



African Challenge Scotland

Charity No SC046055

Financial Statements

Year Ended

31 March 2025

AFRICAN CHALLENGE SCOTLAND

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Charity name and address

African Challenge Scotland, 151 Balgrayhill Road, Springburn, Glasgow, G21 3AN

Scottish charity number

SC046055

Trustee

[REDACTED]

Accountants

Ahmad & Nabi McMullan Accountants, 95-107 Lancefield Street, Glasgow, G3 8HZ



African Challenge Scotland

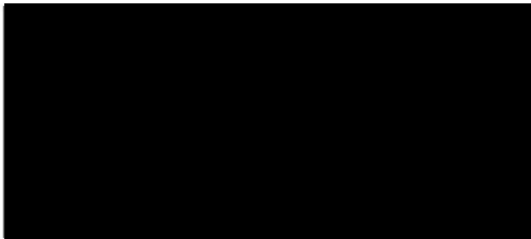
Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their annual report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the charities Act 2006, the trust deed and the Charities SORP 2005.

Reference and Administrative information

Charity Name	African Challenge Scotland
Charity Registration Number	SC046055
Principal Office	151 Balgrayhill Road Glasgow G21 3AN

Board of Trustees



Auditors

Ahmad & Nabi McMullan
95-107 Lancefield Street
Glasgow
G3 8HZ

Bankers

TSB Bank plc
52 - 60 St Vincent St
Glasgow
G2 5TU

African Challenge Scotland

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

African Challenge Scotland is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) in 16 October 2015 under charity number SC046055. It is governed by a constitution (deed of trust).

Organisational structure

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The trustees meet together as a body monthly and are responsible for all decisions taken in relation to running the office and the community facilities and the activities provided by the charity. To assist in the smooth running of the charity the trustees have set up a sub-committee that help them oversee certain aspects of the charity's work. Sub-committee are currently set up for finance and day to day management of the office and report back with their recommendations to the full meeting of the trustees. The sub-committee meet every week. The day to day management of the office and community facilities and projects are delegated to staff.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

- a) The policy and management of the affairs of ACS shall be directed by a Management Committee which shall meet not less than four times each year and shall consist of not less than four members, or more than twelve members.
- b) The members of the Management Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of ACS, and will hold their office for one year.
- c) At the Annual Meeting, members of ACS shall elect;
 - * A President
 - * A Secretary General
 - * A Financial Secretary
 - * A Treasurer
 - * A Chief Whip

Any Casual vacancy on the Management Committee may be filled by the Committee and, any person appointed to fill such a vacancy, shall hold office until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of ACS and shall be eligible for re-election at that meeting.

- d) All posts in the Management are Voluntary.

Induction and training of trustees

Following appointment, new trustees are introduced to their new role and given copies of the trust deed and a guide to the policies and procedures adopted by our charity. A number of publications from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) are also provided including the guidance on charities and public benefit. This ensures that new trustees are aware of the scope of their responsibilities under the Charities Act. Initially, new trustees work with an existing trustee assisting on particular activities and projects run by the charity. After satisfactory feedback from existing trustees, they are then given the task of leading a particular activity or project, reporting progress at trustees' meetings.

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the risks the charity faces and have drawn up a risk matrix which identifies the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of the risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The trustees review this risk matrix regularly at their meetings and at meetings of the sub-committee. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place, or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified. In particular, insurance cover is in place. Appropriate Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks, supported by regularly reviewed policies, are made for all those who work with children or other vulnerable groups within the Charity and sport centre.

Objectives and activities

Our aims

The objects of the charity are set out in the charity's constitution and are summarised as follows:

AFRICAN CHALLENGE SCOTLAND is a voluntary organisation which is Scotland wide and based in Glasgow it helps build more successful integrated communities, relieve poverty, advance education and promote cultural and sporting links between African's and Scottish population

- a) To promote African Culture, Education and relieve poverty.
- b) To promote Sport and Healthy Living among its members and supporters.
- c) To provide an educational, supportive environment for its members and supporters.
- d) To organise educational, social, recreational and sporting events for its members and supporters.

Our objectives

Our objectives are set to reflect our community aims. Each year our trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) general guidance on public benefit and in particular it's supplementary public guidance on the advancement of education and promote cultural and relieve poverty.

Strategies

We want to make our African Challenge Scotland an accessible and welcoming place where all ethnic's minorities, or those who wish to know more about our activities, can gather together and come as one community. African Challenge Scotland is open Monday to Saturday.

An important part of our strategy is community welfare and education. All our activities including classes, health initiatives and conferences are widely advertised, and we welcome the participation of

all in our local community, Ethnic minorities and non-ethnics minorities alike. All our activities are free and supported by grant funding.

Helping people who have moved to Glasgow and North Glasgow particularly settle into the community successfully is important to us. We ensure that families, whose first language is not English receive appropriate English language teaching and that their children are helped in their attendance at local schools.

