COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 6271245
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1122288

BRINGING HOPE

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited Financial Statements

31 March 2026

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

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Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2026

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Strategic report

Introduction

As we reflect on another year of service and impact, we begin by expressing our sincere gratitude to the trustees, staff, volunteers, and supporters of Bringing Hope Charity. Their dedication, expertise, and commitment have been instrumental in advancing our mission and strengthening the organisation's ability to respond to the complex challenges faced by the individuals, families, and communities we serve.

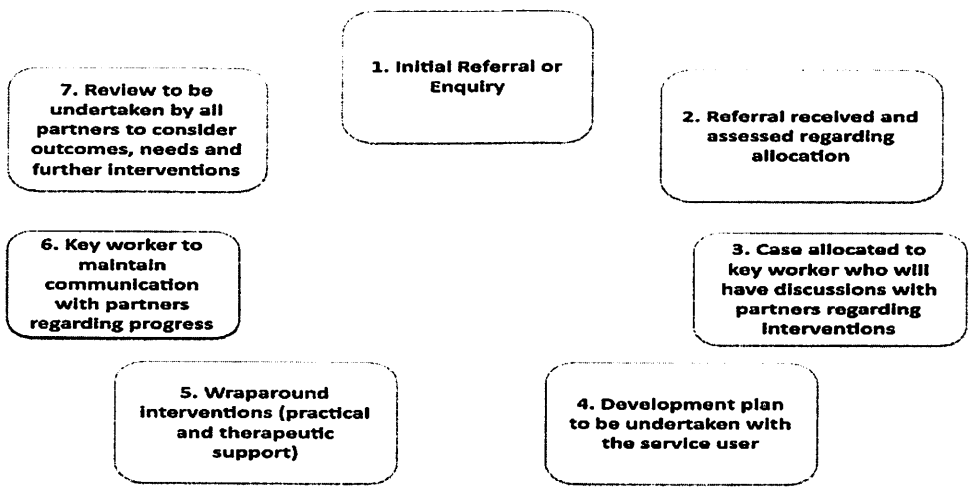
Building on the solid foundations established in previous years, this report highlights the progress, achievements, and learning that have shaped our work over the past year. It provides an overview of our strategic priorities and operational activities, showcasing how we have continued to support those affected by crime, violence, and a range of social challenges.

Throughout these pages, we share examples of collaboration, innovation, challenges, development and progress, demonstrating the collective effort of our staff, partners, stakeholders, and communities. Together, we have worked to create opportunities for positive change for the individuals and families we support in both community and prison settings.

As we enter our 22nd year of existence, Bringing Hope does not shy away from responding to some very challenging and complex cases; doing it in independently and in partnership with statutory, community, voluntary, faith and business sector organisations and personnel, as we seek to address the root issues or causes, associated with the cohort we work with.

Through the support our funders and commissioned work, we have continued to offer services through our referral process as seen in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1



Whilst acknowledging the progress we have made during the year, we have also faced challenges associated with supporting individuals and families with increasingly complex needs, managing staffing pressures, and securing the resources necessary to sustain and develop our services. Despite these challenges, we have remained committed to our mission, ensuring that our operational, governance, and administrative systems remained robust and capable of supporting our evidence-informed and person-centred approach.

The sections below provide an overview of the developments, achievements, and learning arising from Bringing Hope's interventions and activities between April 2025 and March 2026. They highlight our work with individuals affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion, including offenders, ex-offenders, and their families in both prison and community settings.

The report also reflects the strength of our partnerships and collaborative working, including our continued involvement with the Peer Action Collective, funded by the Youth Endowment Fund. Together, these activities demonstrate our ongoing commitment to creating pathways of hope, rehabilitation, resilience, and positive change for individuals, families, and communities.

Achievements and performance

Supporting Individuals and Families

During the 2025-2026 reporting period we worked with 105 cases/clients (42% in Prison and 58% in community), with over 45% of cases involving one or more family members, carers, or significant others as part of our holistic and solution-focused approach. We continue to recognise that sustainable change is often strengthened when support extends beyond the individual to include those closest to them. The individuals we supported ranged in age from 11 to 45 years and reflected the following demographic profile:

- 90.5% male
- 9.5% female
- 75% Caribbean and mixed-heritage backgrounds
- 9% White European
- 16% South Asian

As mentioned in previous reports, these figures continue to reflect our longstanding concern regarding the disproportionate impact of crime, serious violence, criminal exploitation, and criminal justice involvement on young Black men and those from racially minoritised communities. Whilst this remains an important area of focus, our services are open to support individuals and families from diverse backgrounds who are experiencing multiple and often interconnected disadvantages.

It remains important to acknowledge that many of those referred to us are described as 'hard to engage', 'high-risk', or 'disengaged' from mainstream services. Our experience highlights that these individuals are often navigating complex personal, family, social, and structural challenges that require trusted relationships, patience, and consistent support. Common issues presented during this reporting period included:

- Serious violence, including individuals in custody serving sentences for offences involving the loss of life
- Criminal exploitation and involvement in organised or gang-related activity
- Knife crime, weapon-related offences, and safeguarding concerns
- Postcode-related conflicts, retaliation, and community tensions
- Trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and unresolved grief
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing challenges
- Family breakdown, fractured relationships, and intergenerational challenges
- Social exclusion, unemployment, financial hardship, and limited access to opportunities

Many of the individuals and families we support experience several of these challenges simultaneously, creating layers of complexity that require sustained, holistic, and relationship-based interventions. Importantly, we continue to support both those in custody and those returning to their communities, recognising that successful rehabilitation requires coordinated support before, during, and after release.

Referrals continue to come from a range of sources including prisons, probation services, youth justice services, schools, community organisations, faith groups, statutory agencies, families, and self-referrals. Every referral is assessed using our Referral Pathway Framework, which helps us identify strengths, risks, needs, and opportunities for positive change across key areas of an individual's life, which continue to include the following:

1. Accommodation and housing stability
2. Mental health and emotional wellbeing
3. Substance misuse
4. Living skills and self-care
5. Relationships and family support
6. Parenting and caring responsibilities
7. Peer networks and community connections
8. Education, training, employment and enterprise
9. Financial wellbeing
10. Positive use of time
11. Managing emotions and conflict
12. Faith, spirituality, values and personal identity

The above framework enables us to develop person-centred support plans that promote rehabilitation, desistance from crime, improved wellbeing, and greater social inclusion. However, during this reporting period, staff increasingly expressed concern about the younger cohort of our client group and the difficulties many experience in detaching themselves from an entrenched 'street' or 'road' lifestyle. For some, involvement in crime, violence, and harmful peer networks appears deeply embedded within their identity, relationships, and day-to-day realities.

This observation resonates with Elijah Anderson's (1999) concept of the "Code of the Street", which describes a set of informal rules governing behaviour, particularly around respect, status, retaliation, and aggression. Anderson argues that such codes can emerge within communities experiencing poverty, social exclusion, limited opportunities, and a lack of trust in mainstream institutions. Whilst not applicable to all young people, aspects of this framework help us understand some of the pressures and influences faced by those we support, particularly where gang-related conflict, violence, trauma, and a sense of alienation from wider society are present.

These challenges reinforce the importance of long-term, trusted relationships, positive role models, family engagement, and culturally informed interventions that provide realistic alternatives and pathways towards positive change.

Our work continues to be informed by evidence demonstrating the importance of positive family relationships in reducing offending and supporting long-term change. However, we recognise that rebuilding relationships is not always straightforward. Some individuals remain entrenched in offending behaviour, others have experienced significant trauma, family breakdown, bereavement, or conflict, whilst some families may themselves require support before meaningful engagement can take place.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Highlights and Achievements

Bringing Hope continues to operate as a socially conscious, culturally competent, and values-led organisation, working at the intersection of community, prison, and statutory services. Our trusted and independent position enables us to engage individuals and families who are often reluctant to access mainstream support, whilst fostering positive relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders.

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen our reach, deepen our impact, which includes our involvement at strategic levels, on the board and advisory group for West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office. In line with these positions, we can contribute to critical discussions and plans relating to criminal justice, community safety, police relationship with communities.

Whilst the year has presented many challenges, we remain particularly proud of the dedication, resilience, and professionalism of our staff. Their ability to build trusted relationships and provide consistent support has been critical in helping individuals navigate some of the most difficult periods of their lives. In several cases, our interventions have supported young people and adults whose circumstances placed them at significant risk of serious harm, further criminal exploitation, violence, imprisonment, or even loss of life.

