Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07266483 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1137915

Report of the Trustees and

Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

for

Reaching Higher

Williams & Co Epsom LLP
Statutory Auditors
8-10 South Street
Epsom
Surrey
KT18 7PF

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reaching Higher

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 10
Report of the Independent Auditors	11 to 13
Statement of Financial Activities	14
Balance Sheet	15
Cash Flow Statement	16
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	17
Notes to the Financial Statements	18 to 31
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	32 to 33

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Chair's Introduction

On behalf of Reaching Higher's Trustees, I am delighted to present Reaching Higher's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2025. 2025 was a year of strategic consolidation for the charity with several milestone achievements, increased profile within and beyond Croydon, and continued impact for the young people we seek to serve in the Borough.

Three long-serving Trustees stepped down from Reaching Higher's Board in 2025, after an extended handover period. All three had been involved with Reaching Higher from its inception and we are grateful for their many years of service.

We are pleased to report that Reaching Higher maintained a strong financial position, despite the ongoing difficult funding environment. Highlights include:

£1,087,528 of incoming resources invested in delivering contextual youth work for young people in Croydon, and in developing Reaching Higher's influence on the youth sector within Croydon and beyond.

Bank balance of £756,981 with significant confirmed funding in place for the forthcoming year, ensuring the continuity of our services for young people

Total reserves of £770,718 of which £577,504 is unrestricted, covering 6 months of charitable expenditure.

Positive public benefit impact, with consistent feedback from young people, their parents/guardians, schools and partners reporting that Reaching Higher delivers high-quality youth work through an authentic, relational approach which supports young people to develop transferable skills and enhance their wellbeing.

The Trustees are committed to strengthening Reaching Higher's financial sustainability whilst continuing to deliver contextual youth work and develop the charity's ability to influence the youth sector more widely. We remain focused on building and maintaining strong partnerships with funders, businesses, statutory and community organisations, ensuring Reaching Higher is a positive place to work for our team, and that the charity provides excellent services for and with young people in Croydon.

During 2025, the Trustees and Executive Team undertook an important strategic review which helped us reflect honestly on Reaching Higher's growth, strengths and future responsibilities. One of the clearest learnings from this process was that growth alone is not the measure of success. As demand for our work increases, we must continue strengthening the quality, consistency and evidence base of our practice, while also investing in the people, systems and governance needed to sustain our impact over the long term. This learning has directly shaped our new 2026-2031 strategy, which is focused on doing better, not simply doing more.

With a refreshed strategy and recent investment in Reaching Higher as a key organisation influencing systemic change for young people in Croydon, we look ahead to the coming year with excitement and determination to continue empowering young people to become leaders of positive change.

Trevor McClymont

Chair of Trustees

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Charity was established under a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association. The Articles were amended on 25 November 2013 to change the charity name to Reaching Higher (previously 'Reachin' Higher'). The charity constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The organisation is ultimately managed by the Board of Trustees which oversees the work of Reaching Higher. All major operational and strategic decisions are made by the Board who met five times during the year, either in person or via online conferencing. Two sub-committees meet more frequently; the Finance Committee (monthly) and the Safeguarding Committee (once per academic half term).

Under the Articles, new Trustees are appointed by the Trustee Board and one-third of the members of the Trustee Board (the longest serving) retire at each AGM but are eligible to be re-appointed if they still qualify.

The Managing Director oversees the financial and practical running of the Charity, reporting to the Trustees.

Reaching Higher's fundraising is carried out by its internal staff team; the charity does not use professional fundraisers or commercial participators. The charity did not receive any complaints in 2025 related to its fundraising activities. It complies with all safeguarding and data protection requirements in its fundraising activities.

Delegated Authority

Decision making for the following is reserved for Trustees:

- setting the annual budget
- staff remuneration
- maintaining the organisational risk register
- the escalation of incident reporting to the Charity Commission

Day-to-day decision making for the following areas is delegated to the Executive Team:

- safeguarding concerns (escalated to Trustees via the Safeguarding Sub-Committee if necessary)
- financial management (via agreed Delegated Levels of Authority, concerns escalated to Trustees via Finance Sub-Committee if necessary)
- risk management (via a weekly Risk Management meeting)

Trustees

Trustees, who are all Directors of the company, were recruited based on their broad range of skills and experience. They bring a wide range of experience in working with young people and charitable organisations on a professional and/or voluntary basis.

New trustees receive an induction covering safeguarding, governance and the charity's strategy. Ongoing development is supported through participation in board meetings and periodic governance discussions.

40% of the Board identify as female and 60% identify as being of global majority heritage.

Risk Management

The Trustees recognise that Reaching Higher's trajectory of rapid growth brings risks around capacity, consistency, staff wellbeing and quality assurance. The charity has responded over the past year by investing in finance capacity, clearer operational leadership, safeguarding oversight, practice development and organisational resilience.

The Trustees consider all the major risks the charity is exposed to on an ongoing basis which are held on a risk register. Specifically of note, the Trustees have developed:

A funding strategy which seeks to avoid overreliance on any one source of funding. Reaching Higher is continuing to develop diverse funding streams through a range of trusts, government agencies, corporate and personal donors, as well as paid training and delivery contracts.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

A safeguarding policy has been developed to protect the Charity's beneficiaries as well as the Charity's volunteers. This policy ensures all volunteers and staff receive ongoing safeguarding training and are subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure check.

REACHING HIGHER STRATEGIC REPORT

Overview and Context

Reaching Higher is a youth organisation built in Croydon, with deep local credibility and a model we believe can shape practice across the UK. Founded in 2004 and registered as a charity in 2010, Reaching Higher has grown from a local initiative into a trusted organisation working with just over 1,500 young people aged 10-18 with complex needs each year.

Just over half of the charity's team are former service users, including the Managing Director, reflecting Reaching Higher's long-term commitment to raising leaders from within the local community. Reaching Higher's work is rooted in contextual youth work and shaped by strong relationships, meaningful influence and a belief that young people should be known, heard and supported well.

The charity is shaped by values of unconditional positive regard, compassion, respect and love, and welcomes young people of all faiths and none. The team live out these values through relational youth work, community service and a commitment to social justice.

Croydon is London's largest borough by population and one of its youngest, home to nearly 400,000 people and almost 100,000 young people, with more than 23% aged 0–17 and the largest 0–19 population in London (Croydon Observatory 2025, ONS Census 2021). That scale brings both deep challenge and real opportunity and gives Reaching Higher a powerful platform to shape practice and influence beyond the borough.

