

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**FOR**  
**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

Leroy Reid & Co  
Chartered Certified  
Accountants  
299 Northborough Road  
Norbury  
London  
SW16 4TR

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

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**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**TRUSTEES**

M Symonds  
Ms V White  
Ms C Cohen  
Ms J Powell

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

43 Artherfold Road  
London  
SW9 9LN

**REGISTERED CHARITY  
NUMBER**

1204609

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Leroy Reid & Co  
Chartered Certified  
Accountants  
299 Northborough Road  
Norbury  
London  
SW16 4TR

**OPERATIONAL ADDRESS**

Stewards Road Adventure  
Playground  
SW8 4UG

**BANKERS**

National Westminster Bank  
250 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2M 4AA

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th September 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

The charity operates from Stewarts Road Adventure Playground, providing inclusive play, youth development and community support for children, young people and families in the local area.

The trustees are responsible for overseeing the charity's activities and ensuring that the organisation continues to work towards its charitable purposes.

Big Up Communities exists to provide safe, inclusive spaces where children and young people can play and learn freely, build friendships, develop life skills and feel part of a community.

Our work centres around The Stewarts Road Adventure Playground, where we run youth sessions, holiday playschemes and community activities designed to support young people from a wide range of backgrounds.

Many of the families who access the playground face barriers to affordable activities or support services. Our sessions provide somewhere safe and welcoming for young people to spend time outdoors, learn new skills and connect with others.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are confident that the charity's activities continue to provide clear benefit to the local community.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

This year has been another busy one for Big Up Communities. Alongside running regular youth sessions and playschemes, we have continued to strengthen partnerships, grow our volunteer base and improve the playground site. Our Open Gate Saturday sessions continue to be a core part of what we do, offering young people a place to play, socialise and take part in activities in a relaxed and supportive environment.

We also delivered several holiday playschemes, providing free activities and meals for local young people as part of the Lambeth HAF initiative. These sessions are particularly important for families during school holidays and allow us to connect with new families while maintaining relationships with existing service users.

Over the course of the year we:

- Engaged 484 individuals through programmes, volunteering and staffing
- Employed 13 sessional staff and 3 peer mentors
- Created 190 volunteer opportunities
- Provided over 400 hot, healthy meals to young people attending sessions and holiday activities.

Feedback from families consistently highlights how valuable the activities Big Up hosts at The Stewarts Road Adventure Playground are to the community. Parents have described the space as a "lifeline", particularly for families with children who have additional needs or limited access to affordable activities.

### **SEND Support and Inclusion**

Our sessions are designed to be mixed ability and inclusive, and we are seeing a growing number of young people attending who require additional support.

Waiting times for diagnosis and support services are increasing, which means many families are struggling to find safe spaces where their children can participate fully.

In response, we have increased the number of 1:1 support places available during playschemes and continue to develop partnerships with organisations specialising in autism and SEND services to improve the support available to families.

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Life Skills Programme**

During the year we delivered a Life Skills programme for young people aged 16-25 with Special Educational Needs, funded by the National Lottery Awards for All programme.

The workshops focused on practical independence skills, confidence building and social development, helping young people gain experience that supports them as they move into adulthood. They also gained an Arts Award Accreditation. The programme has reinforced the need for more accessible opportunities for young adults with additional needs.

**Fun Days at the Playground**

We have run two Fun Days at the playground - one at Christmas 2024 and one in September 2025 (funded by the Mayor of London Community grant). The Fun Days provide an opportunity to promote the project, raise funds and bring the community together. We have activities such as arts and crafts, toasting marshmallows, DJs providing music, drumming workshop and refreshments.

**Community Partnerships**

Partnership working continues to play an important role in helping us improve the playground and expand what we offer. We continue to develop a strong partnership with London Play Design, a community interest company that supports adventure playgrounds across London. Through this collaboration, corporate volunteer teams have supported maintenance and development work on the site.

Through London Play Design's Adopt a Playground programme, Informa Tech funded and carried out significant refurbishment work at the site, including essential roof repairs and improvements to play structures and outdoor areas. This work involved over 130 corporate volunteers and was vital in helping secure the future of the playground.

The charity has also benefited from fundraising and organisational development support through the Greenlight Project, which has helped us strengthen our approach to fundraising and develop new partnerships.