We continue to believe that positive change is often achieved through persistence, compassion, and long-term engagement. We therefore celebrate not only the outcomes achieved, but also the commitment, skills, and adaptability of our team in responding to the growing complexity, intensity, and breadth of need presented by those we support.

An important aspect of our work in prisons has been our engagement and support for men who have been linked to disruptive, defiant and violent behaviours which has been of serious concern to the institution. Our success here relates to how our lived experience staff and partners positively engage with these men, resulting in us seeing remarkable changes in behaviours.

From this, we are pleased to provide a copy of the certificate (Figure 2) that is to be awarded to 41 men from two prisons, who successfully participated in the Pic & Mix Programme and completed the NCFE Level 1 Award in Understanding Mindset. This achievement represents more than a qualification; it reflects commitment, personal growth, self-reflection, and a willingness to embrace positive change.

Whilst the work is often challenging, our experience over the past 22 years has shown that those frequently described as hard to engage, resistant, difficult, or problematic are often individuals who have simply lacked trust, opportunity, and consistent support. When these are provided, remarkable change can occur. The testimonial below offer further evidence of the reach, value, and life-changing impact of our work in both community and custodial settings.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Figure 2



Prison Impact

"Bringing Hope has been a truly inspiring and uplifting initiative. The enthusiasm from the men was unmistakable, and their engagement was exceptional. One participant has progressed to becoming a wing cleaner despite previously struggling to engage positively with staff. The programme offered powerful stories of change, developed valuable skills, strengthened staff-prisoner relationships, and created opportunities for men who rarely access positive activities. The positive impact has been evident across the prison, with participants continuing to talk about the experience long after the sessions ended."

Head of Safety and Equalities, HMP in West Midlands

Service User Engagement and Risk Management

Building authentic, trust-based relationships continues to be the foundation of Bringing Hope's work. We recognise that meaningful and sustainable change often begins with connection, particularly for individuals who may have experienced trauma, exclusion, discrimination, imprisonment, family breakdown, or repeated disengagement from statutory services.

As mentioned previously, many of those we support are described as "hard to engage", high-risk, or disengaged. However, our experience suggests that most individuals are not unwilling to engage; rather, they often require support that is credible, culturally competent, consistent, and responsive to their circumstances. Developing trust therefore remains a critical element of our engagement strategy and intervention model.

Risk management remains an integral part of our practice. Staff routinely assess and review risks in collaboration with service users, families, and partner agencies, ensuring that safeguarding, wellbeing, and public protection considerations remain central to our interventions. Through regular case reviews, supervision, partnership meetings, and information sharing, we seek to manage risk appropriately whilst maintaining the trusting relationships that are often essential to achieving positive outcomes.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

As the complexity of need continues to increase, we remain committed to providing compassionate, culturally informed, and relationship-based support that balances accountability with encouragement, challenge with empathy, and risk management with opportunities for hope, growth, and positive change.

Peer Action Collective (PAC) - A Successful Conclusion and Lasting Legacy

As highlighted in previous reports, Bringing Hope was honoured to be selected by the Youth Endowment Fund as the Midlands Delivery Partner for the Peer Action Collective (PAC) programme, a nationally recognised £11.4 million initiative placing young people at the centre of research, social action, and influencing change in relation to violence affecting their lives and communities.

We are pleased to report that during this reporting period we successfully completed our involvement in the second phase of the programme (2023-2025). As one of only seven delivery partners across England and Wales, Bringing Hope recruited, employed, trained, and supported a diverse group of 17 young people aged 16-22 to become Peer Researchers and Social Action Leaders. Significantly, for 92% of participants, this represented their first experience of paid employment.

Throughout the two-year programme, young people were not simply participants but valued members of the team. They were supported to develop research, communication, leadership, and community engagement skills whilst exploring issues affecting young people across the West Midlands. Many brought lived experience of violence, bereavement, care experience, neurodiversity, social exclusion, and the impact of the criminal justice system on their families and communities. Through employment, training, mentoring, counselling, coaching, and ongoing pastoral support, they developed confidence, resilience, employability skills, and a stronger sense of purpose.

The PAC programme enabled young people to engage hundreds of their peers through research, consultation, social action activities, and community engagement initiatives. Their work contributed valuable insights into the causes and consequences of youth violence, including the growing influence of social media on conflict, safety, identity, and relationships. Importantly, they also identified practical, solution-focused recommendations that have helped shape local and national conversations around violence prevention and youth engagement.

For Bringing Hope, one of the most significant achievements of the programme has been witnessing the personal growth and development of the young people involved. Several participants progressed into further education, employment, training, leadership opportunities, and community engagement roles. The programme demonstrated the value of investing in young people, not simply as beneficiaries of services, but as researchers, leaders, advocates, and agents of change.

We are particularly proud to celebrate the publication of the West Midlands PAC team's final report, Unpacking with PAC: The Power of Progress - Young People at the Centre of Change (August 2023 - September 2025).

Co-designed and produced by our PAC young people, the report captures the learning, experiences, research findings, and social action activities delivered throughout the two-year programme. It provides a powerful insight into the issues affecting young people across the West Midlands, including violence, conflict, social media influences, community safety, and the barriers many face in achieving their aspirations.

More importantly, the report demonstrates what can be achieved when young people are trusted, invested in, and given meaningful opportunities to influence change. It highlights not only the challenges they identified but also the solutions they proposed, reinforcing the value of youth-led research, lived experience, and community action in shaping more effective responses to violence and social inequality.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

The publication stands as a significant milestone for both the young people involved and Bringing Hope.

Strategic Partnerships and Engagement

During this reporting year, Bringing Hope continued to strengthen and maintain a range of strategic partnerships and professional relationships that support our mission to reduce crime, violence, social exclusion, and the impact of imprisonment on individuals, families, and communities.

Alongside direct service delivery, we have continued to contribute to discussions, consultations, and collaborative initiatives that promote community-informed, faith-based, culturally competent, and public health approaches to violence reduction, rehabilitation, and community safety. These partnerships provide opportunities to share learning, influence policy and practice, improve referral pathways, and advocate for the needs of those most affected by crime and serious violence.

Our key strategic partners and stakeholders have included:

Strategic engagement

- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership
- Home Office
- West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
- Several HMP Prisons
- West Midlands Faith Alliance
- Birmingham Children's Trust
- Youth Offending Services
- Practice Plus Group

As highlighted in previous reports, we recognise that partnerships are dynamic and continually evolving. Effective collaboration requires ongoing investment, trust, communication, and shared purpose. We therefore regularly review our partnerships to ensure they remain productive, responsive, and aligned with the needs of the individuals, families, and communities we serve.

We remain grateful to our partners for their continued support and engagement. Together, we are contributing to a more coordinated and compassionate response to crime, violence, rehabilitation, and community wellbeing across Birmingham, the West Midlands, and beyond.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Income generation and sustainability considerations

As highlighted throughout this report, securing sustainable income remains one of the most significant priorities for Bringing Hope. Our Trustees remain extremely grateful for the grants, commissioned contracts, donations, and other funding support that have enabled us to continue delivering vital services to individuals, families, and communities affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion.

However, there is no escaping the reality that the current funding environment continues to be highly challenging, particularly for small and medium-sized charities. Across the sector, organisations are experiencing increasing demand for services alongside rising operational costs, greater competition for limited funding opportunities, and reduced levels of unrestricted income and charitable giving.

It's against this backdrop, we continue to actively pursue a range of income generation opportunities, including commissioned contracts, grant funding, charitable trusts and foundations, corporate support, individual donations, and strategic partnerships. Whilst this is not an easy task in the current climate, it is essential if we are to maintain and develop the specialist services that many of our beneficiaries rely upon.

Without increased and sustained investment, organisations such as ours face ongoing pressures in maintaining staffing capacity, responding to growing levels of need, and delivering the long-term interventions often required to support individuals experiencing complex and multiple disadvantages. Nevertheless, we remain optimistic and committed to our mission.

Our track record, partnerships, lived experience, and the impact of our work continue to demonstrate the value of investing in community-based solutions that reduce violence, strengthen families, support rehabilitation, and contribute to safer, healthier communities.