Use of volunteers

Volunteers are an important resource in both during our events and community work. Volunteers are involved in most of our events and community activities, and we have over 50 people regularly giving their time. All our trustees also give of their time freely. We encourage all members of African Challenge Scotland to be involved in voluntary activities and to share their skills with others. All those volunteers working with projects involving children or other vulnerable groups are CRB checked.

Activities and achievements

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims. The trustees consider that these activities, summarised below, provide benefit both to our members and to the wider community of North Glasgow and Glasgow.

Potential barriers that learners could face

Young people making transitions back into education and across education stages and settings could face a number of particular challenges in the current context, for example:

- limited resource availability – books, stationery, craft materials, digital equipment and connectivity
- lack of engagement with supported on-line and home learning - digital poverty including lack of equipment, adult support, space to work, structure to the day and loss of routine
- wellbeing, social and emotional and pastoral care
- pressure on parents to return to working patterns which will prevent them from being able to supervise or assist with home learning
- families facing hardship and poverty for the first time, may find it difficult to access the support they need due to the unfamiliarity of support systems and being previously unknown to professionals
- missing out on rites of passage/ celebrating success
- limited opportunities for induction activities for example, school visits, meeting new teachers, or participating in fresher weeks at college or university
- challenges around transfer of data on progress and support needs
- lack of access to partnership learning such as Higher Education summer schools, and work placements
- different start dates for college or university courses
- helping children and young people with additional support needs to recognise and understand their next steps

Supporting, connecting and building resilience for new Scots

In considering support to children and young people. We have established a one to one support programme for children, young people and parents and carers, in partnership with other professionals.

Our Free Homework Help Classes programme helped to rebuild resilience and hope into our communities. In addition, activities provided helped pupils to reduce their anxiety and increase their sense of safety and belonging. 679 families across Glasgow continue to benefit from our commitment to innovative projects. Thanks to the funding from The Glasgow Communities Fund.

We encourage all our volunteers to complete first aid training.

There are 5 principles that run throughout our programme. These are known as the 5 essentials.

The 5 essentials include:

- Working together in small groups.
- Encouraging self-government and decision-making.
- A balanced and varied programme which is young people led.
- Caring for the individual.
- Sharing a commitment to a common standard.

These principles help us to deliver the objectives for the 6 development areas in the educational framework. They apply to all young members and volunteers.

We help young people to reach their full potential by promoting 6 areas of their development.

As we plan and run activities covering different areas of the framework, we should also use the 5 essentials which will help us fulfil these objectives.

- Spiritual development - young people develop their spiritual identity while understanding and respecting the spiritual choices of others.
- Social development - young people learn to take responsibility for themselves and others, become reliable team members and confident leaders.
- Emotional development - through fun and friendship, young people develop their self-esteem and gain self-confidence, building respect for themselves and each other.
- Physical development - young people develop their mental, physical and emotional well-being through a range of active experiences.
- Moral development - young people develop their understanding of what is right and wrong and develop their sense of conduct.
- Intellectual development - through the activities and challenges they experience, young people become adept at processing information, making decisions and self-reflection.

456 children and young people participated in the program

36 volunteer youth ambassadors participated and supported the program

29 work experience opportunities were provided to young people through this programme

12 young people received support and earned a bachelor's degree

7 young people received support and obtained an apprenticeship opportunity

8 young people received support and obtained an internship opportunity

75 participants participated in our youth and adult cooking program.

86 participants participated in our sewing program. Traditional African and ethnic minority clothing was offered weekly.

Over 4,500 members of the local community participated in our community engagement and events program to celebrate inclusion, equality, and diversity.

We had the opportunity to engage and present during the Glasgow Communities Fund Celebration and learning event at the Glasgow City Chambers.

FREE HOMEWORK HELP

Supporting children and young people to unlock their potential and continually improve to achieve excellence

Improve Grades Improve Confidence Improve Career

Free Tutoring for all ages!

- All subjects, levels and ages.
- We can help children and young people to improve their grades and confidence.
- We can help children and young people to achieve their career goals.
- We will offer workshops throughout the year around College, University, UCAS application as well as introducing young people to the full range of work experience, internships and apprenticeships offered in Scotland.
- Young people will gain career management skills and make informed decisions.
- Professional career advisers from Skills Development Scotland.
- Experienced, competent, professional instructors from Universities in Glasgow and Engineers.
- Specialists in new Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Exams.

When: During school time

Days: Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays

Venue: Ron Davey Enterprise Centre, 10 Vulcan Street, Glasgow, G21 4BP

For more information and to register please email:





African Cost of Living Support

Our project put participants in the lead. Involved them in designing, planning, developing and running everything they did. We gave every one of our participants the opportunity to be involved in decision making - across all sections. This helped them to develop leadership, communication and team-working skills. Thanks to The National Lottery Community Fund for funding this programme.