**Fundraising**

Like many small charities, Big Up Communities relies on a combination of grants, donations and community fundraising to continue its work.

Our "Raise the Roof" campaign helped fund urgent repairs to the playground building. Community fundraising events and local support have helped raise awareness of the campaign and bring people together to support the playground.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported our work, from individual donors and volunteers to corporate partners and grant funders.

**Challenges**

Running a community playground with limited resources continues to present challenges. One of the biggest issues during the year has been the need for significant building repairs. Addressing these issues required a considerable amount of time and fundraising effort, which inevitably reduces the time available for programme development.

However, achieving charity status in 2023 has opened up new opportunities for funding and partnerships, and we are beginning to see the benefits of this as the organisation grows.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

The results of the years operation are set out in the attached financial statements.

**Reserves policy**

The Charity continues to seek further funding for its important work, and has long term aim of building general reserves (unrestricted funds) to a level equal to six months running costs, in order to protect itself from any unexpected fall in income.

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**FUTURE PLANS**

The trustees remain committed to strengthening the charity and ensuring that the playground continues to serve the local community for many years to come.

Our priorities for the coming year include:

- Expanding SEND support and inclusive programming
- Securing Multi year funding to secure, grow and develop our activities
- Continuing improvements to the playground site
- Strengthening financial sustainability through diversified funding
- Increasing opportunities for volunteering and community leadership
- Developing new programmes that support young people's life skills and wellbeing

We believe that Stewarts Road Adventure Playground has the potential to become an even stronger community hub, and we look forward to continuing to help it grow and develop the charity's work.

**Acknowledgements**

The trustees would like to thank the staff team, volunteers, partners and supporters who have contributed their time, expertise and encouragement over the past year.

Their support allows Big Up Communities to continue providing a safe, welcoming space where children and young people can play, learn and belong. We would like to thank our funders The National Lottery, Mayor of London Community Fund, Greenlight and Lambeth Council

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

Big Up Communities (formerly Big Up Films) is a registered charity 1204609 and was registered 9 September 2023. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and the powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The Trustees of the Charity are elected to the Management Committee at the Annual General Meeting or appointed between meetings by cooption, in accordance with the Articles of Association. The number of the committee members shall not be less than four but shall be subject to a maximum of seven.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

Trustees and committee members receive an induction pack with details of the constitution and about the work of the charity. Arrangements are also made to visit the Project to see the charity in operation.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 1 MAY 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
M Symonds - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of BIG UP COMMUNITIES (the Trust) for the year ended 30th September 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

E Okai

Ebenezer Okai (BSc), FCCA

Leroy Reid & Co  
Chartered Certified  
Accountants  
299 Northborough Road  
Norbury  
London  
SW16 4TR

Date: 5/05/2026



**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	2,051	39,865	41,916	87,214
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Charitable activities	3				
Community Projects		6,482	57,726	64,208	67,669
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(4,431)	(17,861)	(22,292)	19,545
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		6,945	31,800	38,745	19,200
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		2,514	13,939	16,453	38,745

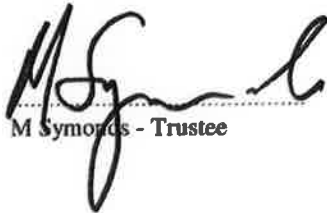
The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		18,073	40,545
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,620)	(1,800)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>16,453</u>	<u>38,745</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>16,453</u>	<u>38,745</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>16,453</u>	<u>38,745</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10		
Unrestricted funds		2,514	6,945
Restricted funds		<u>13,939</u>	<u>31,800</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>16,453</u>	<u>38,745</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
1 MAY 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
M Symonds - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

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

##### **BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

##### **INCOME**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### **EXPENDITURE**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### **TAXATION**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

##### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>2025 Total funds £</b>	<b>2024 Total funds £</b>
Lightbulb Trust	-	-	-	20,592
National Lottery	-	19,815	19,815	41,780
Lambeth Council	-	18,100	18,100	18,420
Mayor of London	-	1,950	1,950	-
Other Incomes	2,051	-	2,051	6,422
	<u>2,051</u>	<u>39,865</u>	<u>41,916</u>	<u>87,214</u>

