by generations of ECYC members in the playground.

The mural itself depicts the history of ECYC, thus when we were alerted to the damage, we sought the artist Teresa Paiva who designed the original mural to restore them with the assistance of young people. As previously mentioned, ECYC has a long standing history within the Earls Court area and we value the importance of archiving its impact on the community as a whole.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## Summer Weekly Quizzes

For the duration of the summer holiday programme, we facilitated weekly quizzes that covered a range of topics, such as: Health and wellbeing, the role of sport in development, the history of ECYC and surrounding areas, Chelsea Football Club knowledge and many more.

The quizzes were a non-educational, interactive way to assess what the young people have learnt from the workshops and activities, and encourage further learning. We have found at ECYC, that quizzes raise confidence and enable us to recognise progress made by children and young people.

We also used these as tools to encourage the participation of 'quieter' members and help strengthen relationships with staff.

## AR and VR workshops

We ran a series of workshops covering (AR) Augmented Reality and (VR) Virtual Reality, as requested by ECYC members. Due to the success of the project during term time, the demand and appreciation for this project exceeded our expectations and has created an interest in this remit.

The session enabled an in-depth learning in this burgeoning field, as well as complementing skills acquired during term time.



*"In the current phase - we tested out codes from robots - I enjoyed this part because I was able to test out different strategies, and able to see how long it will last on the platform. I would definitely participate in this activity again" IS*

*"I liked these sessions because they were creative; we were able to programme the AR. The interaction between using the iPad to move the boxes was cool and like nothing I have seen before - I would definitely do it again". AW*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## ECYC Dining

As always food continues to play a major role in underpinning children and young people's ability to take the opportunities we present them with.

Our thanks to HAF funding for supporting the Summer Holiday Programme to be able to provide food to all the different age groups.

*"The one thing I look forward to most, as well as all the other wonderful things at ECYC, is the food. I eat better here than I do at home. Thank you and see you in September." KM*

## Other Summer Holiday Programme Activities

Other summer activities included boxing, t-shirt making, fitness, weekly football tournaments with proper prizes, walking tours of London, further education next steps ... too many to list but here are a few photos:





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Quarter 1: September 2023 – November 2024



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Our strategy this year is to focus on the poverty of imagination that stunts personal growth and achievement, which has acutely evident post pandemic and further exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis.

The information referred to in this report details sessions, programmes, and activities which have formed the core of our priority areas this quarter and have been developed over time. In order to respond to our member's changing needs whilst also inspiring imagination. We always seek to develop our work by trialling new ideas and approaches. Some projects succeed and go on to form part of our core offering, and others fail enabling learnings that contribute to the success of future projects.

Our challenge this year is to enable funders to recognise this innovation phase is vital to run alongside establish successful activities and ultimately this combination allow an organisation to flourish and have longevity and impact.

## UNDER 8 PROGRAMME

*There are now more than 7,000 under-11s in Alternative Provision placements, including those in state-funded pupil referral units and independent special schools funded by local authorities.*

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/nov/05/loophole-vulnerable-pupils-england-risk-alternative-provision-registered>.

*'A loophole is leaving the most vulnerable pupils in England at risk'* Amanda Spielman.

The under 8's programme, is a new initiative at ECYC, born in 2021, out of the negative impact the lockdown had on children and young people alike. The idea behind the under-8 initiative, was to get children to start attending ECYC around the age of 6 years old, as studies show that the peer relationships formed by children, at that tender age, can have a significant, yet positive impact on their development.

These sessions were split into activities that sought to expose their senses to an array of stimuli and develop their fine motor skills. They included football fun, slime making, Play-Doh, arts and crafts, baking, LEGO, and beverage making.

By targeting physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing; we are encouraging confidence and fostering healthy habits, from a crucially young age.

We have seen this with one child, **K.D.C**:





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



*“She started attending the Youth club when she was 6 years old, and at that time she was very shy and did not like engaging with children that she did not know, or who did not share the same interests as her. This term, she has graduated from the under 8’s programme, to the junior club, where she has begun to build friendships and support the younger cohort, of which she was once a part of”.*

The sessions allowed children to form and maintain relationships with their peers from an earlier age, allowing them to build foundations for later in life.

Research suggests, that for children and young people who have experienced adverse childhood traumas, tend to have greater difficulty in engaging with others as well as, the behaviours they exhibit. Thus, children attending the sessions allowed us to identify those who may require additional support i.e. SEND, referral to early help, social services or parenting courses etc.

Additionally, we found that when children and young people are exposed to fun and stimulating activities, it encourages their self-confidence, as well as, building on their emotional resilience.



Lastly, it is worth bearing in mind, that the under 8’s programme currently receives no funding. But due to issues mentioned in the previous report, we saw it necessary to provide this service, which financial restrictions limit us to just once a week.



The feedback from parents/carers has been overwhelmingly positive, and as such, has highlighted the need and impact the sessions have.

Unfortunately, we can no longer afford to facilitate this session, in the New Year. Our hope is that, we will be able to fund it again, in the future, if the opportunity arises. Originally, the service was attended by 5 children and now, on average 20 children attend every Thursday.

As we have been working with this cohort, for approximately, 2 years now, it saddens us that such a marvellous project may be discontinued. A Christmas party is arranged in December to not only say goodbye ahead of the holidays, but also celebrate the achievements of the cohort thus far.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## JUNIOR CLUB

Junior club continues to be oversubscribed at ECYC, as it supports a diverse number of young people across the North and South of the borough – one of the largest catchment areas for this type of service.

This year we observed the reluctance of parents to allow their children to transition from the junior club to the senior club at the age of 13/14 due to the hours the senior club runs (6-9pm) so we are considering lengthening the crossover period to allow the transition to take place when the evenings are light and pose less perceived risk for the young people returning home.

The impact of this change will be a need to deliver additional sessions so that there is no impact on the young people entering the service at 9 years old. We are currently seeking funding to enable this new approach.

We know that most educational attainment and employability is measured whilst the young people are at the senior club (ages 16+).

We know how important it is that young people and their parents/carers feel confident to transition, so that they can continue to be inspired and benefit from the opportunities that come through the club.

The prolonged interruptions brought on by the pandemic, significantly impacted the developmental progression of many of our junior cohort and we have experienced our members expressing feelings of loneliness, depression, anxiety and worry etc, which reflect the same views noted this published report by Kings College, London: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/an-isolated-generation-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-children-and-young-people>

One observation has been that at age 13, those who ought to be moving up to Senior Club did not own the necessary maturity in to order to interact with those aged, 3, 4, or 5 years older than them. Our method to counter this, has been enacting a 'Buddy System', whereby, a young person transitioning to the senior session, will attend a few sessions with their allocated buddy/Young Leader; that will enable them to feel supported, as they make the leap from Junior to Senior session.





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Our Young Leaders also plan and deliver sessions alongside a coach for the junior club's football activities. Such a task has the dual benefit of not only developing coaching and mentoring skills for the Senior Club member, but also allowing a chance to volunteer and 'give back' to ECYC. We have seen this play an important introduction for those considering future employment, not just in Youth Work, but other avenues as well.

