

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

CONTENTS | FOREWORD | WHY WE EXIST | THE FIREFLY PROJECT APPROACH | 2025 IN NUMBERS | OUR FUNDRAISING | OUR PATRONS' PROGRAMME | OUR CHARITY PARTNERS | OUR SUPPORTERS

CONTENTS

03 FOREWORD

04 WHY WE EXIST

05 THE FIREFLY PROJECT APPROACH

06 2025 IN NUMBERS

07 THE YOUNG PEOPLE WE SUPPORT

08 OUR FUNDRAISING

12 OUR PATRONS' PROGRAMME

14 OUR CHARITY PARTNERS

15 THE KIDS NETWORK

16 LET ME KNOW

17 THE VIP

18 20/20 LEVELS

19 DOORSTEP LIBRARY

20 LITTLE VILLAGE

21 TEAM UP

22 OUR SUPPORTERS

23 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOREWORD



Dr Peter Crowther, Chair
Sir Ben Elliot, Founding Trustee
Dr Alastair Masser, Director

Today, more than one in three children in London live in poverty, equating to over 700,000 young people. Behind each statistic is a life where opportunities are too limited, and where potential too often goes unfulfilled.

London boasts an extraordinary network of community children's charities, working on the frontlines to provide vital support to the capital's most vulnerable children. Yet these organisations are largely unknown and unsung, delivering essential services in their neighbourhoods on shoestring budgets.

Since the creation of The Firefly Project in 2022, we have provided small charities like these with nearly £1.5m in funding along with over 150 hours of training and support to help them overcome obstacles to their growth, to scale, and to transform the lives of more young people.

It is a model that works. Our support has enabled our charities to engage nearly 30,000 of London's most vulnerable children over the past year, expanding their operations to now include every one of the city's 32 boroughs. Through our networks, we have also connected them to an additional £1.4m in funding in 2025 alone, providing them with essential stability in what remains a challenging fundraising climate.

The extraordinary success of our fundraising events in 2025 is a testament to the generosity of our incredible army of supporters, every one of whom shares our commitment to drive real change in our city. Their support for our work demonstrates the power of collaborative philanthropy and shows what can be achieved when Londoners share a sincere desire to help those in greatest need.

There can be no doubt that London's child poverty crisis demands urgent action, and for all of us to play our part. With the number of children in the city living in poverty continuing to rise, small charities have never been more important, nor in more need of our support.

Our support has enabled our charities to engage nearly 30,000 of London's most vulnerable children over the past year, expanding their operations to now include every one of the city's 32 boroughs.

At Quintessentially Foundation, we believe that the circumstances you are born into should not define your future. That is why we work to find, fund, and scale the small charities making the biggest difference in their communities, to give all young people in London the childhood – and future – they deserve.

WHY WE EXIST

London's small charities operate on the frontlines of the city's child poverty crisis. They provide a broad spectrum of essential services within their communities, helping to deliver security and opportunity to those young people most in need.

We know that with the right support, they can go even further. That is why Quintessentially Foundation works to find, fund and scale the small charities making the biggest difference, to give all young people in London the childhood they deserve.

Demand for baby banks has increased by over 50% since 2021, as families struggle with the rising cost of living.

> Little Village operates a network of baby banks across London, providing families on low incomes with essential clothes, toys, and equipment. Since launching in 2016, they have supported almost 37,000 children, including a record 11,500 in 2025.

11,500 children supported

Children living in poverty have typically fallen 19 months behind their peers at school by the time they begin GCSEs.

> Team Up provides tutors to children from disadvantaged backgrounds to help improve their English and Maths. Since launching in 2012, they have worked with more than 12,000 children, delivering an additional 7,000 hours of tuition in 2025 compared to the previous year.



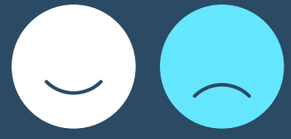
One in four 11-year-olds leaves primary school unable to read or write properly.

> Doorstep Library brings the magic of books and the joy of reading directly into the homes of disadvantaged children across London. Since launching in 2010, they have worked with 2,200 children and now run 18 reading projects across five London boroughs.

One in five children aged 8-16 has a probable mental health disorder, with those living in poverty around four times more likely to be diagnosed.

> The Kids Network provides mentors for children struggling with their mental health, helping them to manage challenges including depression and anxiety. Since launching in 2017, they have scaled to support over 350 children each year, with almost 90% of participants reporting improvement in their wellbeing and resilience.





Almost half of children in London say violence impacts their daily lives, and it causes a fifth to regularly miss school.

> The Violence Intervention Project (VIP) works with young people at risk of serious youth violence. Since launching in 2017, they have supported around 250 children considered at high-risk, delivering over 1500 hours of tailored guidance to them and their families.

27% of Black 16–24-year olds are unemployed, compared to 10% of their White counterparts.

> 20/20 Levels empowers Black and racially underrepresented young people to create pathways into employment and entrepreneurship. Since launching in 2012, they have helped more than 3,750 young people to fulfil their potential, partnering with 185 companies across London.

Nearly half of all teenagers (49%) have experienced violent or controlling behaviour.

> Let Me Know (LMK) works with young people to prevent relationship abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. Since launching in 2020, their workshops now reach more than 6,600 people each year across 23 London boroughs.

THE FIREFLY PROJECT APPROACH

Armed with our strong philanthropic and third-sector networks, specialist knowledge of charity development and fundraising expertise, we deliver:

Unrestricted funding
Multi-year grants to support frontline delivery

Incubation support
Expert advice to help charities scale

Specialist training
Building capacity and expertise within charities

Network mobilisation
Connecting charities to others who will amplify their cause

Philanthropic touchpoints
Building links between issues, charities, and donors

Our approach delivers meaningful impact for both our charities and our supporters.