As we look ahead, we will continue to pursue new funding opportunities and develop strategic relationships that support both the sustainability of Bringing Hope and the long-term wellbeing of the individuals and communities we serve. To support this ambition, we have been working with a business consultant to develop a communications, fundraising, and investment prospectus designed to engage potential partners from the philanthropic, public, private, faith, and community sectors. Through this approach, we aim to secure the long-term resources needed to sustain and grow the vision, mission, and impact of the charity.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Conclusion and moving forward

As we reflect on another year of service, Bringing Hope's Trustees and Executive Team remain steadfast in their commitment to supporting individuals, families, and communities affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion. For 22 years, we have worked alongside some of Birmingham and the West Midlands' most marginalised and vulnerable individuals, many of whom face multiple barriers and are often viewed as difficult to engage or beyond the reach of traditional services.

This year's report highlights both the increasing complexity of need and the importance of maintaining long-term, relationship-based support. Behind every referral, intervention, and outcome is a human story. Some of those we have supported have experienced serious violence, criminal exploitation, imprisonment, bereavement, trauma, and family breakdown. Others have been seeking to rebuild their lives following significant harm caused to themselves or others. These realities remind us that our work is is about far more than programmes and statistics; it is about supporting people to make different choices, rebuild relationships, restore hope, and create safer futures.

A key lesson from this year has been the continued importance of family engagement, trusted relationships, and partnership working. We remain convinced that lasting change is most likely to occur when individuals are supported within a network of positive relationships and when communities, statutory agencies, faith groups, and voluntary organisations work together towards shared goals.

Whilst we continue to face challenges associated with funding, increasing demand, and workforce capacity, we remain optimistic about the future. We are actively pursuing new opportunities through grants, commissioned contracts, donations, training, consultancy, and strategic partnerships to strengthen the long-term sustainability of the organisation and expand our reach and impact.

We are deeply grateful to our staff, trustees, volunteers, funders, commissioners, partners, and supporters whose commitment and belief in our mission make this work possible. Their support enables us to continue reaching individuals and families who might otherwise remain disconnected from help and opportunity. As we look ahead, our vision remains clear. We will continue to champion hope, promote rehabilitation, strengthen families, reduce violence, and advocate for those whose voices are often unheard, misrepresented or misrepresented at strategic tables.

After 22 years, our belief remains as strong as ever: **no one is beyond hope, no family is beyond support, and no community is beyond transformation.**

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Challenges and concerns

Whilst we remain grateful for our dedicated staff team, committed volunteers, supportive partners, and engaged Board of Trustees, we continue to operate within an increasingly challenging environment. As with many small and medium-sized charities, one of our most significant concerns remains the long-term sustainability of the organisation. Securing sufficient income through commissioned contracts, grants, trusts and foundations, donations, and strategic partnerships continues to be a priority if we are to maintain and develop the services that individuals, families, and communities rely upon.

The current funding landscape remains highly competitive, with increasing demand for services, rising operational costs, and growing expectations placed upon voluntary and community sector organisations. Whilst Bringing Hope has been successful in securing funding for several core programmes, the need for sustainable, multi-year investment remains critical to our future planning and organisational resilience.

This year's work has also highlighted the increasing complexity of the individuals and families accessing our services. Many of those we support present with multiple and interconnected needs, including serious violence, criminal exploitation, trauma, poor mental health, family breakdown, poverty, social exclusion, and involvement in the criminal justice system. Some of the individuals we work with have been victims of serious violence, whilst others are serving custodial sentences for offences involving significant harm and, in some cases, the loss of life. These realities reinforce the importance of specialist, intensive, and long-term interventions that cannot always be captured through short-term outputs alone.

Like mentioned earlier, we remain particularly concerned about the continued overrepresentation of Black boys and young men within the criminal justice system and amongst those affected by serious violence. This remains a longstanding social justice issue and one that continues to require culturally informed, trauma-responsive, and community-led approaches. Through our work in prisons, communities, schools, and families, we seek to address some of the underlying factors that contribute to these inequalities whilst creating opportunities for rehabilitation, personal growth, and positive community participation.

During the year, staff also reflected on the increasing challenges faced by younger service users who appear more deeply influenced by harmful peer networks, social media narratives, criminal exploitation, and entrenched 'street' cultures. Supporting young people to disengage from these influences requires patience, credibility, trusted relationships, and consistent intervention over extended periods. Whilst our staff continue to demonstrate exceptional commitment and professionalism, we remain a relatively small organisation delivering services across a broad geographical area and range of complex needs. Maintaining staff wellbeing, preventing burnout, and ensuring appropriate supervision and support therefore remain important organisational priorities. Regular supervision, reflective practice sessions, case reviews, and wellbeing support continue to play a vital role in sustaining the quality and effectiveness of our work.

Alongside service delivery, we continue to strengthen our evidence base, monitoring systems, and impact measurement frameworks. This enables us to better demonstrate outcomes, social value, and learning, whilst positioning the organisation to secure future investment and respond effectively to emerging needs.

Despite these challenges, Bringing Hope remains resilient, optimistic, and committed to its mission. We continue to witness examples of courage, change, and transformation amongst those we support, reinforcing our belief that with the right support, opportunities, and relationships, individuals and families can overcome significant adversity and build safer, healthier, and more hopeful futures.

Financial review

Unrestricted/General Funds

The charity's gross income on general funds for the year was £127,559 (2025 £106,714), which included £2,400 (2025: £2,680) of bank interest. The main sources of income were general donations and grants of £125,059. Expenses totalled £202,579 (2025: £76,911). The net result for the year was a deficit of £75,020 (2025: £29,803 surplus). This has been deducted from the reserves brought forward at the start of the year of £252,507 leaving a balance carried forward at 31 March 2026 of £177,487.

Since many of the unrestricted grants are designed to cover a period that straddles the company's year-end, the accounts can show a distorted position of reserves. These reserves will however be required to cover future planned expenses in the subsequent months and consequently are necessary to the ongoing operations of the charity.

Restricted funds

During the year grants were received from the following:

- The Big Lottery/Reaching Communities Fund, £127,388 (2025: £122,274)-the amount is exclusive of monies received but deferred to a future year
- West Midlands PCC-Violence Reduction Partnership £115,500 (2025: £162,631)
- Youth Endowment Fund £43,439 (2025: £174,999-this project ceased during the year

Summaries of income, expenditure and balances remaining at 31 March 2026 are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Structure, governance and management

Bringing Hope is a charitable limited company, limited by guarantee. It is managed at a strategic level by a board of trustees who are also the company's directors for the purpose of company law.

Day to day management is exercised by two senior managers titled executive directors although they are not formally appointed as company directors at Companies House. In addition to these there are support staff as well as key workers and case workers.

Bringing Hope remains committed to maintaining strong governance, accountability, and effective leadership across all aspects of its work. Throughout the reporting period, the organisation's activities, strategic direction, and performance continued to be overseen by the Board of Trustees, who worked closely with staff to ensure that Bringing Hope remained focused on its charitable objectives, values, and mission.

During 2025-2026, the Board comprised five trustees with a broad range of skills, knowledge, and experience across community development, criminal justice, youth work, faith-based engagement, safeguarding, governance, and organisational leadership. Trustees provided oversight of the organisation's finances, commissioned services, grant-funded programmes, partnerships, risk management, and staffing matters, ensuring that Bringing Hope continued to operate effectively and in the best interests of its beneficiaries.

The Board met formally on four occasions during the year, supported by additional discussions and working meetings between trustees and senior staff relating to finance, fundraising, organisational development, governance, and operational matters. These arrangements enabled the organisation to respond to emerging challenges, monitor performance, and maintain appropriate oversight during a period of increasing demand and financial pressures across the voluntary sector.

Recognising the importance of a diverse and skilled Board, trustees are undertaking a review of current and future governance needs. As a result, Bringing Hope is currently in the process of recruiting three additional trustees to strengthen the Board's capacity and expertise. We are particularly seeking individuals with experience in legal services, fundraising, income generation, and charity governance to support the organisation's continued growth, sustainability, and strategic development.

The Trustees remain committed to ensuring that Bringing Hope is well-governed, financially resilient, and equipped to respond to the changing needs of the individuals, families, and communities we serve. We are grateful for the dedication of our trustees, staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters, whose collective efforts continue to make a positive difference in the lives of those affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2026

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Bringing Hope
Charity registration number	1122288
Company registration number	6271245
Principal office and registered office	88 Soho Road Handsworth Birmingham B21 9DP
The trustees	
	D Storrod-Chair G Bally-Balogun-Vice Chair P Roberts S Bateman AM Kalsi RESIGNED 9 MARCH 2026 N Appleby
Independent examiner	David Seeley FCA Accuo Accounting Limited Chartered Accountants Alvechurch Birmingham B48 7JX

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 22 June 2026 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

D STORROD
Chair of Trustees

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bringing Hope

Year ended 31 March 2026

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bringing Hope ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 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 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.



