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ART AGAINST KNIVES

(A company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited

Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

WWW.ARTAGAINSTKNIVES.COM
ART AGAINST KNIVES
REG CHARITY NO: 1140866

Charity number: 1140866

Company number: 07462800

WWW.ARTAGAINSTKNIVES.COM

Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

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ART AGAINST KNIVES
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31 December 2025
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Our main activities and who we support are described in the report below. All our charitable activities focus on preventing youth violence and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees confirm that all activities are in line with the Charity Commission's Guidance.

CHARITY NAME
Art Against Knives

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER
1140866

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER
07462800

REGISTERED OFFICE
21-27 Lamb's Conduit Street
London, WC1N 3GS

OPERATIONAL ADDRESS
162 High Road, East Finchley
London, N2 9AS

BANKERS
CAF BANK
25 Kings Hill Avenue
King Hill
West Malling, ME19 4JQ

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
JS2 Ltd
Crown House
1 Crown Square
Woking, GU21 6HR

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alton Brown (Chair)	(Resigned 17 October 2025)
Nathan White (Vice Chair)	(Resigned 14 October 2025)
James Pole (Treasurer)	(Treasurer)
Anna Hamilos	(Resigned 14 October 2025)
Jamie Hilton	(Resigned 18 November 2025)
Sheree Prospere	(Resigned 27 January 2026)
Emma Snell	(Appointed 18 November 2025)
Becky Graham	(Appointed 18 November 2025)
Remi Fairweather Stride	(Appointed 18 November 2025)

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TRUSTEES REPORT: ACHIEVEMENTS + ACTIVITIES

Our **vision** is for a world in which every young person can create their own positive futures, free from violence and harm. To achieve this, we're on a **mission** to bring support to socially excluded young people at a pace and in a space that's led by them and to invest in their vision for change.

For the past 15 years, we've been working to address the root cause of violence in partnership with socially excluded young people (aged 10-25) at risk of violence, abuse, exploitation and harm. Together, we've designed safe, creative spaces that make it possible for them to build their own hopeful futures. In these spaces, our team of creative, highly skilled professionals brings creative skills training, mentoring and specialist support to them, using creative delivery in a space that works for them.

We focus on supporting young people who are most at risk - ensuring we're responding to their unique needs and putting them in the lead. In tandem with our direct support, we make it possible for young people to imagine the change they want to see, ensuring their voices are heard within the systems around them and pushing for change.

We've established ourselves as one of London's pioneering youth justice organisations, making it possible for thousands of young people to design their own hopeful futures, re-design local services and influence national systems change.

OUR APPROACH

Our work is underpinned by our values and our ongoing commitment to transformative justice and anti-oppression - a lens that's embedded across all we do.

We are **DYNAMIC,** ensuring we are always led by the needs of young people. We remain open, flexible and willing to adapt how we work and use our resources, skills and collective capabilities to make this possible.

We care about the **SAFETY** and wellbeing of everyone. We're committed to creating the conditions required to maintain this. This includes; creating safe environments and adapting our own policy and practice to ensure we're not upholding systems of harm.

We invest in nurturing **TRUST** with everyone - we're committed to understanding context, taking accountability for our own actions and to the process of repair.

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We're **CREATIVE** in our approach to everything, and open to new alternatives that move us beyond a problem.

We share **POWER**, ensuring that we're making it possible for others to step into theirs and actively work to distribute this. Central to this is our commitment to exchanging knowledge, co-production and social action.

OUR CURRENT PRIORITIES

In 2023 we underwent a review of our strategy which defines how we will ensure we're fulfilling our mission and vision. This year we've continued to drive forward our strategic aims for 2023-2026, which are to:

1. Co-design high quality support for young people
2. Enable young people to create systemic change.
3. Cultivate a skilled, happy and healthy team.
4. Craft a robust, agile and anti-oppressive organisation.

We're very proud to be able to update on our progress made against these aims and the impact that we've had as a result during the period 1st Jan 2025 - 31st Dec 2025.

IMPACT: CO-DESIGN HIGH QUALITY SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"AAK have become an essential VCS partner who pace set and share in the same core values of person led coproduction, education, rights and strength-based approaches that consistently engage empower and support both young people and adults within the wider community"

- Barnet Children and Families Services

We're proud to report that we reached over **850 socially excluded young people** across the borough of Barnet in 2025, of which **389 young people were supported via our newly refined community based support model** making it possible for them to create their own futures free from violence and harm.

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There are 4 elements to our delivery model;

1. Reach & Engagement - how we reach and build new relationships with young people;
2. Spaces & Projects - how we sustain these relationships and support their progression;
3. Direct Support -how we provide tailored support to prevent and respond to risk;
4. Systems Change - how we put young people in the lead of transforming systems around them.

In this report we've captured the highlights against these four elements, to bring to life our work and the impact that we've been able to make.

HIGHLIGHTS: REACH + ENGAGEMENT

We've continued to invest in establishing trusted relationships with socially excluded young people. At the start of 2025, we mobilised a new reach and engagement strategy that saw us focus on how we're building new relationships with the next generation of young people. As a result we sustained our commitment to ensuring that the majority of young people we meet are self-peer referred (**less than 10% were referred by external services** and 90% were self/peer referred) - meaning they engage with us out of choice and on their own terms and demonstrating the effectiveness of our safe community spaces and trusted relationships established with our team. Our work this year included:

DIGITAL

We continued to build on our digital communications platform 'Next Gen', which included updating our website, Instagram, and the launch of a TikTok channel. We created 'Next Gen' business cards with a QR code, directing YP to the new platform - giving them a centralised home for all information about our spaces and projects. We also piloted a new WhatsApp Community to significantly streamline communications - with young people receiving a weekly broadcast of opportunities. We've significantly strengthened our communications with clearly distinguished 'spaces' and 'projects' - allowing us to sharpen our communications to young people and our professional networks i.e through regular round-ups, etc.