At the same time, youth services have been cut back sharply. Across England, spending fell by 73% between 2010/11 and 2022/23, with more than 4,500 youth worker roles lost (National Youth Agency, Dec 2025). In Croydon, the council reduced core funding for its in-house youth engagement service, leaving significant gaps in local provision. Over the same period, Reaching Higher's team grew from five to more than twenty-five staff. Over the past ten years the charity has engaged 13,500 young people directly and supported 25,000 indirectly, reflecting both rising demand and the increasing importance of trusted, community-rooted organisations like Reaching Higher.

Areas Of Work

Reaching Higher has two complementary areas of work:

Delivery
Croydon is where the charity's work is tested and proven. It is where Reaching Higher builds trust, responds to need and creates direct impact with young people, families and communities. It is also where Reaching Higher builds the strong relationships and local credibility needed to work effectively with schools, local authorities, health services, police and other key partners.

The Charity's school-based delivery includes mentoring and transferable skills development, lunchtime and after-school provision. Community-based delivery includes youth-led social action, employability workshops, a youth-led café, football and basketball provision and two youth hubs. During school holidays, all-day provision is delivered in the February and October half terms and the August school holidays.

Reaching Higher's contextual youth work is a 360˚, relational and youth-led approach that works with young people across school, community and home, recognising that real change happens when support reflects the contexts shaping their lives. It builds trust, strengthens safeguarding and gives the charity a model we can prove locally and influence nationally.

Influence
Influence is how Reaching Higher turns local practice into wider change. Through research, training and partnership working, the charity translates frontline insight into improvements across systems, services and the youth sector. This leads to stronger practice, better-informed decision-making, deeper institutional collaboration and wider influence for the learning emerging from our work.

Vision, Mission, and Commitment to Young People

Vision

Reaching Higher's vision is to see communities where young people are championed, empowered to lead and create lasting change for future generations - from Croydon to communities across the UK.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Mission

Reaching Higher is here to help young people develop the confidence, agency and influence to shape their own lives and the world around them through contextual youth work, participatory youth voice, and wellbeing for practitioners and practice.

Our commitment to young people

At Reaching Higher we are committed to playing our part but recognise that we can't do this in isolation. We believe in building strong and long-lasting relationships with young people to set firm foundations for the years to come through our relational approach. With this in mind, we are equally committed to collaborating well and establishing a united front with everyone who cares for young people and the communities they live in.

Quality Mark Status

Reaching Higher believes in the importance of holding credible quality marks to ensure that its standards of service both reflect best practice and are widely recognised by others. The charity holds a Gold Status Trauma-Informed Quality Mark and a London Youth Bronze level award.

Growth In Leadership

Reaching Higher was established by Mark and Sherise Hobbs in 2004 as a small voluntary community project. Mark continued to lead the organisation in a voluntary capacity as Reaching Higher grew over the following 18 years. When Mark stepped down as voluntary CEO in 2022, Jordan Ignatius, the previous Head of Strategy & Operations, was appointed by the Trustees into the new role of Managing Director. Jordan initially came to Reaching Higher as a young person, becoming first a volunteer and then a staff member over a ten year period.

More than half of the staff and volunteer team are now Reaching Higher alumni, modelling the charity's desire to empower young people to be changemakers in their own community.

In recognition of the charity's ongoing growth, at the end of 2025 Reaching Higher appointed a part-time Finance Manager to increase the quality of its financial governance, and increased the scope of the Head of Contextual Safeguarding's role to a full time position. Delivery Co-ordinators were also appointed to assist the School and Community Heads of Service.

Volunteers

Reaching Higher is grateful to the 40 volunteers who help to run the 'Limitless' Easter residential camp each year. Each of them contribute at least 100 hours to planning workshops, facilitating activities and supporting young people's wellbeing during camp, alongside Reaching Higher staff.

The remainder of the charity's activities are all delivered by paid staff.

Key Highlights & Learnings from 2025

In 2025 Reaching Higher continued to deliver high-quality school and community-based activities for and with young people. The charity also engaged in a strategic review process facilitated by external consultants from Bayes Business School.

Highlights of delivery included:

- Leading the second year of a consortium of four organisations focused on mentoring in Croydon. 341 young people were mentored in total across this consortium in 2025. Reaching Higher also continued to lead the 'secondary provision' tier of the Croydon-wide New Era consortium under the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit MyEnds programme.

- A two-week unpaid work experience scheme in the Summer term 2025 for 33 young people from local schools.

- School holiday provision 'RH Hangouts' in February and October half terms and 'Summer Blitz' for four weeks in the summer holidays, engaging more than 50 young people each day. During the summer Reaching Higher was able to offer paid work experience to seven young people who supported the various activities each day.

- The charity's third Community Meal in December 2025 which has become one of our most popular events of the year.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

- Forming new partnerships with King's College London (to develop a new community-based mental health intervention for young people), London Museum (to provide Youth Voice training), another local school in Northern Croydon (to expand our mentoring provision) and the South London Partnership (to map youth employability needs across Croydon and surrounding Boroughs).

- Developing a new programme called Roots & Resilience which will launch in 2026, working with two partner schools to provide therapeutic support to families of young people at highest risk of school exclusion and criminal exploitation.

- Completing Reaching Higher's first pilot research project with the University of Greenwich, evaluating what our 'Contextual Youth Work' approach looks like in practice.

- Training seven other youth organisations in developing a Youth Voice Framework - training which was co-developed and co-delivered by our Youth Board. Reaching Higher's Youth Board also co-hosted our annual Contextual Safeguarding conference in November; the theme was 'The Voice of The Child'. This conference was attended by over 150 cross-sector professionals.

Strategic Areas of Learning in 2025

As Reaching Higher continued to grow in reach, income, partnerships and influence in 2025, we recognised the importance of strengthening the internal foundations needed to sustain high-quality work. Through our strategy review, we reflected on the need to be clearer about what we do, why it works, how we evidence it, and how we support the practitioners delivering it.

The strategy review process affirmed four connected priorities for the next stage of our work: defining and proving our Contextual Youth Work model; deepening participatory youth voice; strengthening wellbeing for practitioners and practice; and building a stronger institution with the leadership, systems, partnerships and financial resilience needed to sustain long-term impact.

Our first key area of learning is the need to define, evidence and codify our Contextual Youth Work model. At Reaching Higher, we know our work is strong, but the next priority is to make the model clear enough to teach, strong enough to evidence and credible enough for others to adopt or adapt.

Secondly, in order to be truly participatory, youth voice cannot simply be consultation or young people giving feedback. It needs to be embedded in programme design, leadership, strategy, decision-making and influence. Youth Voice is already strong across Reaching Higher's Youth Board, training and our Voice of the Child conference, but we remain committed to continuously embedding youth voice throughout the organisation.