For our charities, it enables them to:

Increase the expertise and capacity of their team

Raise their profile

Grow quickly but sustainably to support more young people

For our supporters, it enables them to:

Become an advocate for young people living in poverty

Participate directly in the development of frontline charities

Become part of a philanthropic network delivering real change

The Firefly Project demonstrates what collaborative philanthropy can achieve:

A network of stronger charities

A pipeline of new, committed donors

By working together, we provide essential support to young people in need

2025 IN NUMBERS

We distributed **£442,942** in grant funding, taking our total to **£1,499,137** since the inception of The Firefly Project

£1,499,137

That's an average increase of

28%

year-on-year

Over

50%

of our grants in 2025 were unrestricted

Grant distribution

£166,220 restricted grants

£276,722 unrestricted grants



We delivered **83 hours** of training in 2025, saving our charity partners around £35,000 in training costs – taking our total hours delivered since the creation of The Firefly Project to over 150 hours.

£1 = £3.20

We continued to leverage our power of giving and influencing, and in 2025 alone, for every £1 we gave, we connected our charity partners to an additional £3.20 – meaning we unlocked over £1.4m in additional funding.

> £1.4m

This is a 64% increase on 2024

With this support, our charity partners have:

Increased their turnover by

53%

in total

Reached over

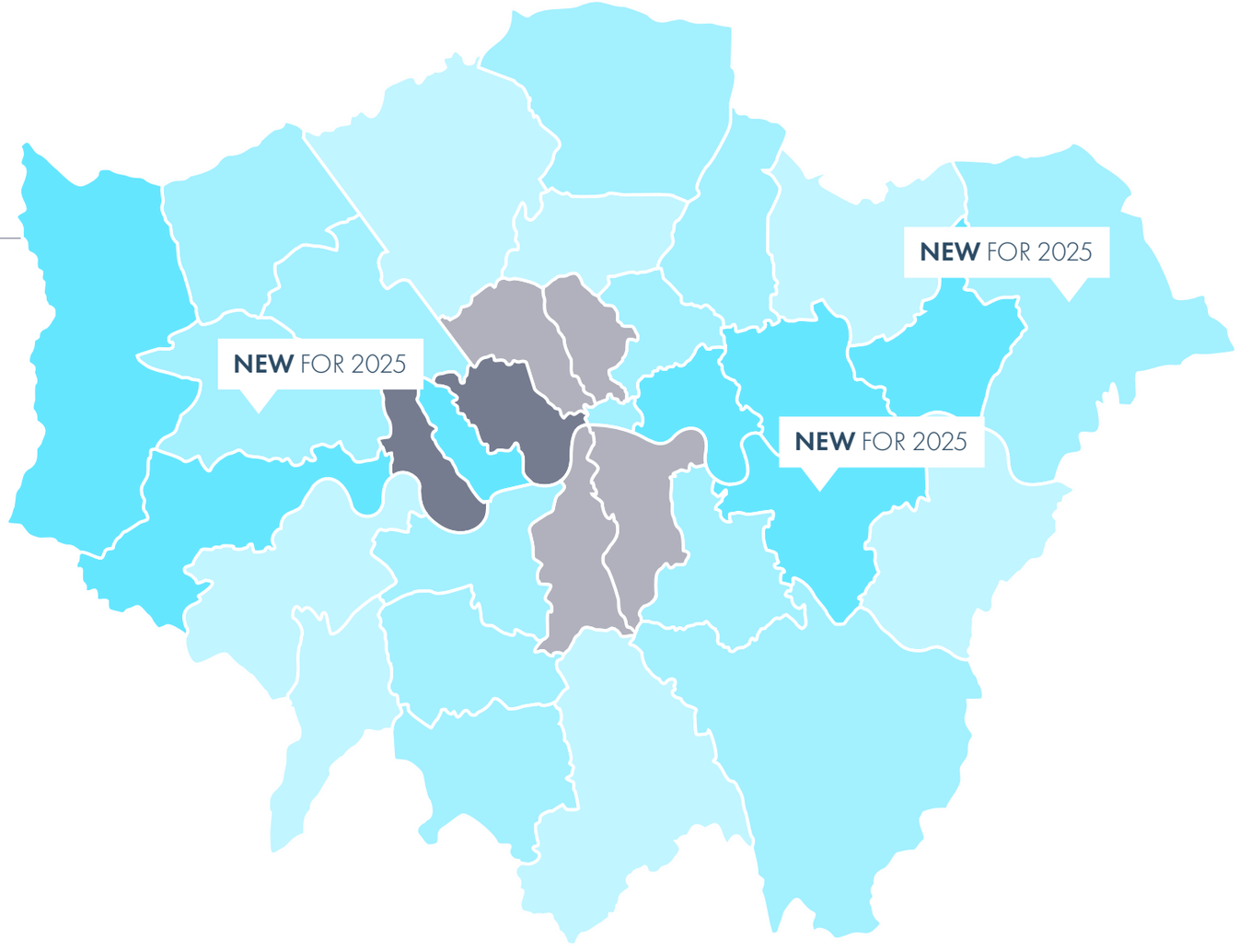
30,000

children across London

THE YOUNG PEOPLE WE SUPPORT

2025 saw our charity partners expand their work right across London. New projects were undertaken in **Ealing**, **Greenwich** and **Havering**, and fledgling programmes in **Westminster** and **Tower Hamlets** went from strength to strength.

Our charity partners are now working in every London borough, ensuring all Little Londoners have access to the support and care they need.