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REFERRALS

We continued to invest in making it possible for professionals to make suitable/appropriate referrals and to work with them to ensure young people are in the lead of this process. We continued to collate our learnings from young people, parents, and other organisations about how we strengthen our referral pathway and have worked with them to co-design approaches to relationship building and safe access that work for them and move away from traditional static referral processes.

As a result, we **received 30 referrals in 2025** from partners such as GP surgeries, Barnet Youth Justice Service, residential care homes, MOPAC and schools. One of our most successful referral partners has been Barnet Children's Services Reach Team, which works with young people at risk of and experiencing exploitation.

COMMUNITY

We've continued to pop-up across the community, making sure we're visible and present to meet young people where they're at. Delivering community outreach was the most challenging element of our engagement work due to the inconsistent and ever-changing environments young people socialise in i.e they no longer tend to 'hang out' in community settings in the way that they used to, choosing instead to socialise online and/or at peers' houses, etc and the lack of capacity on the team to do this work (as a result of limited resource). Despite these challenges, we did exceed our target, **reaching 134 YP through community-based engagement activities.**

SCHOOLS

We've continued to deepen our engagement with schools - making it possible for us to meet young people in their own environments, build relationships and support them in accessing our community-based support independently. We've worked with several local schools, **supporting 88 young people,** including Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit, Saracens, Northgate, and SMSJ School, delivering exciting, creative, social action projects and working alongside the schools' designated safeguarding leads to support safe, longer-term engagement.

We also conducted a review of our school's work, mapping challenges and thinking together about what we can do to overcome challenges in working with schools ie. supporting culture shifts from 'individual change' to wider contextual/systemic change - to address systemic issues raised by young people. As part of this work we designed a new 'Collaboration Agreement' that outlines our expectations and invested in our relationship building upfront to establish trust and openness for us to share themes, and work with them to address them.

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HIGHLIGHTS: SPACES + PROJECTS

We continued to co-design and deliver safe, relevant, and accessible spaces for young people that were embedded in their communities and became part of their weekly lives. **We opened four spaces permanently throughout the year**, with each space housing a **dynamic programme of co-designed projects** (343 unique sessions) which were free to all.

ELEVATE + THE DESIGN STUDIO

A weekly creative space for young women/girls including trans/non-binary and gender questioning young people, offering creative skills training and therapeutic activities including nail painting/ hair braiding. Embedded on the team are our own in-house Independent & Young Person's Domestic Abuse Advisors (IDVA/YPVA's) who specialize in supporting young people in relation to gender based violence and VAWG whether that be short-term crisis support or long-term early intervention, prevention and advocacy.

In Sept 2025, we had to sadly close The Design Studio, which was located in the North West of the borough. This was due to our funding from the National Lottery Community Foundation ending, and we were unable to find alternative funding. We co-designed a closing plan with young people, which saw us continue to offer 1:1 support and, for those who could, support them in accessing our space in the East of the borough.

We worked with our delivery partners (MAC UK and Youth Realities) to capture our learning from this 3 year partnership and co-authored a report, which is rich in insight and learning about how to embed a community based model for reducing gender based violence, which we are using to inform the development of our own practice and disseminate so that others can learn from this too.

THE LAB + LAB RECORDS

'The Lab' **is our** award-winning**, youth-led music studio** that has been embedded in the heart of the community in Barnet, co-produced with young people for the past 12 years. It runs every week from an empty shop unit on the high street, providing young people with the space to write, record and produce their own music, socialise in safe, creative and professional environments and access specialist support. Within 'The Lab', we run an exciting programme of workshops, introducing new creative, business, communication and marketing skills etc.

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In Jan 2025, we expanded our studio to open over two days to accommodate demand from young people, address community safety concerns, and create safe environments for both the younger cohort (11-16) and the older cohort (12-25). In just 6 months, **we doubled our target for supporting young people in this new space** - which as a result of funding from Youth Music will now remain permanent.

OUR PROJECTS

Embedded within our creative spaces is a dynamic programme of projects that provide workshops, events, trips and opportunities for young people to address their specific needs. An example of some of the projects we delivered this year include;

HerStory+ - in response to the need to offer specific support for the young Black and Black-mixed heritage women & girls, aged 16-25, who were accessing our spaces. We worked alongside them to co-design a support offer called 'HerStory+'. Over the course of 6 months a cohort of young people received exclusive access to a weekly safe, creative space in which they were guided in exploring their identities and ways in which they can heal from their experiences of oppression and harm. They were gifted tools to accelerate their healing, foster empowerment & take care of their long-term wellbeing.

Alongside this, they were invited to join our monthly podcast 'Gyal A Loud' - an opportunity for them to draw on their lived experience of issues such as Gender Based Violence and Institutional Racism, imagine solutions for change and create a clear call for action that can then be shared with their communities and those with the power to enact this change.

Grind Szn - we launched a new Education, Employment + Training Offer in response to the increase in demand for EET support. We co-designed a new offer with young people called 'Grind Szn' - a one-stop shop for everything YP need to thrive at school, plan their next move, or propel themselves into the working world. In practice, this looked like:

- Personal goal setting to define/visualise where they want to be in the future.
- Practical support with housing, NI information, personal finances, etc
- Advocacy support with schools/colleges to support young people in addressing systemic barriers and experiences of harm within these environments to mitigate suspension/exclusion.
- Careers support such as writing CVs, searching for EET opportunities, writing applications, mock interviews, etc.
- Enterprise development, e.g. business planning, financial management, artist development, music marketing.

Creative Skills Training - we've significantly increased the number of young people who access our creative skills training, as a result **197 Young People** took part in our skills training and education workshops across our spaces. This has included;

- Embedding creative skills training across our spaces, delivered by either our existing youth-work team or external facilitators (i.e., creative professionals) in response to YP needs and interests.
- Developing our in-house skills training offer, we co-designed a week-long intensive music skills project in which care-experienced YP were taught how to write, record, produce and market their own tracks.