African Challenge Scotland project outcomes:

- Partnership with Home Energy Scotland, Glasgow North West Citizens Advice Bureau, North Glasgow Housing Association, and Barmulloch Community Development Company, just to list a few.
- Recruited and trained 2 staffs to provide home energy advice and project delivery.
- Recruited and trained 50 volunteers to support the project, and to become climate change champions.
- Selected 100 households to participate on the programme.
- 300 one to one home energy advice visits on a weekly basis and engaged with up to 100 households on reducing energy. Information about energy efficiency by trained facilitators' and one to one support in collaboration with Home Energy Scotland and Glasgow North West Citizens Advice Bureau. Action on fuel poverty through one to one support to families.
- 1 clean-up organised to increase awareness on reduce, recycle and reuse.
- 50 Sewing classes organised on reuse/recycle workshops.
- 9 Awareness raising workshops around CO2 reduction and climate change.
- 10 cooking classes teaching new skills to cook African food and how to reduce waste, and eat healthier.
- 250 Children and Youth participated on climate change book and education class: Weekly advice surgeries to engage on topics relating to climate change.
- Free food parcels and fuel vouchers distributed to 100 deprived and vulnerable families from Black communities in Glasgow.
- Estimated average reduction in annual household emissions of 35.3038 TCO2e

██████████ African Challenge Scotland Founder said: "Our ongoing partnership with Home Energy Scotland is a real success and greatly benefits black and minority ethnic families in Glasgow.

The activities and workshops that participants experienced through our programme helped them to learn about themselves and gain the skills and confidence to realise their dreams and improve their life. The specialist frameworks and practical guidance collected together here helped leaders and volunteers to provide participants with a programme that supports their development.

We paid attention to what each participants enjoyed doing and what they struggled with. We asked them to list their strengths and weaknesses during the one-on-one meetings held to support their household carbon footprint reduction. We evaluated their performance in the project based on the tasks assigned to them. Through our project, participants are better able to identify ways to take control over their lives and build resilience.

They learned new skills that will enable them to reduce their carbon emission and energy bills. In addition, to manage their money and set a budget. This will help them to understand their spending habits, monthly income and overall financial position.

We will continue to engage with Home Energy Scotland to enhance energy efficiency and zero-emissions heating solutions for Black and ethnic minorities communities across Glasgow. This engagement aims to improve digital resources, offer in-depth support for home upgrades, and expand Green Homes Networks so that people can learn from others' experiences."

African Challenge Scotland organised community events, training sessions, workshops, and information services for the people of Glasgow and visitors to the city on the themes of equality, diversity, and inclusion. Why are these themes important?

The team also delivered five in-person community events for over 954 attendees. These events enabled children, young people, and adults from Glasgow's communities to learn and develop, gain confidence, and make friends, while building capacity with our partners to improve local services and provide essential support and respite to families. Thanks to the funding from The National Lottery Community Fund.

██████████ of African Challenge Scotland, said: "Our community engagement has remained central to our work, empowering local people to influence service delivery and shape our communities."

Sewing Machine Activity

In 2024/25, we supported nearly 86 people. Our ongoing sewing program is an ideal activity for anyone who cares about the environment and wants to make a small difference. The more we learn to repair and renew our clothes, the more we can do for our planet.

Teaching people to sew opens up a world of creative and practical possibilities, from repairing a rip in their favourite jeans to creating beautiful arts and crafts.

Our weekly sewing program helps break down barriers and improve the environment in Glasgow. This is where learning to sew becomes an essential skill in our fight against climate change.

Youth Participant A: "I was thrilled to be accepted into this program. I can now use my new skills to alter my old clothes and make them look new again."

Youth Participant B: "Since joining this program, I've been able to learn and grow, gain confidence, and make friends."

Youth Participant C: "Thank you for this opportunity and keep it up the good work in our community. I'm proud of my heritage, which I'm discovering through this project."

Cooking activities

We delivered healthy cooking classes in Glasgow. Around 75 people participated. We provided the recipes and ingredients and coordinated the sessions. Our program was designed to give women and young people—through them, their families, and other members of their community—the skills, confidence, and inspiration to prepare and cook healthy and tasty meals. The aim was to improve cooking skills and promote healthier, more nutritious eating.

Physical and sport activities

African Challenge Scotland is committed to ensuring everyone can access the transformative benefits of physical activity and sport.

Throughout 2024/25, we continued to develop new opportunities and introduce new techniques into our physical activities program.

We are also committed to making physical activity and sport a force for good, helping families across the city lead healthier, more active lives.

256 children and young people in Glasgow continue to benefit from our commitment to innovative physical activity projects. Our numbers continue to grow every year. Through these programs and partnerships, we continue to harness the power of physical activity and sport to improve lives and strengthen Glasgow's communities.

BBC Children in Need

The development of the program has engaged the voices and collaboration of young people from the outset. Partnership working is at the heart of everything we do and plays a vital role in ensuring the safety, respect, and development of all children and young people at African Challenge Scotland. In 2024-2025, we have implemented a program including: Leadership workshops, science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM), mental health, sport and wellbeing training, sewing, cooking, radio training, IT, as well as employability, coaching and mentoring sessions.

Our young people developed leadership skills through shared learning opportunities. Participated in co-productions that helped shape future leadership frameworks for young people. Participated in enriching opportunities, including BBC Children in Need events and a leadership challenge.