David Seeley FCA
Independent Examiner

Accuo Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
Alvechurch
Birmingham
B48 7JX

22 JAN 2026

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	**5**	125,059	286,327	**411,386**	568,428
Charitable activities	**6**	100	–	**100**	1,910
Investment income	**7**	2,400	–	**2,400**	2,680
Total income		127,559	286,327	**413,886**	573,018
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	**8**	12,716	–	**12,716**	6,462
Expenditure on charitable activities	**9,10**	189,863	286,327	**476,190**	536,753
Total expenditure		202,579	286,327	**488,906**	543,215
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(75,020)	–	**(75,020)**	29,803
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		252,507	–	**252,507**	222,704
Total funds carried forward		177,487	–	**177,487**	252,507

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	£	2025 £
Current assets				
Debtors	17	**29,879**		37,675
Cash at bank and in hand		**214,898**		294,692
		244,777		332,367
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**67,290**		79,860
Net current assets			**177,487**	252,507
Total assets less current liabilities			**177,487**	252,507
Net assets			**177,487**	252,507
Funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds			**177,487**	252,507
Total charity funds	20		**177,487**	252,507

For the year ending 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 June 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



D STORROD
Director/Chair of Trustees

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	**(75,020)**	29,803
Adjustments for:		
Other interest receivable and similar income	**(2,400)**	(2,680)
Interest payable and similar charges	**670**	73
Accrued income	**(13,181)**	(1,584)
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	**7,796**	(37,675)
Trade and other creditors	**611**	(19,971)
Cash generated from operations	**(81,524)**	(32,034)
Interest paid	**(670)**	(73)
Interest received	**2,400**	2,680
Net cash used in operating activities	**(79,794)**	(29,427)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	**(79,794)**	(29,427)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	**294,692**	324,119
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**214,898**	294,692

The notes on pages 20 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 88 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9BN.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

3. Accounting policies

Going concern

Definition
The Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs states that

"While all charities should maintain some level of reserves to ensure long-term financial sustainability, the charity should disclose its reserves policy in the annual report."

The term "Reserves" is used to describe that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Policy
Bringing Hope is currently dependent on approximately £11,000 per month to sustain its activities, excluding grants received for particular restricted purposes, as earned income alone would not allow Bringing Hope to continue operating. This means that if there were to be a gap in funds it is likely that Bringing Hope would have to close down.

To avoid closure if funding difficulties were to occur the Bringing Hope Board of Trustees has agreed to aim to keep a certain level of financial reserves to ensure that main operations can continue for a period of 3 months.

The main concerns of the board are to ensure:
- That staff can continue working, primarily to secure new funding
- That service users are supported to move on to other services

The level of unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2025 appears to be above the target level of £33,000, however, as noted earlier in the report the timing of some grant income may distort the true financial position. The trustees remain aware of the need to control costs and generate additional income to build the reserves to the calculated level on a sustainable basis. As will be seen in the 'Plans for Future Periods' explained in the Trustees' Report the trustees are continuing to explore new and different sources of income. In light of the continuing support of the Big Lottery and other major funders the Trustees are confident that they will continue to raise the necessary funds to maintain the charity's operations.

The reserves should be built up from the unrestricted (earned) income such as received donations, income generated through workshops and consultancy work to external organisations, management fees and bank interest.

Monitoring and Review:
The level of reserves should be calculated and monitored every 6 months by the Executive Director-Robin Thompson, reviewed yearly at Board meetings and whenever there are significant changes in staff hours or numbers.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Going concern

At present there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Significant judgements

The trustees do not believe there are any judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that have been made in the process of applying the charity's accounting policies that have any significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. However the trustees do not believe there are any assumptions or other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor/grantmaker.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

Income
All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Income from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Resources expended

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. VAT cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- 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. The charity's policy is not to capitalise any individual items of expenditure costing less than £1,000 or expected life is less than 3 years.
- Items of a capital nature that are purchased out of restricted funds are written off in the year of purchase.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis, as set out in the notes to the accounts.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives, if any, is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Donations			
General Donations	10,059	–	**10,059**
Grants			
Other grants receivable	5,000	–	**5,000**
National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund	–	127,388	**127,388**
The Tudor Trust	–	–	**–**
The Jerusalem Trust	40,000	–	**40,000**
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	115,500	**115,500**
Youth Endowment Fund	–	43,439	**43,439**
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	–	**50,000**
Practice Plus	20,000	–	**20,000**
	125,059	286,327	**411,386**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
General Donations	4,724	–	4,724
Grants			
Other grants receivable	20,000	6,400	26,400
National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund	–	122,274	122,274
The Tudor Trust	37,400	–	37,400
The Jerusalem Trust	40,000	–	40,000
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	162,631	162,631
Youth Endowment Fund	–	174,999	174,999
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	–	–	–
Practice Plus	–	–	–
	102,124	466,304	568,428

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Other income from charitable activities	100	**100**	1,910	1,910

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Bank interest receivable	2,400	**2,400**	2,680	2,680

8. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Costs of raising donations and legacies – Grants and donations receivable	12,716	**12,716**	6,462	6,462

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Community Work	185,718	286,327	**472,045**
Support costs	4,145	–	**4,145**
	189,863	286,327	**476,190**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Community Work	67,768	466,304	534,072
Support costs	2,681	–	2,681
	70,449	466,304	536,753

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	**Total funds 2026 £**	Total fund 2025 £
Community Work	472,045	–	**472,045**	534,072
Governance costs	–	4,145	**4,145**	2,681
	472,045	4,145	**476,190**	536,753

11. Analysis of support costs

	Community Work	**Total 2026**	Total 2025
	£	**£**	£
Governance costs	4,145	**4,145**	2,681

12. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2026	2025
	£	£
Property rental	**(5,670)**	36,000
Operating lease rentals	**11,489**	10,350

13. Independent examination fees

	2026	2025
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	**683**	683
Other financial services	**2,067**	2,090
	2,750	2,773

14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**309,311**	348,688
Social security costs	**21,405**	21,310
	330,716	369,998

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2025: 19). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2026	2025
	No.	No.
Administration	**2**	2
Charitable activities	**7**	6
	9	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2025: Nil).

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £114,490 (2025:£107,207).

15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- no remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees during the year.
- no trustee expenses have been incurred

16. Transfers between funds

There were no transfers between funds in either year.

17. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	**28,875**	36,991
Prepayments and accrued income	**320**	–
Other debtors	**684**	684
	29,879	37,675

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	**61,940**	73,089
Social security and other taxes	**5,350**	6,771
	67,290	79,860

19. Deferred income

	2026	2025
	£	£
At 1 April 2025	**31,339**	46,312
Amount released to income	**(31,339)**	(46,312)
Amount deferred in year	**33,371**	31,339
At 31 March 2026	**33,371**	31,339

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	**At 31 March 2026 £**
General income funds	252,507	127,559	(202,579)	**177,487**

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
General income funds	222,704	106,714	(76,911)	252,507

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	**At 31 March 2026 £**
National Lottery Community Fund	–	127,388	(127,388)	–
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	115,500	(115,500)	–
Youth Endowment Fund	–	43,439	(43,439)	–
Simmer Down project	–	–	–	–
Stephen Lawrence project	–	–	–	–
	–	286,327	(286,327)	–

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
National Lottery Community Fund	–	122,274	(122,274)	–
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	162,631	(162,631)	–
Youth Endowment Fund	–	174,999	(174,999)	–
Simmer Down project	–	4,000	(4,000)	–
Stephen Lawrence project	–	2,400	(2,400)	–
	–	466,304	(466,304)	–

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**
	£	**£**
Current assets	244,777	**244,777**
Creditors less than 1 year	(67,290)	**(67,290)**
Net assets	177,487	**177,487**

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£
Current assets	332,367	332,367
Creditors less than 1 year	(79,860)	(79,860)
Net assets	252,507	252,507

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2025	Cash flows	**At 31 Mar 2026**
	£	£	**£**
Cash at bank and in hand	294,692	(79,794)	**214,898**

23. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**62,604**	96,906

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 6271245
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1122288

BRINGING HOPE

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited Financial Statements

31 March 2026

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

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Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2026

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Strategic report

Introduction

As we reflect on another year of service and impact, we begin by expressing our sincere gratitude to the trustees, staff, volunteers, and supporters of Bringing Hope Charity. Their dedication, expertise, and commitment have been instrumental in advancing our mission and strengthening the organisation's ability to respond to the complex challenges faced by the individuals, families, and communities we serve.