Thirdly, excellent youth work depends on practitioners who are supported, skilled, reflective and emotionally equipped to hold complex work with young people. This has now become a central part of Reaching Higher's strategic decisions, both as a reflection of our values and as a vital part of our work's sustainability.

Lastly, Reaching Higher is moving beyond a strong local delivery organisation to a more mature one with influence beyond Croydon. This leads us to prioritise strengthening governance, finance, leadership, systems, impact measurement, staff culture and organisational resilience to ensure a strong and sustainable institution.

Our Reach in 2025

Number of contact hours in schools: 11,662
Number of contact hours in the community: 30,742
Number of unique young people engaged through schools: 942
Number of unique young people engaged through community: 687

Public Benefit Statement

Reaching Higher exists to empower young people to reach their potential, build their confidence, strengthen their wellbeing and create positive futures for themselves and their communities. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under the Charities Act to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and delivering the charity's objectives.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

For example, across Reaching Higher's leadership, employability and mentoring activities in 2025:

92% of young people reported feeling more confident in building healthy/positive relationships since taking part in Reaching Higher sessions;
93% agreed that they have improved at listening to teachers, parents and leaders;
94% felt more able to receive constructive feedback on areas they can improve in; and
66% reported that they have felt more optimistic about the future

The impact of Reaching Higher's work is best articulated by those we serve:

Young Person:

"I come to football because of the leaders and the sessions are engaging."

School Partners:

"Reaching Higher has had a truly transformative impact on our young people. Their work, both through in-school delivery such as 1:1 mentoring and through detached youth work in the community, has been exceptional. We have seen significant improvements in attendance and positive behaviour among those engaged with their programmes. Their commitment and ability to build meaningful relationships have made a real difference, and we highly value their partnership."

"Reaching Higher are an integral part of our pastoral offer. Not only do they deliver quality youth work in school that is aligned with our vision and ethos, through 1:1s, group sessions and after school clubs, Reaching Higher's work in the community is invaluable to our efforts to safeguard our young people."

Parent:

"Reaching Higher is very supportive and caring to young people and help young people to bring out their best."

These reflections demonstrate the public benefit of Reaching Higher's work in providing young people with physically and psychologically safe spaces, opportunities to develop transferable skills and build relationships with trusted adults, and support to pursue hopeful futures for themselves, alongside wider support to Croydon's youth sector through training and sharing learning. Both the charity's 'delivery' and 'influence' arms directly contribute towards increasing Croydon young people's safety and wellbeing, confidence and positive community engagement.

Remuneration Policy

Reaching Higher places a high value on our committed, skilled and passionate staff team, who are our greatest asset in fulfilling our vision, mission and strategic goals. The charity's remuneration policy aims to ensure that pay is competitive within our sector, rewards staff fairly and ensures our team feel valued.

The Trustees are responsible for setting the policy on staff remuneration. The charity aims to ensure that pay and benefits are fair, transparent and sufficient to attract, retain and motivate suitably qualified staff to deliver its charitable objectives. Our principle is to reward staff equitably, regardless of seniority, informed by the following factors:

Fairness - Remuneration is free from discrimination and aligned, where available, to benchmarked data for the non-profit sector in the UK

Differentiation - Pay reflects both what is achieved and the way in which it is achieved

Compliance - All remuneration arrangements meet HMRC regulatory requirements

Affordability - Salaries and wages are set with good stewardship of the charity's resources

London Living Wage Commitment - Salaries are set in line with at least the London Living Wage for the appropriate year

Salaries are reviewed annually, taking these principles into account, as well as the responsibilities of each role and the charity's overall financial position.

This policy provides a transparent and equitable framework for remuneration, ensuring that the charity's resources are used effectively while supporting the wellbeing, motivation and recognition of all members of staff.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Financial Review

In 2025 Reaching Higher received £1,087,528 in income and invested £1,073,625 into delivering youth and community programmes. 1,629 young people were supported in total in 2025, representing an average cost of £659 per young person.

Reaching Higher's income and expenditure decreased in 2025 compared to 2024, reflecting the increased pressures on the charitable funding landscape and the operational impact of seeking to reduce the charity's dependence on restricted grants, with a corresponding increase in contract income.

The financial position of the charity remains strong. We finished the year with a healthy bank balance of £756,981 alongside significant confirmed funding for the next 12 months. Our reserves of £770,718 provide a strong foundation which demonstrates financial resilience and sustainability, enabling Reaching Higher to plan confidently for the future and remain ambitious for increasing our impact.

We are sincerely grateful to our funders, partners and supporters for their ongoing trust, generosity and commitment.

We are also grateful to Croydon Council for their continued support in providing Reaching Higher with office space at the Samuel Coleridge Taylor Centre in South Norwood. The Council's generosity ensures we have a consistent base from which to operate and can invest more resources in our services for young people.

Our funders in 2025 included:

A B Charitable Trust, Active Communities Network, Berkeley Foundation, BBC Children In Need, City Bridge Foundation, Clarion Futures, Communities First, Croydon Council (including 'Croydon Loves You' and the Holiday Activities Fund), Croydon Localities Commissioning Fund, Croydon Voluntary Action (including the 'MyEnds' fund and NHS Spring Engagement Fund), Garfield Weston Foundation, Greater London Authority's Propel Fund, Henry Smith Foundation, Jack Petchey Foundation, London Youth, the Mayor's Fund For London, the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit, Newby Trust, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation's Youth Strategic Investment Fund, Rank Foundation, R&Co4Generations Foundation, Reedham Children's Trust, Shanly Foundation, South London Partnership and the William Allen Young Charitable Trust.

Reaching Higher's contract income increased in 2025 to £181,705 (compared to £24,300 in 2024). Reaching Higher has sought VAT advice confirming that contract income received for work with direct benefit to young people is exempt from VAT. £22,869 of contract income received in 2025 related to non-direct work with young people (training of youth professionals), putting us below the VAT threshold.

We also express our gratitude to the individuals, schools, churches and companies who supported our work in 2025.

Reserves policy

The Trustees' policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves that provides financial resilience and stability, enabling the charity to continue delivering its mission in a sustainable way. In line with best practice, the Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves equivalent to three to six months of total expenditure. This level is considered appropriate to safeguard against fluctuations in income and to ensure Reaching Higher can meet its ongoing commitments.

At year end, unrestricted reserves stood at £577,504, which is equivalent to 6 months of charitable expenditure. This sits at the top end of the reserves policy range and provides a strong financial foundation for the year ahead.

