THE ELDERS COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2026

Charity Number 1122424
Company Number 06188907

THE ELDERS COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2026

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

1. Objectives and activities

The Elders Council of Newcastle exists to promote the wellbeing, participation and influence of older people and to ensure that their voices are heard in decisions that affect their lives and communities.

The charity works with and on behalf of older people across Newcastle upon Tyne, providing opportunities for participation, learning, creativity, volunteering and civic engagement. Through research, partnership working and consultation activity, the charity seeks to influence policy and practice so that Newcastle is a city where people can age well.

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the activities undertaken during the year further the charity's purposes and provide clear public benefit.

2. Achievements and performance

The year ended 31 March 2026 marked the 25th anniversary of the Elders Council of Newcastle. Despite ongoing pressures affecting the voluntary and community sector, the charity continued to operate effectively and deliver activities supporting older people across the city. Trustees, staff and volunteers worked together to maintain governance, financial oversight and service delivery.

The charity remained a membership-led organisation, representing 1,328 members aged 50 and over with a connection to Newcastle upon Tyne. Members contributed to research, communications, consultations and volunteering across the organisation.

Connect

The Elders Council continued to bring older people together through meetings, workshops, events and communications.

During the year:

- 26 eBulletins were produced and distributed to approximately 885 subscribers
- 4 editions of Echo Magazine were produced
- 52 broadcasts of Older Voices Radio were delivered via Radio Tyneside and online platforms

Wellbeing for Life sessions and outreach activity continued to support engagement with members and communities across Newcastle, including underrepresented groups.

Activate
The charity supported older people to take part in creative, research and community activities that encouraged participation and connection.

Key activity included the Older Writers, Legacy and Spoken Word (OWLS) group, enabling members to engage in storytelling, writing and performance.

A key activity during the year was the Through Wor Eyes project, delivered as part of the charity's 25th anniversary programme and supported by the Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund. The project brought together older residents to share memories and experiences of Newcastle through creative writing, storytelling, film and intergenerational activity in collaboration with schools.

The charity also delivered digital inclusion workshops in partnership with AbilityNet, supporting members to build confidence in using digital technology. Members also participated in activities relating to healthy ageing, housing, nutrition, assistive technology and climate storytelling.

Influence
The Elders Council continued to ensure that the voices of older people informed local policy, research and decision-making.

The charity continued its partnership work with Newcastle City Council - Adult Social Care and the Age Friendly City Newcastle Group, contributing to strategic discussions on age-friendly policy and practice.

The Research and Impact Group (RIG) remained active and grew, enabling members to engage with researchers from universities and partner organisations, including Newcastle University, Northumbria University and the Healthy Ageing Policy Research Unit (HAPRU).

IMPACT
During the year, the charity completed a social impact study exploring the difference participation makes to members' lives.

Findings highlighted outcomes including:

- increased sense of purpose
- greater confidence and social connection
- increased civic participation
- improved ability to challenge ageism
- stronger feelings of being valued and included

The study reinforced the charity's role as a source of lived experience and a partner in supporting age-friendly policy and practice.

VOLUNTEERS

Around 50 active volunteers supported the charity throughout the year across communications, governance, research, creative projects and community engagement.

Their contribution remains central to the delivery of the charity's work.

The Trustees wish to thank all volunteers for their time, commitment and support.

3. Plans for Future Periods

The charity will continue to develop its three strategic priorities: Connect, Activate and Influence.

Priorities for the coming year include:

- strengthening the voice and influence of older people in Newcastle
- working alongside Newcastle City Council, Adult Social Care
- developing and promoting findings from the social impact study
- building on the legacy of the Through Wor Eyes project
- expanding volunteering, participation and intergenerational activity
- supporting Age Friendly Newcastle and partnership working
- strengthening digital inclusion activity
- supporting research and evidence-informed policy development

ensuring long-term sustainability through governance and fundraising

4. Public benefit

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

5. Financial review

Key numbers:

	2026	2025	+/-
Total Income	**£83,014**	**£121,874**	**-£38,860**
Total expenditure	**£104,075**	**£119,786**	**-£15,711**
Surplus (deficit)	**(£21,181)**	**£2,088**	**-£23,150**
No. of employees [fte]	**1.5**	**2.5**	**-1**
Free reserves	**£47,210**	**£28,302**	**+£18,908**
The number of weeks we could continue to operate if our income completely ceased	**23**	**12**	**+11 wks.**

2025/26 has been a challenging year for the Elders Council. We had a change of Chief Officer whilst, at the same time, funding came under increased pressure.