Number of charity partners operating in each London borough

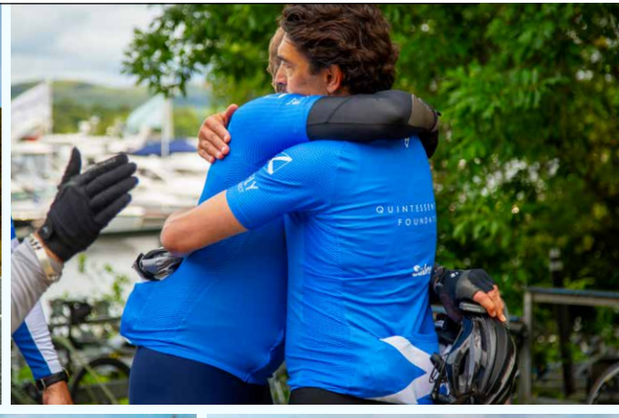
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OUR FUNDRAISING















THE BIKE RIDE

16 years of pedal-powered philanthropy

£559,281

gross raise

A highlight of our fundraising calendar, 2025 marked the 16th Quintessentially Foundation Bike Ride, bringing together supporters for an unforgettable ride through the wild beauty of the Scottish Highlands.

Our dedicated team of 40 riders covered over 500km in just four days, enjoying memorable stops at landmark destinations like Balmoral, and helping deliver the biggest fundraise in the event's history.

To find out details of the 2026 Bike Ride to Lake Como in Italy, click here or contact us















THE FAYRE OF ST JAMES'S

A magical night of giving

£467,961

gross raise

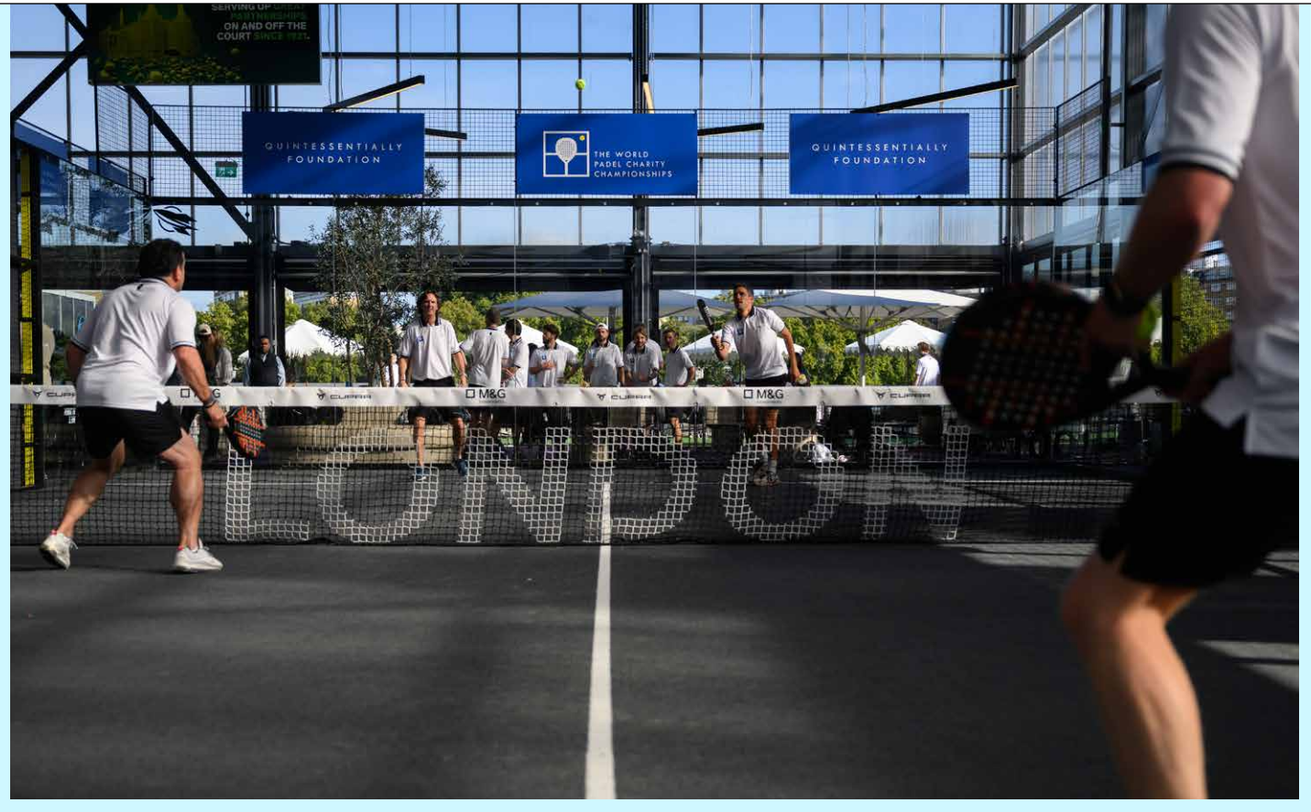
2025 marked the 14th year of The Fayre of St James's, London's most prestigious charity Christmas concert.

The event attracted more than 600 supporters including an array of celebrity guests to enjoy an evening of stunning performances from Mica Paris, Dame Joan Collins, Dominic West, Billy Crudup, and Sophie Ellis Bextor.

The concert was followed by a spectacular dinner and live auction at the renowned Loulou's of 5 Hertford Street, helping to deliver the biggest fundraise in the event's history.















THE WORLD PADEL CHARITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Game on at Battersea Power Station

2025 saw Quintessentially Foundation launch the inaugural World Padel Charity Championships, bringing together eight teams, 64 players and over 150 spectators at the iconic Battersea Power Station on the banks of the River Thames.

Alongside competing for the illustrious WPCC Trophy, participants were able to learn from the very best, with an exhibition match featuring Team GB stars including Sam Jones, while those attending were able to try their luck in the luxury raffle held at the close of play.