We have always recognised that ECYC is home to some extremely talented young people, and our workshops and programmes always strive to promote this. In the current quarter, our team looked at the 5 developmental senses; see, hear, taste, smell and touch. Made famous by Swiss psychologist Jean Piaget, who argued child cognitive development occurred in a series of stages: sensorimotor, preoperational, concrete operational, and formal operational.

At ECYC, our particular focus was at the preoperational stage; where the foundations of language development are taught. By focusing on this crucial aspect, we aim to hone in children's ability to healthily engage with their peers, build on their mental faculties, and of course gain an important insight into how their minds and bodies function.

One of our young people, arrived in the United Kingdom, from Japan and joined ECYC. during the summer. R.N has attended almost every session, for the last 4 months. At the beginning he found it challenging to interact with his peers as he hardly spoke any English. The 5 senses project was highly valuable for him, even if he could not always understand instructions, signs and pictures went a good way in ensuring he did not miss out. Now, 4 months on, he has signposted ECYC to his peers, knows all staff and young people's names, and has markedly improved in his English skills. He has won several competitions, built on his confidence and forms part of the ECYC family.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## SENIOR CLUB – FEMALE ONLY SESSIONS



The female only sessions started mid-2022, due to the former low turnout of female membership up to that point. At ECYC, we seek to empower all young people with the tools to thrive and succeed. The purpose of organising a female-only evening was to not only increase our female engagement, but more so, address the issues which proportionately effect girls more than boys. Such issues include increased anxiety, a higher reliance on anti-depressant medication, and a higher addiction to social media, among others.

As well as being female led, this programme was overseen by an all-female staff, which our team agreed would be the most effective way in achieving the projects goals: solidarity, confidence and self-esteem. In addition to this, we wanted to help the young women learn how to recognise and navigate certain behaviours for example: anger and resentment, fear and emotional withdrawal, as well as disappointment and pain processing. These particular sessions were conducted as a group to not only allow a space for attendees to share and benefit from one another, but also allow for debate, and exchange of views, which we believe is conducive to teaching young people how to manage conflict in a healthy manner.

A highlight of the project during this quarter was a two-night residential at Kingswood, Grosvenor Hall, from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The venue was chosen on the strength that their facilities boasted great teambuilding activities and only a mere two-hour drive from London.



A coach collected 16 of us, comprising of 14 young women and 2 members of ECYC staff. The trip was good in helping staff build a rapport, as well as allay any concerns with those young women, who were either new to ECYC, or who up to that point had never spent a night away from home before.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Upon arrival at the site, we participated in a 'Balance Beams' game, which entailed the group to negotiate a see-saw plank, which could only be done via working as a team. The following day, they participated in Archery, which for many was their first experience of such a sport, and which all enjoyed- despite the heavy rain.

Unfortunately, the poor weather prevented a number of the scheduled activities, but our instructor was helpful in arranging for equally fun indoor activities like rock climbing, which they thoroughly enjoyed – some more than others!

However, the highlight of the residential, was the 3G swing: a high adrenaline activity, that encouraged them to set their own goals, height wise and challenge their limits, whilst building trust with their teammates. The group worked together to hoist two participants, in a harness, up in the air on the 3G swing, as high or low as they wished. When they were ready, the participants pulled the ripcord to release themselves and felt the G-force as they swung back and forth.



This tested many of them, although some had a fear of heights, it was overshadowed by the cheers of encouragement, coming from the Team – it could be heard 30ft up.

On the final evening we spoke with each young person individually, in order to check on their wellbeing, as well as gain feedback on the trip as a whole.

One young person's remark stood out to us: *'The residential allowed us to grow closer, especially with the girls who we would not usually speak to – it also allowed us to get out of our comfort zone and try new things. As a result, I actually realised that we had so much in common. Can we come here again, this time next year?'* R.M



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



During these discussions, we asked the young women, to nominate someone from the group, who they felt was deserving of an award based on the categories:

- Lady Can Do Award
- Newcomer Award
- Extraordinary Courage Award

This enabled us to use the trip to bring the cohort together and reward teamwork, bravery, trying new things and challenging themselves, outside of their usual perimeters.

Since our trip, we have noticed an increase in attendance from our female cohort, as well as, new forged friendships amongst the group and overall, more of a unity and sense of 'sisterhood'.



Upon our return, we dedicated the first session, to facilitating an award ceremony – Pizza 'N' Prizes; where they were able to collect a certificate and a prize, in front of the whole cohort.

In the next quarter, the young people have decided the plan projects that seek to respond to global issues, such as homelessness, women's safety and supporting children with long term health conditions. They will be supported by the Youth Participation Team, in order to apply for a *Youth Council Social Action Fund grants*, enabling them to have more autonomy as a group, on future projects, activities and trips.

All of these changes at ECYC, have enabled the organisation to grow in a way that continues to support children, young people and their families, ensuring that no one is left behind or falls through the cracks, throughout the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, but more specifically the Earls Court and Redcliffe Wards.



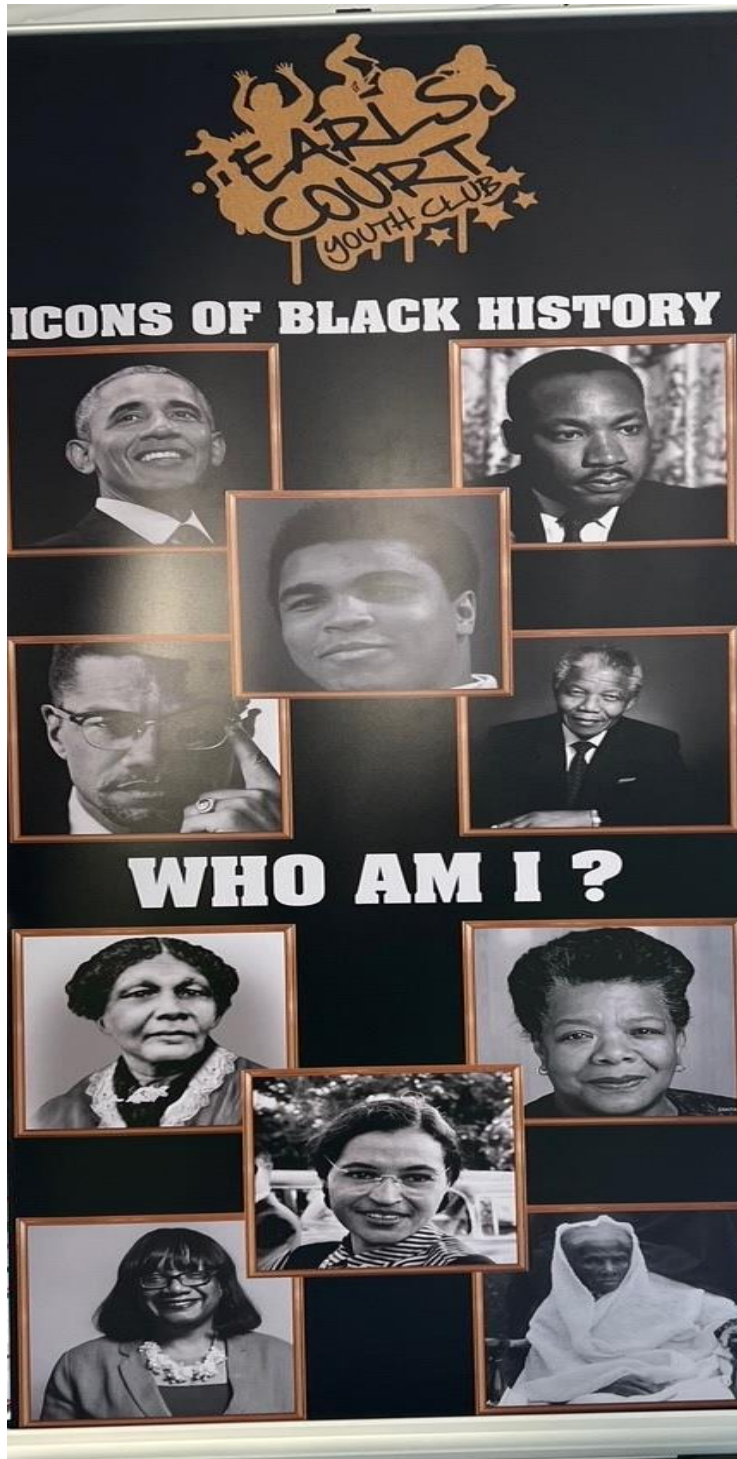
# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH



At ECYC we know that black history is not something that should be celebrated for a month only and forgotten about the rest of the year. For this reason, we have decided to create a Black History Banner that will stay up for all 365 days, with the purpose of year-round education and awareness.

Black History Month is a brilliant time to learn about Black culture and heritage with our members, as well as making sure everyone knows that Black history is a part of history that can (and should) be learned about all year round.

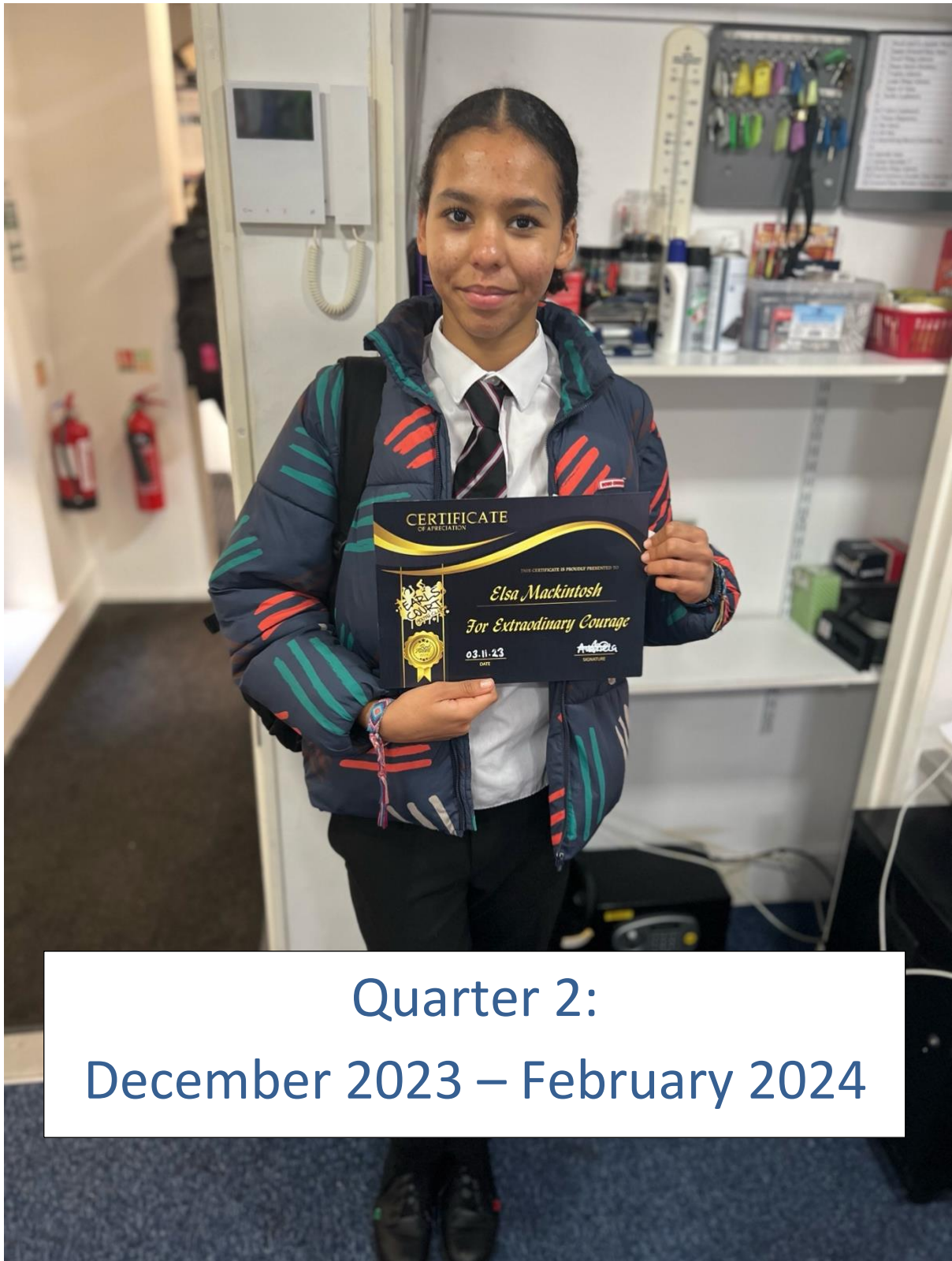
In the UK, October is Black History Month. To help us celebrate, we've put on lots of exciting activities. During these four weeks, we have devised a series of workshops and projects for talking about race with young people. Two such activities which were very popular amongst our members were weekly quizzes and connecting history to young people, which allows for their new education to "stick" whilst making learning fun. We also used key pioneers in black history to invoke thoughts and debates with children and young people, regarding the changes that have occurred since that time.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



**Quarter 2:**  
**December 2023 – February 2024**



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlsourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlsourtyouthclub.co.uk)



**A DAY IN YOUR LIFE  
PHOTOGRAPHY**

CURATED BY  
**ALISON JACKSON**

**PRIVATE VIEW**  
5pm-6:30pm  
**PRIZE GIVING**  
6:30pm-8pm  
**THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY**  
**CADOGAN HALL**

RSVP [JACKSON@ALISONJACKSON.COM](mailto:JACKSON@ALISONJACKSON.COM)  
CADOGAN HALL 5 SLOANE TERRACE, LONDON SW1X 9QQ  
[WWW.dayinyourlife.co.uk](http://WWW.dayinyourlife.co.uk)  
@dayinyourlife  
@alisonjacksonartist

**CADOGAN**  
PRINCIPAL SPONSOR

Model: Avive 13 years old  
Photographer: Sky 14 years old  
**BRING THIS INVITE WITH YOU**

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**YOUNG K&L**  
CHARITY NO: 1301151

*Kensington  
Children's  
Foundation*  
**LIGHTBULB  
TRUST**

## JUNIOR CLUB

The Junior Club continues to be oversubscribed, we are currently running a waiting list of 60 children and young people. This term's activities focus on the five senses: see, hear, touch, taste and smell; which enables children and young people to learn about the world around them and gain a deeper appreciation for its richness and diversity. Additionally, it helps children and young people develop their fine motor skills. These skills are essential for tasks like writing and drawing etc. Lastly, stimulating the senses fosters creativity and imagination. As children explore different textures, tastes, and smells, they develop a rich sensory vocabulary that fuels their creativity.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



The success of the Junior Club has in part been due to the consistent funding from The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust who have enabled us to increase scope and impact of the project to reach more Children and Young people as well as tailoring the provision so that we can attract more marginalised groups. For example we now have the highest ever percentage of female members since inception and we have encouraged the co-creation of activities to ensure they remain engaged and transition to the Senior Club.