Our young people were able to share their YSA project at the BBC Children in Need Grant Recipients event, hosted by BBC Scotland Glasgow, on Thursday, August 1, 2024. Their stories were truly inspiring. Our young people participated in a local program where they led discussions, led activities, and presented to internal and external stakeholders. It was a great opportunity to demonstrate their confidence, leadership skills, and ability to present in front of an audience.

Over the course of our program, we have seen significant improvements across a range of key measures related to the health, well-being, and educational outcomes of our children and young people. The development of the program has engaged the voices and collaboration of young people from the outset. Our young people told us what it feels like to be truly heard and that services needed to redouble their efforts to integrate themselves into a coherent system to avoid any wrong approach.

Difference 1 The shared objective of the Strategic Partnership for Children and Young People is to continue to improve our approach to involving children and young people in service development and to increase their direct participation in decisions that directly affect them, their families, and their futures. The findings of our Children and Young People Engagement Program have enabled us to incorporate key learnings into our strategic plans and development programs. These findings have also given us a deeper understanding of the issues children face, influenced our practical priorities, and improved processes and systems where necessary.

Difference 2 We have worked with children, young people, families, and communities in North Glasgow to enable them to thrive. Working together, we transformed the way we work to improve early help and support, building on the strengths and resilience of our families and communities. This enabled families to get help when they needed it, locally. Our shared goal and that of our partners for the period 2024-2025 is to improve the participation of children and young people in decision-making that directly affects them, their families, and their futures. In doing so, we recognized our children and young people

as experts and one of our greatest assets, and we emphasized listening to them to ensure they achieve better outcomes.

Difference 3 The African Challenge Scotland Youth Equality Forum provided an opportunity for our young people particularly interested in equality issues to come together to learn from each other, discuss, and deepen their knowledge about equality, diversity, and equity. This forum has proven to be a positive platform for young people to consult with each other and facilitate community engagement and cohesion, to raise awareness of what constitutes equity and encourage them to be aware of issues such as poverty.

African Challenge Scotland has continued to campaign on issues of importance for children and young people in Glasgow and have been successful in ensuring young people's voices are being heard.

During our program, we have seen significant improvements across a range of key measures related to the health, well-being, and educational outcomes of our children and young people.

We have also made effective and meaningful contributions across the range of community priority areas and have proactively engaged with a wide range of decision-makers and agencies such as the Council, Royal Navy, BBC Children in Needs, NHS, Glasgow Science Centre, Police Scotland and other key youth work partners.

We organised a Scottish-wide series of events to bring together young people from the most vulnerable communities with cross-sector leaders and decision-makers to explore and develop solutions to current challenges faced by young people in areas including education, employability & skills, community safety and mental wellness. The event was attended by over 300 young people aged 14-24 from across Glasgow, recruited through social media and other channels and resulted in a diverse range of young people attending. The feedback from this event is being used to develop next steps, with young people themselves deciding priorities and how they wish to share their insights and ideas.

Case Study A African Challenge Scotland has been instrumental in my personal and academic development. From a young age, it supported me in understanding the value of homework and strengthening my skills in STEAM subjects. As I grew more involved, mentoring younger members helped me overcome my shyness, build confidence, and develop a passion for supporting others. This experience also led to a Quantity Surveying internship, which is helping shape my future career—an opportunity I'm truly thankful for.

Case Study B I absolutely love the Homework Club! Every Saturday, I look forward to the fun and productive time we spend there. It's the best way to finish all my homework and learn new things in a friendly and relaxed environment. When we arrive, everyone settles down with their books, pencils, and laptops, ready to tackle the day's worksheets every Saturday. Most of the time, I work on my math because I enjoy solving problems and figuring things out. Sometimes we do multiplication and division, and other times it's fractions or geometry. I love it when we have puzzles or word problems to solve because it feels like being a detective! Sometimes we work on angles, and I finally understood how to use a protractor properly. The best part is that if I get stuck, there's always someone to help explain things, so I never feel frustrated. After Homework Club, it's time for Sports Club! This is where the real fun begins. We get to play loads of cool sports like football, basketball, and sometimes even dodgeball. Once we had a running race, and I almost won! I love running as fast as I can, feeling the wind on my face. It's also great to laugh and cheer with my friends, even if we lose. Sports Club makes me feel strong and happy, and it's the perfect way to end the day. Homework Club and Sports Club are

the perfect combo. One lets me learn and feel smart, and the other lets me play and feel energetic. I can't imagine my week without them!

Case Study C What I enjoyed most about participating in African Challenge Scotland (ACS) was the opportunity to gain professional experience and fun activities, which helped me plan my future and my life. It also helped me develop good communication skills and break out of my shell. My experience at ACS had a positive impact on the lives of young people like me and showed what individuals like me were capable of. ACS inspired me to aim higher, pushed me to think bigger, and opened up endless possibilities. All of this came from within me, and ACS helped make me feel like a big family. I thank African Challenge Scotland for making me feel so special and important. I also thank this program for allowing me to speak and write about my experience at ACS and share my thoughts.