The Trustees recognise that many of Reaching Higher's young people and families experience inconsistency and disruption in their lives, and that unexpected gaps in service provision can have profoundly negative impacts. Our aim is to be a consistent and reliable presence as well as advocating for those we serve. For this reason, our reserves policy is not only a matter of financial prudence but of protecting the continuity of the vital programmes we run with and for young people.

To manage this risk, the Trustees seek to ensure that sufficient unrestricted reserves are available to sustain our core programmes through any periods of funding uncertainty. At the same time, Reaching Higher is actively diversifying its income streams and continuously building long-term partnerships to strengthen its sustainability. This approach provides the flexibility to adapt to evolving needs and challenges in our communities, as well as the confidence to invest in the development of our work.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Going Concern Statement

The Trustees have reviewed the financial position of the charity and are satisfied that Reaching Higher remains a going concern. At year end, the charity held a bank balance of £756,981, with confirmed funding of £743,000 in place for the next 12 months. In addition, unrestricted funds of £577,504 provide cover for approximately 6 months of charitable expenditure, which falls comfortably within our reserves policy of three to six months. This ensures Reaching Higher is well positioned to manage its commitments and maintain programme delivery.

The Trustees are mindful of the potential risks associated with funding dependency. In the event that a major funder were to withdraw, the charity's strong reserves and healthy cash balance provide sufficient resilience to sustain core operations while alternative funding is secured. Alongside this, Reaching Higher continues to broaden and diversify its income base, actively building long-term partnerships and exploring new funding opportunities including paid training and commissioned contracts. This reduces reliance on any single source of funding and strengthens the organisation's long-term sustainability.

The Trustees are confident that Reaching Higher's strong balance sheet, prudent financial management and proactive fundraising approach provide a secure platform for the coming year and beyond, to continue delivering high-quality services for and with young people and to pursue its ambitions for further growth and impact.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company, are responsible for preparing the financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charity's position at the year end and of its surplus or deficit for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- comply with applicable accounting standards, including FRS 102, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) has been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue its operations.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that proper accounting systems are implemented, that the financial position of the charity can be reported accurately at any given time, and that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable charity reporting requirements. Day-to-day operation of these systems and processes is delegated to Reaching Higher's management team in accordance with the Delegated Levels of Authority policy.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

-there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
-the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Future Plans

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, Reaching Higher will continue to build on its existing foundations, with a focus on strengthening the quality, sustainability and impact of its work with young people across Croydon. The charity's priorities for the coming period are to:

- **Further develop Reaching Higher's Contextual Youth Work model**, building on the pilot research undertaken with the University of Greenwich. The charity intends to continue testing and refining this approach in Croydon, with a focus on how young people are supported across the interconnected contexts of school, community and home. This work will support young people to build confidence, life skills, positive relationships, wellbeing and employability.

- **Continue to strengthen Participatory Youth Voice**, ensuring that young people are meaningfully involved in shaping programmes, services and decision-making. This includes creating opportunities for young people to influence the charity's work, contribute to research and learning, and develop as leaders within their communities.

- **Invest in staff, volunteer and trustee development**, recognising that high-quality youth work depends on skilled, reflective and well-supported practitioners. Reaching Higher will continue to strengthen reflective practice, supervision, safeguarding, leadership development and trustee capacity in order to support effective governance and delivery.

- **Deepen partnership working across Croydon**, including with schools, community organisations, statutory partners, parents and funders. The charity will continue to work collaboratively to support young people, share learning and contribute to a stronger local ecosystem of preventative youth provision.

- **Strengthen organisational resilience and financial sustainability**, ensuring that the charity has the systems, governance and resources needed to sustain high-quality work. This includes continuing to diversify income, maintain reserves in line with the reserves policy, improve internal systems and strengthen impact measurement and reporting.

- **Use learning from Croydon to inform wider practice**, where appropriate. While Reaching Higher remains rooted in Croydon, the charity will continue to share learning from its work, research and partnerships in order to contribute to wider conversations about youth work, prevention, youth voice and community-based support for young people.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
07266483 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1137915

Registered office
Samuel Coleridge Taylor Centre
194 Selhurst Road
London
SE25 6XX

Individuals responsible for day-to-day financial management:

Managing Director: Jordan Ignatius
Executive Director: Lisa Harrison

Trustees

Mr T McClymont (Chair)
Ms E Barlow
Mr D Gibson-White
Mr R A Davis
Mrs L Crew (appointed 9th July 2025)
Ms R Jackson (resigned 30th October 2025)
Mr M Rufus (resigned 31st December 2025 – previous Chair)
Mr V Thiyagarajah (resigned 31st December 2025)

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Bank Account
HSBC
54 Woodcote Road
Wallington
SURREY
SM6 0NJ

Auditors
Williams & Co Epsom LLP
Statutory Auditors
8-10 South Street
Epsom
Surrey
KT18 7PF

AUDITORS
The auditors, Williams & Co Epsom LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on .....22 October 2026..... and signed on the board's behalf by:

Robert Davis
.....
R A Davis - Trustee

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Reaching Higher (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:
- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatements due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team made enquiries of management, and those charged with governance, regarding the procedures relating to identifying, evaluating and complying with;

1. laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;

2. detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;

3. the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;

As a result of these procedures, we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, General Data Protection Regulations, Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliance, which may have a material impact on the financial statements. These included reviewing financial statement disclosures and evaluating advice received from external advisors. There were no significant laws and regulations we deemed as having an indirect impact on the financial statements.

The audit engagement team identified revenue recognition as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement, especially with respect to timing and the split between restricted and unrestricted funds. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing income recognition and cut-off, and evaluating the need for any provisions to be made in relation to deferred or accrued income.