In response to the parental and cultural barriers in place that impact Young People's ability to move from the Junior Club to the Senior Club we devised a bespoke transition session, whereby they can 'trial' activities that would be available to them, during the senior club, with the support of their peers and a Young Leader from the Senior Club. This has enabled them to gradually become accustomed to the session, whilst being around peers and Young People they are familiar with and report their achievements back to the home.

During Easter and the summer holidays, the Junior Club cohort took part in 'A Day in Your Life', they had the opportunity to be a photographer, model or both. Through the workshops, we discovered that photography can help children develop their creativity, imagination, and visual literacy skills. Additionally, it can also help them to express themselves and their emotions, as well as, documenting their experiences and memories. They worked tirelessly taking pictures of each other, cheering each other on and capturing snapshots of Earls Court as well as, members of ECYC. 'A Day in Your Life' photography competition hosted by Alison Jackson, was held this year at Cadogan Hall in Chelsea on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024, from, 5-8.30PM. A total of 60 children from across ECYC's Under 8's, Junior and Senior Clubs were shortlisted for a prize based on both their photography and modelling entries. 32 of the shortlisted Young People went on to win first or second price in their category.



*"Thank you so much for encouraging my son to take part in the competition, and helping him to see a gift, we didn't even realise he had. He won 6 awards and he wasn't even expecting to win one!" R.S*

*"My 6 year old had never even held a camera before, this opportunity allowed her to essentially build on a photography career – if she wanted to. The day after she got the camera, she took it to School, to take pictures of her surroundings". A.M*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## SENIOR CLUB

### Girls Football

We started the New Year with a hat trick – a first since the season started back in September 2023! We witnessed Lauren James (plays for Chelsea Football Club as well as the England squad), in action, at the Chelsea VS Manchester United womens football league, at Chelsea Stadium (Stamford Bridge) on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024. We sat so close to the pitch, we felt immersed in the game. The game was filled with females, young and old, cheering on either the blues or the red's, depending on the side they were supporting.



*“We got the chance to wave at Lauren James and when she waved back and recognised us it was the highlight of my day” IK*

We value the importance of encouraging young women to take an interest in Sports, especially with the new strategy aimed at creating a more sustainable future within female Football. ECYC recognises the growth in female Football; and how it is breaking barriers and stereotypes, this in turn can encourage a bridge, in the gap between men and women.

### Eat Club

We have been delivering cooking workshops, to young women, in collaboration with a national charity 'Eat Club'; the aim of the sessions are to educate them on the fundamentals of cooking, the nutritional knowledge and the practical skills needed, in order to develop healthy lifestyle habits.



This is crucial, particularly as; approximately 3 million young people from 'disadvantaged' backgrounds, are either obese or tackling food poverty, as well as, social inequalities etc. the workshops run every Friday and young women dine together at the end of the session.

*‘The first session was fun and interesting, I learnt how to cook food, that I wouldn't otherwise have had access to, within my home environment etc.’ I.Y*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## Holistic therapy

ECYC is home to some extremely talented children and young people, who take their educational attainment extremely seriously, and at times, it can bear a negative impact on their mental health.

*"I come to ECYC every evening to study for my exams, as I want to ensure I get into a top class University (Russell Group). But after a member of ECYC staff encouraged me, to have a massage, I felt so relaxed. I was able to make my own essential oil, of my choice. This helped my concentration a lot and really helped me sleep and feel new". M.F*

Debbie and Asha, are a mother and daughter duo, whose activities enable young women to learn coping methods, ways to de-stress, as well as, planning a 'passion project' and setting weekly goals. The workshops were co-created with young people, who liked the combination of a masseuse and a young female, who followed a different career pathway, than those they are familiar with.

*'The massage was amazing and it really helped me to feel relaxed. The body scrub smelt so nice and relieved my stresses'. E.M*



## Youth Council Social Action Fund

The Youth Council Social Action Fund helps groups of young people in Kensington and Chelsea by funding projects and initiatives to be delivered in their local youth club or organisation.

The Youth Participation Lead, for RBKC, attended ECYC this quarter every Friday evening to support young women's applications to fund projects they are interested in accessing at ECYC. The fund is designed to support the self-development of young people in the area, bringing them together to help improve their lives and address the challenges that are important in their communities. The fund is youth-led, and young people are asked to come up with project ideas, write the application, present their idea to a group of Youth Fund Assessors, and run their project.

Successful applications will need to show how their project fulfils at least one of the following themes: mental health and wellbeing, education, and youth choice. The grants are for up to £2,500 and are available for local youth clubs and organisations to facilitate the delivery of a project designed by, and for, Young People.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



In addition to, the female only Friday session, we have devised a timetable, that enables more female youth workers to be present at the youth club on other evenings of the week, to encourage more female attendance, on the days other than Friday; as we recognise the benefits of having a safe space for both male and female members to partake in activities together and build healthy friendships etc.



According to a government report by [Youth & Policy](#), young women are underrepresented in youth clubs; the report highlighted a need for youth clubs to be more accessible and welcoming to young women. There are a number of reasons why young women may not engage with youth clubs, for example; some may feel that youth clubs are not relevant to their interests or that they do not have the necessary skills to participate. Whereas, others may feel that youth clubs are not safe or welcoming spaces for them – due to the higher ratio of boys. To address these issues, ECYC have co-created programs and activities, alongside young females, that specifically meet their needs and encourage them to start attending youth club.



It is important to recognise the value of youth clubs in providing young people with a sense of community and belonging. Youth clubs can help young people develop important life skills, such as communication, teamwork, and leadership. They can also provide young people with opportunities to engage in positive activities and build positive relationships with their peers and adult mentors.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## EDUCATION ATTAINMENT AND MENTORING

ECYC is one of the most sought after Youth clubS, with many decades of supporting generations of children, young people and their families, we recognise the impact our work has on our direct beneficiaries and the local community as a whole. Therefore, when young people requested tuition, we facilitated sessions with three ECYC alumni who specialised in English, Maths and Science, to support current members on a 1:1 basis, after school, in the hope of improving their educational attainment and their exam results, whilst we sought funding, to reach more young people.



*"I come for tuition three days a week, and I have seen a big change in my grades and my concentration". M.H*

*"I was failing English, and I told ECYC, they have been supporting me to get the grade I need ever since – I feel more confident in myself and my ability". M.F*

We devised a timetable as the demand increased, to ensure that all young people had access to the service, and that they took responsibility for their own learning. The demand increased so much, we have begun to recruit more tutors.

This initiative enabled us to identify that young people are struggling to not only acquire the knowledge for exam but also to manage the pressures surrounding exams, and so we have facilitated a safe space headed by our MIND Mental Health Youth Worker, who was able to listen as they explained how exam stress was affecting them, and in turn offer the young people useful advice and techniques for managing this.