# **BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

### **3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	<b>Direct Costs (see note 4)</b>	<b>Support costs (see note 5)</b>	<b>Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Community Projects	62,588	1,620	64,208

### **4. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Programmes and activities	51,148	58,870
Computer consumables	184	443
Donations and subscriptions	206	-
Rent and spare hire	5,000	1,000
Training, materials and resources	132	254
Postage, stationery, printing & telephone	203	186
Light and heat	200	429
Food and refreshments	4,068	4,222
Repairs and maintenance	905	53
Insurance	413	412
General expenses	129	-
	<b>62,588</b>	<b>65,869</b>

### **5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	<b>Governance costs</b>
	<b>£</b>
Community Projects	1,620

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	<b>2025 Community Projects</b>	<b>2024 Total activities</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent Examiner fees	1,620	1,800

### **6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30th September 2025 nor for the year ended 30th September 2024.

#### **TRUSTEES' EXPENSES**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30th September 2025 nor for the year ended 30th September 2024.

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>Restricted fund £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	6,422	80,792	87,214
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Community Projects	3,641	64,028	67,669
<b>NET INCOME</b>	2,781	16,764	19,545
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	4,164	15,036	19,200
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	6,945	31,800	38,745

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Other creditors	1,620	1,800

**9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>Restricted fund £</b>	<b>2025 Total funds £</b>	<b>2024 Total funds £</b>
Current assets	2,634	15,439	18,073	40,545
Current liabilities	(120)	(1,500)	(1,620)	(1,800)
	2,514	13,939	16,453	38,745

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	<b>At 1.10.24 £</b>	<b>Net movement in funds £</b>	<b>At 30.9.25 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	6,945	(4,431)	2,514
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	31,800	(17,861)	13,939
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	38,745	(22,292)	16,453

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,051	(6,482)	(4,431)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	39,865	(57,726)	(17,861)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>41,916</u>	<u>(64,208)</u>	<u>(22,292)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	<b>At 1.10.23 £</b>	<b>Net movement in funds £</b>	<b>At 30.9.24 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	4,164	2,781	6,945
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	15,036	16,764	31,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>19,545</u>	<u>38,745</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	6,422	(3,641)	2,781
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	80,792	(64,028)	16,764
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>87,214</u>	<u>(67,669)</u>	<u>19,545</u>

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	<b>At 1.10.23 £</b>	<b>Net movement in funds £</b>	<b>At 30.9.25 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	4,164	(1,650)	2,514
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	15,036	(1,097)	13,939
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,200</u>	<u>(2,747)</u>	<u>16,453</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	8,473	(10,123)	(1,650)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	120,657	(121,754)	(1,097)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>129,130</u>	<u>(131,877)</u>	<u>(2,747)</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30th September 2025.

**BIG UP COMMUNITIES**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>2025 Total funds £</b>	<b>2024 Total funds £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Lightbulb Trust	-	-	-	20,592
National Lottery	-	19,815	19,815	41,780
Lambeth Council	-	18,100	18,100	18,420
Mayor of London	-	1,950	1,950	-
Other Incomes	2,051	-	2,051	6,422
	<u>2,051</u>	<u>39,865</u>	<u>41,916</u>	<u>87,214</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>39,865</b>	<b>41,916</b>	<b>87,214</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Programmes and activities	2,062	49,086	51,148	58,870
Computer consumables	-	184	184	443
Donations and subscriptions	-	206	206	-
Rent and spare hire	4,200	800	5,000	1,000
Training, materials and resources	-	132	132	254
Postage, stationery, printing & telephone	-	203	203	186
Light and heat	-	200	200	429
Food and refreshments	-	4,068	4,068	4,222
Repairs and maintenance	-	905	905	53
Insurance	-	413	413	412
General expenses	-	129	129	-
	<u>6,262</u>	<u>56,326</u>	<u>62,588</u>	<u>65,869</u>
<b>Support costs</b>				
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Independent Examiner fees	220	1,400	1,620	1,800
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>6,482</b>	<b>57,726</b>	<b>64,208</b>	<b>67,669</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b><u>(4,431)</u></b>	<b><u>(17,861)</u></b>	<b><u>(22,292)</u></b>	<b><u>19,545</u></b>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements