Charity registration number: 1154347

Annual report and unaudited financial statements

for the year ended 20 December 2025

for

Youth Aid Council

Youth Aid Council

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for the year ended 20 December 2025

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Youth Aid Council

Trustees' report
for the year ended 20 December 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 20 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

One of the primary purposes of Youth Aid Council is to prevent or relieve extreme poverty and financial hardship among young people in need.
This is achieved by supporting the provision of education, training and healthcare projects and programmes, together with the necessary assistance to individuals.
Youth Aid Council's support is designed to enable individuals to generate sustainable incomes and become self-sufficient within their communities.

Significant activities

To end hunger and poverty in the United Kingdom.

Our mission is to bring communities together and help end hunger and poverty in the UK by providing compassionate, practical assistance with dignity, while challenging injustice.

To provide families of disabled children with as many free services as possible. We act as a link between these families and organisations that play an important role in improving the quality of life of disabled children.

Public benefit

Young people can access support within their local communities or online. We aim to help young people become motivated, self-aware, receptive, resilient, responsible, confident and effective communicators.
Young people are supported to engage in training, volunteering and employment.
We strive to ensure that everyone has access to more food and to help end poverty in the United Kingdom.
We seek opportunities to provide as much assistance as possible to people with disabilities.

Trustees' report - continued
for the year ended 20 December 2025

Achievements and performance

Charitable activities

Our outdoor activities apprenticeship programme continues to be a great success. This year, we adapted our approach in response to the cost-of-living crisis and integrated the programme more closely with the activities team. A number of apprentices who completed the programme secured permanent employment with 55 businesses upon completion of their courses.
We also offered several work-experience opportunities, including placements for students. These enabled young people to shadow staff, develop employability and life skills, and gain a better understanding of how a national business and charity operate.

Remote Lessons
We work with children and families to support their education and social wellbeing.
We guide them towards becoming responsible citizens who can contribute positively to their communities, particularly during challenging times arising from the cost-of-living crisis.

Food Bank
The Food Bank initiative was launched in 2016. The number of people supported increased significantly, from 958 in 2017 to 6,500 in 2022, partly because of the cost-of-living crisis. The Food Bank also organised several supermarket collections, including contributions from Tesco, co-operatives, bakeries and markets. In 2023, we collected 55,258 kg of food, compared with 75,259 kg in 2024. Further donations from supermarkets, FareShare, businesses, individuals and charities added 55,250 kg, bringing the total for the year to 130,509 kg of food for distribution to people in need in our local area.
We provide emergency food seven days a week in response to the cost-of-living crisis, together with practical support to help people cope during emergencies. We also offer advice and signpost individuals to other agencies that can help address longer-term difficulties.
We continue to seek funding for the Food Bank in response to the cost-of-living crisis. More than 145 young people and families are on our waiting list and require assistance with rising living costs.
Homelessness
We started our Together Mutual Support Group with 75 young people, and by the end of July, we had reached 70 young people. We delivered 45 sessions, including weekly meetings and workshops. These sessions helped reduce isolation and showed signs of improving participants' self-confidence.

Support for Disabled Children
We provided free services to 210 families with disabled children and offered online advice and guidance to 96 families.

Performance

After-School Support
We ran a 12-month after-school programme in the boroughs of Lambeth and Lewisham. We supported 118 young people with their homework every Saturday and Sunday.

Employment Programme
Our employment programme aims to help people prepare CVs and cover letters, develop interview skills and gain work experience. During the year, we helped 81 young people secure employment, supporting them in managing the cost-of-living crisis.

Leadership Skills
We ran leadership workshops over 11 months for 154 young people: 85 from Lambeth, 35 from Southwark and 34 from Lewisham. The workshops aimed to help participants become responsible citizens and role models within their communities.

Youth Sport
Our Youth Sport project engaged 75 disadvantaged young people in activities designed to empower them and build their self-esteem and teamwork skills. We referred 12 young people to various football teams,

Achievements and performance - continued

where they hope to progress towards professional levels.