Testing has also been performed on bank transactions, purchases and journals in relation to identifying any large or unusual transactions that may be misstated, fraudulently or otherwise.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Williams & Co Epsom LLP
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
8-10 South Street
Epsom
Surrey
KT18 7PF

Date: 22 October 2026

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reaching Higher

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Grants and donations	2	65,136	820,467	885,603	1,173,692
Charitable activities	4				
General		188,051	-	188,051	33,738
Investment income	3	13,874	-	13,874	14,647
Total		267,061	820,467	1,087,528	1,222,077
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	24,430	-	24,430	19,120
Charitable activities	6				
General		187,458	861,737	1,049,195	1,113,329
Total		211,888	861,737	1,073,625	1,132,449
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		55,173	(41,270)	13,903	89,628
Transfers between funds	16	88,379	(88,379)	-	-
Net movement in funds		143,552	(129,649)	13,903	89,628
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		433,952	322,863	756,815	667,187
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		577,504	193,214	770,718	756,815

The notes form part of these financial statements

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reaching Higher

Balance Sheet
31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	2,529	-	2,529	7,381
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	70,604	-	70,604	33,188
Cash at bank		563,767	193,214	756,981	785,752
		634,371	193,214	827,585	818,940
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(59,396)	-	(59,396)	(69,506)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		574,975	193,214	768,189	749,434
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		577,504	193,214	770,718	756,815
NET ASSETS		577,504	193,214	770,718	756,815
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				577,504	433,952
Restricted funds				193,214	322,863
TOTAL FUNDS				770,718	756,815

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

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2025 but have been audited under the requirements of Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for
(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 October 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Robert Davis

.....
R A Davis - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reaching Higher

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(42,773)	37,077
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(42,773)	37,077
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(8,283)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		128	-
Interest received		13,874	14,647
Net cash provided by investing activities		14,002	6,364
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(28,771)	43,441
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		785,752	742,311
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		756,981	785,752

The notes form part of these financial statements

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	13,903	89,628
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,724	3,972
Interest received	(13,874)	(14,647)
Increase in debtors	(37,416)	(30,447)
Decrease in creditors	(10,110)	(11,429)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(42,773)	37,077

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.25 £	Cash flow £	At 31.12.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	785,752	(28,771)	756,981
	785,752	(28,771)	756,981
Total	785,752	(28,771)	756,981

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Reaching Higher meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity is considered to be a going concern based on existing level of reserves and expected future income.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

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. Where grant instalments have not yet been received but where the activity has been completed, income will be recognised in the accounts.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised, and more information is given about their contribution in the trustees' annual report.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

The facilities in use are currently not being recognised in the accounts as no reliable estimate of their cost or economic benefit exists.

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.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

(a) Costs of raising funds includes the costs of fundraising events and staff costs associated with fundraising such as bid writing. Certain costs have been apportioned between charitable and fundraising activities as per the requirements in SORP section 8.11.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Expenditure

(b) Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of running mentoring projects, community projects, residential camps and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities.

These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 7.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets purchased for £1,000 or more are depreciated on a straight-line basis over an estimated useful life of four years.

Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities under Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 to the extent that its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

As part of our commitment to workplace pensions, the charity operates a company pension scheme through NEST (National Employment Savings Trust). All eligible employees are invited to join this scheme, ensuring they have access to a secure and flexible pension arrangement. Contributions from both the employer and employees are paid into this fund in line with statutory requirements and the scheme rules.

The employer's contributions made in 2025 were £19,238 (2024: £45,410) with an employer's contribution rate of 5% of pensionable pay and an employee's contribution of 3% of pensionable pay. The trustees continue to monitor employee and employer contribution rates.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees have made the following judgements that impact the amounts recognised in the financial statements and identified the following as key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Allocation of staff costs between funds and activities

Staff costs are allocated between unrestricted and restricted funds based on each funders pre-agreed budget. Any time incurred in excess of amounts budgeted are fully allocated to unrestricted reserves.

Timing of income recognition

Grant income is recognised only once the Trustees are satisfied that entitlement has arisen, any performance-related conditions attached to the grant have been met, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. Several grants run over multiple financial years or carry performance conditions tied to delivery milestones rather than the calendar year end. Determining whether such conditions have been met at 31 December 2025, and consequently whether amounts should be recognised as income in the year or carried forward as deferred income, requires judgement. The Trustees have applied this policy consistently with prior years.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants	851,463	1,144,628
Donations	34,140	29,064
	885,603	1,173,692

The income from donations and grants was £885,603 (2024: £1,173,692), of which £65,136 (2024: £29,060) was unrestricted and £820,467 restricted (2024: £1,144,632).

Donation income includes corporate funding and contributions specifically raised to support the Easter residential camp programme.

The charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	13,874	14,647

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest-bearing deposit accounts.

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2025	2024
		£	£
Other Operating Income	General	6,346	9,438
Income from contracts	General	181,705	24,300
		188,051	33,738

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Purchases	18	464
Staff costs	24,412	18,656
	24,430	19,120

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals
	£	£	£
Community Contextual Youth Work Staffing	44,861	249,554	294,415
Community Project Costs (Incl. Limitless)	63,053	167,985	231,038
Schools Contextual Youth Work Staffing	36,316	202,020	238,336
Schools Project Costs	908	8,532	9,440
Management and Administration Staffing	1,333	136,679	138,012
Support Costs	33,736	96,969	130,705
Depreciation	4,724	-	4,724
Total	184,931	861,737	1,046,668

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Information technology	Other	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£	£
General	786	281	99,259	30,379	130,705

In 2024, charitable activities costs totalled £1,113,329, made up of £66,935 unrestricted and £1,046,394 restricted. The costs have been apportioned separately in this year, but included support costs of £77,028, and governance costs of £28,838.

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	5,760	5,760
Auditors' remuneration – non-audit services	3,000	3,000
Depreciation - owned assets	4,724	3,972
Other operating leases	-	9,250

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024. No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: Nil).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	612,636	559,486
Social security costs	52,090	29,818
Other pension costs	19,238	45,410
	683,964	634,714

The average monthly headcount was 26 staff (2024: 20), reflecting an increase in part-time staff and young people undertaking paid work. Reaching Higher has a standing Youth Board comprising 11 young people, who meet weekly for training. They are paid for external sessions where they provide Youth Voice consultation. During Summer Blitz 2025, 7 young people also received paid work experience. Collectively, these activities amount to a half full-time equivalent.

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including part-time staff and paid young people) during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
Schools	7	7
Community	10	8
Support and Governance	3	5
	20	20

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025	2024
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Managing Director and Executive Director. Trustees receive no remuneration for their services as trustees.

The aggregate employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year, including employer pension and National Insurance contributions, amounted to £115,254.

Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Grants and donations	29,060	1,144,632	1,173,692
Charitable activities			
General	33,738	-	33,738
Investment income	14,647	-	14,647
Total	77,445	1,144,632	1,222,077
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	19,120	19,120
Charitable activities			
General	66,935	1,046,394	1,113,329
Total	66,935	1,065,514	1,132,449
NET INCOME	10,511	79,117	89,628
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	423,441	243,746	667,187
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	433,952	322,863	756,815

12. LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment and furniture £
COST	
At 1 January 2025	21,251
Disposals	(559)
At 31 December 2025	20,692
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2025	13,870
Charge for year	4,724
Eliminated on disposal	(431)
At 31 December 2025	18,163
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2025	2,529
At 31 December 2024	7,381

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	66,950	6,500
Prepayments and accrued income	3,654	26,688
	70,604	33,188

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	7,631	1
Social security and other taxes	325	11,639
Pensions payable	(190)	3,347
Wages payable	-	-
Accrued expenses	8,760	12,911
Deferred income	37,072	34,312
Designated funds	5,797	7,296
	59,396	69,506

Building Improvements	2025 £	2024 £
Opening Balance	7,296	17,656
Grant received from funders	5,000	-
Grant returned to funders	(3,500)	(10,000)
Building expense	(2,998)	(360)
	5,797	7,296

The designated fund is specifically set aside for building improvements. This fund has been created to set aside resources for planned refurbishment, maintenance, and development of the charity's premises, ensuring that our facilities continue to provide a safe, welcoming, and effective environment for our youth activities.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

The fund is made up of donations which have been ring-fenced by the trustees for the purpose of this work. By establishing a separate designated fund, the Trustees are able to clearly track and manage expenditure relating to the property, ensuring that these resources are used exclusively for their intended purpose and aligned with the long-term strategic needs of the charity. Any restricted funds donated for the purpose of these improvements have been recognised as deferred income in these statements, and the comparatives restated based on this.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	433,952	55,173	88,379	577,504
Restricted funds				
Berkeley Foundation	1,798	(1,798)	-	-
Children in Need, WeMove	166	(166)	-	-
Children in Need, WeMove Extension	9,815	1,044	-	10,859
City Bridge Trust, Leadership	7,140	(4,325)	(2,815)	-
Henry Smith Foundation	1,452	(1,452)	-	-
Henry Smith Foundation, Leadership	3,208	(3,208)	-	-
Henry Smith Foundation, Post Covid	11,018	(11,018)	-	-
Rank Foundation, Internship	33,716	(20,955)	(12,761)	-
London Youth, Good For Girls	1,268	(1,268)	-	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation, YSIF	85,630	(5,630)	-	80,000
GLA, New Deal For Young People	34,058	(34,058)	-	-
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 1	28,818	(28,818)	-	-
Rank Foundation Main Grant 2024-26	27,273	(27,273)	-	-
Shanly Foundation	3,000	(2,506)	-	494
Violence Reduction Unit Stronger Futures	1,702	(1,702)	-	-
Big Give Dec 2025	-	9,331	-	9,331
Mayor's Fund for London	-	4,642	-	4,642
Clarion Futures	-	-	-	-
Communities First	-	-	-	-
Croydon Council HAF Easter 25	-	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025	-	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025-2026	-	919	-	919
Croydon Council Holiday Activities Fund	-	-	-	-
Croydon Loves You 2025	-	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action NHS Spring 25	-	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	8,370	-	8,370
Jack Petchey Awards	-	-	-	-
London Youth Summer Skills	-	-	-	-
Newby Trust	-	8,501	-	8,501
National Lottery, Awards for All, Environment Fund	-	20,000	-	20,000
Paul Hamlyn, ESP	-	42,700	-	42,700
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 2	-	7,398	-	7,398
Violence Reduction Unit, Holiday Hope	-	-	-	-
Reedham Children's Trust	-	-	-	-
Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds	72,803	-	(72,803)	-
	322,863	(41,270)	(88,379)	193,214
TOTAL FUNDS	756,815	13,903	-	770,718

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	267,061	(211,888)	55,173
Restricted funds			
Berkeley Foundation	-	(1,798)	(1,798)
Children in Need, WeMove	-	(166)	(166)
Children in Need, WeMove Extension	20,967	(19,923)	1,044
City Bridge Trust, Leadership	20,771	(25,096)	(4,325)
Henry Smith Foundation	74,940	(76,392)	(1,452)
Henry Smith Foundation, Leadership	-	(3,208)	(3,208)
Henry Smith Foundation, Post Covid	19,800	(30,818)	(11,018)
Rank Foundation, Internship	-	(20,955)	(20,955)
London Youth, Good For Girls	1,000	(2,268)	(1,268)
Paul Hamlyn Foundation, YSIF	165,000	(170,630)	(5,630)
GLA, New Deal For Young People	200,000	(234,058)	(34,058)
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 1	-	(28,818)	(28,818)
Rank Foundation Main Grant 2024-26	-	(27,273)	(27,273)
Shanly Foundation	-	(2,506)	(2,506)
Violence Reduction Unit Stronger Futures	53,959	(55,661)	(1,702)
Big Give Dec 2025	9,331	-	9,331
Mayor's Fund for London	14,000	(9,358)	4,642
Clarion Futures	2,000	(2,000)	-
Communities First	180	(180)	-
Croydon Council HAF Easter 25	1,600	(1,600)	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025	11,000	(11,000)	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025-2026	7,725	(6,806)	919
Croydon Council Holiday Activities Fund	11,160	(11,160)	-
Croydon Loves You 2025	4,983	(4,983)	-
Croydon Voluntary Action NHS Spring 25	500	(500)	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	35,000	(26,630)	8,370
Jack Petchey Awards	4,500	(4,500)	-
London Youth Summer Skills	4,000	(4,000)	-
Newby Trust	10,000	(1,499)	8,501
National Lottery, Awards for All, Environment Fund	20,000	-	20,000
Paul Hamlyn, ESP	60,000	(17,300)	42,700
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 2	29,090	(21,692)	7,398
Violence Reduction Unit, Holiday Hope	20,000	(20,000)	-
Reedham Children's Trust	18,961	(18,961)	-
Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds	-	-	-
	820,467	(861,737)	(41,270)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,087,528	(1,073,625)	13,903

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	423,441	10,511	433,952
Restricted funds			
Berkeley Foundation	(2,896)	4,694	1,798
Children in Need, WeMove	18,164	(17,999)	166
Children in Need, WeMove Extension	-	9,815	9,815
City Bridge Trust, Leadership	3,028	4,112	7,140
Henry Smith Foundation	-	1,452	1,452
Henry Smith Foundation, Leadership	6,082	(2,873)	3,208
Henry Smith Foundation, Post Covid	11,507	(489)	11,018
Rank Foundation, Internship	37,175	(3,459)	33,716
London Youth, Good For Girls	-	1,268	1,268
Paul Hamlyn Foundation, YSIF	-	85,630	85,630
GLA, New Deal For Young People	-	34,058	34,058
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 1	31,256	(2,439)	28,818
Rank Foundation Main Grant 2024-26	-	27,273	27,273
Shanly Foundation	-	3,000	3,000
Violence Reduction Unit Stronger Futures	5,189	(3,487)	1,702
Big Give Dec 2025	-	-	-
Mayor's Fund for London	-	-	-
Clarion Futures	-	-	-
Communities First	-	-	-
Croydon Council HAF Easter 25	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025-2026	-	-	-
Croydon Council Holiday Activities Fund	-	-	-
Croydon Loves You 2025	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action NHS Spring 25	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-
Jack Petchey Awards	-	-	-
London Youth Summer Skills	-	-	-
Newby Trust	-	-	-
National Lottery, Awards for All, Environment Fund	-	-	-
Paul Hamlyn, ESP	-	-	-
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 2	-	-	-
Violence Reduction Unit, Holiday Hope	-	-	-
Reedham Children's Trust	-	-	-
Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds	134,239	(61,435)	72,804
	243,746	79,117	322,863
TOTAL FUNDS	667,187	89,628	756,815

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,445	(66,934)	10,511
Restricted funds			
Berkeley Foundation	15,000	(10,306)	4,694
Children in Need, WeMove	-	(17,999)	(17,999)
Children in Need, WeMove Extension	15,725	(5,910)	9,815
City Bridge Trust, Leadership	35,938	(31,826)	4,112
Henry Smith Foundation	70,000	(68,548)	1,452
Henry Smith Foundation, Leadership	-	(2,873)	(2,873)
Henry Smith Foundation, Post Covid	39,600	(40,089)	(489)
Rank Foundation, Internship	35,915	(39,374)	(3,459)
London Youth, Good For Girls	4,500	(3,232)	1,268
Paul Hamlyn Foundation, YSIF	140,000	(54,370)	85,630
GLA, New Deal For Young People	200,000	(165,942)	34,058
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 1	40,973	(43,411)	(2,439)
Rank Foundation Main Grant 2024-26	60,000	(32,727)	27,273
Shanly Foundation	3,000	-	3,000
Violence Reduction Unit Stronger Futures	81,274	(84,761)	(3,487)
Big Give Dec 2025	-	-	-
Mayor's Fund for London	-	-	-
Clarion Futures	-	-	-
Communities First	-	-	-
Croydon Council HAF Easter 25	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025-2026	-	-	-
Croydon Council Holiday Activities Fund	-	-	-
Croydon Loves You 2025	-	-	-
Croydon Voluntary Action NHS Spring 25	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-
Jack Petchey Awards	-	-	-
London Youth Summer Skills	-	-	-
Newby Trust	-	-	-
National Lottery, Awards for All, Environment Fund	-	-	-
Paul Hamlyn, ESP	-	-	-
King Baudouin Foundation, Grant 2	-	-	-
Violence Reduction Unit, Holiday Hope	-	-	-
Reedham Children's Trust	25,816	(25,816)	-
Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds	376,891	(438,327)	(61,435)
	1,144,632	(1,065,515)	79,117
TOTAL FUNDS	1,222,077	(1,132,449)	89,628

Berkeley Foundation
In March 2023, the Berkeley Foundation made a grant of £30,000 over two years towards key leadership roles to oversee and develop strong operational functions.

Big Give Dec 2025
Funds of £12,859 were raised through the match-funded Big Give Christmas Challenge in December 2025 to be spent over 12 months on Reaching Higher's community-based youth activities in Croydon with £9,331 received in 2025 and the remainder in 2026.

Children in Need, WeMove
In November 2022, Children In Need made a grant of £49,333 over 20 months to support Reaching Higher's youth-led social action project.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Children in Need, WeMove Extension
In September 2024, Children In Need made a grant of £41,934 over two years to extend Reaching Higher's youth-led social action project which had begun under the previous WeMove grant (which was from November 22 to June 24).

City Bridge Trust, Leadership
In October 2020, City Bridge Foundation made a grant of £143,750 over 5 years to support Reaching Higher's youth leadership development project. This was managed alongside other Extra grants from City Bridge Foundation. All City Bridge Funds were exhausted by end of 2025. The transfer to unrestricted funds of £2,815 resolves a misallocation of income between the two City Bridge funds back in 2022.

Clarion Futures
In January 2025, Clarion Futures made a grant of £2,000 over three months to support Reaching Higher's mentoring, transferable skills workshops and an after-school club at two partner schools in Croydon.

Communities First
In September 2025, Communities First made a grant of £660 over 1 year to support Reaching Higher's youth leadership development project, of which £180 was received in 2025 and the remainder in 2026. The grant originated with the KFC Foundation and was sub-granted to Reaching Higher.

Croydon Council HAF Easter 25
In April 2025, Croydon Council made a grant of £1,600 towards Reaching Higher's residential provision for young people during the Easter school holidays. This grant originated with the DfE's Holiday Activities Fund, specifically to support young people eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Croydon Council Holiday Activities Fund
In July 2025, Croydon Council made a grant of £11,160 towards Reaching Higher's all-day provision for young people during the August school holidays. This grant originated with the DfE's Holiday Activities Fund, specifically to support young people eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Croydon Loves You 2025
In April 2025, Croydon Council made a grant of £4,983 from its Croydon Loves You programme over 9 months to support Reaching Higher's dance project.

Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025
In January 2025 Croydon Voluntary Action made a grant of £11,000 under the Local Commissioning Fund to be spent over 6 months on Reaching Higher's community-based activities in South Norwood Ward.

Croydon Voluntary Action LCF 2025-2026
In August 2025 Croydon Voluntary Action made a grant of £10,300 under the Local Commissioning Fund to be spent over 12 months on Reaching Higher's community-based activities in South Norwood Ward, of which £ 7,725 was received in 2025.

Croydon Voluntary Action NHS Spring 25
In April 2025, Croydon Voluntary Action made a grant of £500 over 3 months to support Reaching Higher's youth-led cafe project, facilitating young people's feedback on NHS services in Croydon.

Garfield Weston Foundation
In April 2025, the Garfield Weston Foundation made a grant of £70,000 over two years to support the core costs of Reaching Higher's school and community-based provision for young people in Croydon, of which £35,000 was received in 2025.

Greater London Authority, New Deal For Young People
In January 2024 the Greater London Authority's New Deal For Young People 'Propel' programme gave £400,000 to be spent over 24 months towards the cost of a mentoring consortium in Croydon, led by Reaching Higher and involving four other youth organisations in Year 1, and three others in Year 2.