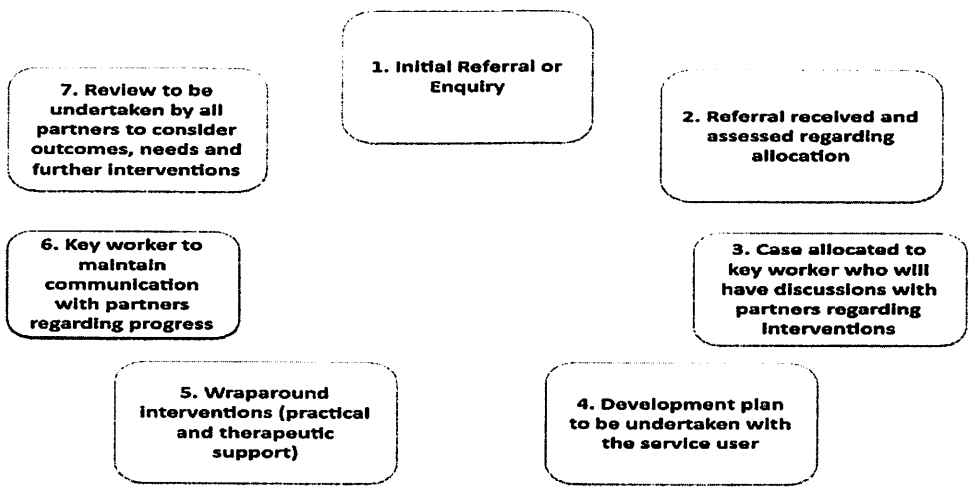
Building on the solid foundations established in previous years, this report highlights the progress, achievements, and learning that have shaped our work over the past year. It provides an overview of our strategic priorities and operational activities, showcasing how we have continued to support those affected by crime, violence, and a range of social challenges.

Throughout these pages, we share examples of collaboration, innovation, challenges, development and progress, demonstrating the collective effort of our staff, partners, stakeholders, and communities. Together, we have worked to create opportunities for positive change for the individuals and families we support in both community and prison settings.

As we enter our 22nd year of existence, Bringing Hope does not shy away from responding to some very challenging and complex cases; doing it in independently and in partnership with statutory, community, voluntary, faith and business sector organisations and personnel, as we seek to address the root issues or causes, associated with the cohort we work with.

Through the support our funders and commissioned work, we have continued to offer services through our referral process as seen in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1



Whilst acknowledging the progress we have made during the year, we have also faced challenges associated with supporting individuals and families with increasingly complex needs, managing staffing pressures, and securing the resources necessary to sustain and develop our services. Despite these challenges, we have remained committed to our mission, ensuring that our operational, governance, and administrative systems remained robust and capable of supporting our evidence-informed and person-centred approach.

The sections below provide an overview of the developments, achievements, and learning arising from Bringing Hope's interventions and activities between April 2025 and March 2026. They highlight our work with individuals affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion, including offenders, ex-offenders, and their families in both prison and community settings.

The report also reflects the strength of our partnerships and collaborative working, including our continued involvement with the Peer Action Collective, funded by the Youth Endowment Fund. Together, these activities demonstrate our ongoing commitment to creating pathways of hope, rehabilitation, resilience, and positive change for individuals, families, and communities.

Achievements and performance

Supporting Individuals and Families

During the 2025-2026 reporting period we worked with 105 cases/clients (42% in Prison and 58% in community), with over 45% of cases involving one or more family members, carers, or significant others as part of our holistic and solution-focused approach. We continue to recognise that sustainable change is often strengthened when support extends beyond the individual to include those closest to them. The individuals we supported ranged in age from 11 to 45 years and reflected the following demographic profile:

- 90.5% male
- 9.5% female
- 75% Caribbean and mixed-heritage backgrounds
- 9% White European
- 16% South Asian

As mentioned in previous reports, these figures continue to reflect our longstanding concern regarding the disproportionate impact of crime, serious violence, criminal exploitation, and criminal justice involvement on young Black men and those from racially minoritised communities. Whilst this remains an important area of focus, our services are open to support individuals and families from diverse backgrounds who are experiencing multiple and often interconnected disadvantages.

It remains important to acknowledge that many of those referred to us are described as 'hard to engage', 'high-risk', or 'disengaged' from mainstream services. Our experience highlights that these individuals are often navigating complex personal, family, social, and structural challenges that require trusted relationships, patience, and consistent support. Common issues presented during this reporting period included:

- Serious violence, including individuals in custody serving sentences for offences involving the loss of life
- Criminal exploitation and involvement in organised or gang-related activity
- Knife crime, weapon-related offences, and safeguarding concerns
- Postcode-related conflicts, retaliation, and community tensions
- Trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and unresolved grief
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing challenges
- Family breakdown, fractured relationships, and intergenerational challenges
- Social exclusion, unemployment, financial hardship, and limited access to opportunities

Many of the individuals and families we support experience several of these challenges simultaneously, creating layers of complexity that require sustained, holistic, and relationship-based interventions. Importantly, we continue to support both those in custody and those returning to their communities, recognising that successful rehabilitation requires coordinated support before, during, and after release.

Referrals continue to come from a range of sources including prisons, probation services, youth justice services, schools, community organisations, faith groups, statutory agencies, families, and self-referrals. Every referral is assessed using our Referral Pathway Framework, which helps us identify strengths, risks, needs, and opportunities for positive change across key areas of an individual's life, which continue to include the following:

1. Accommodation and housing stability
2. Mental health and emotional wellbeing
3. Substance misuse
4. Living skills and self-care
5. Relationships and family support
6. Parenting and caring responsibilities
7. Peer networks and community connections
8. Education, training, employment and enterprise
9. Financial wellbeing
10. Positive use of time
11. Managing emotions and conflict
12. Faith, spirituality, values and personal identity

The above framework enables us to develop person-centred support plans that promote rehabilitation, desistance from crime, improved wellbeing, and greater social inclusion. However, during this reporting period, staff increasingly expressed concern about the younger cohort of our client group and the difficulties many experience in detaching themselves from an entrenched 'street' or 'road' lifestyle. For some, involvement in crime, violence, and harmful peer networks appears deeply embedded within their identity, relationships, and day-to-day realities.

This observation resonates with Elijah Anderson's (1999) concept of the "Code of the Street", which describes a set of informal rules governing behaviour, particularly around respect, status, retaliation, and aggression. Anderson argues that such codes can emerge within communities experiencing poverty, social exclusion, limited opportunities, and a lack of trust in mainstream institutions. Whilst not applicable to all young people, aspects of this framework help us understand some of the pressures and influences faced by those we support, particularly where gang-related conflict, violence, trauma, and a sense of alienation from wider society are present.

These challenges reinforce the importance of long-term, trusted relationships, positive role models, family engagement, and culturally informed interventions that provide realistic alternatives and pathways towards positive change.

Our work continues to be informed by evidence demonstrating the importance of positive family relationships in reducing offending and supporting long-term change. However, we recognise that rebuilding relationships is not always straightforward. Some individuals remain entrenched in offending behaviour, others have experienced significant trauma, family breakdown, bereavement, or conflict, whilst some families may themselves require support before meaningful engagement can take place.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Highlights and Achievements

Bringing Hope continues to operate as a socially conscious, culturally competent, and values-led organisation, working at the intersection of community, prison, and statutory services. Our trusted and independent position enables us to engage individuals and families who are often reluctant to access mainstream support, whilst fostering positive relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders.

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen our reach, deepen our impact, which includes our involvement at strategic levels, on the board and advisory group for West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office. In line with these positions, we can contribute to critical discussions and plans relating to criminal justice, community safety, police relationship with communities.

Whilst the year has presented many challenges, we remain particularly proud of the dedication, resilience, and professionalism of our staff. Their ability to build trusted relationships and provide consistent support has been critical in helping individuals navigate some of the most difficult periods of their lives. In several cases, our interventions have supported young people and adults whose circumstances placed them at significant risk of serious harm, further criminal exploitation, violence, imprisonment, or even loss of life.