Black Community Day
Youth Aid Council organised a health-promotion session for members of the Black community in Brixton, Southwark and Lewisham. The session sought feedback on approaches to health issues appropriate to the local communities, including those in Lambeth and Lewisham.

Financial review

Financial position

The charity has secured funding to support its objectives for at least one year from the date of approval of this report.
The charity's income for the year was £88,750.

Reserves policy

The charity aims to maintain reserves of £35,750 to meet contingencies, including funding shortfalls affecting youth projects, family support, disability services and the Food Bank, or the sudden withdrawal of funding.

Cost of Living
The management team has adopted a robust approach to the cost-of-living crisis to ensure that our office remains open to support young people and families.
We provide day-to-day assistance, including support with electricity, gas and water bills.
As a frontline provider supporting some of the most vulnerable young people affected by the cost-of-living crisis, Youth Aid Council has made use of new funding opportunities, including grants from statutory and philanthropic funders. These funders recognise the important role played by organisations such as Youth Aid Council. We anticipate increased demand for our services over the coming months and years as the wider economic effects of the crisis continue.
Regarding non-financial risks, the charity has robust policies and procedures in place, which are reviewed and updated annually. These apply to all staff and are available as printed documents at each centre and electronically on our server.
The charity's principal non-financial risk concerns the safety and wellbeing of the people it supports and its staff. To mitigate this risk, a comprehensive set of policies and procedures is included in the staff handbook provided to all staff when they join Youth Aid Council. These procedures are monitored regularly to safeguard staff and service users. Copies of the handbook are also held by volunteers, and electronic copies are available to staff and trustees.

Trustees' report - continued
for the year ended 20 December 2025

Financial review - continued

Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees have considered and reviewed the key risks to which the charity is exposed.

EXTERNAL RISKS
A significant external risk is funding uncertainty. The management committee has developed a reserves policy to address the sudden withdrawal of core funding and is seeking to increase reserves in future years.

INTERNAL RISKS
Internal risks are minimised through procedures governing the authorisation of transactions and projects and ensuring consistent service quality across all aspects of the charity's operations. The management committee reviews these procedures regularly to ensure that they continue to meet the charity's needs.

Future plans

In the coming year, Youth Aid Council intends to continue its activities and seek additional funding for the Food Bank, employment programme and disability support services. We also aim to establish a youth centre for training and Food Bank activities.
We hope to secure funding for these plans and trust that our donors will continue to support our activities.

Structure, governance and management

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number

1154347

Trustees

The trustees shown below have held office during the period from 21 December 2024 to the date of this report.

Mrs M Diomande
Mr B Degbedji
Miss V Sangare
Mr K Adiko
Mr B Degbedji

Principal office

44 Truslove Road
London
London
SE27 0QQ

Trustees' report - continued
for the year ended 20 December 2025

Reference and administrative details - continued

Independent examiners

Chessons- Charted Certified Accountants
Office 201,
Access Self Storage
3 Stanton Way
Se26 5FU
United Kingdom

This report was approved by the trustees on 20 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr B Degbedji, Trustee
20 October 2025

Independent examiner’s report to the trustees of Youth Aid Council

I report on the accounts of Youth Aid Council (the “charity”) for the year ended 20 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (“the 2011 Act”).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

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

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Chessons- Charted Certified Accountants
Office 201,
Access Self Storage
3 Stanton Way
Se26 5FU
United Kingdom

Date:

Youth Aid Council

Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 20 December 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	2	10,780	84,382
Other trading activities	3	77,970	2,450
Total		88,750	86,832
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	4	(7,250)	(14,700)
Net movement in funds		2,929	1,011
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		(1,413)	(2,424)
Total funds carried forward		1,516	(1,413)

Youth Aid Council

Balance sheet
as at 20 December 2025

	Note	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Current assets					
Stocks	10	6,713		5,634	
Cash at bank and in hand	11	283		739	
			6,996		6,373
Net current assets			6,996		6,373
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12		(5,480)		(7,786)
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)			**1,516**		**(1,413)**
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds			1,516		(1,413)
TOTAL FUNDS	14		**1,516**		**(1,413)**

These financial statements were approved by the Board of trustees and authorised for issue on 20 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr B Degbedji, Trustee
20 October 2025

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 20 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities Act 2011 and The Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention.