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- Employed a 'creative skills lead' for our Elevate space, who runs regular craft skills sessions for young women, non-binary and trans YP, teaching therapeutic craft skills that YP can use independently, i.e., crochet, invisible mending, etc.
- Strengthened our partnerships so that we can bring skills training opportunities to YP. ie. We've built a relationship with Barnet Council's newly formed culture team to inform the development of Light + Flight - a new, borough-wide cultural programme bringing together artists, communities, and local stories - and ultimately strengthening the cultural opportunities for YP, and critically supporting their safe access.

St Mary's & St Johns School Partnership (NW4)

We continued to embed our co-produced 'creative spaces model' into St Marys and St Joseph School, providing a high quality, creative programme for students by transforming one of the school rooms into a creative, safe space once a week. This year we further adapted our model in response to the needs and ideas generated by the students, and expanded this into summer provision.

Our specialist delivery team made up of Creative Youth Workers and Peer Leaders/Mentors, expert in building trusted relationships with young people, offered mentoring to support students in sustaining in education and/or their re-engagement back into education via regular 1:1 sessions that incorporated creative engagement activities, trips and opportunities with specialist safeguarding and advocacy support. As a partnership, we further developed an integrated support pathway for students and their families who would benefit from therapy and continued to work in partnership to safeguard them in the context of school, home and the community.

HIGHLIGHTS: DIRECT SUPPORT

We have continued to see an increase in both the complexity and severity of risk faced by young people e.g. rising mental health concerns, financial vulnerability, racial harm, online exploitation and gender-based violence. We've mitigated this by evolving our model, incorporating feedback from young people, co-designing new approaches with them and incorporating new elements from other best practice models.

As a result, we've embedded a newly defined 'Direct Support Model' to respond to the ever-evolving needs of young people and the significant risk of violence, abuse and harm they face. This was made up of 5 key elements, which we can combine and dial up depending on the needs of each individual.

1. **Relational Support** (mentoring) - equipping YP with tools to build positive social/emotional skills, heal from experiences/trauma, and develop voice/leadership.
2. **Knowledge Exchange** - education/co-produced skills training and education workshops in response to YP/community needs/skills gaps.
3. **Education, Employment + Training** - 1:1 & group support to sustain YP in education, training & employment.
4. **Specialist Support** - to safeguard from harm, e.g. advocacy, safety, planning, housing, navigating services, reporting.
5. **Social Action -** supporting YP to imagine/communicate changes they want to see via creative methods

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Across these spaces, **100%** of young people attending our spaces have received direct support from our team:

- 64%, 249 YP [Target was 60%] accessed formal, ongoing 'wrap-around' mentoring support.
- 48%, 120 YP [Target was 40%] accessed 'specialist' support via multidisciplinary team of specialists, e.g. Serious Youth Violence Specialist, Young Person's Violence Advisor, Trainee Clinical Psychologists, EET Specialists

"I personally faced many of the challenges young people encounter to this day, particularly regarding mental health. The support I received, both through music and the organisation's community, was instrumental in helping me navigate issues such as anxiety and low self-esteem. This experience gives me a deep understanding and empathy for the mental health struggles that young people may face. I believe this insight allows me to relate to them on a personal level, providing a safe, supportive space for them to express their feelings and overcome similar challenges"- Young Person

In order to meet the demand for this support, we have also:

Grown our YPVA capacity; we now have 3 x Independent & Young Person's Domestic Abuse Advisors (IDVA/YPVA's) on our delivery team who specialise in supporting young people in relation to gender based violence, but work in different ways. We expanded our work to include work with young men, i.e., working with those who had caused/causing harm, and to embed more targeted early intervention and preventative work led by YPVA's based in our music studio, The Lab.

Strengthened our Therapeutic Support Offer; ensuring that young people who face barriers to existing mental health support have access by continuing to embed Psychologists into our team including final-year Trainee Clinical Psychologists and sustained our on-going partnership with MAC UK who continued to provide supervision for staff and work with us to embed contextual mental health support.

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IMPACT: ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO CREATE SYSTEMIC CHANGE

"(AAK) is absolutely essential in providing much-needed creative outlets/long-term support...what makes their model unique is how deeply rooted it is in the community" - *Young Barnet Foundation*

We've done an extensive amount to drive forward our systems change work this year, learning from young people's needs (as captured above) and working with them to better understand their experiences and imagine ideas for change. At the start of 2025, we co-created a clearly defined 'system change strategy' in which we analysed the key themes emerging from our work with YP and agreed on the priority areas of focus: **Gender-Based Violence**, **Criminal Justice** and **Mental Health.**

We've then worked with them to take these into the systems around them to create more youth-centric support that tackles the root causes of violence and harm. This year we have continued to deepen our impact and young people's influence externally, responding to contextual systemic movements and driving local systems change whilst increasing national visibility and sharing our learnings more widely. Our impact in this space resulted in us **winning the National Youth Music award for 'Social Change Organisation'** - an accolade we are incredibly proud of.

This year we have been focused on the following:

1. Delivering Social Action Projects
2. Further embedding our youth employment framework
3. Co-designing and producing a community exhibition
4. Expanding our capacity and partnerships

DELIVERED SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

We delivered a rolling series of creative Social Action Projects in which we supported YP in understanding their experiences and in imagining and capturing their visions for change. An example is a 'Zine' project about mental health we co-created with a group of young women aged 12-15 that had complex needs, including poor mental health, neurodiversity, complex family dynamics and facing school exclusion.

We explored their relationship to beauty standards and how the different intersections of their identities affect their lives and mental health, allowing them to better understand their own experiences and those of their peers. The final product was a zine created by creatively collating the young people's work, collages, ideas and experiences and stitching this together into a final Zine that was printed and sold via our website.

