

Charity registration number: 1028639

# The Fort Foundation

Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 28 February 2025

Hargreaves, Brown and Benson  
Chartered Accountants  
1, Bond Street  
Colne  
Lancashire  
BB8 9DG

## **The Fort Foundation**

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## **The Fort Foundation**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1028639
<b>Principal Office</b>	Fort Vale Engineering Limited Calder Vale Park Simonstone Lane Burnley Lancashire BB12 7ND
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Hargreaves, Brown and Benson Chartered Accountants 1, Bond Street Colne Lancashire BB8 9DG
<b>Solicitors</b>	Withers LLP 16, Old Bailey London EC4M 7EG

## **The Fort Foundation**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 28 February 2025.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### ***Objects and aims***

The Fort Foundation operates throughout England and Wales and makes grants to individuals and institutions at the discretion of the trustees.

Details of grants made during the year are detailed in note 3 to the financial statements.

Since commencement the Fort Foundation has made charitable grants to individuals and institutions of £4,570,396 (2024 - £3,358,835).

##### ***Public benefit***

During the year The Fort Foundation has awarded grants to individuals and institutions promoting the advancement of health, amateur sport, education, art and culture, citizenship, community welfare and environmental protection and improvement.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Financial review**

The Fort Foundation's activities are reliant upon income received by way of corporate donations received from Fort Vale Engineering Limited. For the year ended 28 February 2025 corporate donations were received amounting to £ 230,000 (2024 - £Nil).

During the year the Fort Foundation undertook charitable activities and made charitable grants totalling £1,211,561 (2024 - £221,176).

For the year ended 28 February 2025 the Fort Foundation have reported a net deficit of £960,945 (2024 - deficit £184,912) which will be deducted from retained funds brought forwards. At 28 February 2025 the Fort Foundation held unrestricted funds of £341,157 (2024 - £1,219,288).

##### ***Policy on reserves***

The Fort Foundation maintains sufficient reserves to enable it to continue to make grants for charitable purpose in future periods.

##### ***Principal funding sources***

The principal funding source of The Fort Foundation is donations received from Fort Vale Engineering Limited.

##### ***Investment policy and objectives***

The Trustees have invested surplus liquid funds in held for sale current asset investments. These investments are made with the objective of maximising capital.

## **The Fort Foundation**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr. E.S. Fort OBE
	Mr. I. Wilson
	Mr. E.M. Drury
	Mr. J.S. Hartley
	Mr. P.A. Fort

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### *Nature of governing document*

The Fort Foundation is established by a Deed of Charitable Trust made on 03 November 1993.

##### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

The power to appoint new trustees to the charity is vested in the Settlor, Mr. E.S. Fort OBE.

##### *Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration*

The trustees of the charity give their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year.

##### *Organisational structure*

The Fort Foundation is managed by the trustees. The daily administration of the charity is delegated to Ms. A. Hartley.

#### **Relationships with related parties**

##### **Fort Vale Limited**

Mr E.S Fort OBE is a director and majority beneficial shareholder and Mr. I Wilson is a director and minority beneficial shareholder of Fort Vale Limited.

Mr. E.M. Drury is a director of Fort Vale Limited.

##### **Fort Vale Engineering Limited**

Fort Vale Engineering Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fort Vale Limited.

Messrs. E.S. Fort OBE, I. Wilson and E.M. Drury are directors of Fort Vale Engineering Limited.

**The Fort Foundation**  
**Trustees' Report (continued)**

**Financial instruments**

***Objectives and policies***

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk and liquidity risk.

***Credit risk***

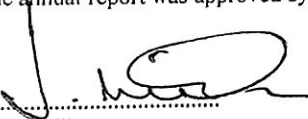
The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, and investments.

The credit risk on liquid funds and investments is limited because the counterparties are banks and investment managers with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

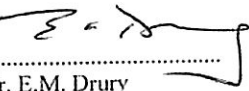
***Liquidity risk***

The charity maintains significant funds in instant access bank accounts in order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing activities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 7 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Mr. I. Wilson  
Trustee



.....  
Mr. E.M. Drury  
Trustee



.....  
Mr. J.S. Hartley  
Trustee



.....  
Mr. P.A. Fort  
Trustee

## The Fort Foundation

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

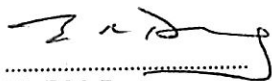
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern 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 enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

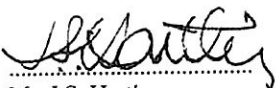
Approved by the trustees of the charity on 7 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr. I. Wilson  
Trustee



Mr. E.M. Drury  
Trustee



Mr. J.S. Hartley  
Trustee



Mr. P.A. Fort  
Trustee

## The Fort Foundation

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Fort Foundation

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Fort Foundation for the year ended 28 February 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the The Fort Foundation's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