### Future Ambitions and Exploration Opportunities

As part of our yearly programme, we have continued to run a Future Ambitions project which enables young people to explore opportunities, personal passions/interests, and learning a bit more about themselves as an individual.

We have devised a series of activities, one of which is a personality analysis (Meirs Briggs Test) which supported those who are unsure of what they wanted to do in their future by providing them with a list of traits and possible affinities to professions depending on the result of their test.

One member who had lost interest in sixth-form/college education had taken part in these activities including the MBTI Test. The activities had given him an insight into some possible routes of employment that he may be interested in. Horticulture was given as a suggestion, and at first the young person was sceptical. Having tried the Landscape Gardening / Horticulture project with a local



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



employer, his interest has developed to the point he is now considering it as a long-term career. Another cohort of young people completed a course on business mapping & modelling. They are now in the process of developing their own clothing line. Furthermore, fifteen members are working with specialised staff to identify different university pathways: upgrading and improving their CVs and UCAS applications. Many young people were given advice on securing placements, part-time jobs, shadowing opportunities, and mass emailing local businesses to observe jobs that they are interested in to find out if it is for them or not.

*“I have always wanted to be a chef. Having a week work experience in a three-star Michelin restaurant, I have discovered that I no longer want to follow this passion and I am now pursuing the profession of personal trainer and chiropractor.” – KK*



## COMMUNICATION IS KEY

This is a new initiative for ECYC and mental health has been identified by our members as a significant subject that impacts their life so for now, we have teamed up with the national charity MIND to address some of the root causes of mental health in young men. [Studies show that mentoring programmes](#) can prevent violence by reducing subsequent incidents by 21%. “It does show that we could make a colossal difference if we wanted to,” [\(J. Yates, Head of Youth Endowment Fund \(YEF\)\)](#). [Half of teenagers in England and Wales have witnessed or been victims of violence, study reveals | Crime | The Guardian](#)

Youth violence is a significant difficulty facing young people, particularly in London, as the above article suggests, this has various impacts on the day to day of adolescents. Though some initiatives can make a difference and this pilot is aiming to address these difficulties at an early, preventative stage via communication. Communication is a key factor influencing how we express emotions positive and in effecting our relationships which in turn, as evidence suggests, have a significant impact on mental health – hence the name of the programme: Communication is Key. The aim being to foster a different more positive approach for adolescent boys to express themselves rather than choose violence. The participants had chance to establish their own specific goals to consider how to apply the skills and strategies to their circumstances and their personal challenges.

Eight ECYC members actively engaged in a six-week programme titled Communication Is Key, a specialised segment derived from the Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Adolescent Skills Training initiative facilitated by our partner, the MIND Charity. Throughout the programme, the members demonstrated commendable openness and honesty, fostering a collaborative and confidential environment by sharing personal experiences with a professional therapist. Notably, their exceptional empathy and support for friends in achieving their goals, coupled with a commitment to personal growth, was evident for all to see.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



The young people's reflective abilities regarding interpersonal interactions and the impact of relationships on mental health underscored their insightful approach. Despite some members reluctance to admit that they found this transformative, we have noticed an improvement in their relationships with family members. In a particular case, a mother wanted to learn more about “communication is key” stating that her son has “become less aggressive and more considerate towards his siblings”.

Throughout the sessions, the members acknowledged and debated the stigmas around mental health difficulties and with their engagement and openness they actively challenged the stereotypes around male mental health. The outcomes display the hard work, commitment and effort both in and out of the sessions. This shows the changes in attitudes to conflict and communication generally as well as the progress made by all members in their specific communication-based goals.

John, Mental Health Youth Worker – programme facilitator

*“This Programme began with 14 young people, each taking part in an initial assessment and goal setting session. From here eight of those young people chose to take part much in line with ECYC’s value of being young-person led.*

*This speaks volumes of the young people: one for those being able to voice that this was not the right time or mode of support for them. And two, for those who took it upon themselves to acknowledge that this support may be beneficial and to open themselves up to it. Discussing mental health and emotions can, by nature, be very difficult, it can be tough with a professional and even tougher with peers though this is the challenge these young men took on.*

*I can only give my thanks to those who took part and to ECYC for being open to this group and led by their young people in giving it a go.”*

## PLACEMENT

ECYC has worked very hard to support members to embark on paid placements. One example of this is Ali, who has managed to enter a year in industry during his university course. Ali has lived in the Earls Court area for most of his life and ECYC advocate for exemplary young people who do not have a significant network that will allow them to realise their ambitions.

As part of his 7-year architecture course, he needed to find a placement in an otherwise extremely competitive industry. It is worth noting that these placements are offered to graduates as opposed to someone who is just beginning their third year at university. ECYC reached out to our supporters in the hopes of finding an organisation that would give him an interview. We are happy to report that we have been successful in helping Ali to secure a paid placement which he is very much enjoying now.

*“I have been a member since I was nine, and I have come to appreciate the opportunities on offer as I got older and knew that I can come to ECYC when I wanted to explore a passion. Thanks to Abdi for his perseverance and I am now working on some really interesting and big architectural projects that include Euston and King Cross station to name a few “*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## REFRESHER TRAINING

As we continue to upskill staff and volunteers at ECYC, it was crucial that we further develop their understanding of Youth Work, and the needs of children, young people and their families, in this current climate. The training looked at, personal, professional and environmental boundaries, keeping yourself safe online, and reflective practice. This gave staff a chance to ask questions and ensure that they understand the parameters of their work particularly as we are aware that Youth Work is a bespoke field. At the end/beginning of each school term where we are not delivering face to face services we are training our team, so their knowledge can be refreshed and kept up-to-date.

Local Safeguarding Children Partnership delivered a training at ECYC, for all staff, looking at the ways in which children and young people use the internet, new and emerging online harms, risks young people may encounter online, bullying, online radicalisation, as well as, providing access to resources, that enable practitioners to support, signpost and advice parents/carers.

## ELDERLY CHRISTMAS LUNCH



On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, ECYC hosted a fabulous 3 course Christmas lunch for 60 of our elderly community members. Prior to the arrival of our senior citizens, 5 ward police officers were on hand to set up and extensively decorate the club in true festive spirit and also meticulously prepare and serve the food. It was truly a meal to remember!



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Holidays can be a lonely time for the older members of our community and this special initiative allowed them to reconnect with the community in what is a time of love and togetherness. Christmas carols were sung, and secret Santa gifts were exchanged. Further provisions of food were needed due to the high event turnout but the police officers were on hand to purchase more supplies to be prepared and served. Good food, good company and lots of laughs sums up the lunch perfect!



A reminder of what we can achieve because our members are tenacious, creative and resilient.  
Our thanks to Nicola Butler at Young K&C and Alison Jackson for this opportunity.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



Quarter 3: March 2024 – May 2024



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## YOUNG LOCAL ARTISTS

Young Artists' is a dynamic photography program and competition founded by BAFTA and multi-award-winning artist Alison Jackson.

ECYC has played a leading role in the project, in partnership with Young K&C and other local youth clubs.

Portraits captured for the programme will be on display at Warwick Road for next year, facing the Earl's Court tube station. The large monochrome portraits, most of whom were taken by young people from Earls Court Youth Club reach up to 3.1m tall.