Education plays an important role in preparing children and young people to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors throughout their schooling and beyond. We developed training for volunteers. This training is continually adapted and updated using data from Improvement Science. Its impact is considered positive: parents report feeling more confident and competent when supporting their children. Effective listening and speaking skills are essential for children to learn and access the curriculum. Regarding language barriers, communication champions worked in partnership with speech and language therapy volunteers to create the right conditions for the development of children's and young people's language and communication skills, especially those whose first language was not English. The cost of living has risen sharply since 2022, driven by the combined effects of rising inflation, food costs, interest rates, and fuel prices. The impact of the pandemic and economic uncertainty, combined with the rising cost of goods and services, has placed more of our families in financial difficulty.

A total of four thematic sessions were held, the key findings of which influenced the development of the 2025-2026 Service Plan.

These findings included:

- Building resilience and addressing low confidence and self-esteem in children and young adults;
- Providing sustainable mental health support for children and young people;
- Emphasizing early help and intervention to improve outcomes for children and prevent worsening needs or risks;
- Supporting families affected by the cost of living crisis;
- Helping to reduce health inequalities.

This demographic profile of Glasgow, combined with the many challenges faced by children and young people at every stage of their lives, as well as the impact on health and well-being of the COVID pandemic and the cost of living crisis, indicates a continued need and likely increased demand for services for children and families with additional needs. In anticipation of this, we are ensuring that our services are well targeted, delivered and planned in partnership, and that they deliver better outcomes for children, young people, and their families.

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services are well targeted, delivered and planned in partnership, and that they deliver better outcomes for children, young people, and their families.

Our program outcomes included:

- Our children and young people are involved in the work of the partnership.
- Children and young people's voice is strategically placed at the heart of everything we do.
- Our children and young people are able to access independent advocacy services whenever they want it.
- Our children and young people feel respected, valued, and listened to, and influence change as partners in our work.
- Our staff are confident and supported to listen to and involve our children and young people in the development and production of services.

59 children and young people aged 5 to 9 benefited from this programme.

98 children and young people aged 10 to 15 benefited from this programme.

95 children and young people aged 16-18 benefited from this programme.

16 children and young people aged 19 and over benefited from this programme.

In total, 268 children and young people have benefited as a result of the BBC Children in Need funding through the Youth Social Action Grant.

Of the total number of children and young people who benefited, 39 took on a leadership role. This included leading discussions, leading activities, delivering a presentation, representing our organisation, etc

Thanks to BBC Children in Needs Fund

African Challenge Scotland – Volunteers Impact

In 2024/25, more than 365 volunteers supported our services, programs, and events.

Our volunteers make an invaluable contribution to supporting the people and communities of Glasgow.

Our volunteers play a vital role in helping us connect local communities with culture, learning, and active living. They are a source of support, information, and inspiration for the people of Glasgow, and we are deeply grateful for their passion, commitment, and impact.

Our young volunteer ambassadors, volunteers and staffs participated in a series of online meetings, workshops, university research projects and trainings. It was a great opportunity to collaborate with a huge number of individuals and organisations. They have helped us refine our framework, cement best practice, measure impact and plan our next steps. We are enormously grateful for all their support.

In order to improve Government and local authority policy, our young volunteer ambassadors, volunteers and staffs have worked with experts experienced in building the essential and inclusive policy in Scotland.

African Challenge Scotland – [REDACTED] Work Experience Programme

Young people participated in the [REDACTED] work experience programme. The work experience week took place at [REDACTED] office at 95 Bothwell Street, Glasgow. The week was aimed at students in S5. It was highly interactive and exciting opportunity for the pupils to enhance their knowledge of STEAM careers in addition to developing their interpersonal skills such as communication, negotiation, time management etc. 5 young people from African Challenge Scotland participated on the programme.

The week involved a project running over the full five days. The pupils was split into teams, working together to create a festival. In addition to enhancing their STEAM knowledge, STEAM ambassadors discussed important topics that needed to be applied to their challenge and to their careers more generally, such as growth mindsets and sustainability.

[REDACTED] has STEAM ambassadors with knowledge across subjects that helped young people such as aeronautical engineering, geology, landscape architecture, transport planning, ecology, waste management – just to name a few!

Over the course of the week young people got a chance to meet them and they gave them some key design considerations.

The programme introduced our young people into the wide range of STEAM disciplines that will come together to make this project a reality from architects and engineers through to project managers and safety specialists. In addition to focusing on the technical skills the programme introduced our young people to some of the key skills they will need in the workplace in the 21st century such as creativity, reading and combining data from multiple different sources.

Radio Clyde Cash for Kids - Cash for Kids Cost of Living Grants – Christmas 2024 Application

During Christmas 2024 we provided support to 100 child per family for items that support children and young people's physical and mental wellbeing. Items included food, clothing, household fuel, and vouchers. We were able to support additional 25 child with food parcels with a donation from a partner organisation.

Case Study 1 - We received referrals for parents and their family. It was apparent that all of them lacked a good peer support network, finding themselves distanced and isolated from the local social circles.