£65,383 gross raise



OUR PATRONS' PROGRAMME

OUR PATRONS' PROGRAMME

At Quintessentially Foundation, we believe giving should go further. Our Patrons' Programme is for individuals who want to do more than donate – they want to transform lives.

Together, we identify and incubate small, frontline charities with the vision and potential to make a big impact – but who are often overlooked and underfunded.

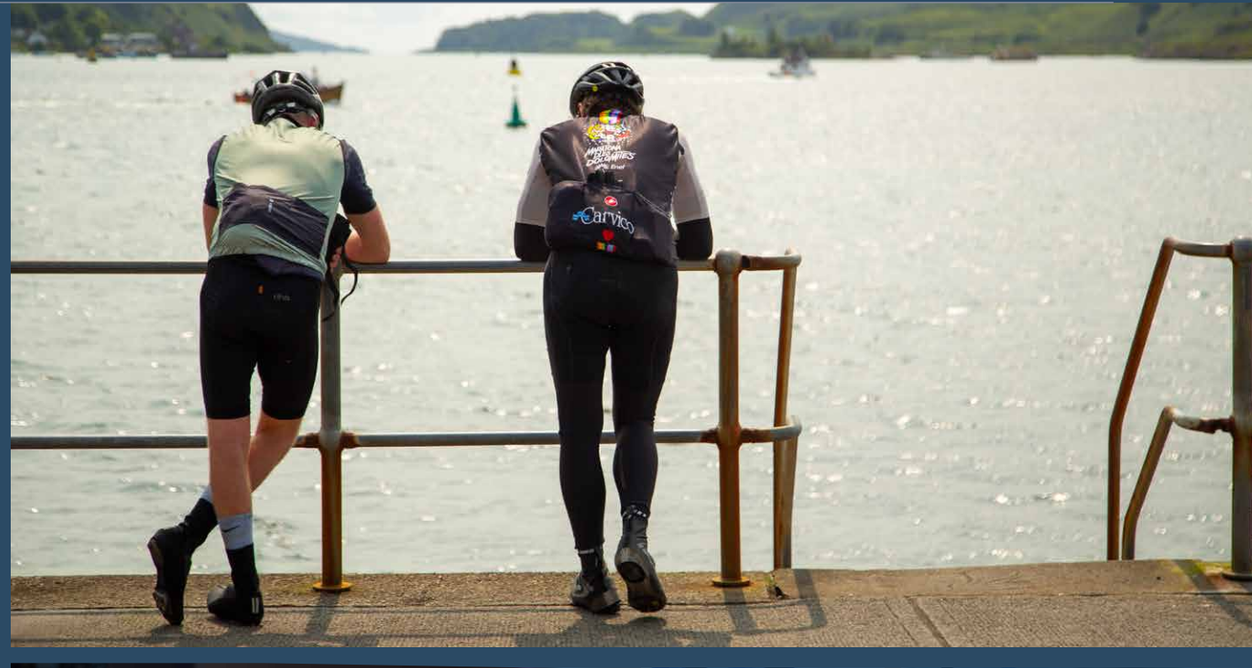
As a Patron, you don't just support this work – you become part of it. From helping choose new charity partners to joining site visits, training sessions and strategic discussions, you'll see firsthand how we nurture small charities to become resilient, high-performing forces for change.

This is collaborative philanthropy done differently: bold, strategic and deeply connected. You'll join a community of like-minded changemakers, gain unique access to our work, and use your time, skills, and networks to supercharge the causes you care about.

To find our more about our Patrons' Programme and how to join, visit our website.

'Many donors want to find a way of getting their money to vital grassroots charities that tackle and resolve the most pressing social issues. That pathway is notoriously difficult to navigate. But Quintessentially Foundation does that hard work for donors. Participation in their Patrons' Programme ensures that donors' money goes to carefully chosen charities supporting children and young people in London.'

Rory Brooks CBE











OUR CHARITY PARTNERS

THE KIDS NETWORK

The Kids Network was founded in 2017 to support London's children with their mental health during the transition from primary to secondary school. Volunteer mentors provide weekly sessions that focus on each child's individual needs, helping to build confidence and resilience as they navigate adolescence.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£78,500

£28,000 restricted grants

£50,500 unrestricted grants

In addition to funding, we supported The Kids Network to

Strengthen their marketing output with a new staff member.

Develop their fledging Tower Hamlets (one of the most affected boroughs in terms of child poverty) and Westminster programmes, and expand their programmatic reach into a new borough (Greenwich).

Undertake a long-term, independent evaluation to enable them to better understand the impact of their programme, as well as to capture long-term outcomes for children and their families.

In 2025, The Kids Network

Reached over

350

children through their mentoring programme.