Look out for the young people's photos as you come out of Earls Court Tube – they look absolutely amazing and showcase the talent and hard work of ECYC members.

Previously displayed in the A Day in Your Life exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery, as part of Alison's annual programme to celebrate creative talent from under-represented backgrounds in Kensington and Chelsea, this installation represents another chance to see works created by ECYC members - young, budding artists in our communities.

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## \* SECRET LONDON

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2. Admire the public art installation created by Kensington and Chelsea's young people



Opposite the Warwick Road exit at Earls Court station, you'll now find an utterly impressive new art installation, created by young people aged 4-24. The beautiful black and white shots capture the local community of Kensington and Chelsea, and participants of a photography programme founded by award-winning artist Alison Jackson. The programme gave participants access to studio facilities, training, and mentoring to create the large-scale work.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## THE ACCELERATE PROGRAMME

Accelerate is a bespoke course designed for young people keen to explore the suitability of a potential career in the built environment sector. This programme specifically targets sixth form students from under-represented groups who are eager to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for a career in fields such as architecture, engineering, planning, and design.



The programme included ten creative workshops held on Saturdays, along with work experience opportunities hosted by some of London's top architecture and built environment practices. It is run by the charity Open City and hosted by three leading institutions: UCL's Bartlett School of Architecture, UAL's Central St Martins and Kingston University.

Accelerate provides participants with:

- Skills development workshops in a university environment
- Visits to iconic sites around London
- Peer to peer learning with university students
- Public exhibition
- Guidance workshops on portfolio production and university applications
- Mentoring with an architect at their London office.
- Optional Arts Gold Award earning 16 UCAS points



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



The programme started October 2023 and ended May 2024. The Earls Court Development Company partnered with Open City to enable 5 young people who live in the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham and 5 young people from the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea to join this programme.

Of the five spaces available for RBKC, four young people from ECYC were selected after a rigorous application process. These participants were immensely proud of their achievement. Notably, all four pursued the Arts Gold Award, earning 16 UCAS points. The multifaceted approach of the Accelerate programme has significantly enriched our members' educational journeys, preparing them for future academic and professional endeavours.



***"The Accelerate programme provided me with the invaluable opportunity to meet and be mentored by world-class industry professionals. This experience has significantly contributed to my personal development and greatly enhanced the quality of my personal statement for university applications." - D.K***



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## ECYC DINING

We believe that encouraging children and young people to eat fresh wholesome food, together can help young people lead happier, healthier lives. As such, we aim to also use food to foster good relationships between young women; particularly, as preteens and teens seek independence from their parents, they often turn to their peers for guidance and acceptance. While some find healthy groups to click with, others may join cliques that offer security at the expense of individuality and values.



For more information and research by Oxford University into how social eating connects communities see <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2017-03-16-social-eating-connects-communities>

## GIRLS NIGHT



Every Friday evening, we host a "Girls' Night." These popular, weekly female-only sessions provide a dedicated space for young women to gather, share, and learn without the complexities that can arise in mixed-gender settings. This exclusive environment encourages open discussions on topics such as self-esteem, personal growth, and women's health, fostering a sense of camaraderie and understanding.

Girls' Night is particularly valuable as it offers girls and young women the opportunity to engage in activities and discuss topics they might not feel comfortable addressing in mixed sessions, such as sports and health issues specific to young women.

With membership growing, we are pleased to announce the recruitment of a new female coach. Danielle has been an incredible addition to the team, successfully engaging all the girls in football as well as other sports like volleyball and badminton, which they have thoroughly enjoyed.

To further encourage unity among the female cohort, we organised a trip to our local Nando's, allowing us to dine together outside of ECYC and observe any impact this might have. Research



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



suggests that eating with others provides both social and individual benefits; those who eat socially more often feel happier, more satisfied with life, and more engaged with their local communities.

## QPR WOMEN VS CAMBRIDGE WOMEN

On a rainy Mother's Day (10<sup>th</sup> March), ECYC accompanied 16 young girls to watch QPR Women's play against Cambridge Women's at Loftus road stadium.

The trip was part of our continued efforts to encourage more female participation in Football. We also felt it was necessary to experience Football from the lenses of a grassroots organisation.

Although it rained the entire day, the girl's spirits remained high, throughout the 90 minutes! Thanks to QPR in the Community and Young K&C for the tickets.



## A NEW MET FOR LONDON

The Youth Independent Advisory Group (YIAG) is a voluntary group made up of young people who are independent from the Police; who review and challenge policing practices in a constructive way, which in turn, helps improve the police service for the public. 6 young people from ECYC were chosen to sit on the advisory group for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to support them to identify priority areas relating to young people around police and crime, as well as, consult other young people on policing priorities.

***"The New MET for London event helped me gain an insight into the reality of 'stop and search' and how they are trying to crack down on selective searches to make all citizens feel safe". D.M***

The 'A New Met for London' initiative aims to change and improve service to local communities and build confidence that the Met is listening and changing.

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024, young people from ECYC were invited to attend 'A New Met for London' event at Kensington Town Hall, the event was well attended by a hierarchy of Officers within the RBKC Police; ranging from Sergeants, Constables, Youth engagement, Community Support Officer and Superintendents etc.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



The forum offered an opportunity for young people – particularly BAME young men, to provide the Officers with a snippet, into what policing in London looks like for them. It was very impressive to see how much of the law they understood, but also a shame to hear their negative encounters with Officers. But their ability to articulate their grievances to a room full of Met Police was breath-taking – so much so, they have been asked back for further conversations with the Met’s hierarchy.

Opportunities such as these, continue to further bridge the divide between local young people and The Metropolitan Police.

## CHESS CLUB



What may have seemed like an ordinary chess club was, in fact, a pretext to build relationships and provide young people with a platform to discuss issues related to local policing and understanding their rights.

I was delighted to witness our dedicated Youth Engagement Police Officer, Andres, facilitating the weekly ECYC Chess Club. These sessions were highly engaging for everyone involved.

The young participants were able to multitask, simultaneously learning the game of chess and engaging in conversations about local issues and politics.

Many remarked on the valuable lessons they learned regarding the importance of forethought and concentration.

The harmony and cross polination of ideas that flow seamlessly between ECYC and the Met Police Force is a masterclass in building trust, breaking down barriers and keeping the local community safe.



***“I firstly wanted to thank you on behalf of us all for showing us in no uncertain terms what a truly successful Youth Club is all about. It was inspiring to say the least.”***

*Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Board | Lucy Smith-Ryland*



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB PLAYER VISIT

ECYC was honoured to be the host site for a visit from the Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), eager to understand the impactful work we're undertaking through the Million Hours Fund. This initiative, generously funded by DCMS and The National Lottery Community Fund, enables ECYC to provide crucial support to at-risk children and young people through two Senior Club Sessions every week, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6 PM to 9 PM. These sessions are a lifeline, offering a safe and supportive environment to help deter young people from anti-social behaviour.

On Wednesday, 8th May, we were privileged to welcome Calvin Bassey from Fulham FC to ECYC. Calvin, an inspiring figure who has risen to football stardom from humble beginnings as an African young man raised in a single-parent household, shared his compelling story with our young attendees. The young people were captivated not just by Calvin's impressive green Porsche, but by his candid recounting of the challenges and triumphs he faced on his journey to becoming a professional footballer. His presence made a significant impact, especially when he participated in our Football Skills Development session.