Henry Smith Foundation
In January 2024, the Henry Smith Foundation made a grant of £210,000 over three years to support Reaching Higher's youth leadership development and mentoring projects.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Henry Smith Foundation, Leadership
In July 2020, the Henry Smith Foundation made a grant of £90,000 over three years towards Reaching Higher's Youth Leadership programme. With the Foundation's permission, the underspent amount of the grant in 2023 was used for Youth Leadership activities in 2024 and 2025.

Henry Smith Foundation, Post Covid
In September 2022, the Henry Smith Foundation made a grant of £118,800 over three years towards expanding in-school provision in Croydon in the wake of Covid-19, as well as employing a therapeutic practitioner (now Head of Contextual Safeguarding).

Jack Petchey Awards
Between January and September 2025, the Jack Petchey Foundation gave £4,500 as part of the Achievement Awards scheme, to be spent on activities and resources chosen by Reaching Higher's young people.

King Baudouin Foundation Grant 1
In August 2023 the King Baudouin Foundation gave £82,790 from its R&Co4Generations Corporate Fund to be spent over 24 months towards the cost of Reaching Higher's youth-led cafe reducing food waste in Croydon.

King Baudouin Foundation Grant 2
In April 2025 the King Baudouin Foundation gave £29,090 from its R&Co4Generations Corporate Fund to be spent over 12 months towards the cost of Reaching Higher's community-based activities for young people in Croydon.

London Youth Summer Skills
In July 2025, London Youth made a grant of £4,000 over 3 months to support Reaching Higher's employability activities for young people during the school summer holidays.

London Youth, Good For Girls
In July 2024 London Youth made a grant of £5,500 to be spent over 9 months on Reaching Higher's weekly dance project for girls.

Mayor's Fund for London
In September 2025, the Mayor's Fund For London made a grant of £17,466 from its City Shapers programme over 7 months to support social action projects designed and delivered by Reaching Higher's Youth Board, of which £14,000 was received in 2025

National Lottery, Awards for All, Environment Fund
In December 2025, the National Lottery made an Awards for All grant of £20,000 towards young people reducing food waste and growing food in 2026.

Newby Trust
In November 2025, Newby Trust made a grant of £10,000 over one year to support Reaching Higher's sports-based youth provision.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Youth Strategic Investment Fund (YSIF)
In May 2024, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation made a grant of £550,185 over five years to invest in Reaching Higher's strategic development from its YSIF programme.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Expert Support Package (ESP)
In May 2024, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation made a grant of £165,000 from its ESP programme over five years for engaging specialist training and consultancy support to enhance Reaching Higher's strategic development.

Rank Foundation Main Grant 2024-26
In January 2024 the Rank Foundation gave £90,000 to be spent over 36 months towards the expansion of Reaching Higher's delivery and influencing work in Croydon.

Rank Foundation, Internships
Since 2021, Reaching Higher has received donations from funders and individuals towards its internships programme, which was added to a consolidated Internships Fund. All funding for Internships had been exhausted by the end of 2024, except for £28,380 received from the Rank Foundation in September 2024 towards the cost of a 12-month internship which finished in August 2025. The Rank Foundation grant was fully utilised by the end of 2025. A transfer between funds of £12,761 deals with prior internship funds between 2021 and 2024 where costs had been incurred but not allocated to the Internships category.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reedham Children's Trust
In April 2024 Reedham Children's Trust gave £44,777 to be spent over 12 months from its Youth Innovation Fund to deliver a STEM-focused project for girls and young women in Croydon, delivered by Reaching Higher in partnership with a 3D printing company and another youth organisation.

Shanly Foundation
In December 2024, the Shanly Foundation made a grant of £3,000 towards increasing mentoring provision for marginalised young people in Croydon.

Violence Reduction Unit, Stronger Futures
In September 2023 the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit gave £144,759 to be spent over 24 months towards the cost of Reaching Higher's community-based activities for young people in Croydon.

Violence Reduction Unit, Holiday Hope
In July 2025 the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit gave £20,000 to be spent over 2 months towards the cost of Reaching Higher's school holiday provision in July and August 2025.

Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds
Restricted fund opening balances at 1 January 2025 have been derived from a detailed review of cumulative income and expenditure attributable to each fund, based on transaction-level records, grant documentation and grant reporting.
Historically, a number of restricted funding streams with similar charitable purposes were accounted for on a consolidated basis and are presented within "Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds". Following a comprehensive review of historic fund activity and supporting records, the Trustees concluded that certain expenditure previously reflected within unrestricted funds related to activities delivered in fulfilment of those restricted purposes.
As a result of this review, £72,803 has been reallocated from Consolidated Historical Restricted Funds to unrestricted reserves. The Trustees consider this treatment to provide the most accurate representation of the historic application of funds and the opening reserves position going forward. The review has no impact on total reserves.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year trustees donated £2,980 (2024: £4,459) to the charity. No trustee received any benefit in respect of these donations.

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Reaching Higher

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Grants and donations		
Grants	851,463	1,144,628
Donations	34,140	29,064
	885,603	1,173,692
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	13,874	14,647
Charitable activities		
Other Operating Income	6,346	9,438
Income from contracts	181,705	24,300
	188,051	33,738
Total incoming resources	1,087,528	1,222,077
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Purchases	18	464
Wages	24,412	18,656
	24,430	19,120
Charitable activities		
Wages	588,224	540,830
Social security	52,090	29,818
Pensions	19,238	45,410
Other operating leases	-	9,250
Travel expenses	19,054	16,573
Project Consumables	53,935	76,663
Sessional workers & volunteers	126,163	224,471
Incentives and awards	5,301	5,897
Refreshments	11,779	15,133
Venue Hire	14,297	17,365
Trips	15	602
Staff training	23,670	21,479
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,724	3,972
	918,470	1,007,463
Support costs		
Finance		
Postage and stationery	707	1,531
Bank charges	79	61
	786	1,592
Information technology		
Repairs and renewals	281	440
Other		
Telephone	3,336	5,116
Carried forward	3,336	5,116

Docusign Envelope ID: A86854DA-B64D-872D-80C5-B3C357D43D3D

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Other		
Brought forward	3,336	5,116
Sundries	6,849	6,717
Office costs	6,271	(635)
Rent	624	1,324
Computer and software	22,171	12,026
Subscriptions	427	557
Staff welfare costs	13,125	10,502
Advertising	12,219	8,356
Cleaning	4,509	3,900
Consultancy	26,414	25,765
Legal and professional	3,314	1,368
	99,259	74,996
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	8,760	8,760
Insurance	3,659	3,357
Accountancy and legal fees	17,960	15,911
Legal fees	-	810
	30,379	28,838
Total resources expended	1,073,625	1,132,449
Net income	13,903	89,628