We continue to believe that positive change is often achieved through persistence, compassion, and long-term engagement. We therefore celebrate not only the outcomes achieved, but also the commitment, skills, and adaptability of our team in responding to the growing complexity, intensity, and breadth of need presented by those we support.

An important aspect of our work in prisons has been our engagement and support for men who have been linked to disruptive, defiant and violent behaviours which has been of serious concern to the institution. Our success here relates to how our lived experience staff and partners positively engage with these men, resulting in us seeing remarkable changes in behaviours.

From this, we are pleased to provide a copy of the certificate (Figure 2) that is to be awarded to 41 men from two prisons, who successfully participated in the Pic & Mix Programme and completed the NCFE Level 1 Award in Understanding Mindset. This achievement represents more than a qualification; it reflects commitment, personal growth, self-reflection, and a willingness to embrace positive change.

Whilst the work is often challenging, our experience over the past 22 years has shown that those frequently described as hard to engage, resistant, difficult, or problematic are often individuals who have simply lacked trust, opportunity, and consistent support. When these are provided, remarkable change can occur. The testimonial below offer further evidence of the reach, value, and life-changing impact of our work in both community and custodial settings.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Figure 2



Prison Impact

"Bringing Hope has been a truly inspiring and uplifting initiative. The enthusiasm from the men was unmistakable, and their engagement was exceptional. One participant has progressed to becoming a wing cleaner despite previously struggling to engage positively with staff. The programme offered powerful stories of change, developed valuable skills, strengthened staff-prisoner relationships, and created opportunities for men who rarely access positive activities. The positive impact has been evident across the prison, with participants continuing to talk about the experience long after the sessions ended."

Head of Safety and Equalities, HMP in West Midlands

Service User Engagement and Risk Management

Building authentic, trust-based relationships continues to be the foundation of Bringing Hope's work. We recognise that meaningful and sustainable change often begins with connection, particularly for individuals who may have experienced trauma, exclusion, discrimination, imprisonment, family breakdown, or repeated disengagement from statutory services.

As mentioned previously, many of those we support are described as "hard to engage", high-risk, or disengaged. However, our experience suggests that most individuals are not unwilling to engage; rather, they often require support that is credible, culturally competent, consistent, and responsive to their circumstances. Developing trust therefore remains a critical element of our engagement strategy and intervention model.

Risk management remains an integral part of our practice. Staff routinely assess and review risks in collaboration with service users, families, and partner agencies, ensuring that safeguarding, wellbeing, and public protection considerations remain central to our interventions. Through regular case reviews, supervision, partnership meetings, and information sharing, we seek to manage risk appropriately whilst maintaining the trusting relationships that are often essential to achieving positive outcomes.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

As the complexity of need continues to increase, we remain committed to providing compassionate, culturally informed, and relationship-based support that balances accountability with encouragement, challenge with empathy, and risk management with opportunities for hope, growth, and positive change.

Peer Action Collective (PAC) - A Successful Conclusion and Lasting Legacy

As highlighted in previous reports, Bringing Hope was honoured to be selected by the Youth Endowment Fund as the Midlands Delivery Partner for the Peer Action Collective (PAC) programme, a nationally recognised £11.4 million initiative placing young people at the centre of research, social action, and influencing change in relation to violence affecting their lives and communities.

We are pleased to report that during this reporting period we successfully completed our involvement in the second phase of the programme (2023-2025). As one of only seven delivery partners across England and Wales, Bringing Hope recruited, employed, trained, and supported a diverse group of 17 young people aged 16-22 to become Peer Researchers and Social Action Leaders. Significantly, for 92% of participants, this represented their first experience of paid employment.

Throughout the two-year programme, young people were not simply participants but valued members of the team. They were supported to develop research, communication, leadership, and community engagement skills whilst exploring issues affecting young people across the West Midlands. Many brought lived experience of violence, bereavement, care experience, neurodiversity, social exclusion, and the impact of the criminal justice system on their families and communities. Through employment, training, mentoring, counselling, coaching, and ongoing pastoral support, they developed confidence, resilience, employability skills, and a stronger sense of purpose.

The PAC programme enabled young people to engage hundreds of their peers through research, consultation, social action activities, and community engagement initiatives. Their work contributed valuable insights into the causes and consequences of youth violence, including the growing influence of social media on conflict, safety, identity, and relationships. Importantly, they also identified practical, solution-focused recommendations that have helped shape local and national conversations around violence prevention and youth engagement.

For Bringing Hope, one of the most significant achievements of the programme has been witnessing the personal growth and development of the young people involved. Several participants progressed into further education, employment, training, leadership opportunities, and community engagement roles. The programme demonstrated the value of investing in young people, not simply as beneficiaries of services, but as researchers, leaders, advocates, and agents of change.

We are particularly proud to celebrate the publication of the West Midlands PAC team's final report, Unpacking with PAC: The Power of Progress - Young People at the Centre of Change (August 2023 - September 2025).

Co-designed and produced by our PAC young people, the report captures the learning, experiences, research findings, and social action activities delivered throughout the two-year programme. It provides a powerful insight into the issues affecting young people across the West Midlands, including violence, conflict, social media influences, community safety, and the barriers many face in achieving their aspirations.

More importantly, the report demonstrates what can be achieved when young people are trusted, invested in, and given meaningful opportunities to influence change. It highlights not only the challenges they identified but also the solutions they proposed, reinforcing the value of youth-led research, lived experience, and community action in shaping more effective responses to violence and social inequality.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

The publication stands as a significant milestone for both the young people involved and Bringing Hope.

Strategic Partnerships and Engagement

During this reporting year, Bringing Hope continued to strengthen and maintain a range of strategic partnerships and professional relationships that support our mission to reduce crime, violence, social exclusion, and the impact of imprisonment on individuals, families, and communities.

Alongside direct service delivery, we have continued to contribute to discussions, consultations, and collaborative initiatives that promote community-informed, faith-based, culturally competent, and public health approaches to violence reduction, rehabilitation, and community safety. These partnerships provide opportunities to share learning, influence policy and practice, improve referral pathways, and advocate for the needs of those most affected by crime and serious violence.

Our key strategic partners and stakeholders have included:

Strategic engagement

- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership
- Home Office
- West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
- Several HMP Prisons
- West Midlands Faith Alliance
- Birmingham Children's Trust
- Youth Offending Services
- Practice Plus Group

As highlighted in previous reports, we recognise that partnerships are dynamic and continually evolving. Effective collaboration requires ongoing investment, trust, communication, and shared purpose. We therefore regularly review our partnerships to ensure they remain productive, responsive, and aligned with the needs of the individuals, families, and communities we serve.

We remain grateful to our partners for their continued support and engagement. Together, we are contributing to a more coordinated and compassionate response to crime, violence, rehabilitation, and community wellbeing across Birmingham, the West Midlands, and beyond.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Income generation and sustainability considerations

As highlighted throughout this report, securing sustainable income remains one of the most significant priorities for Bringing Hope. Our Trustees remain extremely grateful for the grants, commissioned contracts, donations, and other funding support that have enabled us to continue delivering vital services to individuals, families, and communities affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion.

However, there is no escaping the reality that the current funding environment continues to be highly challenging, particularly for small and medium-sized charities. Across the sector, organisations are experiencing increasing demand for services alongside rising operational costs, greater competition for limited funding opportunities, and reduced levels of unrestricted income and charitable giving.

It's against this backdrop, we continue to actively pursue a range of income generation opportunities, including commissioned contracts, grant funding, charitable trusts and foundations, corporate support, individual donations, and strategic partnerships. Whilst this is not an easy task in the current climate, it is essential if we are to maintain and develop the specialist services that many of our beneficiaries rely upon.

Without increased and sustained investment, organisations such as ours face ongoing pressures in maintaining staffing capacity, responding to growing levels of need, and delivering the long-term interventions often required to support individuals experiencing complex and multiple disadvantages. Nevertheless, we remain optimistic and committed to our mission.

Our track record, partnerships, lived experience, and the impact of our work continue to demonstrate the value of investing in community-based solutions that reduce violence, strengthen families, support rehabilitation, and contribute to safer, healthier communities.