We were able to work alongside them and provide them our services. We provided transport to get to and from our youth activities and they were met by our youth ambassadors to introduce them all and help reduce nerves and anxiety.

The parents have continued to access our adult programme and services and have joined other groups to expand their social groups.

During Christmas, one young people from that family was delighted to receive a voucher supported through the Cash for Kids grant.

Case Study 2 - We received referrals from a lone parent with a primary school aged girl. She had moved to Glasgow and had a very limited knowledge of the area and services available locally for her. She had no family support near her so was keen to secure work that could be flexible for her daughter. She had started doing some online training prior to registering with us. We introduced her to our organisation

and services for startup support. She had identified her long-term goal of becoming a nurse but was keen to wait until she improved her English before pursuing this further. She was, however, keen to gain some additional work experience or training that would help her further down the line. We agreed a good starting point would be to gain some work experience with our organisation and local groups and look at some basic courses such as the Mental Health Awareness. Her daughter was enrolled into our Free Homework Help Classes. In December 2024, through the Cash for Kids grant, we provided a voucher to the girl. She was happy. We continue to support the mother and daughter.

██████████ African Challenge Scotland President said: "it is amazing to provide support to children and young people from area with high deprivation. Many thanks to Cash for Kids for their continues support and grants."

We continued to deliver a diverse and exciting program of events throughout 2024/25. Our Projects Team ensured the success of this exceptional sporting activity at TeamSport Go Karting Glasgow Cambuslang, Westburn Rd, Cambuslang, Glasgow, G72 7UD, reinforcing our commitment to empowering children and young people in our city.

Young people 1 said: "The opportunity was very good, I never been to the Go Karting before. I am very delighted to have been here today and enjoying the opportunity. I love everyone here. Thank you to cash for kids"

Young people 2 said: "It was a great fun and amazing experience. I never done this before, and I enjoyed to been part and learn a lot. This opportunity helped me to build my confidence in driving a car, and also improving my knowledge in mechanical engineering. Thanks to Cash for kids. Thanks to cash for kids."

Young people 3 said: "I am 9 yearls old, I enjoyed the session a lot and it was very fun, I thought I was really driving on the road. I am very delighted to come out on the third place. I am very proud of my performance today, and I will improve next time. Thanks"

Parent 1 said: "I found the event very nice, the kids are very happy, when the kids are happy I am very happy. I have seen the big smile on my kids faces. I am very grateful. Thanks to African Challenge Scotland and cash for kids."

██████████ said: "We would like to thank cash for kids for providing funding to our organisation and enable the activity to go ahead. We want to thank all our volunteers for their ongoing trust and commitment in helping African Challenge Scotland to make a meaningful difference for the people of Glasgow."

Thanks to Radio Clyde Cash for Kids Fund

African Challenge Scotland – Glasgow Science Centre - STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)

Our vision is to improve lives through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) education.

We are dedicated to empowering young people with the skills and knowledge to thrive through effective teaching and learning.

Our weekly STEAM programme in partnership with Glasgow Science Centre, SSERC, Skills Development Scotland, The Nigerian Society of Engineers Glasgow Branch and other STEAM organisations supported 524 children and young people.

The programme supported young people to improve their grades during the SQA exams, and gained opportunities such as work experience, internships, apprenticeships and graduates' opportunities.

We are team up with The Nigerian Society of Engineers to deliver a Summer Coding Camps for Young People as part of our Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Program.

Helping young people realise their future career opportunities, this programme inspired and exposed young people in career pathways in STEAM and help them to improve their coding and programming skills.

We were able to create opportunity and unlock the potential of participants to enable them to flourish and feel confident.

We had youth ambassadors who successfully gained work experience, internships, apprenticeships and graduates' opportunities with companies across Glasgow.

STEAM project outcomes:

- 378 children and young people participated in the programme
- 31 youth volunteers' ambassadors participated and supported the programme
- 43 work experience opportunities were provided to young people
- 28 young people were supported and gained a graduate's opportunities
- 25 young people were supported and gained an apprenticeships opportunity
- 19 young people was supported and gained an internship opportunity

African Challenge Scotland Careers Fair was a brilliant way to increase participants from Black and ethnic minority communities in Glasgow chances of finding a job. Our careers fair was an excellent opportunity for underrepresented communities in Glasgow to meet and connect with employers.

We continue to make a positive impact on the lives of people in Glasgow.

We have developed and implemented a wide range of programs and structures to encourage the participation and co-production of our children, young people, and families in our work.

We have developed a strategic framework to involve our children and young people throughout our partnership, in line with the ambitions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We have developed a training program to support our teams in developing their capacities and skills to engage and empower our children and young people.

We have put in place a clear system to ensure that feedback on our engagement approaches is heard, considered, and acted upon.

We have collaborated to help our children, young people, and families maximize their income and mitigate the cost of living crisis.

We have developed and implemented innovative work-based learning programs that improve the employment prospects of our young people.

We have ensured that collaborative, creative, and innovative programs are developed to promote equitable access to play, sport, and active recreation.

We have ensured that all children, regardless of financial hardship, have access to opportunities for growth, development, and life experience within their communities.