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YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

We conducted a review of our 'youth employment framework' and, as a result, have reduced the number of paid roles we hold at any one time to ensure we're able to manage these safely and make these as meaningful as possible. This year, we've **created opportunities for 22 Young People to develop leadership skills and independence**. Examples of how we've developed this area of work include:

- **Employing 10 x Peer Leaders;** this included Peer Researchers for the NHS to identify solutions for supporting young black men's mental health, two of which have transitioned into FT employment.
- **Expanding Leadership roles;** beyond just paid Peer Leader Roles, we've created other opportunities, i.e., presenting at forums and conferences, co-facilitating sessions to teach other YP new skills.
- **New 'Designer' roles;** we've created opportunities for young people to take on external creative briefs and in some cases to be paid for this work ie. 1 x young person was commissioned to design a 'Chatty bench' that will exist in the local community to reduce isolation other YP were commissioned to create a zine for the national Community Psychology Festival and marathon vests for the London Community Foundation.
- **Created consultancy opportunities;** we continued to create opportunities for YP to consult on changes to the support systems around them. Examples include;

'CHANGE' EXHIBITION

In May 2025, we invited young people to explore the reality of their daily lives through a mixed-media collection of work to candidly share their experiences, ambitions and ideas for change. This culminated in a physical exhibition called 'Change', which we hosted from our space in N2 that was open for the summer and called on the public to take urgent action.

CAPACITY + PARTNERSIPS

To build capacity around this area of work, we implemented a new role, 'Gender Based Violence Lead', which saw the promotion of our colleague who previously led our young women's programmes into a role that made it possible for us to push for YP's influence externally, respond to contextual systemic movements and drive local systems change. i.e. presenting at forums, universities, and network meetings, to senior leaders in schools and consulting on strategies and policy reviews.

We've seen the ripple effects of our impact across the local system, both in terms of policy and practice; much of this is visible already.

- **Locally,** we were scaffolded across support systems within Barnet, including Children's Services, Schools, Youth Justice, Healthcare and Community Safety. Examples of this in

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practice include: co-designing the new Youth VAWG Forum for Barnet Council, creating a Black Community Roundtable with team leaders across Children's social care, meeting regularly with Barnet Council's CEO and Director of Children's Services and co-designing the Community Safety strategy.

- **Nationally,** we were bridged into relevant National alliances, think-tanks and partnerships to disseminate our learning, i.e., Agenda Alliance's network for orgs working with women and girls with multiple unmet needs and the National Working Group on Teenage Relationship Abuse Roundtable

We've also continued to deliver on our partnership with Barnet Council funded by the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit's My Ends funding. As part of this work we've continued to collaborate with strategic leads in the council, feeding into their policies and strategies, getting support with risk data and influencing policy and practice.

"Working with Art Against Knives has helped me understand the inner world of a young person who is open to the Youth Justice System but didn't want to open up about his feelings or emotions in psychology sessions. I was able to create a case formulation and understand the young person's psychic dynamic and main conflicts through the piece of work that you did with the client in the music sessions. Therefore, I could help my colleagues to understand how the young person was feeling and thinking, and this was thanks to your collaboration and input during the consultation meetings"

-

IMPACT: BUILDING A SKILLED, HAPPY + HEALTHY TEAM

Ensuring we're building an environment that supports our team in delivering and holding this complex work has remained a focus of our efforts this year.

OUR COMMITMENT TO ANTI-OPPRESSION + TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE

This year we've furthered our commitment to anti-oppression and transformative justice ensuring we're actively combatting the power, inequality and oppression of young people. Our ambition is to grow an organization that shares power and uplifts minoritised voices, creates conditions for self and collective care and resolution, and fosters a culture of learning - where mistakes are learnt from, rather than punished. This work has included:

The development of our internal learning - we've co-designed regular learning and reflective spaces which have been carefully planned and delivered in response to the key themes emerging from our work, including: white supremacy culture, disability justice, radical safeguarding practices and preventative approaches to gender-based violence.

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Creating conditions for self and collective care - we've expanded our supervision structure which we outsourced to our long-standing partners MAC-UK. We co-designed new work schedules for the team that gives space to delivery, reflective practice and collective learning and decision-making, built in regular wellbeing time for the entire team, hosted regular 'away-days' and introduced a new career break and extended leave policies making it possible for long-standing team members to take much needed breaks to rest and refresh.

Adapting our policy and practice - we've continued to learn about how we can ensure our policy and practice can enable equity across the organisation and improve the quality of our practice to ensure we're minimising harm. Some of the changes to practice included weekly collective decision-making sessions and a substantial review of our recruitment processes.

IMPACT: BUILDING A ROBUST, AGILE + ANTI-OPRESSIVE ORGANISATION

LEADERSHIP + ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In May 2025 we said goodbye to our CEO of four years, Sally Zlototwitz. This presented us with an opportunity to come together as a team to carefully consider what leadership needs to look like for us moving forward. In order to create space to make informed & collective long-term leadership decisions and to ensure we have adequate governance and leadership in place for an interim period we co-designed a 12-month 'holding model'

To achieve this, we appointed an interim CEO, co-created a business plan for the year to give clarity and direction and created a plan for strengthening our board, by bringing in the skills, knowledge and experience we need to deliver on our business plan, which saw us successfully recruit 3 new Trustees

Despite change always being hard, a shift in leadership has given us an opportunity to work together in new ways and consider how we need to adapt given the ever-changing landscape and think creatively together about our longer-term structure and governance.

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GOVERNANCE + OPERATIONS

We remained focused on strengthening our governance and operations to ensure agility and long-term sustainability. This year we focussed on building a robust and active board of Trustees with the skills required to drive forward our strategy. As part of this we also mobilised a new subcommittee model to connect the board with the organisation .

We've continued to streamline our **operational processes** and create capacity for our leadership team to focus on driving forward our systems change work. To build our capacity around this, we on-boarded a new enabling role 'Operations and People Co-Ordinator' this year, a role that was co-designed with the team in order to build and sustain new internal systems, including our financial, grant and impact management and recruitment processes and ultimately enabling our delivery team to thrive in their support roles for young people.

This has led to some exciting and innovative work ie. an in-depth review of our safeguarding policy and practice in line with our commitment to anti-oppression and to address the tensions that appear in this work for us.