Calvin enthusiastically engaged with the young people, running drills and sharing valuable tips.

For our budding footballers, this experience was nothing short of exhilarating. Learning directly from a professional player, especially one from a local club they admire, was an unforgettable opportunity. It fuelled their passion and dreams, demonstrating that with dedication and resilience, they too can achieve greatness.

This visit, and our ongoing efforts through the Million Hours Fund, underscore ECYC's commitment to making a real difference in the lives of young people, guiding them towards brighter futures.

Some young people were fortunate enough, to speak with Calvin 1:1, this was their feedback:

***"Don't doubt yourself and talent can only take you so far, but with determination, you can make it in any career". K.K***



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## FIRST AID TRAINING.

First aid is crucial because it can save lives and reduce suffering during emergencies. Three ECYC staff members participated in a three-day Level 3 Paediatric First Aid training on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of March.



ECYC was delighted to host the training on behalf of Young K&C, welcoming youth workers from all over the borough to train together in our building.

The training was essential to our work, allowing us to identify and adapt to changes in our practices. This was particularly crucial for our first aid training, ensuring that our

team is always prepared and capable of providing immediate and effective assistance in emergencies. The training enabled staff to become more confident in their response to injuries and better equipped to react to incidents when they occur. We are proud to announce that all three members of staff successfully passed the course!

## EXPLORING THE IMPACTS OF SMARTPHONES ON CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Lilah Parson, a former ECYC volunteer and a prominent London presenter, DJ, producer, and journalist, recently filmed a captivating documentary at ECYC. This project delves into the profound impacts of smartphones on children and adolescents. Currently pursuing an MA in Broadcast Journalism at City, University of London, Lilah created this short documentary as a crucial part of her research.

In a world where the narrative about smartphones often overlooks the perspectives of young users, this documentary provides a unique platform for their voices to be heard. According to Ofcom's 2024 report, an astonishing 9 out of 10 children own a mobile phone by the age of 11. Despite this, much of the discussion around smartphone use fails to centre on the children themselves.

The documentary aims to shed light on what it truly means for today's youth to grow up in an era dominated by smartphones. It captures their thoughts, habits, and reflections on how these devices influence their lives. The young participants share candidly about their daily interactions with smartphones, whether they have considered altering their usage, and their views on how these ever-present gadgets are shaping their world. Through their stories, Lilah's documentary strives to illuminate the often-unheard experiences of a generation growing up in the digital age.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## YOUNG K&C ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

On Thursday 22nd May, Young K&C hosted their first **Achievement Awards: Celebrating Excellence!**

The ceremony took place at Cine Lumiere, The French Institute and was aimed at celebrating the outstanding standard of service provided for children and young people in Kensington and Chelsea.

There was an opportunity for organisations, children, young people and their families, to nominate a Young K&C member for the work they have done to support children and young people this year.





# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk



We are extremely proud to say that; Aurnela, was honoured with the prestigious Youth Worker of the Year Award, while Daisy, our Chair, was celebrated as Trustee of the Year. Additionally, we were recognised for our outstanding commitment to investing in our staff, receiving yet another commendation. The evening was further distinguished by the presentation of a Special Recognition Award for our partnership work, marking an extraordinary achievement for our small youth club.



*"It was nice to be amongst other professionals within the sector, to meet organisations we had yet to be acquainted with, as well as, finding out more about the amazing work being done by our peers". A.M*

We even got the chance to take some pictures with the Mayor of RBKC and feature on his Twitter!

Congratulations to the whole Young K&C Team for beautifully hosted and impactful event.



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk




## Core Youth Work Programme

As well as facilitating the above projects and partnerships to not only open opportunities for members but to educate them, we also ran our regular youth work programme. The key purpose of youth work is to enable young people to develop holistically, working with them to facilitate their personal, social and educational development, to enable them to develop their voice, influence and place in society and to reach their full potential.

Children and young people were consulted and involved in the designing of services on offer at ECYC. Our aim is to ensure our services meet the needs of members and it is inclusive, relevant, cost effective, improve things and is accessible. We are able to check all these things are met by involving children, young people & their families in the process of continual improvement.

Please see the activity timetable below as advertised to members for the very last quarter of this report.

Age Range	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Junior Session (9-12 years)		<b>Tekkers Tuesday</b> 3:45pm – 5:30pm (all abilities)	<b>Football Skills Development</b> 3:45pm – 5:30pm <b>transition years ONLY</b> (ages 13-14)		<b>Football Tournaments</b> 3:45pm – 5:30pm (all abilities)
		<b>Visual &amp; Expressive Art</b> 3:45pm – 5pm	<b>Table Tennis Club</b> 3:45pm – 5pm		<b>Quiz Show</b> 3:45pm – 5pm
		<b>Chess Club</b> 3:45pm – 5:00pm	<b>Themed Film Afternoon</b> 3:45pm – 5pm		<b>ECYC Voice</b> 3:45pm – 5pm (Young people shaping the future)
		<b>ECYC Dining</b> 5:00pm – 5:40pm	<b>ECYC Dining</b> 5:00pm – 5:40pm		<b>ECYC Dining</b> 5:00pm – 5:40pm
Senior Session (14-19 years and up to 25 with SEND)		<b>Study Space Available</b> 3:45 – 5:45pm	<b>Study Space Available</b> 3:45 – 5:45pm	<b>Study Space Available</b> 3:45 – 5:45pm	<b>Study Space Available</b> 3:45 – 5:45pm
		<b>Communication is Key</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Opportunity to Explore</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Career Development</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Limitless Pop-Up</b> 6pm-8pm RBKC Youth Participation Team
		<b>Conditioning for Boxing</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Football Fitness</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Football Tournament</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Wellness &amp; Pampering</b> 6pm – 8pm
		<b>1:1 Tutoring</b> <b>FULLY BOOKED</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>1:1 Tutoring</b> <b>FULLY BOOKED</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>1:1 Tutoring</b> <b>FULLY BOOKED</b> 6pm – 8pm	<b>Cooking classes</b> 6pm-8pm 
		<b>ECYC Dining</b> 8pm – 8:30pm	<b>ECYC Dining</b> 8pm – 8:30pm	<b>ECYC Dining</b> 8pm – 8.30pm	<b>Female ECYC Dining</b> 8pm – 8:30pm



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## CHAIR'S REPORT

As Earls Court Youth Club approaches its 48th anniversary, it is truly inspiring to reflect on the profound impact this incredible institution continues to make in the lives of young people. Over the past year, ECYC has adapted remarkably well to the evolving societal challenges we face—from the cost-of-living crisis and youth unemployment to school exclusions and the widening educational divide. I am proud to report that the youth club has not only met but exceeded all its targets, demonstrating a level of excellence and resilience in youth work that deserves recognition.

The range of activities on offer has been exceptional, catering to the diverse needs and interests of young people in our community. This success is a testament to the dedication and passion of our staff, volunteers, and young leaders. Their tireless commitment to ensuring that children and young people have access to every possible opportunity has been instrumental in the achievements we celebrate today. They truly embody the values of youth work, acting as role models for our members and playing a vital role in the overall success of the club.