Like many charities, we are faced with increasing running costs on one hand and, on the other, funders with reducing “pots” and increasing applicants. We also face the problem that our impact is difficult to demonstrate at a time when funders are often seeking charities that can demonstrate quantifiable outcomes. It is also worth pointing out that the previous year benefitted from a large but non-recurring grant as well as a crowdfunding initiative that couldn’t be repeated in 2025/26 the two accounting for the bulk of the decrease in income.

The good news, as far as funding is concerned, is that we continue to enjoy the support of the City Council, our major funder. However, we recognise that there is an imperative to widen our net and secure income from elsewhere and our CO has been working diligently to this end. We also looked to reduce costs and did not replace our Development Officer when he left.

In summary, although the financial results for the year are disappointing, a lot of great work has been undertaken – as detailed elsewhere in this report – and the groundwork has been started to diversify our income so that the trustees’ outlook for 2026/27 is cautiously optimistic.

Reserves
Our reserves target is to have 6-months of operating costs in hand. In these times of ever-increasing calls on the charitable sector and ever-diminishing funding availability the Board is agreed that this remains an appropriate policy. At 31 March 2026 we were short of our target and efforts will be made in the coming year to improve that.

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

Charity Name	The Elders Council of Newcastle Limited	
Registered Company Number	06188907	
Registered Charity Number	1122424	
Trustees	Anne Raffle	
	Keith Williamson	
	Diane Scott	
	Farida Rehman	
	Sylvia Leigh	Resigned 19.11.2025
	Susan Harrop	Resigned 08.07.2026
	John White	
	Wendy Parvin	Appointed 18.03.2026
	Stella Simbo	Appointed 23.07.2025
Registered Office	2nd Floor, Biomedical Research Building Campus for Ageing & Vitality Nuns Moor Road Newcastle NE4 5PL	
Independent Examiner	David Kilner 7 Eldon Square Newcastle NE1 7JG	
Bankers	Cooperative Bank 1 Balloon Street Manchester M4 4BE	

7. Structure, governance and management

Governing documents

The Elders Council of Newcastle Limited is a charitable company, governed by its constitution, adopted on 28th March 2007, amended on 26th November 2007.

The Elders Council of Newcastle is a membership-led charity governed by a Board of Trustees and Executive Officer, responsible for strategic direction, governance and oversight.

The Board met monthly during the year to review performance, manage risk, oversee finances and support strategic development.

The charity continued to manage its resources prudently during the year, with expenditure aligned to its charitable objectives.

Safeguarding, risk management and compliance were reviewed regularly by the Board.

The Board is supported by the Executive Officer and staff team in the day-to-day management of the organisation.

8. Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statement

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

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charity for the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees on …17/06/2026…….. and signed on their behalf by:



Keith Williamson
Treasurer

THE ELDERS COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
For the year ended 31 March 2026

I report on the financial statements of The Elders Council of Newcastle Limited for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 3 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that the audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145 (5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present 'a true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

David L. Kilner.