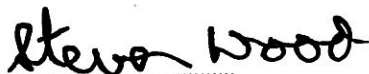
#### Independent examiner's statement

Since The Fort Foundation's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Steven Wood FCA  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Hargreaves Brown and Benson  
1 Bond Street  
Colne  
Lancashire  
BB8 9DG

7 October 2025

## The Fort Foundation

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 28 February 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Corporate donations		230,000	230,000	-
Other donations		-	-	573
Investment income	2	<u>23,963</u>	<u>23,963</u>	<u>40,724</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>253,963</u>	<u>253,963</u>	<u>41,297</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	(1,211,561)	(1,211,561)	(221,176)
Governance costs	4	<u>(3,347)</u>	<u>(3,347)</u>	<u>(5,033)</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>(1,214,908)</u>	<u>(1,214,908)</u>	<u>(226,209)</u>
<b>Net expenditure</b>		(960,945)	(960,945)	(184,912)
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Unrealised gain / (loss) on current asset investments	10	45,170	45,170	(39,496)
Realised gain (loss) on current asset investments		<u>37,644</u>	<u>37,644</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(878,131)	(878,131)	(224,408)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>1,219,288</u>	<u>1,219,288</u>	<u>1,443,696</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>341,157</u>	<u>341,157</u>	<u>1,219,288</u>

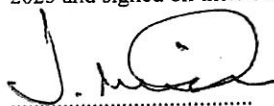
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

**The Fort Foundation**

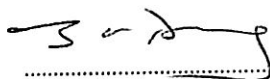
**(Registration number: 1028639)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Investments	7	145,030	1,064,321
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<u>197,627</u>	<u>156,467</u>
		342,657	1,220,788
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>(1,500)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>341,157</u></u>	<u><u>1,219,288</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>341,157</u>	<u>1,219,288</u>
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>341,157</u></u>	<u><u>1,219,288</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 7 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 7 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
 Mr. I. Wilson  
 Trustee



.....  
 Mr. E.M. Drury  
 Trustee



.....  
 Mr. J.S. Hartley  
 Trustee



.....  
 Mr. P.A. Fort  
 Trustee

## **The Fort Foundation**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These have been consistently applied to all periods presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (SORP (FRS 102)) issued on 16th July 2014 and the FRS 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland and the Charities Act 2011 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 01 January 2015.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared for the charity as an individual entity under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated.

The Fort Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements of The Fort Foundation are presented in the currency of the primary economic environment in which the charity operates (its functional currency). For the purposes of the financial statements, the Statement of Financial Activities and financial position are presented in Sterling (£).

##### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

##### **Income and endowments**

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

##### **Donations and legacies**

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions to be met by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfillment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

##### **Investment income**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

## **The Fort Foundation**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)**

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### ***Expenditure***

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

#### ***Grant expenditure***

Grants payable are payments made to third party individuals and institutions in the furtherance of the charitable objects of The Fort Foundation.

Grants paid without conditions are recognised in the financial statements when the commitment to make the grant has been made and there are no conditions to be met which are within the control of the trustees of The Fort Foundation.

Grants payable with conditions are accrued when the trustees have been notified that those conditions have been fulfilled and any remaining unfulfilled conditions are outside the control of the trustees of The Fort Foundation.

#### ***Grant provisions***

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

#### ***Governance costs***

These include the costs attributable to the Charity's compliance with statutory requirements, regulations and good practice.

#### ***Taxation***

In accordance with sections 521 to 536 of the Income Tax Act 2007 and section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 The Fort Foundation is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received to the extent that all such income or gains are applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

#### ***Current asset investments***

Investments in equity shares and other financial instruments which are publicly traded are measured at fair value.

All gains and losses are taken into the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds and their original cost. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their fair value at the beginning of the year.

#### ***Cash and cash equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and other short-term liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

## The Fort Foundation

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

##### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through The Statement of Financial Activities, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the Charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the Charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

##### *Fair value measurement*

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

##### *Current versus non-current classification*

Financial instruments are classified as current if there is no unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the financial instrument for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current.

**The Fort Foundation**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)**

**2 Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds Other £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
Income from dividends;		
Dividends receivable from other listed investments	21,622	21,622
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,341	2,341
<b>Total for 2025</b>	<b>23,963</b>	<b>23,963</b>
<b>Total for 2024</b>	<b>40,724</b>	<b>40,724</b>

**3 Charitable activities**

**Analysis of grants**

	<b>Grants to institutions</b>		<b>Grants to individuals</b>	
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Analysis</b>				
Amateur sport	8,800	9,837	19,850	9,250
Education	513,500	33,200	-	-
Citizenship and community welfare	558,900	57,948	11,804	1,240
Health	64,300	61,613	-	-
Environmental protection and improvement	16,200	6,175	-	-
Art and culture	3,000	-	3,200	2,500
	<b>1,164,700</b>	<b>168,773</b>	<b>34,854</b>	<b>12,990</b>

**Grants to individuals**

The support costs associated with grant-making to individuals are £Nil (29 February 2024 - £Nil).

