

Derwentside Detached Youth Project

Supporting young people in the Community since 1981

Annual Report

April 2024 – April 2025



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Registered Charity No: 513336



Contents

Foreword -----	1
Anne Leech Trustee & Temporary Chair -----	3
Meet the Trustees -----	4
Meet the Team -----	5
Project Managers Report	
Jackie Forbes -----	6
About The Project -----	7
 Workers' Reports	
Diane Wordsworth – Youth Worker & Megan Sinden – Support Worker -	9
Lynn Walton, Youth Worker & Hannah Lesley, Support Worker -----	12
Megan Sinden – Community Worker – Grove & Moorside -----	15
 The Young People Comments -----	20 - 22
Community Transport -----	23
DDYP Trustees AR & Financial Statements – YE: 31 March 2025 - Cover -	24
Introduction -----	25
7.Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statement -----	29
Independent Examiners Report to Trustee -----	30
Receipts and Payment Accounts -----	31
Statement of Assets and Liabilities -----	32
Notes to the Financial Statements -----	33 - 39
Acknowledgements & Funders Logo -----	40 - 41

FOREWORD

The project has completed yet another successful year. We measure this by the number of Young People engaging with and benefitting from interaction with our skilled and dedicated team of workers. Thank you all very much for the hard work involved.

Of course in order to continue we need the support of our generous funders. Without them it would be impossible to do anything. We are extremely grateful for the financial support we receive, and hope to continue receiving.

It is a constant challenge to attract funding and an immense relief to our manager when applications are successful. Lets hope, with help, we can continue to provide support to the Young People of Derwentside.

Another thank you must go to Jeff Davison until recently the Chair of the Trustees. Jeff has had a long association with the Project in various roles but unfortunately had to resign due to ill health.

Anne Leech

Trustee and Temporary Chair.

Meet the Trustee's



Jeffrey Davison – Chair - Retiring



Anne Leech– Secretary - Retiring



Owen Temple – Treasurer - Retiring



Jane Brown - Retired



Catherine Harwood

The Trustees play a vital role in any Project and it is appreciated the work and time they give to our success.

Meet the Team



Jackie Forbes – Project Manager



Diane Wordsworth – Detached Youth Worker



Lynn Walton – Detached Youth Worker



**Megan Sinden – support Youth Worker
& Community worker Moorside/The Grove**



Hannah Lesley - Support Worker

PROJECT MANAGERS REPORT

My many years working within the Project brings me great joy. Each year we face new challenges, not only financially but also emotionally. Our work is very diverse never two years are the same people may change, unfortunately the issues and challenges remain the same if not more needed than ever

Youth work is crucial to our young people, helping them develop, giving them a safe place to learn, grow and build confidence. Youth work also offers early intervention opportunities and can reduce risk-taking behaviours, contributing to them looking forward to a better future. It builds belief in themselves, letting them know so many opportunities are available to them as well as building social skills. While schools focus of formal academic learning and knowledge, youth work emphasises on developing social and personal skills through informal education, nevertheless just as important. All our team, including myself, benefit from working with young people, there is a certain amount of satisfaction seeing the young people grow and achieve their full potential.

My highlight is just seeing the difference our work makes to the young people and families in the area and the positive feedback we receive.

There are many highlights over the years, I am sure you can read all about these in the reports from the youth workers.

Funding is of course my priority, not an easy task, and sometimes soul destroying, however the knowledge that not only young people benefit from our work but also their families. I often hit a brick wall, only to try and climb over the next one. As a project we have been here far too long to give up, we will keep going.

On a personal note it saddens me to say we are losing 3 Trustees this year, taking a well-earned retirement. I would like to say a big thank you to them, they have in many cases made my job a bit easier.

Thank you Jeff, Owen and Anne, you will all be a big miss but I wish you all the luck for the future.

Jackie Forbes – Project Manager

ABOUT OUR PROJECT

Our Project was founded back in 1981 following the closure of the main employer in the area, The Steel Works and local coalmines, Unemployment brought with it many problems, families breaking up, depression, alcoholism, mental health, petty crime and anti-social behaviour. The main concern of the founders was for the young people in the area and their futures.

Today there has been very little change in circumstances, although new employers have come to the area, very few have stayed and there has been none on the same scale as the Steel Works. Although we are situated in Consett town centre, we are surrounded by many rural villages, most of which have no youth provision, or very little. The young people have a feeling of been "left behind" due to the lack of opportunities available to them. Our Detached Youth Workers target these young people considered "at risk" hanging around, bus shelters to streets, parks etc. Our aim is to engage them in alternative leisure activities, usually initiated and planned by the young people themselves.

Experience has taught us that boredom plays a major part in them becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, -crime, dabbling in drugs and/or alcohol. By talking to them, and more importantly listening to them we can address issues and problems facing young people engaged.

Alongside our detached work we run many residential, outdoor activities, and issue based workshops often working in partnership with other agencies in the area. The workshops included many relevant topics, i.e. sexual health, health eating, drugs and/or alcohol misuse, teenage pregnancy, emotional and mental wellbeing, and life skills. Our workers are here to listen to the needs of the young people and address them accordingly. Workshops are targeted at topics raised by the young people.