"It's clear that your passion and dedication is making a real difference…seeing the welcoming space you've created for them (young people) to express their creativity, first hand, was eye-opening" – **London Community Foundation**

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OUR FUNDERS + SUPPORTERS

"Octopus chose AAK to be one of the charities pitching for funding at our new event because we were excited by the potential of providing funding to a charity who works towards systemic change and does so through amplifying the voices of youth within their communities. Their impact felt deeply meaningful and something that our staff members could connect to and get excited about supporting" – ***Octopus Group***

Thanks to the generosity of our community of supporters and funders, in 2025 we generated income of £543,694.

Income generation was one of our greatest challenges in 2025, and probably one of the toughest years ever. Our pipeline conversion rate changed significantly, and we experienced a tough run of 'no's' from funders with no explanation other than they were oversubscribed, this made it hard to rely on our pipeline in the way that we previously have and the lack of feedback made it challenging to understand how to adapt and respond to this.

A 'resource void' appeared as a result of significant shifts in the funding landscape, some of the themes that we noticed that contributed to this included; an increase in trusts and foundations closing to review strategies, if and when they re-opened it was with new criteria, which meant we were no longer eligible. We saw many choosing to only fund areas with the 'highest concentration of need' i.e. 'poverty', which is a threshold that Barnet statistically fails to meet, despite some areas of the borough falling in the 6% most deprived nationally. We saw an increase in funding for 'grassroots organisations' which was defined by income only (under £500k) which ruled us out based on our most recent accounts (our income in 2024 was £826,536). We also saw a dramatic decline in funding for Women & Girls and Gender Based Violence, in our 15 years of working in this space we've never seen such a lack of resource available for this cohort of young people. Geographically, there was also very little funding coming into the borough specifically for socially excluded young people.

Despite these challenges, we remain extremely grateful to have received on-going support from our multi-year funders, Medicor (previously Maria Marina Foundation), Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Garfield Weston and the VRU My Ends Partnership Fund. In addition, this year we were awarded mulit-year 'Catalyser' funding from our long-standing funders Youth Music, a major win for the charity, demonstrating the strength and depth of our impact as this was a highly competitive funding stream. We also received new funding through from National Lottery Awards for All and the Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund, whilst continuing to capitalise on strong partnerships and connections in Barnet, resulting in significant support from Barnet Council's Infrastructure Levy Funding and Young Barnet Foundation's Space2Grow.

We wish to thank all of our existing and new funders for their belief in our mission and commitment to AAK's cause, as we continue working together in partnership. We are more grateful than ever to our existing donors, partners and supporters for their ongoing support, and look to invest in and develop these funding partnerships as we enter the new financial year.

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We also continue working towards the aims in our Income Diversification Plan, thanks to the launch of our 'CHANGE' Exhibition co-produced with young people, we created new work and drove sales through our online art gallery (www.artagainstknivesgallery.com) including a pop-up at Highgate Art Fair and our own community gallery premises in East Finchley.

Once again we express our deepest thanks to everyone who has supported our charity, not just financially but all the advice, guidance, and encouragement we have received. This has helped grow our confidence and realise the profound importance and relevance of AAK's work, not just to for beneficiaries, but more widely against our aims around longer-term, social change. Times are increasingly tough for our community and our peers in the charity sector, but with the support of all those who recognise and believe in our work, we remain determined to succeed.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE + MANAGEMENT

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

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APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Newly appointed Trustees must be approved by directors. The directors may refuse an application for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, they consider it to be in the best interests of the charity to refuse the application. The directors must consider any written representations the applicant may make about the decision. The director's decision following any written representations must be notified to the applicant in writing but shall be final.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7 December

2010 and registered as a charity on 22 March 2011. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company closing members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £3.

RISK POLICY

The Trustees continue to undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed from which contribute to our organisational risk register.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ALTON BROWN [CHAIR] [Resigned 17th October 2025] Alton is a values-driven leader with 17 years of experience in the charity sector, driving impactful engagement programmes for leading UK sports & cultural organisations, where he enables organisations to drive positive social impact with & for communities. As the former Head of Youth Programmes & Policy for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, Alton led the team that delivered the multi-award-recognised youth programme for the largest multi-sport and cultural event in England since the London 2012 Olympic Games. In his current role, Alton works for the Active Partnerships National Organisation, a nationwide network of 43 sport and physical activity organisations working to create the conditions for an active nation.

NATHAN WHITE [VICE CHAIR] [Resigned 17th October 2025] Nathan currently works as a Skills Strategy Advisor at the Department for Education. Prior to this, he completed the Unlocked Graduates programme where he supported and safeguarded some of our society's most vulnerable and challenging young people in HMYOI Feltham; drafted a group policy paper focused on improving remand prisoners' treatment; and was a member of Unlocked's inaugural Diversity and Inclusion Advisory group. With a particular interest in tackling inequalities in criminal justice and education, Nathan has also held a range of advisory roles at various charities and initiatives. This includes being a member of the Career's and Enterprise Company's 'effective transitions fund' steering group, an ambassador trustee at Unlocked Graduates and a governor of a local primary school.

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JAMES POLE [TREASURER] James Pole is an ACA qualified chartered accountant who is a Finance Director at Universal Music. Since qualifying in 2013 he has worked in various financial roles across the music industry both in the UK and abroad and specialises in bridging the gap between creative and financial communities. This is James' first trustee and treasurer role. He has gained charity sector experience working in a consultancy role for international development organisation IDinsight work in impact evaluation for government bodies such as DFID, CDC & UNICEF, as well as large philanthropic organisations such as The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The Hewlett Foundation.

ANNA HAMILOS [Resigned 14 October 2025] Anna is a passionate, empathic individual with an ability to lead agile innovation programmes that result in positive social impact. She is currently Head of Engagement with the Centre for Youth Impact and a Senior Associate with Collaborate CIC. Relationship and partnership building has been at the heart of her career, from her work at the GLA, London 2012, CABE and Nesta. Anna was selected for the prestigious Clore Experienced Leadership course, and received 360 Feedback, where she received top marks as an Empowering Enabler (someone who prioritises organisation and team visibility over personal gain and profile), a Courageous Changemaker (someone who injects a sense of urgency when necessary) and a Focused Strategist (commended for her ability to stay abreast of, and adapt to, social, political and economic trends).