The Fort Foundation made seventeen grants totalling £34,854 to individuals in respect of amateur sport, culture and community (2024 - seven grants totalling £12,990).

## The Fort Foundation

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)

#### Grants to institutions

The support costs associated with grant-making to institutions are £Nil (29 February 2024 - £Nil).

Below are details of material grants made to institutions by the charity

Name of institution	2025 £	2024 £
Community welfare - Eden Project Morecambe	500,000	-
Health - Margaret Pyke Trust	6,000	-
Community welfare - The King's Trust	2,000	2,000
Amateur sport - Burwain Sailing Club	6,000	6,000
Education - Lancaster University	500,000	-
Education - The Outward Bound Trust	10,000	20,000
Environmental matters - Woodland Trust	13,000	-
Education - Simonstone C of E school fund	10,000	1,200
Community welfare - Junction 4 skatepark	9,000	6,000
Community welfare - Apart of Me bereavement support	-	4,000
Community welfare - Jubilee Sailing Trust	-	5,000
Community welfare - MSSC Sea Cadets Outreach	5,250	5,000
Health - Pendleside Hospice	15,000	10,000
Health - Alzhiemers Research UK	5,000	5,000
Health - Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation	2,000	7,412
Other	70,250	70,686
Health - Teenage Cancer Trust	-	3,000
Health - Bowel Cancer UK	5,000	5,000
Education - RYA Youth Bursary Fund	-	10,000
Health - British Heart Foundation	5,000	5,000
Environmental matters - Lancashire Wildlife Trust	1,200	3,475
	<u>1,164,700</u>	<u>168,773</u>

#### Other charitable activities

##### *The Fort Climate Centre*

The Fort Foundation is committed to building a learning and exhibition centre at the headquarters of the Countryside Education Trust in Hampshire. The Fort Climate Centre will be used to educate people about climate change and its impact on the environment.

During the year The Fort Foundation incurred expenditure of £12,007 (2024- £39,413) funding this project.

##### *The Parish Church of Kelbrook St. Mary's*

The Fort Foundation is committed to the funding of ongoing repairs and restoration of the fabric of the Parish Church of Kelbrook St. Mary's.

During the year The Fort Foundation incurred expenditure of £3,900 (2024 - £Nil) funding this project.

#### Commitment to future grant making

At 28 February 2025 the trustees had committed grant making in future periods of £5,000 (2024- £4,960).

## The Fort Foundation

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)

#### 4 Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds Other £	Total funds £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	1,500	1,500
Other governance costs	<u>1,847</u>	<u>1,847</u>
<b>Total for 2025</b>	<u><u>3,347</u></u>	<u><u>3,347</u></u>
<b>Total for 2024</b>	<u><u>5,033</u></u>	<u><u>5,033</u></u>

#### 5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the current or previous year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## The Fort Foundation

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)

#### 6 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 7 Current asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Listed investments	<u>145,030</u>	<u>1,064,321</u>

#### 8 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at bank	<u>197,627</u>	<u>156,467</u>

#### 9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>

#### 10 Financial instruments

##### Categorisation of financial instruments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	<u>145,030</u>	<u>1,064,321</u>

##### Financial assets measured at fair value

###### *Current asset investments*

Current asset investments are held in UK-based investment trusts and are carried at their fair value.

Investments are all traded in quoted public markets.

The basis of fair value for quoted investments is the mid-market price quoted at the close of business on the valuation date or if the valuation date falls on a non-business day, the price quoted at the close of business on the last business day before valuation.

The fair value is £145,030 (2024 - £1,064,321) and the change in value included in profit or loss is £82,814 (2024 - £(39,496)).

## The Fort Foundation

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2025 (continued)

#### 11 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

##### **Fort Vale Limited**

(Mr E.S Fort OBE is a director and majority beneficial shareholder and Mr. I Wilson is a director and minority beneficial shareholder of Fort Vale Limited. Mr. E.M. Drury is a director of Fort Vale Limited.)

Administrative services have been provided by Fort Vale Limited. The value of services provided has not been quantified. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Fort Vale Limited was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).

##### **Fort Vale Engineering Limited**

(Fort Vale Engineering Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fort Vale Limited. Messrs. E.S. Fort OBE, I. Wilson and E.M. Drury are directors of Fort Vale Engineering Limited; Ms. A. Hartley is employed by Fort Vale Engineering Limited.)

Included in corporate donations are unconditional donations received from Fort Vale Engineering Limited totalling £Nil (2024 - £Nil).

Administrative services have been provided by Fort Vale Engineering Limited. The value of services provided has not been quantified. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Fort Vale Engineering Limited was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).