Emphasis is placed on improving quality of life, raising self-esteem, learning new skills, physical and emotional wellbeing. Our workers listen to their needs in relation to social, health and education, facilitating them in attaining their goals and become active members of their communities.

We are learning more young people are suffering anxieties and mental issues, this came to light during the recent pandemic, they seemed to take on the stress that the whole family were dealing with. We can offer guidance and support, sometimes referring them to specialist agencies.

Our role is not to "get kids" off the street! But to work alongside the young people, guiding them through adolescence and helping them to make the successful transition to adulthood with the confidence to achieve their personal goals. It is important to allow young people to also enjoy their young lives and have fun, engaging with others, experiencing new challenges and letting them know they are never alone; there is always somebody to listen to them.

Youth work is as crucial as ever for the supporting young people's personal, social and educational development, helping them build confidence, navigate challenges and become confident members

of society. It also provides them with a safe place to come, develop relationships and opportunities that can have a positive and lasting effect on their lives.

ABOUT OUR PROJECT

With the support of our funders, volunteers and Trustees we hope to support young people for many years to come.



Some of the YP at Roots & Wings Cafe

Youth Worker Reports

As Youth Workers play a vital role in shaping the future of young people, our work can sometimes be emotionally demanding, but it offers great rewards when we see the impact it can have on young lives. We are able to form strong, trust based relationships with young people often becoming mentors who provide support and guidance.

As a youth worker we often encounter young people dealing with multiple challenges, including poverty and mental health issues as well as a strained home life.

Youth work is more than just a job; it's a vocation that requires passion, resilience and commitment to supporting young people. While the challenges we face are significant the rewards of making a positive impact on young people's lives are huge.

Burnhope Youth Drop In

Our Drop In has been running for nearly eight years now and it has become a much needed space for local young people to meet and socialise. Burnhope is a rural village with very few amenities to cater for young people. The Drop In provides local young people with a warm safe space to come and take part in various activities and workshops as well as opportunities to take part in trips and residential. Every December we hold a Christmas themed afternoon tea for senior citizens in the village where young people are involved in the planning and delivery of the event. This has had a huge impact on both the young people and the senior members of the community. Events like this help reduce the feeling of isolation, particularly among the elderly, while encouraging young people to engage more with their community.



Senior Citizens Christmas Afternoon Tea

LGBTQ+ Group

Youth Worker Reports

Most of the young people attending are also neuro-diverse so often face multiple layers of marginalisation. We offer them a space where they can express themselves without fear of judgement. Young people can find peers who truly understand them, emotionally and socially. Being understood can significantly boost mental wellbeing, reduce anxiety and help build coping strategies.



Above the group are taking part in "The compliment web"

Leadgate Youth Drop In

Throughout the year our young people have taken part in multiple workshops including Drug and Alcohol Awareness, Bullying and Building Self Confidence. They have also taken part in off-site activities and have recently returned from a two day residential to Chartners Farm, a Victorian Farm House in the middle of Harwood Forest. Surrounded by nature with no television or internet access young people went on various walks, helped with cooking and cleaning and enjoyed lots of outdoor games, having a break from social media and a glimpse of what life was like before technology. We are hoping to return to Chartners with another group in the near future.

Youth Worker Reports

The group of YP from Leadgate Youth Drop In, on a 2 day Residential



Detached

Building relationships with young people "on the streets" can be difficult especially if they are wary of unfamiliar adults or authority figures. Because there is no formal structure or obligation, attendance is voluntary and can be inconsistent. When out on detached we try to encourage young people to attend our drop in sessions but often this is not something the young person is comfortable doing so we will continue to engage with them in "their territory".

"You may not see the seeds grow but your presence plants hope that lasts a lifetime"

Diane Wordsworth – Youth Worker

Youth Worker Reports

This has been a busy and productive year, for all the groups which we have engaged with and the new young people who have joined us.



The YP of the James Cook Sailing Trip

One of the highlights of the year was the young people embarked on a 5 day sailing trip with James Cook. They sailed up the North East coast from Newcastle and learnt the techniques of sailing and keeping order on board. The group worked as a team and all took part in the various tasks; from night watch to cooking for the crew and keeping the boat sailing along. One of the young people was thrilled to bits to get to sailed the boat into the mouth of the Tyne on the return journey. The same young person was also offered an opportunity to volunteer on the boat at a later date with a view to an apprenticeship. There were twelve boys and girls from Blackhill, who went on the James Cook boat trip this summer.

As well as drop in's, our young people enjoyed fun and food in the Easter and summer holidays. We also had a joint trip with the Blackhill group to South Shields in the summer holidays and a woodland walk in October. In December the young people went to the Empire Theatre, in Consett, to see the Pantomime, Cinderella. Several members of Blackhill and Moorside group attended the pantomime.

The year ended, with a Christmas party at the hall, with games and food for all. In January we had new members join us, with some of the older ones helping out.

At Easter, we took a group to Spennymoor swimming baths, which has a wave machine, which was recommended by one of the young people. All had an amazing time and the facilities were great, both Hannah and I enjoyed the time in the pool and alongside the young people there.