We have worked in partnership with our families to improve child safety at home, at school, and in the community.

We have provided our staff with the tools and training needed to identify, support, and address child and youth neglect and abuse.

We have developed innovative support models that will strengthen the safety of children, youth, and families.

We have leveraged the strengths of our community and the skills and talents of our children, youth, and families to give them the best possible start in life.

We have implemented a range of innovative programs that will help our children and youth develop and reach their potential.

We supported all our children and young people, particularly those most at risk, so they could make the most of our support pathways for learning, work, and well-being.

We supported the emotional health and well-being of children and young people of all abilities in Glasgow through engaging and creative approaches.

We ensured that all staff working with children and families had access to appropriate training in mental health interventions.

We helped children, young people, and their families develop essential skills, habits, and attitudes to strengthen their resilience.

Thanks to Jacobs Engineering Fund.

African Challenge Scotland – Free Food Parcels and Fuel Support

In 2024/25, we supported 304 families in Glasgow. Residents of Black and Asian descent struggle to pay their bills and buy African food.

Past economic crises have deepened racial inequalities below the poverty line. As we head into a new living standards crisis, targeted and tailored support is urgently needed to prevent people from ethnic minorities from being further marginalized. Without continued and significant public investment in social security and infrastructure, and without adequate commitments to job security and fair wages, Black and minority ethnic communities, particularly in Glasgow, will continue to face challenges not seen for generations.

We have seen in our communities that people on low incomes are being squeezed between rising energy bills, African food, toiletries, basic necessities, and the cost of housing, including people using prepayment meters, renters, people with disabilities, Black or Black British people, and Asian or Asian British people. Most of the families we supported through this project were from Black and minority ethnic communities. Black and minority ethnic people are heavily overrepresented among low-income groups and currently experience much higher levels of food insecurity, material deprivation, and fuel poverty due to the cost of living crisis. The majority are unemployed. Some Black and minority ethnic women noted that they currently receive less child benefit than they did a decade ago. This has had negative consequences and made it more difficult to raise their children.

Support provided to families in this programme included providing food parcels and Utilities/Fuel.

Thanks to the funding from The National Lottery Community Fund.

Springburn Community Street Festival

At African Challenge Scotland, we cultivate a strong culture of mutual support.

We ran a stall at the Springburn Community Street Festival, in partnership with Spirit of Springburn and other local organisations.

We valued and showcased the richness of African cultures through African fashion, cuisine, and arts, fostering a spirit of multiculturalism and tolerance, and providing a networking opportunity for people of different ethnic backgrounds.

It was an opportunity for non-Africans to discover the diversity of African cultures, learn about and change their perceptions of their cultural identities, and also correct unconscious biases. Over 4,000 participants attended the festival.

Our exhibition created a sense of unity and raised awareness of African cultures among young and old.

We offered demonstrations and other activities. Participants learned about textiles and adornment and deepened their knowledge of Africa. The festival brought communities together, as evidenced by the presence of different religious groups, thus fostering community spirit and cohesion.

African Challenge Scotland – Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership

We partnered with Glasgow social services to provide a variety of services which aim to:

- ensure the safety and protection of vulnerable adults, young people and children
- support individuals and families to maintain independence and to exercise choice about the way they live their lives

African Challenge Scotland – Police Scotland

We partnered with police Scotland to support Black and ethnic minority families.

We know that people who are involved in the justice system, by and large, come from backgrounds of deprivation and inequality and the lack of opportunities that often come with that.

Addressing these inequalities and barriers across themes such as health, education, employability, family support, housing etc., and empowering our citizens to be the best they can be, lies at the heart of both the Community Empowerment and Community Justice agendas.

African Challenge Scotland – Glasgow Theatres

We partnered up with Glasgow Theatres to tackle workplace diversity and create employment opportunities for young people and women in Glasgow North East. The partnership was looking at diversifying the theatre's Customer Experience Team through positive discrimination and encourage young people to consider the employment programme. The aim of the programme is to promote and develop a more inclusive and diverse workplace.

African Challenge Scotland – Employability Programme

We partnered with Jobs & Business Glasgow, people plus, pathway, and police Scotland through their Employability Support for Under-Represented Communities, Fair Start Scotland and Introduction To Policing Programme. The aim was to engage with the local community to help people secure jobs or training. We also worked with asylum seekers to help them gain employability skills through various training programmes/ volunteering opportunities as we are well aware of the limitations put on asylum seekers against getting into employment, this opportunity will help them gain the necessary skills and experience for when they are able to work.

African Challenge Scotland service

We offered employment advice, social services support and women support groups. We have also protected families in relocation to another area if they have been victims of racist incidents in their area and work directly with social services on other issues that affect African communities more generally. We have worked with local elected members to push on social equality and advancing justice in our city.