Youth work is a demanding and relentless field, requiring a full-time commitment from our Chief Executive Officer and the entire team. This year, we have seen a significant expansion in the range of services and activities offered at ECYC, resulting in rewarding and meaningful outcomes for our members. Every visit to the youth club leaves me in awe of the creativity and artistic expression that thrives here. From award-winning photography by our young members to striking stencil art, Dibond panels, and intergenerational art projects, the club has become a hub for artistic talent and innovation.

Despite our successes, we have faced significant financial challenges this year. We felt compelled to deplete our reserves because our core government funding and charitable grants were awarded pre-pandemic, pre-cost-of-living-crisis and pre-increase in refugees to the local area. These funds no longer covered the costs of delivering a world class, ambitious service that responds to the urgent and emerging needs of our community.

However, there is hope on the horizon. We have been working hard to secure new funds that reflect the current delivery costs, and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has moved away from a tendering process towards grant-making in partnership with Young K&C. This change within RBKC means we can now bid for the true costs associated with our Senior Club, and for the first time, we can apply for funding to support our Junior Club.

In closing, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Abdi Aden and everyone involved in ECYC—our staff, volunteers, young leaders, and supporters. Your unwavering dedication has been the driving force behind the club's continued success, and I together with my fellow trustees and committee members are confident that together, we will overcome the challenges ahead and continue to provide a positive, safe, and empowering space for the young people of Earl's Court.



**Daisy Gili, ECYC Chair**



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



## Our Thanks

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all our funders and supporters. Your generous contributions have been instrumental in enabling us to provide vital services and to adapt to the ever-changing needs and challenges faced by our communities.

We are deeply appreciative of the unwavering support from our sponsors and partners. Your commitment not only empowers us but also strengthens the fabric of our community, allowing us to make a meaningful impact.

Thank you once again for your invaluable support. We look forward to continuing our work together.

**Alison Jackson**

**All Child (Formally West London Zone)**

**Earl's Court Community Trust**

**Foyle Foundation**

**John Lyon's Charity**

**London Film Academy**

**London Sports Trust**

**London Youth**

**Million Hours Fund**

**RBKC City Living Local Life funded**

**RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund**

**St Mary The Bolton**

**The Earls Court Development Company**

**The Feathers Association**

**The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust**

**The Julia Rausing Trust**

**The Lightbulb Trust**

**The Mosaic Rooms**

**The National Lottery Community Fund**

**The Linbury Trust**

**The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea**

**Redcliffe Ward Councillors**

**Young K&C**



# AGM REPORT 2024

June 2023 – May 2024

[www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk](http://www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk)



**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 March 2024**

Charity Registration Number 1203387

These Accounts are for the first 9 months of the New Charitable Incorporated Organisation of the ECYC

Approved by the AGM 23 Sept 2024

Approved by the Accountants 18 Nov 2024

# EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024

---

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 and set out on pages 2 to 7

### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145 (5b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- 2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 18/11/2024



Andrew Haggard FCA  
Haggards Crowther  
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House  
19 Heathmans Road  
London  
SW6 4TJ

**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**

**FINANCIAL ACTIVITY 2023-2024**

**FOR JULY 1 2023-MARCH 31 2024**

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	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>£</b>
Donations, gifts and fund raising	<b>3</b>	94,430.12
Government & Local Authority grant	<b>3</b>	86,878.00
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>181,308.12</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Direct charitable expenditure	<b>5</b>	208,642.53
Management and Admin	<b>6</b>	28,834.27
<b>Total Resources expended</b>		<b>237,476.80</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>		<b>(56,168.68)</b>
Bought Forward Balance from old Club		126,749.00
<b>Total funds carried forward:</b>		<u><u>70,580.32</u></u>

# EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 March 2024

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	at 31st March 2024	
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors		
Cash at bank Treasurers Acct	11,174.16	
Cash at Bank Deposit Acct	65,508.12	
Petty Cash	200.00	
	<hr/>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		76,882.28
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accruals	5971.75	
Pensions	330.21	
	<hr/>	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		6301.96
		<hr/>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		70,580.32
		<hr/> <hr/>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Net Surplus/Deficit	70,580.32	
Net surplus /Deficit Prior year	6,116.70	
	<hr/>	
Net surplus /Deficit current year	64,463.62	
		<hr/>
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		70,580.32
		<hr/> <hr/>

# EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024

---

### 1 Basis of Preparation

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;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); and
- with the Charities Act 2011.

### 2 Accounting Policies

#### a) Transition to FRS102

These statements comply with FRS 102.

#### b) Government Grants

The charity has received government grants in the reporting period.

#### c) Income from interest, royalties and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

#### d) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts, less any trade discounts.

**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT)**

---

**3 Incoming Resources**

**Charitable grants, donations and fundraising**

Million Hours Fund	22,862.00	
Donations	100.00	
JH Rausing trust Christmas	8000.00	
JD Tooley	675.00	
Young K&C	12,000.00	
The Lightbulb trust	35,000.00	
The Linbury trust	4,000.00	
Earls Court Partnership	10,000.00	
West London Zone	1,785.00	
Bank Interest	8.12	

94,430.12

**Government and Local Authority grants**

Public Sector Income - RBKC	86,878.00	
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86,878.00

**Total Incoming Resources** **181,308.12**

## EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT)

---

#### 4. Fixed Assets

- a) The cost of the Club Building amounting to £49,996 has not been capitalised nor shown on the face of the balance sheet. The land on which the building stands is leased from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and a new 20 year lease was signed in 2019 with a licence agreement currently at a peppercorn rent of £1..
- b) Since 1 April 1989 the Club's policy has been to write off fully fixtures and fittings at the cost of equipment in the year of purchase.

#### 5. Direct Charitable Expenditure

Wages	152,635.22
Volunteers	1,580.00
Employers Nat Insurance	3,925.16
Pension	1,518.97
Transport	4,320.80
Consumables for sessions	9,464.70
Food for sessions and Kitchen Supplies	27,197.68
Christmas Vouchers	8,000.00
<b>TOTAL Direct expenditure</b>	<b>208,642.53</b>

## EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

YEAR ENDING 31 March 2024

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT)

---

#### 6 Management and Administration

Note: No director or trustee received any remuneration during the year. One employee earned over £30,000 per annum.

Rates	5,225.15
Insurance	2,029.09
Printing	2,762.22
Equipment and IT	7,180.10
Audit and Accountancy	2,994.00
Professional Fees	3,873.17
Repairs	4179.15
Bank	2.08
Subscriptions	589.31
<b>Total Management and Administration</b>	<b>28,834.27</b>

#### 7. Affiliated clubs

Club is not affiliated with any other clubs

**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 March 2024**

Charity Registration Number 1203387

These Accounts are for the first 9 months of the New Charitable Incorporated Organisation of the ECYC

Approved by the AGM 23 Sept 2024

Approved by the Accountants 18 Nov 2024

# EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 and set out on pages 2 to 7

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Date: 18/11/2024



Andrew Haggard FCA  
Haggards Crowther  
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House  
19 Heathmans Road  
London  
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**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**  
**FINANCIAL ACTIVITY 2023-2024**  
**FOR JULY 1 2023-MARCH 31 2024**

---

	Notes	Total
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# EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB**

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**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT)**

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## EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024

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## EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB

YEAR ENDING 31 March 2024

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