Youth Worker Reports



YP Day out at Spennymoor Leisure Centre and Pool

Blackhill Roots and Wings

Numbers have now increased; we have had a maximum of 42 young people attending at any one time. Although numbers do vary; on a weekly basis we average somewhere around the 30 to 35 mark. The group does seem to enjoy fun and food sessions, especially during the Easter and summer holidays. The group also organized a Christmas buffet for members of the community. The Church Committee offered to help with costs towards food which was much appreciated.

Youth Worker Reports

Due to enthusiasm of the young people and the range of young people, several show neurodiversity which is evidence in itself that we are needed in this community.

January saw new members joining us which meant more young people to cater for. Some of the older ones have taken on responsibility to help with the younger ones and to put equipment away at the end of the session. In the Easter holidays the older members went to infinite air as a reward for their help with the younger ones.

The group also has access to the church community garden which is ideal if a young person wants some quiet time to themselves.



YP Art Therapy - Easter

Therapeutic Art Group

Over this year we have had a steady flow of young people taking part; we try to keep to a maximum of twelve. Even though, these young people are neuro diverse and individually different they are very supportive of each other. These people have been referred us by outside agencies. The group has been praised by both parents and carer's for the support and confidence it has given those who have attended. Some of the group have moved on to join other groups when they have felt confident to do so.

Youth Worker Reports

Emotional Wellbeing Group – Held in Tesco Community room

Numbers for this group have been very small, but those who attended do benefit from the safe space it provides. We did do some group work with year six children who were moving on to secondary school. We helped the young people to identify their issues and fears and we encouraged them to develop appropriate responses to make the transition more comfortable and less scary.

We also did some group work relating to vaping which more and more young people are doing. We helped them identify the dangers and health risks of which they were not aware.

My Colleague: Hannah, our support worker has nearly completed her level 3 Youth work course and has done extremely well. Her tutor informed her that she was one of the best students she had on the course. Hannah worked extremely hard and was very diligent handing assignments in on time and attending supervision sessions with myself.

Well done Hannah you are an asset to the project.

Lynn Walton Youth Worker - Hannah Leslie support worker.

COMMUNITY WORK - MOORSIDE

This past year has been truly transformative for Moorside and the wider Derwentside community. With special thank you to the volunteers, funders, councillors, and residents, we've seen growth in the events, services, and community engagement. The mission to support families, young people, and residents of all ages continues to thrive through a range of creative, inclusive and essential activities.

Throughout the year, numerous community events have brought people together across Moorside and beyond. The Halloween Disco was a fantastic success, with a local DJ kindly donating his time. The event saw 112 children in attendance and raised £307.62 this was a brilliant mix of fun and fundraising.

Our 2nd Christmas Party was a fantastic event, Funded by Councillor Dominic Haney, and boosted by generous donations of selection boxes from the public and local shops, the event created a festive atmosphere for families to enjoy. Thanks to its success, Cllr. Haney has already pledged £400 to support the 2025 celebration marking the 3rd annual Christmas party.

In the summer, we held a Community Fair that brought residents together with stalls, games like "hook-a-duck," and appearances from the police and fire services. It was a lively and inclusive event that really showcased the strength of local community spirit.

Youth Worker Reports

An Afternoon Tea event was hosted at Jubilee court, a retirement housing complex which was also funded by Cllr. Haney. With a fantastic spread of food and entertainment from a live singer, the day was a real treat for all who attended. We're thrilled to have secured funding for this event to return in 2025.

Ongoing Activities:

Our breakfast clubs have continued to provide a welcoming and nourishing start to the day for local families. While some attendance was lower than expected, the final session brought in 14 attendees, showing a growing interest we aim to build on. Those who attend can enjoy a wide selection of breakfast items as well as a takeaway lunch bag which is perfect for outings in summer holidays bringing the cost of eating out, to families, to zero.

Community meals remain one of our most valued weekly gatherings, regularly attracting between 20–30 people. They offer not only a hot three-course meal but also the opportunity for the community to connect. I am especially grateful to David Lowes and Rachel Mcenaeny from Greencroft Dog Day Care, who joined as new volunteers and have shown great dedication.

The clothing bin situated outside of the church hall continues to serve the purpose of raising additional funds. It is being well used as a drop off point to the public for clothes donations as well as clothes unsuitable for the baby bank being placed in the bin, helping reduce waste while generating income for further community work.

The Holiday Squad, delivered in partnership with Karbon Homes, has helped keep children active and engaged during school holidays. We're hopeful that more sessions can be offered in Summer 2025 to expand this opportunity as the sessions were well attended.

Alongside the activities I directly coordinate, I'm proud to work in a place that also hosts a variety of other groups including the drama club, baby and toddler group and the youth drop in. While these are independently run, I maintain strong working relationships with each and try to make myself available to offer support if and when its needed, whether that be help with funding applications or promoting sessions.

Targeted Support Services

In February 2025, we officially launched the Moorside Baby Bank, and the impact has already been significant. From the date of writing this report (May 14, 2025) the baby bank has supported 38 families and provided five emergency care packages to Consett Police for families fleeing domestic abuse. The service was even featured in the media, receiving positive coverage from the BBC.