Reported that over

90%

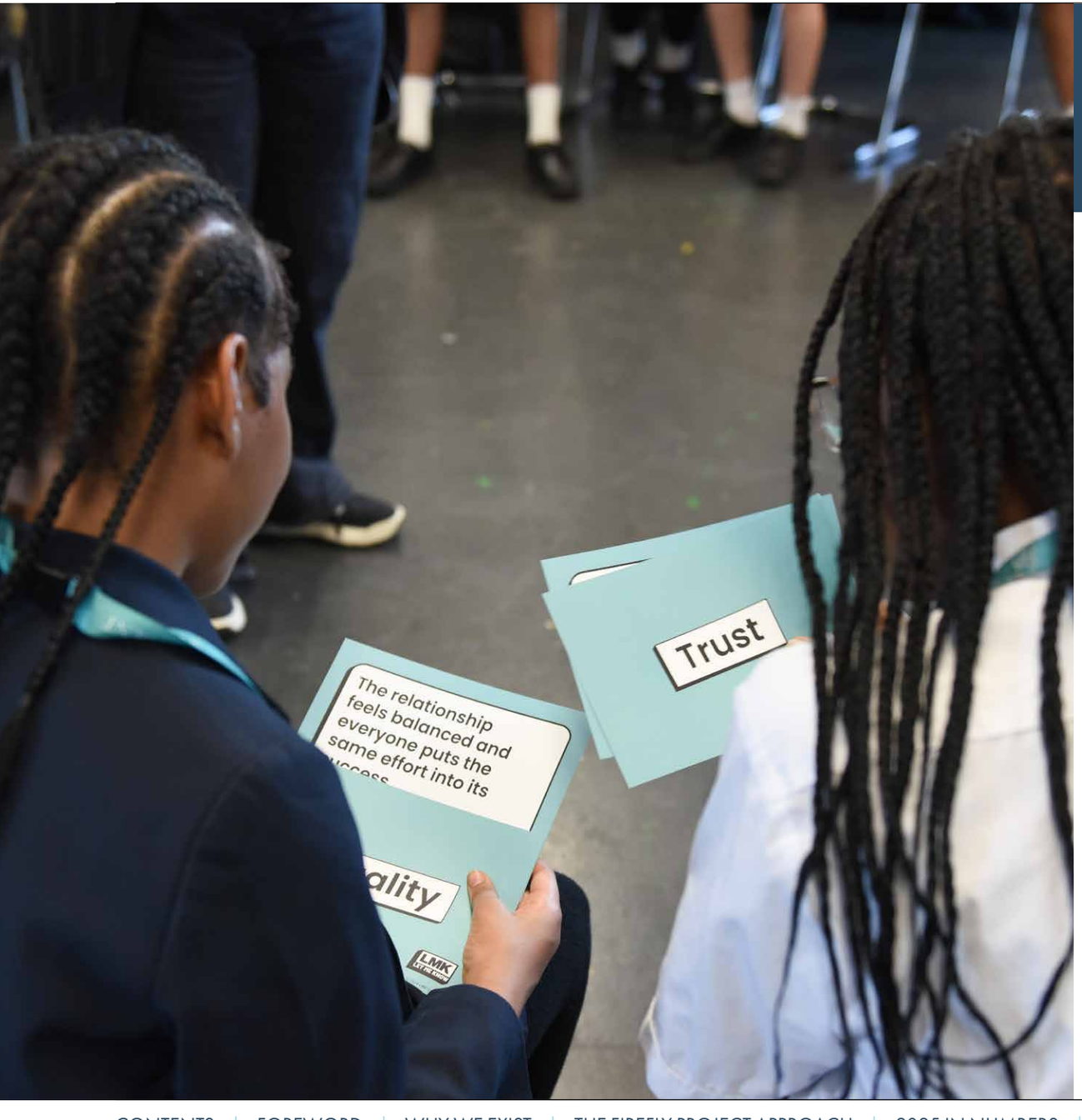
of children felt calm and relaxed after their mentoring sessions.

Reported that over

95%

of mentors felt they could really make positive change within their community.





LET ME KNOW

Let Me Know works with young people to prevent relationship abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault, through an educational programme designed to help young people identify the signs of healthy and unhealthy relationships.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£105,938

£50,000 unrestricted grants

£55,938 restricted grants

With our support, Let Me Know

Developed a new age-appropriate programme for younger children (Yr 6), reaching over 900 participants across 2024 and 2025.

Created their first ever marketing strategy, ensuring they can prioritise their audiences and approach and attract more support.

Further strengthened their infrastructure through training opportunities, HR support and ongoing recruitment of new team members.

In 2025, Let Me Know

Reached more than

6,600

children across 23 London boroughs.

Held over

250

workshops, working with 50 schools and community groups.

Reported that over

85%

of young people would know how to get help if they were in an abusive relationship.

THE VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT

The VIP, established in 2017, works with young people aged 12-25 in West London who are involved in or at risk of serious youth violence. They use a therapeutic approach to encourage young people out of violence and into living healthy and safe lives.

With our support, The VIP

Strengthened their core staff team with a new senior management-level post.

Designed a future organisational structure.

Developed a new initiative to be rolled out nationally.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£132,281.53

£50,000 unrestricted grants

£82,281.53 restricted grants

In 2025 The VIP

Reported that

87%

of children on their DRIFT Project remained in school.

Worked with

64

young people, taking their total to more than 250 since inception.

X2

Doubled their school work sessions.





20/20 LEVELS

20/20 Levels support Black and ethnic minority young people into employment and entrepreneurship, through a combination of mentoring and workshops. They also provide budding entrepreneurs with professional and financial support, helping them establish their own businesses.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£50,000

£50,000 unrestricted grant

In addition to funding, we supported 20/20 Levels to

Undertake recruitment for a crucial senior-level post to support their operational needs.

Focus on consolidation and strategic focus, ensuring their long-term approach continues to differentiate them from others in the space.

Strengthen their alumni offer, providing ongoing in-work support, mentoring and progression coaching beyond the end of their programme.

In 2025, 20/20 Levels

Saw

100

young people graduate across their programmes.

Awarded over

£25k

to young entrepreneurs.

Had an impressive

95%

of their young graduates say they would recommend the programme to a friend.