JAMIE HILTON [Resigned 18th November 2025] Jamie has worked in post-disaster contexts in Peru and Haiti, delivering interventions spanning all age groups; and in community leadership roles in Colombia and South Africa. He has also worked as a surveyor for Deloitte; in youth & outreach roles at the Prince's Trust, particularly arts & sports engagement; and as lead for Save the Children's work in the southeast. Jamie has since held consultancy and director roles at Beyond the Page, supporting trafficked women in Margate; and at Fulham Good Neighbours - a charity dating back 100 years - where he is the current CEO.

SHERÉE PROSPERE [Resigned 27 January 2026] Sheree has worked within the voluntary sector since 2011, within various frontline positions across think-tanks and charitable organisations including St Giles Trust and Leap Confronting Conflict where she currently works as a Senior Programme Officer and Trainer. During her career, Sheree has spent time working within local communities in North and South London, leading on youth-led projects within campaigning, journalism, social enterprise and frontline work with young people who have experienced violence, county lines and trauma to currently project managing delivery programmes across London. Realising throughout her profession, that creativity and the arts have always been at the forefront of her work, to showcase the passion and talent of young people and to provide a platform for conscious change.

REMI FAIRWEATHER STRIDE [Appointed 18th November 2025] Remi is Youth Music's Insights Manager, working to platform young people's lived experiences as evidence for change across the music education sector and wider creative industries. Her work draws on learning from grassroots youth music spaces to drive systemic change. She chairs the organisation's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Working Group. A passionate advocate for equity, representation and community building, Remi is an avid motorcyclist and spent five years in the motorcycle industry before joining the charity sector in 2020.

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BECKY GRAHAM [Appointed 18th November 2025] Becky Graham is a Poet, strategic leader, and dedicated champion of social justice. For over 15 years, her work has been driven by a singular mission: ensuring equality of access and inclusion across social provision. She has utilised the arts as an essential resource for wellbeing, learning, and personal development across sectors, working within diverse communities and social settings- including health, criminal justice, and homelessness. Her dedication is rooted in grassroots practice and community engagement, focusing on creating safe, trauma-informed spaces and place-based initiatives for young people and individuals experiencing multiple complex needs.

Excelling as a systems convenor, Becky's expertise spans the full continuum of change, from frontline, community-based support to influencing policy at a local and national level. She specialises in place-based work, fostering co-production models and leveraging high-impact partnerships cross-sectorally—with public bodies, health services, and cultural institutions—to address deep-seated social inequalities and drive community investment. This commitment ensures that lived experience is translated directly into systemic change, guaranteeing that sectors, services, and projects are truly responsive to the people they support and that communities serve as a resource for the people who live there.

EMMA SNELL [Appointed 18th November 2025] Emma is the Legal Policy Manager at the human rights charity JUSTICE, where she works primarily on issues relating to the criminal legal system, policing, and state accountability. She is a steering committee member of Art Not Evidence, a campaign dedicated to preventing the misuse of music as evidence in criminal proceedings. She also volunteers as a trade union representative for the Cleaners and Allied Independent Workers Union, and as a mentor for recent care leavers.

Previously, Emma was an Associate Editor at Just Security, an online forum based at the Reiss Center on Law and Security. She also served as Director of Vocalise, where she oversaw the delivery of debating workshops in prisons.

Our Senior Leadership Team was led by our CEO Dr Sally Zlotowitz until May 2025. Sally joined us in early 2021 from MAC-UK where she was Director of Public Health and Prevention, and was also part of Nesta's Digital & Social Health Team. She is a doctorate level researcher with a unique skill-set that includes clinical and community psychology, and also a lecturer and speaker on community psychology, power, privilege and the role of structural inequalities in mental health. She has over 12 years experience in co-producing and innovating public services in partnership with marginalised young people, their communities and other stakeholders.

Our previous CEO and Founder, Katy Dawe stepped in to take the interim CEO role from May 2025, Katy is an experienced strategist and specialist in working with wealth holders and socially excluded communities to drive social change. After founding AAK and building the charity over 10 years, she has been working as a consultant supporting major brands such as Samsung, Nike, Kellogg and non-profit organisations including The National Gallery and MAC-UK. She is a graduate of the Clore Emerging Leaders programme and is a lecturer and speaker in various forums.

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Rickardo Stewart is our Head of Quality & Innovation reflecting our commitment to best practice - Rickardo is a social entrepreneur from and embedded in the community, deeply trusted by young people (YP) and professionals (London's Youth Professional of the Year in 2018). He also works on the frontline as a Serious Youth Violence Specialist across AAK's programmes.

Rox Horton is our Safeguarding Lead, driving our contextual safeguarding approach by delivering work in both community and educational settings, feeding back thematic risks to partners such as Barnet Council. Rox qualified as a social worker in 2007 and practised in statutory front line child protection for 10 years, and has led safeguarding in national charities and schools.

Manpreet Pank, is our Head of People & Operations, with over 14 years hybrid voluntary and corporate leadership experience across national charities and roles in the commercial sector, specialising in operations, people and partnerships. She is professionally and personally driven to improve social impact.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD

These accounts represent the results of the charity for the period from the start of the financial year on 1st January to 31st December 2025. During the period the charity had total income of £543,694 and total expenditure of £753,942 resulting in a net deficit for the year of £210,248.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees feel it is appropriate to maintain free reserves of four (4) months of operating costs which equate to £117,385. Free reserves are unrestricted, undesignated funds not tied up in fixed assets. The reserves policy was not met for the end of 2025. This was in part due to reduced fundraising capacity, and the previously discussed shifts in the funding landscape. There was therefore a clear strategy developed for both increasing fundraising efforts and cutting expenditure in order to transform this for 2026. This is reviewed by the Trustees on a monthly basis. In particular there is a plan to increase fundraising capacity and diversify fundraising so that there is more income generated through delivery of services such as group workshops and therapeutic services, these have been modelled and are due to be rolled out in 2026. There is a need to reduce costs so that they are more in line with income, and this is being actioned and is in progress. The charity also holds a higher amount of reserves in a number of restricted funds that are set aside for a particular purpose.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 Companies Act 2006. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirement of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board of trustees on 27th October 2026 and signed on their behalf by