Link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce8jldmd9yjo>

Youth Worker Reports

I was honoured to welcome MP Liz Twist to one of our community meals, where she saw the value of our work first-hand and kindly donated £500 to the baby bank. We're also thrilled to see a steady increase in volunteers stepping forward — a sign that more people are engaging with and investing in their community. St John's Church Hall is now busier and more vibrant than it has been in years.

Megan Sinden: Various images from various Moorside events



Youth Worker Reports

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all our supporters and funders, including Cllr. Dominic Haney, Derwent Valley AAP, Consett Freemasons, Point North, and The Ballinger Trust. Your continued support makes everything we do possible.

Interest has been registered by seven residents to form a Resident Association — enough to begin laying the foundation for a new layer of community representation and action.

Perhaps the most significant development for the coming year is the plan to transition into an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This will allow me to grow sustainably, apply for more funding, and formalise structure. Meetings should soon be arranged with Derwentside Detached Youth Project (DDYP) and trustees to explore transferring funds, and we'll continue seeking guidance to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

Testimonials:

"I have been coming to the community meal with my Nana since September. I wanted my Nana to experience more social things as apart from her family she didn't engage with anyone else. I heard of the community meal through Facebook and decided to give it a go. I am so pleased that I did! With each week that we attend, my Nana is becoming more and more sociable and is starting to really engage in conversations with people she did not know before-hand. Megan has created a wonderful warm welcoming environment with a fantastic variety of meals that we thoroughly enjoy. My Nana has even broadened her pallet and is trying different foods! The quality is always brilliant. We can also see how much Megan cares about the community and this comes across each week. She is a fantastic asset to St John's and I for one could not be more grateful."

"I gave the community meal a try when it first started and enjoy it so much I just have to keep turning up. Super meals, a lot of which I just wouldn't make just for myself, and the chance to meet people that live nearby, but I just wouldn't usually see to talk to. It's a lovely time to make friends and catch up, while having a lovely meal, a hot cuppa and even have the opportunity to keep informed of what is happening locally and being given the opportunity to become involved in local events, etc. Would be lost without Megan and her community spirit and the fantastic job she does with the community meal. Community is her middle name."

Youth Worker Reports

"The weekly Community Meal has been running at St John's at Moorside for quite some time now. We have been attending since day 1. Megan (and the helper), do a fantastic 3 course meal every week catering for all dietary requirements. It is very enjoyable and important to everyone and we all look forward to meeting for a delicious meal and a good natter. Long may it continue? We of all ages would certainly miss it"

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another powerful year. I am proud of the work done, from helping struggling families to building stronger social connections, the support makes all the difference.

Megan Sinden – Community Worker – Grove & Moorside

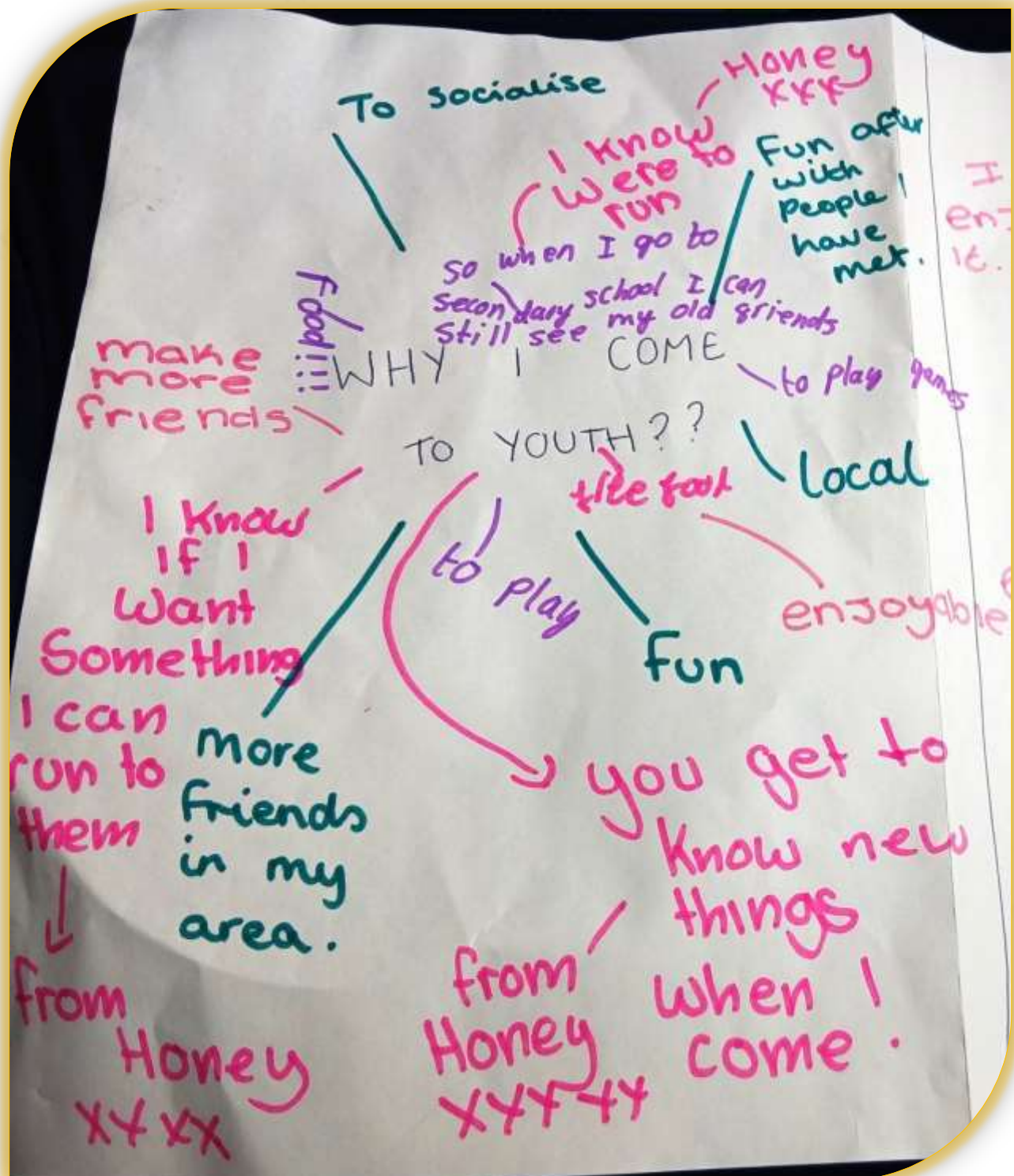
SOME COMMENTS FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE

The youth club is very helpful by ensuring we always have different things to do.

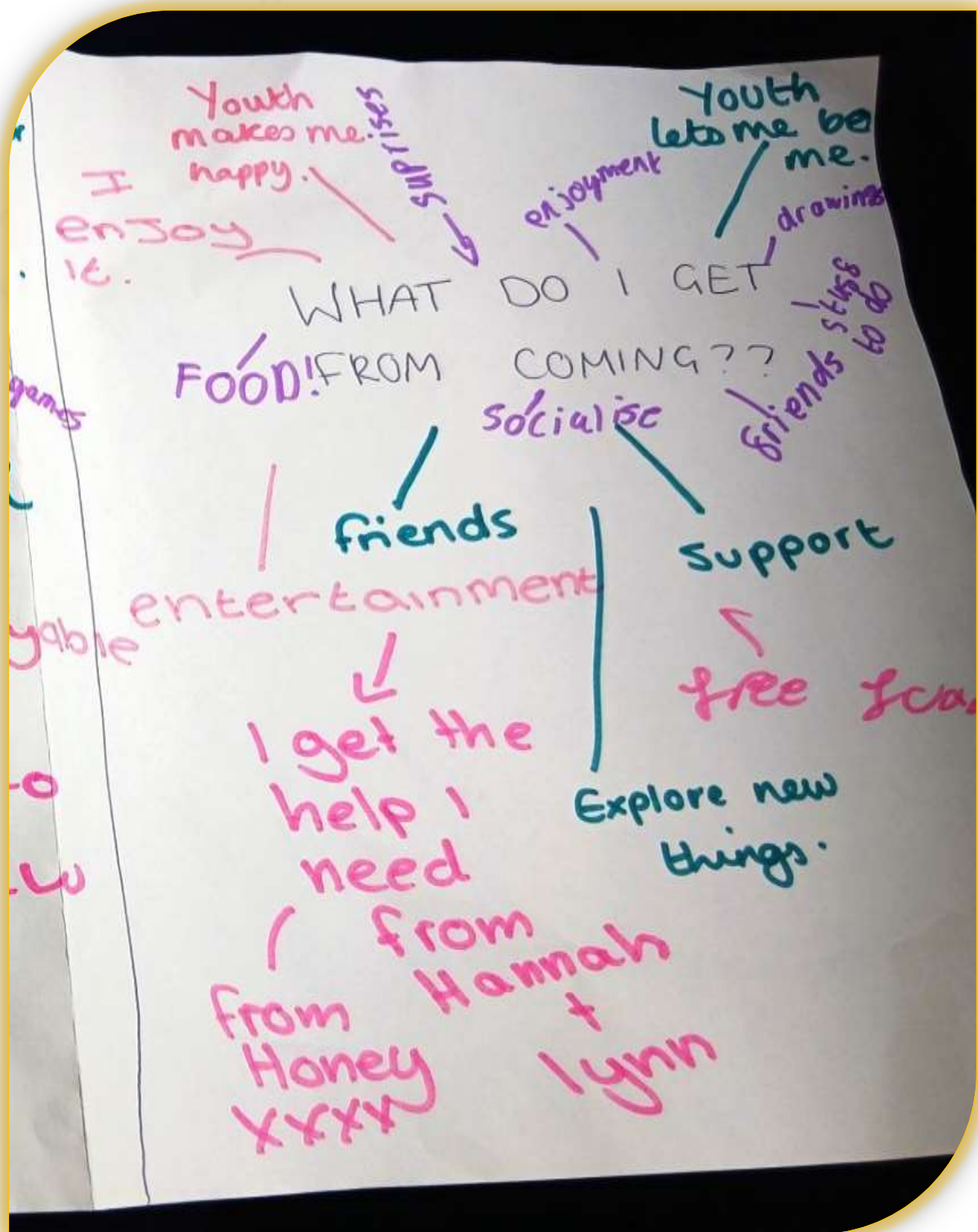
At xmas we went on a trip to winter wonderland and we got given a hot chocolate each and went on some rides. Our most recent trip was on a residential at churtners Farm where we did some fun activities and got to spend some time with each other.