DOORSTEP LIBRARY

Doorstep Library was founded in 2010 to instil a love of reading in London's children through weekly reading sessions with volunteers in their homes.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£25,000

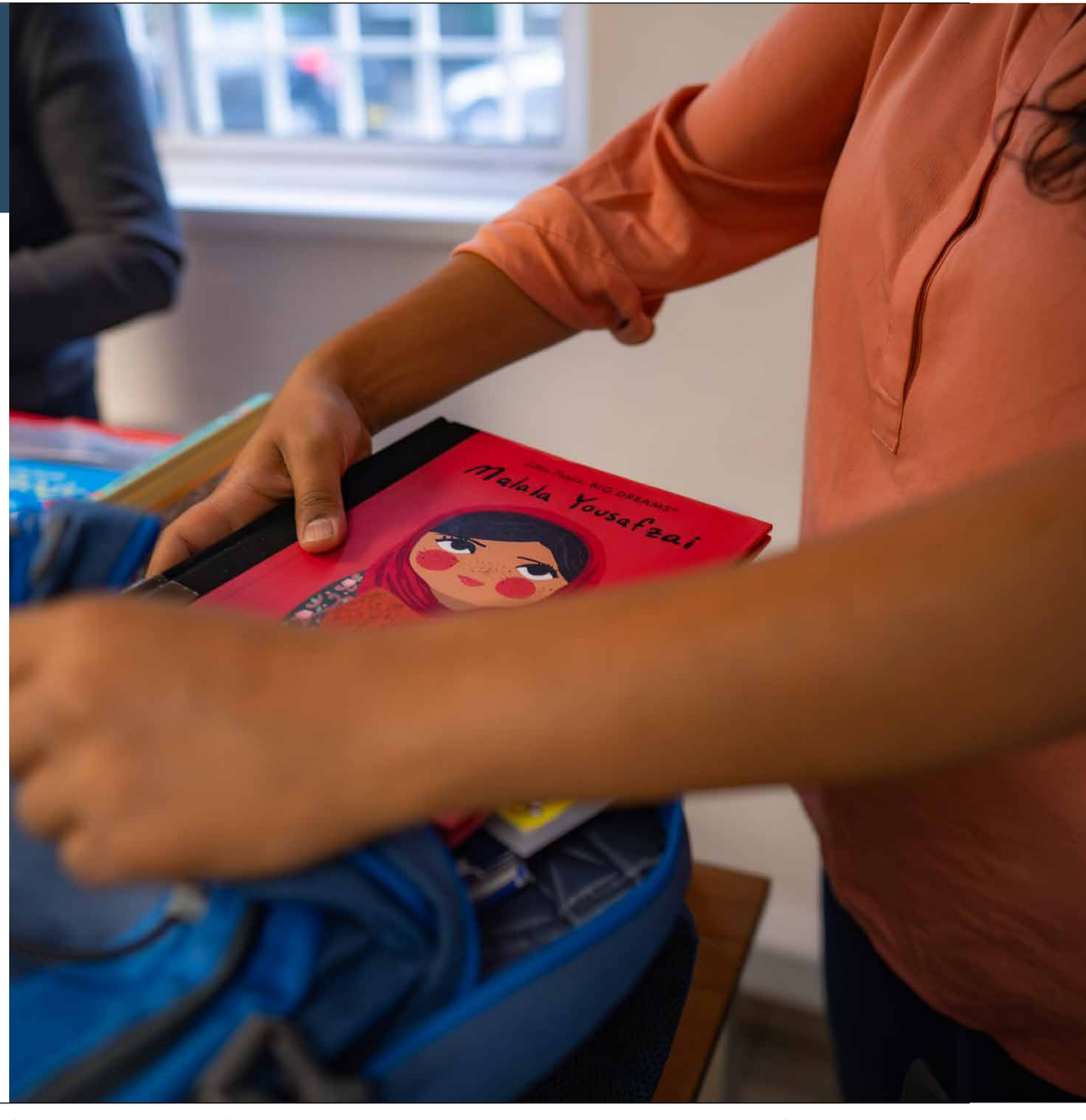
£25,000 unrestricted grant

In addition to funding, we supported Doorstep Library to

Continue to engage more families (67 new) and children (119 new) in reading sessions.

Share nearly 9,000 books with children and their families, including gifting over 500 books.

Strengthen the project support team to create capacity and ensure projects can continue unabated.



In 2025, Doorstep Library

Had

95%

of families say their child's reading had improved as a result of the programme.

Recruited over

100

new volunteers thanks to an increased Volunteer Engagement team.

Reached children and their families across

5

London boroughs.



LITTLE VILLAGE

Little Village operate a collection of baby banks that provide crucial resources to young children and their families, including clothes, toys and equipment. Families are referred to Little Village via a range of professionals, including midwives, social workers and children's centres.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£25,000

£25,000 unrestricted grant

In addition to funding, we supported Little Village to

Provide London families with over 70,000 much-needed essentials.

Deliver emergency newborn packs for babies across all London maternity wards.

Continue expanding their reach through new community and Charity of the Year partnerships.

In 2025, Little Village

Supported over

11,000

children and families.

Grew one-off volunteering by over

600%

Had 25%

of volunteers with lived experience of poverty, adding insight and empathy

TEAM UP

Team Up was founded to address the gap in education attainment and achievement between disadvantaged children and their peers. Their volunteers tutor underachieving children in primary and secondary schools in London.

Total QF funding in 2025:

£25,000

£25,000 unrestricted grant

We have supported Team Up to

Increase their programme management team to ensure they can continue to expand their reach.

Develop new programmes outside London, including for children in care.

In 2025 Team Up

Reported that their pupils made

8

months' progress over the three months of their programme.

Had attendance rates of

85%

with 90% of pupils reporting they enjoyed the programme.

Delivered

40

programmes to schools and partners.



OUR SUPPORTERS

Our work is only made possible by our incredible network of supporters, Patrons, donors, and corporate partners, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions and commitment to our cause.

We are always looking to welcome new people into our network – please check out our website for more information, and to get in touch, please contact us



QUINTESSENTIALLY

FORTNUM & MASON EST 1707

Pragnell

BENTLEY

AMERICAN EXPRESS

HAWTHORN

Sabre

Sotheby's

THE MACALLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025



POLICIES AND STATEMENTS FOR ACCOUNTS

The Trustees are pleased to present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and 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) as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016.