David L Kilner FCA
Chartered Accountant
7 Eldon Square
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 7JG

Date: 22.06.26

THE ELDERS COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2026 £**	Total 2025 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	5,655	-	**5,655**	10,117
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	45,660	24,000	**69,660**	96,690
Other trading activities	8	-	-	**-**	9,074
Investments	9	1,344	-	**1,344**	-
Other income	10	6,355	-	**6,355**	5,994
Total income		59,014	24,000	**83,014**	121,874
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	11	94,476	9,600	**104,075**	119,786
Total expenditure		94,476	9,600	**104,075**	119,786
Net income/(expenditure)		(35,462)	14,400	**(21,062)**	2,088
Transfers between funds		31,684	(31,684)	**-**	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds		(3,778)	(17,283)	**(21,062)**	2,088
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		28,882	52,405	**81,287**	79,198
Total funds carried forward		25,104	35,122	**60,225**	81,286

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 11 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

THE ELDERS COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED
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Charity Number 1122424
Company Number 06188907

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2026

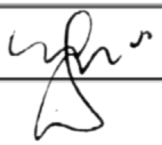
	Notes	£	Total 2026 £	£	Total 2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	18		238		580
Total fixed assets			**238**		**580**
Current assets					
Debtors	19	734		663	
Cash at bank and in hand	20	74,895		90,578	
Total current assets		**75,629**		**91,241**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	**(15,643)**		**(10,534)**	
Net current assets			**59,987**		**80,707**
Total assets less current liabilities			**60,224**		**81,287**
Total net assets or liabilities			**60,224**		**81,287**
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds			25,104		28,882
Restricted income funds			35,122		52,405
Total funds			**60,225**		**81,287**

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 23 to 33 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 17-06-2026

and are signed on its behalf by: Keith Williamson
Trustee



1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

The Elders Council of Newcastle Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

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

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether ‘capital’ grants or ‘revenue’ grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Donated goods and services

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 Interest receivable

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

3.7 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 Fund accounting

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

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

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

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

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

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

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

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

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

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, a full years depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal:

Office and computer equipment	25% straight line

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2026 £**	Total 2025 £
6	**Donations and legacies**				
	Donations	5,655	-	**5,655**	10,117
		5,655	-	**5,655**	10,117
7	**Charitable activities**				
	Grant income				
	Newcastle City Council	44,100	-	**44,100**	53,838
	Kellet - Community Foundation	-	12,000	**12,000**	14,000
	Centre for Ageing Better	500	-	**500**	500
	Community Foundation - Culture Investment	-	-	**-**	12,000
	Dunhill Medical Grant	-	-	**-**	14,352
	Ward Grant	-	-	**-**	648
	Newcastle City Council Stop Smoking Grant	1,000	-	**1,000**	-
	HAPRU Project	-	5,000	**5,000**	-
	Chain Reaction	-	500	**500**	-
	Ellie Hayes Nutritional Survey	-	4,000	**4,000**	-
	Newcastle University The Living Narrative	-	2,500	**2,500**	-
	Grants other	60	-	**60**	1,352
		45,660	24,000	**69,660**	96,690
8	**Other trading activities**				
	Income from services	-	-	**-**	9,074
		-	-	**-**	9,074
9	**Income from investments**				
	Bank interest	1,344	-	**1,344**	-
		1,344	-	**1,344**	-
10	**Other income**				
	Other income	6,355	-	**6,355**	5,994
		6,355	-	**6,355**	5,994

Income was £83,014 (2025: £121,874) of which £59,014 was unrestricted or designated (2025: £71,850) and £24,000 was restricted (2025: £50,024)

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

11 ***Charitable activities***	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2026 £**	Total 2025 £
Direct costs				
Training and conferences	300	-	**300**	-
AGM & other member support	1,670	56	**1,726**	1,142
Booked transport	-	-	**-**	698
Newsletter postage & delivery	135	-	**135**	3,617
Publishing and printing	610	-	**610**	-
Magazine printing	7,266	-	**7,266**	3,989
Innovation Super Network	-	-	**-**	150
Activities	9,870	662	**10,532**	1,439
Small Sparks	-	-	**-**	8,792
Support costs				
Rent, service charge and telephone	5,904	-	**5,904**	5,390
Office stationery	478	-	**478**	658
Staff costs	62,611	-	**62,611**	81,164
IT and website costs	2,113	-	**2,113**	2,345
Sundries	57	-	**57**	19
Professional fees	1,854	8,881	**10,735**	8,477
Depreciation	342	-	**342**	521
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	600	-	**600**	600
Legal fees	-	-	**-**	120
Insurance	663	-	**663**	663
Bank charges	3	-	**3**	3
	94,476	9,600	**104,075**	119,786