Megan and ~~diane~~ are both very chill and good to talk to. Megan is really funny and diane has lots of stories to tell us. I enjoy the youth club because I have made lots of friends and got to experience new things.

SOME COMMENTS FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE



SOME COMMENTS FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE



Community Transport

Our Project is very fortunate to have a 16 seater minibus with disabled access which is part of the Community Transport scheme. It is not for general hire we are not competing with local businesses. The minibus is available for community groups in the area also for individuals who cannot access public transport through disability or poverty. It is also a massive boost to our own work as we have the availability of the bus for residentials and offsite activities.

Again it brings small problems, as we no longer have volunteer drivers, mainly due to age and retirement so hirers do need to find their own drivers. The minibus has allowed us to involve more young people in offsite activities and residentials which are an important part of their growth and learning.



A group of (YP) accessing the minibus for a residential.

Trustees Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

DERWENTSIDE DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity number 513336

Trustees Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

1. Objectives and activities

The objective of the project is to meet with the young people of the former local authority of Derwentside, primarily the least privileged and hardest to reach young people, often meeting them on their own territory at first. The aim is to build relationships with them and draw them into positive activities and learning situations which will enable them to develop their confidence and self-esteem and so enable them to become more fulfilled and motivated young people.

We seek to achieve that by being a regular presence in the areas where young people meet, and also running regular drop-ins where young people can meet with our skilled and well-qualified youth work teams. We also seek to engage them in residential activities to broaden their experience both socially and through the activities undertaken in their new environments.

2. Achievements and performance

This year has been another busy year, with the youth work teams meeting around 200 young people each week, the larger numbers being at the drop-ins with smaller groups for those having particular challenges, notably the LBGTQ+ group and Art Therapy group..

One highlight of the year saw some young people taking part in a sailing trip for several days, a potentially life-changing experience in a challenging environment they had never experienced before. Another took then to a residential in Harwood Forest in a remote farmhouse where the

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

young people experienced life without TV and internet, again a challenging environment in which they learned new life-skills.

As important as these "events" are , it is the day to day meeting with young people in which the youth workers offer the young people a supportive presence as they face the problems so many young people face that are the backbone of the work. Many of the young people they meet are neuro-divergent, others have deep-seated family problems. Some self-harm, others indulge in risky behaviours, some are bullied, some bully and in all this the workers find the greatest satisfaction is the positive change they are able to be part of. One said that the highlight of her year was, ""Working with a young person who lost a parent and also his confidence. We helped him build up his confidence and slowly building up his self-esteem". Another cited her work in an Art Therapy group. "All of the young people have diverse and complex issues, considered neuro diverse. Art therapy has helped them build their self-esteem, face personal challenges and develop better communication skills".

For all of us it is an achievement to keep the project going through a particularly challenging funding climate. It is particularly so for our project manager who feels fortunate to have been able to build trust with some of our donors which she would not have been able to do had she not believed in our Project and so enabled its continuance across the decades.

The team has also developed new skills this year as well, with two of our newest members having broken new ground, one in developing a cross-generational community project in one of the most deprived local areas, and the other auxiliary worker undertaking training to become a fully qualified youth-worker.

Our team of trustees has also undergone considerable change, with the departure of our long-serving chair and another trustee, and the recruitment of several other trustees who bring new enthusiasm and insight to the project.

3. Public benefit

The Board of Trustees has referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4. Financial review

Derwentside Detached Youth Project are funded by a variety of income. The total income for the year was £108,271 (2024: £120,617) of which £58,006 are restricted (2024: £65,302). This income is allocated across respective funds on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025, shows a deficit across all funds of £10,212 (2024: surplus £12,163).

The Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025 shows total funds carried forward of £98,699 of which £65,780 are restricted funds, the unrestricted reserves are £32,919.

The differences between the funding across the two years has been largely due to the timing of grants made, and we are making steady progress through the new funding round required. We remain indebted to the funders who have supported the project so generously, some across many years.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	Derwentside Detached Youth Project
Registered Charity Number	513336
Trustees	Anne Leech Owen Temple Jane Brown
Registered Office	Room40 Glenroyd House Medomsley Road Consett DH8 5HL
Independent Examiner	MW Accounting, Bookkeeping and Training Woodgate House Wood Street Gateshead NE11 9NP
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kent ME19 4JQ

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

6. Structure, governance and management

Governing documents

Derwentside Detached Youth Project is a charity, governed by its constitution, adopted on 27th September 1982, amended on 28th January 2020.

7. Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required 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 the year. 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 Charities SORP;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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 the trustees on 15/7/25..... and signed on their behalf by:

Owen Temple
Treasurer



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Independent Examiners Report to Trustee

I report on the financial statements of Derwentside Detached Youth Project for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, 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 Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) 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 Charity 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.

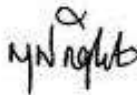
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have 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.

Michelle Wright
MW Accounting, Bookkeeping & Training
Woodgate House
5c Wood Street
Gateshead
NE11 9NP
Date: 15/07/2025



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Receipts</u>					
Donations and legacies	5	385	2,160	2,545	1,354
Charitable activities					
Fundraising activities	6	-	-	-	305
Grants and contracts	6	44,649	55,846	100,495	114,769
Other trading activities	7	3,210	-	3,210	2,328
Investments	8	2,021	-	2,021	1,860
Total income		50,265	58,006	108,271	120,617
<u>Payments</u>					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	9	83,537	34,946	118,483	108,453
Total expenditure		83,537	34,946	118,483	108,453
Net income/(expenditure)		(33,272)	23,060	(10,212)	12,163
Transfers between funds		928	(928)	-	-
Net movement of funds		(32,344)	22,132	(10,212)	12,163
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		65,263	43,648	108,911	96,747
Total funds carried forward		32,919	65,780	98,699	108,911

The Receipts and Payments Statement includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All receipts and payments derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

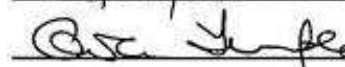
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Cash funds</u>					
Current account		32,841	65,780	98,621	108,434
Petty cash	17	77	-	77	476
Total cash funds		32,919	65,780	98,699	108,911
<u>Assets retained</u>					
Fixed asset purchase	16	750	5,634	6,384	8,212
Total assets		750	5,634	6,384	8,212
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accountancy and independent examination	10	150	-	150	-
Total assets		150	-	150	-

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on:

and are signed on its behalf by:

Owen Temple
Treasurer

15/07/25


TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis. An audit is not required by the charity's constitution and has not been requested by the trustees.

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £32,919 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year.

The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including the annual budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. The Trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity, for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Receipts

3.1 Recognition of receipts

Receipts are recognised when the charity has received the receipt.

3.2 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants are recognised when the charity has received the funds.

3.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Payments and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Payments on charitable activities includes the costs of youth group activities as well as other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Liabilities

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

4.5 Provision for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

Analysis of receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
5 Donations and legacies				
Donations and Gift Aid	385	2,160	2,545	1,354
	<u>385</u>	<u>2,160</u>	<u>2,545</u>	<u>1,354</u>
6 Charitable activities				
<u>Income from fundraising activities</u>				
Fundraising events	-	-	-	305
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>305</u>
<u>Income from grants</u>				
Grants	-	-	-	114,769
Sir James Knott Trust	10,000	-	10,000	-
National Lottery	10,000	-	10,000	-
Tudor Trust	20,000	-	20,000	-
Karbon Homes	249	-	249	-
Rothley Trust	3,500	-	3,500	-
Joicey Trust	900	-	900	-
AAP	-	13,590	13,590	-
Ballinger Trust	-	15,000	15,000	-
CDF	-	7,439	7,439	-
Tesco	-	375	375	-
Awards for All	-	14,442	14,442	-
National Lottery for activities	-	400	400	-
National Lottery for salaries	-	4,600	4,600	-
	<u>44,649</u>	<u>55,846</u>	<u>100,495</u>	<u>114,769</u>
7 Other trading activities				
Bus hire	3,183	-	3,183	2,319
Café income	-	-	-	-
Other income	27	-	27	10
	<u>3,210</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,210</u>	<u>2,328</u>
8 Income from investments				
Bank interest	2,021	-	2,021	1,860
	<u>2,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,021</u>	<u>1,860</u>

Receipts were £108,271 (2024: £120,617) of which £50,265 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £55,315) and £58,006 was restricted (2024: £16,852)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

Analysis of payments on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
9 Charitable payments				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Staff costs	68,794	20,674	89,468	74,924
Staff expenses	134	-	134	173
Staff training	520	-	520	84
Events, activities & groups	-	13,058	13,058	17,890
Bus costs	3,557	-	3,557	2,927
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	142
Project equipment	-	-	-	4,245
<u>Support costs</u>				
Rent & rates	5,780	160	5,940	2,765
Insurance	635	-	635	569
Postage, printing & stationery	705	52	757	744
Telephone	1,906	-	1,906	2,659
Office equipment & other costs	198	966	1,164	796
Professional fees	1,188	36	1,224	401
Bank charges	120	-	120	115
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Other expenses	-	-	-	20
	<u>83,537</u>	<u>34,946</u>	<u>118,483</u>	<u>108,453</u>

Payments on charitable activities were £118,483 (2024: £108,453) of which £83,537 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £58,318) and £34,946 was restricted (2024: £16,852)

10 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	150	-
	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)

11 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	89,468	74,924
	<u>89,468</u>	<u>74,924</u>

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the the centre manager and the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £17,434 (2024: £15,821).

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

12 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 5 staff (2024: 5 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work		
Charitable activities	2.5	2.5
	<u>2.5</u>	<u>2.5</u>

13 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

14 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £1,216 (2024: £1,200). There was £0 outstanding as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £0)

15 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
Balance brought forward	700	26,086	26,786
Additions	50	-	50
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>750</u>	<u>26,086</u>	<u>26,836</u>
Depreciation			
Basis	SL	RB	
Rate	25%	25%	
Balance brought forward	-	18,574	18,574
Depreciation charge for year	-	1,878	1,878
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>20,452</u>	<u>20,452</u>
Net book value			
Brought forward	<u>700</u>	<u>7,512</u>	<u>8,212</u>
Carried forward	<u>750</u>	<u>5,634</u>	<u>6,384</u>

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

17 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	98,621	108,434
Cash in hand	77	476
	<u>98,699</u>	<u>108,911</u>

18 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events requiring adjustment to the accounts have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

19 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	65,263	50,265	(83,537)	928	32,919
Totals	<u>65,263</u>	<u>50,265</u>	<u>(83,537)</u>	<u>928</u>	<u>32,919</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' of the charity

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
David Gray	3,449	-	(844)	-	2,605
Morrisons Art Fund	2,083	-	(1,898)	-	185
Ballinger Trust	1,337	-	(907)	-	430
Burhope AAP Grant	4,626	200	(1,803)	-	3,023
Karbon Homes	1,000	-	(873)	-	127
Tudor Trust	1,430	-	(105)	-	1,325
Medomsley CDF	723	-	(672)	-	51
Community Worker	19,073	31,410	(21,566)	-	28,918
Tesco	889	375	(488)	(777)	-
Barbour	690	-	(539)	(151)	-
Sir Tom Cowie	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Hadrian Trust	205	-	(205)	-	-
National Lottery for activities	4,422	400	(606)	-	4,216
Awards for All	2,220	-	(2,220)	-	-
AAP Leadgate	-	1,640	(112)	-	1,529
CDF	-	4,439	(705)	-	3,734
Awards for All	-	14,442	(304)	-	14,138
Donations	-	500	-	-	500
National Lottery for salaries	-	4,600	(1,100)	-	3,500
Totals	<u>43,648</u>	<u>58,006</u>	<u>(34,946)</u>	<u>(928)</u>	<u>65,780</u>

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

19 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

David Gray	To fund the salary of a worker to support on residential trips
Morrison's Art Fund	To fund art activities
Ballinger Trust	To fund activities and trips
Burnhope AAP Grant	To fund activities and trips in Burnhope
Karbon Homes	To fund activities and trips in Blackhill
Tudor Trust	To fund wellbeing activities for staff and trustees
Medomsley CDF	To fund equipment for activities in Medomsley
Community Worker	To fund activities and salaries of Moorside Community Worker
Tesco	To fund wellbeing activities
Barbour	To fund activities and equipment for the activities for the young people
Sir Tom Cowie	
Hadrian Trust	To fund activities
National Lottery for activities	To fund activities
Awards for All	To fund salaries
AAP Leadgate	To fund room hire for activities at Leadgate Institute
CDF	To fund activities and transport
Awards for All	To fund art and wellbeing activities
Donations	To fund the baby bank in Moorside
National Lottery for salaries	To fund salaries

20 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024: Nil)

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	32,919	65,780	98,699
	<u>32,919</u>	<u>65,780</u>	<u>98,699</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	65,263	43,648	108,911
	<u>65,263</u>	<u>43,648</u>	<u>108,911</u>

Acknowledgements

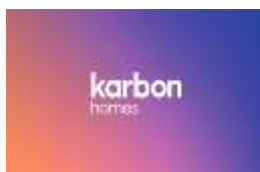
It never ceases to amaze, the amount of financial support we have received over the years, small charities like ours really struggle although our work is just as important it is not heard about like many of the larger organisations. Funding is becoming increasingly difficult with so many worthy causes struggling to survive. It makes us so appreciative to the Trust Funds and organisation that have given us their support, some for many years. Without them we would not now be here supporting young people and the community for what is now our 44th year.

Our thanks go to:

- **The National Lottery Community Fund**
- **The National Lottery Awards for All**
- **The Rothley Trust** - for their consistent support.
- **The Ballinger Trust** – their personal approach is so much appreciated
- **Sir Tom Cowie Charitable Trust** – Gone over and above more than once
- **Point One North East Community Foundation** – and all the grant giving bodies
- **Derwentside AAP**
- **Mid-Durham AAP**
- **The Joicey Trust**
- **Sir James Knott Trust**
- **Karbon Homes**
- **The Hadrian Trust**
- **The Barbour Trust**
- **Tesco Community Grants** - Tesco Stronger Communities
- **Morrison Community Grants**

A big thank you goes to all the Councillors whose support we have received and of course the community centres and church halls that have accommodated us.

Of course “thank you” to all our volunteers it goes without saying we could not run smoothly without you all.



SIR TOM COWIE CHARITABLE TRUST

The Rothlev Trust