Reserves policy and going concern
As a Foundation that relies on event fundraising to deliver impactful grant-giving, we adhere to a prudent approach to financial management. This ensures that we can uphold our commitments to our charity partners and provide them with the necessary support, particularly in the challenging fundraising landscape for charities.

Our reserves policy dictates that we hold unrestricted and undesignated funds equivalent to six months' worth of operating expenses. As of the end of 2025, we have maintained adequate reserves.

This policy ensures financial stability while allowing us to remain agile in responding to the evolving needs of our charity partners and the children and young people they support. This policy is reviewed annually.

Public benefit
In undertaking the activities of the last 12 months, the Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities should be undertaken. The Trustees are confident that the mission of the Foundation meets the requirements for public benefit. Through adherence to the objectives and the activities undertaken in the year, the Trustees have diligently and purposefully fulfilled their obligations under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Funds in deficit
The Trustees may make unrestricted funds available to cover any income shortfall compared to expenditure from restricted funds.

Investment policy
There are no restrictions on the Foundation's power to invest. The Trustees regularly review the Foundation's requirements, monitor the economic climate, and revise the investment strategy accordingly. To this end, the Trustees have invested surplus funds in bank deposits.

Structure, governance and management
The Quintessentially Foundation is constituted under its Memorandum and Articles dated 10 February 2011 and amended on 13 October 2011. It is a registered charity no. 1144584 and registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee no. 07525263. The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements, were:

- Mr A G Crawley
- Mr P C Crowther
- Sir B W Elliot
- Mr S G Lee
- Miss E R McCarthy
- Miss R Powys
- Mr K Said
- Miss S Sands
- Miss S Timms
- Miss O B Brafman

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees
The Foundation management is the responsibility of the Trustees, who are elected under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles. Trustees each hold office for a minimum period of three years with the option to renew. The minimum number of Trustees is three. There is no formal policy for the recruitment of Trustees. Depending on the needs of the Foundation, Trustees are recruited by the Board according to their background and experience based upon the recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

Induction and training of new Trustees
New Trustees receive the organisation's constitution along with information regarding the Foundation's achievements and goals, and they undergo informal training by the existing Trustees.

Decision-making and key management
The Trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the Foundation to a full-time employee who the Founder Trustee and the Chair oversee. This person has delegated authority for operational matters. The Board meets at least four times yearly to manage the organisation's affairs.

Key management remuneration
Key personnel are compensated based on their expertise and involvement in the organisation of events. Key management remuneration is detailed in note 11 of the financial statements. The Trustees did not receive any remuneration during the year.
J Buchanan served as the key manager, acting as CEO until October 2025. He was thereafter followed by A Masser who currently serves as the key manager as Foundation Director.

Related parties
Related party transactions are disclosed in note 15 of the financial statements. Any potential related party transaction is submitted for approval by the Trustees in advance. Declarations of interest are called for at each Board of Trustee meeting.

Risk management
The Board of Trustees consider and approves all policies adopted by the Foundation, including aims and objectives, risk assessment, the annual budget and charitable strategies. The Foundation is exposed to health and safety risks at events organised. To manage this risk, appropriate insurance is obtained for each event.
The Trustees have assessed the significant risks to which the Foundation is exposed, particularly those related to its operations and finances. They are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate their exposure to those significant risks.

Charity Registration No. 1144584

Company Registration No. 07525263 (England and Wales)

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Courtyard
Shoreham Road
Upper Beeding
Steyning
West Sussex
BN44 3TN

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	28
Independent auditor's report	29
Statement of financial activities	33
Balance sheet	34
Statement of cash flows	35
Notes to the financial statements	36

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Miss O B Brafman Mr A G Crawley Mr P C Crowther Mr B W Elliot Mr S G Lee Miss E R McCarthy Miss R Powys Mr K Said Miss S Sands Miss S Timms
Chief executive officer	Mr J Buchanan (Resigned 31/10/2025)
Foundation Director	Mr A Masser (Appointed 01/07/2025)
Charity number	1144584
Company number	07525263
Registered office & Principal address	29 Portland Place London W1B 1QB
Auditor	TC Group The Courtyard Shoreham Road Upper Beeding Steyning West Sussex BN44 3TN
Bankers	Coutts 440 Strand London WC2R 0QS

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Quintessentially Foundation (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position and the 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 *Auditor's 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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report incorporating the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 charity'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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 an auditor's report 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit, in respect to fraud, are: to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses; and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and its management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, and through discussion with the trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), and discussed with the trustees and other management, the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we consider may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charitable company, including the Companies Act 2006, the relevant tax compliance regulations in the UK, the legal and regulatory frameworks directly applicable to the financial statements reporting framework (FRS 102) and Charity SORP;
- We considered the nature of the industry, the control environment, business performance and KPI's for a charitable company;
- We communicated identified laws and regulations within the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. These include Health and Safety, employment law and adequate insurances, including those required to be taken by 3rd parties;
- We considered and reviewed the procedures and controls that the charitable company has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how senior management monitors those procedures and controls.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Where the risk was considered to be higher, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included: testing manual journals; reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; performing analytical procedures; and enquiring of management, and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Stanards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mark Cummins FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of TC Group
Statutory Auditors
Office: Steyning, West Sussex

Dated: 19 May 2026

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	**3**	**229,870**	222,304
Other trading activities	**4**	**1,050,029**	900,414
Investment income	**5**	**524**	-
Total income		**1,280,423**	1,122,718
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	**6**	**624,690**	518,110
Charitable activities	**7**	**658,830**	706,328
Total resources expended		**1,283,520**	1,224,438
Net movement in funds		**(3,097)**	(101,720)
Reconciliation of funds			
Fund balances at 1 January 2025		**1,267,154**	1,368,874
Fund balances at 31 December 2025		**1,264,057**	1,267,154