James Pole
.....
James Pole

Treasurer

ART AGAINST KNIVES (A company limited by guarantee)

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Art Against Knives (the 'charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2025.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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Independent examiner's report to the Trustees

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

Signed: 

Dated: 28th October 2026

Robert Smith **FCA**

Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co
Chartered Accountants
21-27 Lamb's Conduit Street
London WC1N 3GS

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ART AGAINST KNIVES
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31 December 2025
Statement of Financial Activity (SOFA)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income & Endowments					
Donations & legacies	2	66,228	-	66,228	32,814
Other trading income	3	1,312	-	1,312	-
Investment income	4	301	-	301	434
Training and projects	5	110,000	365,853	475,853	793,288
Total Income		177,841	365,853	543,694	826,536
Expenditure on:					
Costs of raising funds	6	60,506	-	60,506	68,841
Training and projects	8	243,674	449,762	693,436	690,763
Total Expenditure		304,180	449,762	753,942	759,604
Net Income/(Expenditure) for the year before transfers		(126,339)	(83,909)	(210,248)	66,932
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net (Expenditure)/Income for the year		(126,339)	(83,909)	(210,248)	66,932
Net movement in funds		(126,339)	(83,909)	(210,248)	66,932
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2025		111,947	238,190	350,137	283,205
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2025		(14,392)	154,281	139,889	350,137

All disclosures relate only to continuing activities. All gains and losses in the year are included above.

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for Training and Projects income of £640,588.

All expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted except for Training and Projects costs of £604,792.

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ART AGAINST KNIVES
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31 December 2025
Balance Sheet

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Investments	14	1	1
Tangible Fixed Assets	15	238	497
		239	498
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	101,700	96,944
Cash at bank and in hand		100,676	291,943
		202,376	388,887
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	13	62,726	39,248
Net current assets		139,650	349,639
Total net assets		139,889	350,137
Funds			
Restricted	16	154,281	238,190
Unrestricted - General	16	-14,392	111,947
		139,889	350,137

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.
The Trustees consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 (the 'Act') and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.
The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 27/10/2026 and signed on their behalf, by:

James Pole

James Pole
Treasurer

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	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(191,267)	61,897
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(191,267)	61,897
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	291,943	230,046
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	100,676	291,943

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

Net (expenditure) / income as per the statement of financial activities	(210,248)	66,932
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	259	662
(Increase) in debtors	(4,756)	(13,518)
Increase in creditors	23,478	7,821
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(191,267)	61,897

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1. Accounting policies

Charity Information

Art Against Knives is a registered charity. The principal address is 21-27 Lambs Conduit Street, London WC1N 3GS.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements 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 Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2019)— (Charities SORP FRS 102).

Art against Knives 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 or note.

Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Grants

Grants are recognised as income when the entitlement to the grant is certain. Grants made towards the costs of specific activities and services are classified as restricted income. Where services are not fully delivered in the period the restricted income was received, the balance of the grant is held in restricted funds. Grants towards the cost of acquiring assets are classified as restricted income when received. A transfer is then made from restricted funds to unrestricted funds to reflect the purchase of capital items. Grants that provide core funding or a general contribution to the charity are included in voluntary income.

Voluntary income

Voluntary income includes donations from individuals, trusts and companies, unrestricted grants and legacies.

Donations

Donations are recognised in the accounting period in which they are received. Donated goods, facilities or services are recognised when the charity has control over them, 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. On receipt, donated services or 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.

Investment income

Investment income is included gross or at the amounts receivable plus the attributable tax credit.

Fees and sales

Fees for the supply of services are recognised when earned. Income received in advance for services to be delivered in the following year is treated as deferred income and included in creditors.

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1. Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or by the specific terms of the charity appeal. These are accounted for separately from unrestricted funds. Details of restricted funds are shown at Note 15 Unrestricted funds are those which are not subject to restrictions. Any surpluses are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Expenditure

Costs apportioned to activities include costs of staff time spent on each area of activity, costs directly incurred in order to deliver the activity, and support costs apportioned according to the ratio of staff time on the area of activity to total staff time.

Pension costs

The charity operates a group personal pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Payments in respect of current service contributions are charged in the accounts as they fall due.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives and shown in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at the following rate: Computers and other equipment - 25% per annum.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

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.

VAT

Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be fully recovered from HM Revenue and Customs.

Liabilities

The accruals concept is applied. Liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Tax status

The company is a registered charity and is not liable to Corporation Tax on its current activities.

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1. Accounting policies (continued)

Critical estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method,

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

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2 Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
			£	£
Grants and donations	66,228	-	66,228	32,814
	66,228	-	66,228	32,814

3 Other trading income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
			£	£
Other trading income	1,312	-	1,312	-
	1,312	-	1,312	-

4 Investment Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
			£	£
Investment Income/Interest	301	-	301	434
	301	-	301	434

5 Training and projects

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Art Against Knives	110,000	168,449	278,449	349,245
In Our Hands	-	144,000	144,000	234,439
Creative Collaborations	-	53,404	53,404	148,104
Barnet Carers	-	-	-	61,500
	110,000	365,853	475,853	793,288

6 Cost of raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
			£	£
Staff costs	16,643	-	16,643	16,183
Fundraising cost	35,053	-	35,053	43,078
Support costs	8,810	-	8,810	9,580
	60,506	-	60,506	68,841

7 Independent examination fees

Included within governance cost is £3,219 (2024: £3,066) relating to independent examination fees.