Expenditure on charitable activities was £104,075 (2025: £119,786) of which £94,476 was unrestricted or designated (2025: £113,365) and £9,600 was restricted (2025: £6,421)

12 **Fees for examination of the accounts**

	2026 £	2025 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	**600**	600
	600	600

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

	2026	2025
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**55,097**	71,825
Social security costs	**6,619**	6,076
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	**895**	1,228
	62,611	79,129

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2025: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees, and the Executive Officer.. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,367. (2025: £41,906)

14 Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 2 staff (2025: 3 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

The parts of the charity in which the employee's work	**2026** **Number**	2025 Number
Charitable activities	**1.5**	2.5
	1.5	2.5

15 Transactions with trustees

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

Trustees' expenses

The following detail the expenses incurred by the trustees.

	2026	2025
	£	£
Travel	**-**	34
	-	34

Transaction(s) with related parties

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

16 Defined contribution pension scheme

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

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £2,386 (2025: £1,228). There was £206 outstanding as at 31 March 2026 (2025: £23)

17 **Corporation Taxation**

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

18 **Tangible fixed assets**

	Office equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
Balance brought forward	2,607	**2,607**
Additions	-	**-**
Disposals	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	2,607	**2,607**
Depreciation		
Basis	SL	
Rate	25%	
Balance brought forward	2,027	**2,027**
Depreciation charge for year	342	**342**
Disposals	-	**-**
Balance carried forward	2,370	**2,370**
Net book value		
Brought forward	580	**580**
Carried forward	238	**238**

19 **Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)**

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments & accrued income	**734**	663
	734	663

20 **Cash at bank and in hand**

	2026	2025
	£	£
Short term cash investment	**-**	31,443
Short term deposits	**51,000**	40,000
Cash at bank and in hand	**23,895**	19,134
	74,895	90,578

21 **Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)**

	2026	2025
	£	£
Taxation and social security	**3,061**	3,483
Pension	**206**	23
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	**600**	600
Other accruals	**8,776**	6,428
Deferred income	**3,000**	-
	15,643	10,534

22 **Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods

	2026
	£
Balance brought forward	**-**
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	**-**
Amount deferred in year	**3,000**
Balance carried forward	**3,000**

23 **Events after the end of the reporting period**

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

24 **Analysis of charitable funds**

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

For the year ending 31 March 2026

Unrestricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General unrestricted fund	28,882	59,014	(94,476)	31,684	**25,104**
Totals	28,882	59,014	(94,476)	31,684	**25,104**

For the year ending 31 March 2025

Unrestricted funds	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General unrestricted fund	70,396	71,850	(113,365)	-	**28,882**
Totals	70,396	71,850	(113,365)	-	**28,882**

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds

24 **Analysis of charitable funds continued**

Analysis of movement in restricted funds
For the year ending 31 March 2026

Restricted funds	**Fund balances brought forward** £	**Incoming resources** £	**Resources expended** £	**Transfers** £	**Fund balances carried forward** £
Newcastle City Council - Small Grants Programme	1,403	-	-	(1,403)	**-**
Ways to Wellness - Front Door Feasibility Study	1,400	-	-	(1,400)	**-**
Newcastle University Social Justice Fund (Older BAME Women)	1,232	-	-	(1,232)	**-**
Kellett Community Foundation	16,577	12,000	-	(16,577)	**12,000**
Centre for Ageing Better	-	-	-	-	**-**
NE Combined Authority	7,172	-	-	(7,172)	**-**
Dunhill Medical Grant	11,904	-	(8,881)	(3,023)	**-**
Ward grant	49	-	-	(49)	**-**
Community Foundation - Culture Investment	11,840	-	-	-	**11,840**
HAPRU Project	-	5,000	(24)	-	**4,976**
Chain Reaction	-	500	(628)	-	**(128)**
Ellie Hayes Nutritional Survey	-	4,000	(51)	-	**3,949**
Newcastle University The Living Narrative	-	2,500	-	-	**2,500**
Other grants	828	-	-	(828)	**-**
Totals	52,405	24,000	(9,584)	(31,684)	**35,137**