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

All income and expenditure this year and in 2024 was unrestricted.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 36 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		**3,484**		6,190
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	**174,962**		228,924	
Cash at bank and in hand		**1,120,525**		1,087,191	
		1,295,487		1,316,115	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	**(34,914)**		(55,151)	
Net current assets			**1,260,573**		1,260,964
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,264,057**		1,267,154
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			**1,264,057**		1,267,154
			1,264,057		1,267,154

The notes on pages 36 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 April 2026

P Crowther
Chair

Company Registration No. 07525263

QUINTESSENTIALLY FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from /(absorbed by) operations	**17**		**33,260**		(155,929)
Investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**5**	**524**		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**13**	**(575)**		(3,819)	
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets		**125**		-	
Net cash used in investing activities			**74**		(3,819)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			**33,334**		(159,748)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			**1,087,191**		1,246,939
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			**1,120,525**		1,087,191

The notes on pages 36 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Quintessentially Foundation is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 29 Portland Place, London, W1B 1QB.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Income relating to FoSJ, padel tournament and the Bike ride are classified as unrestricted as the money raised from these events is towards supporting the charities of the Foundations choosing. This is detailed on the charity's website.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading activities.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	3 years straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.12 Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than pounds sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting end date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting end date. Gains and losses arising on translation are included in net income/(expenditure) for the period.

2 Critical accounting 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.

The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

The annual depreciation charge is considered with reference to the estimated useful economic lives and residual value of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually.

There were no other key sources of estimation uncertainty or judgements.

3 Donations and legacies

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations and gifts	**229,870**	222,304
	229,870	222,304

4 Other trading activities

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	**1,050,029**	900,414
	1,050,029	900,414

5 Investment Income

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Interest Income	**524**	-
	524	-

6 Raising funds

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Other trading activities	**393,880**	325,361
Staff costs	**188,402**	165,849
Support costs (note 9)	**42,408**	26,901
	624,690	518,110

7 Charitable activities

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	**442,942**	522,553
Staff costs	**127,575**	108,380
Charity support costs	**39,754**	38,780
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	**48,559**	75,395
	658,830	706,328

8 Grants payable

	Fundraising activities 2025	Fundraising activities 2024
Grants to institutions:	**£**	£
Others	**1,222**	13,165
Little Village	**25,000**	77,560
The Kids Network	**78,500**	107,000
20/20 Change	**50,000**	87,800
Doorstep Library	**25,000**	66,700
Team Up	**25,000**	68,328
Let Me Know	**105,938**	51,000
The VIP	**132,282**	51,000
	442,942	522,553

As at 31 December 2025 the charity had no commitment to pay grants (2024: £215,761).

9 Support costs

	Support costs	**Governance costs**	**2025**	2024
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Depreciation	3,156	-	**3,156**	2,019
Bank charges	1,774	-	**1,774**	1,618
Insurance	3,036	3,035	**6,071**	5,385
Telephone	750	-	**750**	569
Postage and stationery	4,286	-	**4,286**	50
Sundries	662	-	**662**	5,307
Travel and subsistence	596	596	**1,192**	4,144
Marketing and HR	14,000	5,219	**19,219**	6,997
Computer costs	13,419	-	**13,419**	7,513
Subscriptions	677	-	**677**	1,503
Consultancy	52	21,180	**21,232**	11,092
Audit and accountancy fees	-	15,463	**15,463**	14,895
Legal and professional	-	3,066	**3,066**	2,424
	42,408	48,559	**90,967**	63,515
Analysed between:				
Raising funds	-	48,559	**48,559**	26,901
Charitable activities	42,408	-	**42,408**	36,616
	42,408	48,559	**90,967**	63,515

10 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the financial statements	10,740	8,700
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	3,156	2,019

11 Trustees remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

Trustees expenses
During the year the charity did not reimburse any of the trustees for costs (2024: nil).

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Fundraising staff	**3**	3
Charity Delivery	**2**	2
	5	5

Employment costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**278,402**	240,780
Social security costs	**25,811**	22,062
Other pension costs	**11,764**	11,387
	315,977	274,229

Staff paid in excess of £60,000 per annum in the following bands are:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
£60,000 - £69,999	**-**	1
£80,000 - £89,999	**1**	-
£90,000 - £99,999	**-**	1
	1	2

12. Employees (*Continued*)

Total remuneration of key management personnel during the year was £155,394 (2024: £114,455) and employer pensions £7,804 (2024: £7,600). Pension contributions were paid to 5 (2024: 5) staff under a defined contribution scheme. There were £nil (2024: £nil) accrued pension costs at the balance sheet date.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer Equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 January 2025	10,836
Additions in year	575
Disposals in the year	(125)
At 31 December 2025	**11,286**
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2025	4,646
Depreciation charged in the year	3,156
At 31 December 2025	**7,802**
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	6,190
At 31 December 2025	**3,484**

14 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	£
Trade Debtors	**92,920**	12,050
Prepayments and accrued income	**82,042**	216,874
	174,962	228,924

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	**19,385**	37,976
Other creditors	**2,489**	11,155
Accruals and deferred income	**13,040**	6,020
	34,914	55,151

16 Related party transactions

Mr B W Elliot is a director and shareholder of Quintessentially (UK) Limited, which made donations of £27,272 to the charity during the year (2024: £2,900).

During the year the charity received donations of £15,134 (2024: £26,873) from the Trustees and £167,900 (2024: £148,179) from related entities to the Trustees.

17 Cash generated from operations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	**(3,097)**	(101,720)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	**3,156**	2,019
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(524)**	-
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**53,962**	(100,097)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	**(20,237)**	43,869
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	**33,260**	(155,929)

18 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.