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8 Training and projects

	Direct costs		Support costs		2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	£	£
Art Against Knives	-	63,483	63,772	101,132	228,387	205,250
In Our Hands	-	151,917	85,742	20,217	257,876	203,919
Creative Spaces	-	66,418	40,312	11,310	118,040	150,167
Trusted Relationships	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barnet Carers	-	33,606	11,911	1,679	47,196	93,917
	-	315,424	201,737	134,338	651,499	653,253
Admin and support	-	-	17,973	-	17,973	16,076
Governance cost	23,964	-	-	-	23,964	21,434
	23,964	315,424	219,710	134,338	693,436	690,763

9 Analysis of support costs

	Art Against Knives	In Our Hands	Creative Spaces	Barnet Carers	2025	2024
					£	£
Staff	107,824	69,282	33,753	8,886	219,745	137,906
Professional services	25,965	16,684	8,128	2,140	52,917	32,524
Insurance	2,072	1,332	649	171	4,224	2,331
Office expenditure	27,258	17,515	8,533	2,246	55,552	42,485
Travel	422	271	132	35	860	340
Bank charges	65	42	20	5	132	56
Storage	508	327	159	42	1,036	2,848
Marketing	-	-	-	-	-	-
IT Expenses	664	426	208	55	1,353	629
Depreciation	126	81	39	10	256	423
	164,904	105,960	51,621	13,590	336,075	219,542

Support costs have been apportioned using the ratio of time spent for each employee.

Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

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10 Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	424,191	413,333
National Insurance	51,370	41,069
Pension costs	11,071	10,513
	486,632	464,915
Allocated as follows:		
Fundraising	16,643	16,183
Training and projects	362,165	362,569
Administration and support	107,824	86,163
	486,632	464,915

	2025	2024
Average number of employees and average number of full time equivalent employees	16	17

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.

11 Board of Trustee expenses

No expenses were paid to Trustees. No remuneration was paid to any Trustee.

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	3,404	249
Accrued income and prepayments	82,030	80,045
Other debtors	16,266	16,650
	101,700	96,944

All debtors are recoverable within one year.

13 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	37,972	15,258
Taxation and social security	11,659	12,384
Accruals	13,095	11,606
	62,726	39,248

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14 Fixed Asset Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Investments		
Value at 1 January 2025	1	1
Additions	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in market value	-	-
Value at 31 December 2025	1	1

Art Against Knives has a subsidiary undertaking called Art Against Knives Trading Ltd (registered in England and Wales with company no. 07785806).

The subsidiary, Art Against Knives Trading Ltd, is controlled by Art Against Knives (the holding company), by virtue of being its sole member, and the power to appoint directors to the board of the subsidiary.

The loss of the subsidiary was £0 (2024: £0) and net assets amounted to £0 (2024: £0) as at 31 December 2025.

15 Tangible Fixed Asset

	2025
	£
	Equipment
Cost	
At 1 January 2025	3,045
At 31 December 2025	3,045
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2025	2,548
Charge for the year	259
At 31 December 2025	2,807
Net book value	
At 1 January 2025	497
At 31 December 2025	238

16 Summary of funds

		Movement in Resources			
	Balance 1st Jan 2025	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfer	Balance 31st Dec 2025
Restricted	£	£	£	£	£
Art Against Knives	21,868	168,447	164,615	-	25,700
In Our Hands	109,139	143,999	172,134	-	81,004
Creative Spaces	71,898	53,407	77,728	-	47,577
Barnet Carers	35,285	-	35,285	-	-
	238,190	365,853	449,762	-	154,281
Unrestricted					
Unrestricted funds	111,947	177,841	304,180	-	(14,392)
	111,947	177,841	304,180	-	(14,392)

	Balance 1st Jan 2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfer	Balance 31st Dec 2024
Restricted	£	£	£	£	£
Art Against Knives	18,338	196,545	193,015	-	21,868
In Our Hands	61,094	234,439	186,394	-	109,139
Creative Spaces	62,475	148,104	138,681	-	71,898
Barnet Carers	60,487	61,500	86,702	-	35,285
	202,394	640,588	604,792	-	238,190
Unrestricted					
Unrestricted funds	80,811	185,948	154,812	-	111,947
	80,811	185,948	154,812	-	111,947

Art against Knives: Our delivery funding allows us to respond flexibly to young people's requests for creative activities.

In Our Hands: Our IN OUR HANDS programme delivers free community Nail Bars for young women aged 12-30 in London. We provide them with the opportunity to learn new skills, get their nails painted for free, socialise in a safe place, develop vital personal skills and collectively take action that addresses Violence Against Women & Girls. We currently host three weekly pop-up community nail bars with a wide ranging programme of activities.

Creative Spaces Program: THE LAB weekly music studio with industry-standard training and access to music-making, producing, recording, video, digital and graphic skills training. THE STUDIO: Hosts our podcast project One Mic Real Talk. The podcast is created by young people bringing forward the topics, experiences and discussions that matter to them. VIRTUAL CREATIVE CURRICULUM - a programme of online workshops engaging with creative professionals, accessible to young people from across our programmes and those who are unable to access spaces in person.

Barnet Carers: This funding and partnership aims to support the referral of approximately 30 'at-risk' young carers from Barnet Carers' mentoring proframme each year to our programmes for longer term support and mentoring.

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17 Analysis of net charity assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	238	-	238
Current assets	40,620	161,757	202,377
Current liabilities	(55,250)	(7,476)	(62,726)
Total net assets	(14,392)	154,281	139,889

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	498	-	498
Current assets	143,076	245,812	388,888
Current liabilities	(31,625)	(7,623)	(39,248)
	111,949	238,189	350,138

18 Related party transactions

Art Against Knives owns 100% of the shares of Art Against Knives Trading Limited. At the end of each financial year, Art Against Knives Trading Limited covenants its profits to Art Against Knives. During the year to 31 December 2025, the charity received £0 (2024 - £0) from the Company.

Total donations of £0 (2024 - £0) were received from trustees in the year.

19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the company had the following future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (all for property) which fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Less than one year	32,500	32,500
One to five years	42,295	74,795
	74,795	107,295

The operating lease above relates to the Property at 162 High Road, London N29AS. The payable amount is £32,500 per annum. The lease term is 10 years with a break clause after 5 years and commenced on 19/05/23.