Going concern

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have assessed whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. In making this assessment, the trustees take into account all available information about the future which is at least 12 months from the date that the financial statements are authorised for issue.

The trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future and that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of financial activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

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.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements - continued for the year ended 20 December 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Donations	-	75,451
Members and Trustees	3,680	2,881
Grants	7,100	6,050
	10,780	84,382

3 Income from other trading activities

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Fundraising events	75,450	-
Sales and fees	2,520	2,450
	77,970	2,450

4 Expenditure on raising funds

Raising donations and legacies

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Staff costs	-	7,250

Other trading activities

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Staff costs	7,250	-

Notes to the financial statements - continued for the year ended 20 December 2025

4 Expenditure on raising funds - continued

Investment management costs

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Other costs	-	7,450
Aggregate amounts	7,250	14,700

5 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees paid to the charity's independent examiner for:		

6 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or other benefits in either year.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee was reimbursed for expenses incurred in either year.

7 Employees

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	7,250	7,250

During the year the average number of employees was Nil (2024 - Nil).

No employees received emoluments exceeding £60,000 in either year.

8 Exceptional items

The following exceptional items of expenditure have been recognised:

	2025 £	2024 £
Travel	2,745	3,745
Volunteer Expenses	7,650	7,650

Notes to the financial statements - continued for the year ended 20 December 2025

9 Comparatives for the Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £
Income from:	
Donations and legacies	84,382
Other trading activities	2,450
Total	86,832
Expenditure on:	
Raising funds	(14,700)
Net movement in funds	1,011
Reconciliation of funds:	
Total funds brought forward	(2,424)
Total funds carried forward	(1,413)

10 Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Raw materials and consumables	6,713	5,634

11 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Other bank accounts	283	739

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	5,480	7,786

Notes to the financial statements - continued for the year ended 20 December 2025

13 Loans and borrowings

An analysis of the maturity of loans and borrowings is provided below:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts falling due between one and five years:		
Bank loans	5,480	7,786

14 Movement in funds

	At 21 December 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 20 December 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	(1,413)	88,750	(85,821)	1,516

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 21 December 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 20 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	(2,424)	86,832	(85,821)	(1,413)

	At 21 December 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 20 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Total funds	(2,424)	86,832	(85,821)	(1,413)

Notes to the financial statements - continued for the year ended 20 December 2025

15 Analysis of net assets

At 20 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £
Current assets	
Stocks	6,713
Cash at bank and in hand	283
	6,996
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(5,480)
Net assets	1,516

At 20 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds £
Current assets	
Stocks	5,634
Cash at bank and in hand	739
	6,373
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(7,786)
Net liabilities	(1,413)

The detailed statement of financial activities which follows is for information purposes only.

It does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

Youth Aid Council

Detailed statement of financial activities for the year ended 20 December 2025

	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
INCOME				
Donations and legacies				
Donations	-		75,451	
Members and Trustees	3,680		2,881	
Grants	7,100		6,050	
		10,780		**84,382**
Other trading activities				
Fundraising events	75,450		-	
Sales and fees	2,520		2,450	
		77,970		**2,450**
Total income		**88,750**		**86,832**
EXPENDITURE				
Raising donations and legacies		**-**		**(7,250)**
Other trading activities		**(7,250)**		**-**
Investment management costs		**-**		**(7,450)**
Total expenditure		**(85,821)**		**(85,821)**
NET INCOME		**2,929**		**1,011**