African Challenge Scotland short and long-term projects during this cost of living crisis including:

- ✦ Homework clubs with mentors
- ✦ Participatory budgeting leading to entrepreneurship
- ✦ Support with CV's, college and university applications for STEM subjects
- ✦ COVID-19 resilience and cost of living crisis Response Programme
- ✦ Free Homework Help Classes for children and young people
- ✦ Women Support Group
- ✦ Mental Health support
- ✦ Asylum seekers and refugees support

Services provided by African Challenge Scotland are:

- Advancement of public participation in sport
- Advancement of Citizenship/community development
- Advancement of the arts, heritage, culture and science
- Advancement of education for children and youth
- Outreach/befriending service – This is crucial to ACS work overall. It provides a great deal of support to African and ethnic minorities who are very isolated and lack confidence for various reasons in Glasgow wide area.
- Family Support Work to deal with the social welfare problems of African and ethnic minorities' families helped in several ways.

African Challenge Scotland provides services to:

- Children and young people
- People of particular ethnic or racial origin
- African and ethnic minorities families/groups
- Partners agencies to support engagement/integration with hard to reach communities
- Promote community integration
- People of white origin

Partnership working and performance review

In developing our community programmes, we are pleased to work in partnership with Police Scotland who has work closely with us on a number of youth project. We look to all our partners, including Scottish Cycling, Ng Community, The Courtyard Pantry, Jambo Radio, Africa Future, CAMASS, Andescot, Glasgow Life, Barmulloch Community Development Company, Jacobs Engineering, BBC Scotland, VSNEG, Glasgow Afghan United, THREE60 , GNWCAB - Glasgow North West Citizens Advice Bureau, Home Energy Scotland, Fire and Rescue services, Royal Navy, Glasgow Life, Glasgow Science Centre, Waverley Care, and others BAME organisations and groups to give feedback on the success of our initiatives, and the trustees review the progress and outcomes of our work at each meeting.

Financial review

Reserve policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity.

Principal funding sources

The charity's main source of income is grant fund.

Investment policy and objectives

The charity has no investments. Our cash reserves are held in our accounts. The interest earned is considered by the trustees as a gift of the UK banking system and supplements the work done by the charity.



Plan for future periods

We intend to maintain our existing range of community activities working in partnership with the community and to further develop our community projects.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each 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 of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

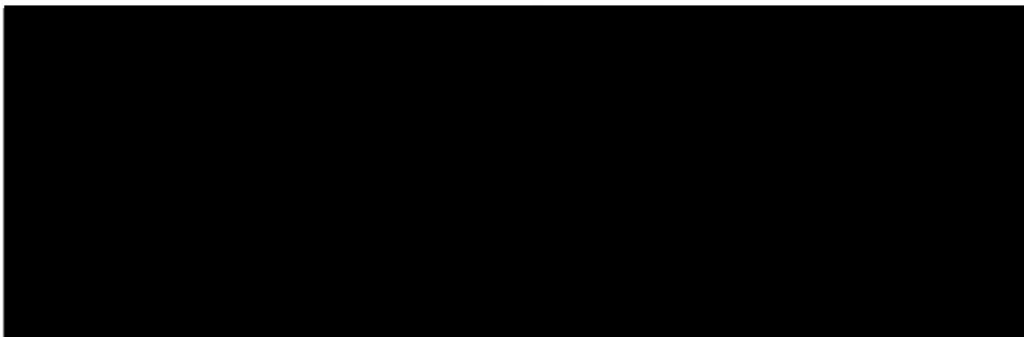
Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

Make judgements and estimates 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 basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Approved by the trustees and signed on its behalf by:



Report of the Independent Examiner

To the trustees of African Challenge Scotland

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulation 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is our responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44 (1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

Our examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks explanation 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 we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of our examination, no matter has come to our attention

1. Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements;
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be obtained

Ahmad & Nabi McMullan
Accountants
Glasgow

28th October 2025



AFRICAN CHALLENGE SCOTLAND

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31/03/2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total
Incoming resources				
Donations	37	109,515	109,552	174,508
Prior year adjustment (donations)	-	-	-	(6,637)
Total incoming resources	37	109,515	109,552	167,871
Resources expended				
Events, Awards and Refreshments	-	5,213	5,213	3,686
Donations	-	5,000	5,000	2,000
Telephone	-	1,725	1,725	1,728
Wages	-	59,121	59,121	87,777
Design Fees	-	-	-	-
Membership Fees	-	555	555	231
Food parcels and toiletries	-	20,269	20,269	34,669
Professional fees	-	-	-	5
Insurance	-	370	370	365
Venue hire	-	6,090	6,090	5,000
IT costs	-	7,172	7,172	5,329
Equipment	-	3,864	3,864	4,458
Uniform	-	8,336	8,336	-
	-	109,378	117,714	145,248
Net incoming resources	37	137	(8,162)	22,623
Total funds brought forward	625	28,974	29,599	6,976
Total funds carried forward	662	29,111	21,437	29,599

AFRICAN CHALLENGE SCOTLAND**Statement of balances for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Year 2025 £
Bank and cash in hand	
Opening balances	29,599
Surplus/ (deficit) for the year	(8,162)
	<hr/>
Closing balances	21,437
	<hr/>
 Represented by:	
Cash in hand and at bank	21,437
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