As we look ahead, we will continue to pursue new funding opportunities and develop strategic relationships that support both the sustainability of Bringing Hope and the long-term wellbeing of the individuals and communities we serve. To support this ambition, we have been working with a business consultant to develop a communications, fundraising, and investment prospectus designed to engage potential partners from the philanthropic, public, private, faith, and community sectors. Through this approach, we aim to secure the long-term resources needed to sustain and grow the vision, mission, and impact of the charity.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Conclusion and moving forward

As we reflect on another year of service, Bringing Hope's Trustees and Executive Team remain steadfast in their commitment to supporting individuals, families, and communities affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion. For 22 years, we have worked alongside some of Birmingham and the West Midlands' most marginalised and vulnerable individuals, many of whom face multiple barriers and are often viewed as difficult to engage or beyond the reach of traditional services.

This year's report highlights both the increasing complexity of need and the importance of maintaining long-term, relationship-based support. Behind every referral, intervention, and outcome is a human story. Some of those we have supported have experienced serious violence, criminal exploitation, imprisonment, bereavement, trauma, and family breakdown. Others have been seeking to rebuild their lives following significant harm caused to themselves or others. These realities remind us that our work is is about far more than programmes and statistics; it is about supporting people to make different choices, rebuild relationships, restore hope, and create safer futures.

A key lesson from this year has been the continued importance of family engagement, trusted relationships, and partnership working. We remain convinced that lasting change is most likely to occur when individuals are supported within a network of positive relationships and when communities, statutory agencies, faith groups, and voluntary organisations work together towards shared goals.

Whilst we continue to face challenges associated with funding, increasing demand, and workforce capacity, we remain optimistic about the future. We are actively pursuing new opportunities through grants, commissioned contracts, donations, training, consultancy, and strategic partnerships to strengthen the long-term sustainability of the organisation and expand our reach and impact.

We are deeply grateful to our staff, trustees, volunteers, funders, commissioners, partners, and supporters whose commitment and belief in our mission make this work possible. Their support enables us to continue reaching individuals and families who might otherwise remain disconnected from help and opportunity. As we look ahead, our vision remains clear. We will continue to champion hope, promote rehabilitation, strengthen families, reduce violence, and advocate for those whose voices are often unheard, misrepresented or misrepresented at strategic tables.

After 22 years, our belief remains as strong as ever: **no one is beyond hope, no family is beyond support, and no community is beyond transformation.**

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Challenges and concerns

Whilst we remain grateful for our dedicated staff team, committed volunteers, supportive partners, and engaged Board of Trustees, we continue to operate within an increasingly challenging environment. As with many small and medium-sized charities, one of our most significant concerns remains the long-term sustainability of the organisation. Securing sufficient income through commissioned contracts, grants, trusts and foundations, donations, and strategic partnerships continues to be a priority if we are to maintain and develop the services that individuals, families, and communities rely upon.

The current funding landscape remains highly competitive, with increasing demand for services, rising operational costs, and growing expectations placed upon voluntary and community sector organisations. Whilst Bringing Hope has been successful in securing funding for several core programmes, the need for sustainable, multi-year investment remains critical to our future planning and organisational resilience.

This year's work has also highlighted the increasing complexity of the individuals and families accessing our services. Many of those we support present with multiple and interconnected needs, including serious violence, criminal exploitation, trauma, poor mental health, family breakdown, poverty, social exclusion, and involvement in the criminal justice system. Some of the individuals we work with have been victims of serious violence, whilst others are serving custodial sentences for offences involving significant harm and, in some cases, the loss of life. These realities reinforce the importance of specialist, intensive, and long-term interventions that cannot always be captured through short-term outputs alone.

Like mentioned earlier, we remain particularly concerned about the continued overrepresentation of Black boys and young men within the criminal justice system and amongst those affected by serious violence. This remains a longstanding social justice issue and one that continues to require culturally informed, trauma-responsive, and community-led approaches. Through our work in prisons, communities, schools, and families, we seek to address some of the underlying factors that contribute to these inequalities whilst creating opportunities for rehabilitation, personal growth, and positive community participation.

During the year, staff also reflected on the increasing challenges faced by younger service users who appear more deeply influenced by harmful peer networks, social media narratives, criminal exploitation, and entrenched 'street' cultures. Supporting young people to disengage from these influences requires patience, credibility, trusted relationships, and consistent intervention over extended periods. Whilst our staff continue to demonstrate exceptional commitment and professionalism, we remain a relatively small organisation delivering services across a broad geographical area and range of complex needs. Maintaining staff wellbeing, preventing burnout, and ensuring appropriate supervision and support therefore remain important organisational priorities. Regular supervision, reflective practice sessions, case reviews, and wellbeing support continue to play a vital role in sustaining the quality and effectiveness of our work.

Alongside service delivery, we continue to strengthen our evidence base, monitoring systems, and impact measurement frameworks. This enables us to better demonstrate outcomes, social value, and learning, whilst positioning the organisation to secure future investment and respond effectively to emerging needs.

Despite these challenges, Bringing Hope remains resilient, optimistic, and committed to its mission. We continue to witness examples of courage, change, and transformation amongst those we support, reinforcing our belief that with the right support, opportunities, and relationships, individuals and families can overcome significant adversity and build safer, healthier, and more hopeful futures.

Financial review

Unrestricted/General Funds

The charity's gross income on general funds for the year was £127,559 (2025 £106,714), which included £2,400 (2025: £2,680) of bank interest. The main sources of income were general donations and grants of £125,059. Expenses totalled £202,579 (2025: £76,911). The net result for the year was a deficit of £75,020 (2025: £29,803 surplus). This has been deducted from the reserves brought forward at the start of the year of £252,507 leaving a balance carried forward at 31 March 2026 of £177,487.

Since many of the unrestricted grants are designed to cover a period that straddles the company's year-end, the accounts can show a distorted position of reserves. These reserves will however be required to cover future planned expenses in the subsequent months and consequently are necessary to the ongoing operations of the charity.

Restricted funds

During the year grants were received from the following:

- The Big Lottery/Reaching Communities Fund, £127,388 (2025: £122,274)-the amount is exclusive of monies received but deferred to a future year
- West Midlands PCC-Violence Reduction Partnership £115,500 (2025: £162,631)
- Youth Endowment Fund £43,439 (2025: £174,999-this project ceased during the year

Summaries of income, expenditure and balances remaining at 31 March 2026 are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Structure, governance and management

Bringing Hope is a charitable limited company, limited by guarantee. It is managed at a strategic level by a board of trustees who are also the company's directors for the purpose of company law.

Day to day management is exercised by two senior managers titled executive directors although they are not formally appointed as company directors at Companies House. In addition to these there are support staff as well as key workers and case workers.

Bringing Hope remains committed to maintaining strong governance, accountability, and effective leadership across all aspects of its work. Throughout the reporting period, the organisation's activities, strategic direction, and performance continued to be overseen by the Board of Trustees, who worked closely with staff to ensure that Bringing Hope remained focused on its charitable objectives, values, and mission.

During 2025-2026, the Board comprised five trustees with a broad range of skills, knowledge, and experience across community development, criminal justice, youth work, faith-based engagement, safeguarding, governance, and organisational leadership. Trustees provided oversight of the organisation's finances, commissioned services, grant-funded programmes, partnerships, risk management, and staffing matters, ensuring that Bringing Hope continued to operate effectively and in the best interests of its beneficiaries.

The Board met formally on four occasions during the year, supported by additional discussions and working meetings between trustees and senior staff relating to finance, fundraising, organisational development, governance, and operational matters. These arrangements enabled the organisation to respond to emerging challenges, monitor performance, and maintain appropriate oversight during a period of increasing demand and financial pressures across the voluntary sector.

Recognising the importance of a diverse and skilled Board, trustees are undertaking a review of current and future governance needs. As a result, Bringing Hope is currently in the process of recruiting three additional trustees to strengthen the Board's capacity and expertise. We are particularly seeking individuals with experience in legal services, fundraising, income generation, and charity governance to support the organisation's continued growth, sustainability, and strategic development.

The Trustees remain committed to ensuring that Bringing Hope is well-governed, financially resilient, and equipped to respond to the changing needs of the individuals, families, and communities we serve. We are grateful for the dedication of our trustees, staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters, whose collective efforts continue to make a positive difference in the lives of those affected by crime, violence, imprisonment, trauma, and social exclusion.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2026

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Bringing Hope
Charity registration number	1122288
Company registration number	6271245
Principal office and registered office	88 Soho Road Handsworth Birmingham B21 9DP
The trustees	
	D Storrod-Chair G Bally-Balogun-Vice Chair P Roberts S Bateman AM Kalsi RESIGNED 9 MARCH 2026 N Appleby
Independent examiner	David Seeley FCA Accuo Accounting Limited Chartered Accountants Alvechurch Birmingham B48 7JX

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 22 June 2026 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

D STORROD
Chair of Trustees

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bringing Hope

Year ended 31 March 2026

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bringing Hope ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 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 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.