24 **Analysis of charitable funds continued**

Analysis of movement in restricted funds
For the year ending 31 March 2025

Restricted funds	Fund balances balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Newcastle City Council - Small Grants Programme	1,403	-	-	-	**1,403**
Ways to Wellness - Front Door Feasibility Study	1,400	-	-	-	**1,400**
Newcastle University Social Justice Fund (Older BAME Women)	1,232	-	-	-	**1,232**
Kellett Community Foundation	4,767	14,000	(2,190)	-	**16,577**
Centre for Ageing Better	-	500	(640)	140	**-**
NE Combined Authority	-	7,556	(384)	-	**7,172**
Dunhill Medical Grant	-	14,352	(2,448)	-	**11,904**
Ward Grant	-	648	(599)	-	**49**
Community Foundation - Culture Investment	-	12,000	(160)	-	**11,840**
Other grants	-	968	-	(140)	**828**
Totals	8,802	50,024	(6,421)	-	**52,405**

24 **Analysis of charitable funds**

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

Newcastle City Council - Small Grants Programme	A small sparks grant pot to be used in West Fenham, Byker and Walker. To do a creative project with Unfolding Theatre in two neighbourhoods in Newcastle (Fenham and Walker) to produce a perfirmance and film on Age Friendly Neighbourhoods.
Ways to Wellness - Front Door Feasibility Study	To conduct the feasibility study
Newcastle University Social Justice Fund (Older BAME Women)	To highlight and illustrate the experiences of living in Newcastle of older women from South Asian and Chinese communities and what their expectations for themselves are as they grow older.
Kellett Community Foundation	To diversification of membership through development work

25 **Capital commitments**

As at 31 March 2026, the charity had no capital commitments (2025 -£nil)

26 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2026 £**	**Total 2025 £**
Tangible fixed assets	238	-	**238**	**580**
Cash at bank and in hand	39,773	35,122	**74,895**	**90,578**
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(14,909)	-	**(14,909)**	**(9,871)**
	25,103	35,122	**60,224**	**81,287**

ELDERS COUNCIL

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Key numbers:

	2026	2025	+/-
Total Income	**£83,014**	**£121,874**	**-£38,860**
Total expenditure	**£104,075**	**£119,786**	**-£15,711**
Surplus (deficit)	**(£21,181)**	**£2,088**	**-£23,150**
No. of employees [FTE]	**1.5**	**2.5**	**-1**
Free reserves	**£47,210**	**£28,302**	**+£18,908**
The number of weeks we could continue to operate if our income completely ceased	**23**	**12**	**+11 wks.**

2025/26 has been a challenging year for the Elders Council. We had a change of Chief Officer whilst, at the same time, funding came under increased pressure.

Like many charities, we are faced with increasing running costs on one hand and, on the other, funders with reducing "pots" and increasing applicants. We also face the problem that our impact is difficult to demonstrate at a time when funders are often seeking charities that can demonstrate quantifiable outcomes. It is also worth pointing out that the previous year benefitted from a large but non-recurring grant as well as a crowdfunding initiative that couldn't be repeated in 2025/26 the two accounting for the bulk of the decrease in income.

The good news, as far as funding is concerned, is that we continue to enjoy the support of the City Council, our major funder. However, we recognise that there is an imperative to widen our net and secure income from elsewhere and our CO has been working diligently to this end. We also looked to reduce costs and did not replace our Development Officer when he left.

In summary, although the financial results for the year are disappointing, a lot of great work has been undertaken – as detailed elsewhere in this report – and the groundwork has been started to diversify our income so that the trustees' outlook for 2026/27 is cautiously optimistic.

Reserves

Our reserves target is to have 6-months of operating costs in hand. In these times of ever-increasing calls on the charitable sector and ever-diminishing funding availability the Board is agreed that this remains an appropriate policy. At 31 March 2026 we were short of our target and efforts will be made in the coming year to improve that.



Keith Williamson,

Treasurer