David Seeley FCA
Independent Examiner

Accuo Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
Alvechurch
Birmingham
B48 7JX

22 JAN 2026

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	**5**	125,059	286,327	**411,386**	568,428
Charitable activities	**6**	100	–	**100**	1,910
Investment income	**7**	2,400	–	**2,400**	2,680
Total income		127,559	286,327	**413,886**	573,018
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	**8**	12,716	–	**12,716**	6,462
Expenditure on charitable activities	**9,10**	189,863	286,327	**476,190**	536,753
Total expenditure		202,579	286,327	**488,906**	543,215
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(75,020)	–	**(75,020)**	29,803
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		252,507	–	**252,507**	222,704
Total funds carried forward		177,487	–	**177,487**	252,507

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	£	2025 £
Current assets				
Debtors	17	**29,879**		37,675
Cash at bank and in hand		**214,898**		294,692
		244,777		332,367
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**67,290**		79,860
Net current assets			**177,487**	252,507
Total assets less current liabilities			**177,487**	252,507
Net assets			**177,487**	252,507
Funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds			**177,487**	252,507
Total charity funds	20		**177,487**	252,507

For the year ending 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 June 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



D STORROD
Director/Chair of Trustees

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	**(75,020)**	29,803
Adjustments for:		
Other interest receivable and similar income	**(2,400)**	(2,680)
Interest payable and similar charges	**670**	73
Accrued income	**(13,181)**	(1,584)
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	**7,796**	(37,675)
Trade and other creditors	**611**	(19,971)
Cash generated from operations	**(81,524)**	(32,034)
Interest paid	**(670)**	(73)
Interest received	**2,400**	2,680
Net cash used in operating activities	**(79,794)**	(29,427)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	**(79,794)**	(29,427)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	**294,692**	324,119
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**214,898**	294,692

The notes on pages 20 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Bringing Hope

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 88 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9BN.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

3. Accounting policies

Going concern

Definition
The Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs states that

"While all charities should maintain some level of reserves to ensure long-term financial sustainability, the charity should disclose its reserves policy in the annual report."

The term "Reserves" is used to describe that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Policy
Bringing Hope is currently dependent on approximately £11,000 per month to sustain its activities, excluding grants received for particular restricted purposes, as earned income alone would not allow Bringing Hope to continue operating. This means that if there were to be a gap in funds it is likely that Bringing Hope would have to close down.

To avoid closure if funding difficulties were to occur the Bringing Hope Board of Trustees has agreed to aim to keep a certain level of financial reserves to ensure that main operations can continue for a period of 3 months.

The main concerns of the board are to ensure:
- That staff can continue working, primarily to secure new funding
- That service users are supported to move on to other services

The level of unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2025 appears to be above the target level of £33,000, however, as noted earlier in the report the timing of some grant income may distort the true financial position. The trustees remain aware of the need to control costs and generate additional income to build the reserves to the calculated level on a sustainable basis. As will be seen in the 'Plans for Future Periods' explained in the Trustees' Report the trustees are continuing to explore new and different sources of income. In light of the continuing support of the Big Lottery and other major funders the Trustees are confident that they will continue to raise the necessary funds to maintain the charity's operations.

The reserves should be built up from the unrestricted (earned) income such as received donations, income generated through workshops and consultancy work to external organisations, management fees and bank interest.

Monitoring and Review:
The level of reserves should be calculated and monitored every 6 months by the Executive Director-Robin Thompson, reviewed yearly at Board meetings and whenever there are significant changes in staff hours or numbers.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Going concern

At present there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Significant judgements

The trustees do not believe there are any judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that have been made in the process of applying the charity's accounting policies that have any significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. However the trustees do not believe there are any assumptions or other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor/grantmaker.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

Income
All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Income from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Resources expended

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. VAT cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- 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. The charity's policy is not to capitalise any individual items of expenditure costing less than £1,000 or expected life is less than 3 years.
- Items of a capital nature that are purchased out of restricted funds are written off in the year of purchase.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis, as set out in the notes to the accounts.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives, if any, is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Donations			
General Donations	10,059	–	**10,059**
Grants			
Other grants receivable	5,000	–	**5,000**
National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund	–	127,388	**127,388**
The Tudor Trust	–	–	**–**
The Jerusalem Trust	40,000	–	**40,000**
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	115,500	**115,500**
Youth Endowment Fund	–	43,439	**43,439**
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	–	**50,000**
Practice Plus	20,000	–	**20,000**
	125,059	286,327	**411,386**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
General Donations	4,724	–	4,724
Grants			
Other grants receivable	20,000	6,400	26,400
National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund	–	122,274	122,274
The Tudor Trust	37,400	–	37,400
The Jerusalem Trust	40,000	–	40,000
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	162,631	162,631
Youth Endowment Fund	–	174,999	174,999
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	–	–	–
Practice Plus	–	–	–
	102,124	466,304	568,428

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Other income from charitable activities	100	**100**	1,910	1,910

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Bank interest receivable	2,400	**2,400**	2,680	2,680

8. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Costs of raising donations and legacies – Grants and donations receivable	12,716	**12,716**	6,462	6,462

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Community Work	185,718	286,327	**472,045**
Support costs	4,145	–	**4,145**
	189,863	286,327	**476,190**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Community Work	67,768	466,304	534,072
Support costs	2,681	–	2,681
	70,449	466,304	536,753

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	**Total funds 2026 £**	Total fund 2025 £
Community Work	472,045	–	**472,045**	534,072
Governance costs	–	4,145	**4,145**	2,681
	472,045	4,145	**476,190**	536,753

11. Analysis of support costs

	Community Work	**Total 2026**	Total 2025
	£	**£**	£
Governance costs	4,145	**4,145**	2,681

12. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2026	2025
	£	£
Property rental	**(5,670)**	36,000
Operating lease rentals	**11,489**	10,350

13. Independent examination fees

	2026	2025
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	**683**	683
Other financial services	**2,067**	2,090
	2,750	2,773

14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**309,311**	348,688
Social security costs	**21,405**	21,310
	330,716	369,998

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2025: 19). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2026	2025
	No.	No.
Administration	**2**	2
Charitable activities	**7**	6
	9	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2025: Nil).

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £114,490 (2025:£107,207).

15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- no remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees during the year.
- no trustee expenses have been incurred

16. Transfers between funds

There were no transfers between funds in either year.

17. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	**28,875**	36,991
Prepayments and accrued income	**320**	–
Other debtors	**684**	684
	29,879	37,675

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	**61,940**	73,089
Social security and other taxes	**5,350**	6,771
	67,290	79,860

19. Deferred income

	2026	2025
	£	£
At 1 April 2025	**31,339**	46,312
Amount released to income	**(31,339)**	(46,312)
Amount deferred in year	**33,371**	31,339
At 31 March 2026	**33,371**	31,339

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	**At 31 March 2026 £**
General income funds	252,507	127,559	(202,579)	**177,487**

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
General income funds	222,704	106,714	(76,911)	252,507

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	**At 31 March 2026 £**
National Lottery Community Fund	–	127,388	(127,388)	–
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	115,500	(115,500)	–
Youth Endowment Fund	–	43,439	(43,439)	–
Simmer Down project	–	–	–	–
Stephen Lawrence project	–	–	–	–
	–	286,327	(286,327)	–

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
National Lottery Community Fund	–	122,274	(122,274)	–
WMPCC-Violence Reduction Partnership	–	162,631	(162,631)	–
Youth Endowment Fund	–	174,999	(174,999)	–
Simmer Down project	–	4,000	(4,000)	–
Stephen Lawrence project	–	2,400	(2,400)	–
	–	466,304	(466,304)	–

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**
	£	**£**
Current assets	244,777	**244,777**
Creditors less than 1 year	(67,290)	**(67,290)**
Net assets	177,487	**177,487**

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£
Current assets	332,367	332,367
Creditors less than 1 year	(79,860)	(79,860)
Net assets	252,507	252,507

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2025	Cash flows	**At 31 Mar 2026**
	£	£	**£**
Cash at bank and in hand	294,692	(79,794)	**214,898**

23. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**62,604**	96,906