Shared Space

life-changing volunteering opportunities



Shared Space volunteers on their shift at the Southchurch site

www.charityshop.co

Charitable incorporated organisation registered in England No 1161862

Annual Report and Impact Statement

Year ending 31 December 2025

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	Page 1
Annual Report and Impact Statement	Page 2 - 7
Independent Examiner Report	Page 8
Statement of Financial Activity	Page 9
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Page 10
Notes to the Accounts	Page 11-13



Rough camping weekend joint with Church from Scratch

Annual Report and Impact Statement
for the year ending 31 December 2025

Charitable status

Shared Space is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England, No. 1161862.
Registered address: 34 Cranley Road, Westcliff on Sea. SS0 8AL.

Trustees	Office
Carolyn Butlin	Trustee
Peter Dominey	Chair of trustees
Ray Crudgington	Trustee
Richard Renouf	Trustee

The charity is established by means of a constitution with trustees appointed by the members.

Summary of Objects and Activities

The charitable objects of Shared Space are:

1. to relieve poverty among unemployed persons, in particular by training or assisting them to obtain training in such skills as will fit them for employment;
2. the relief of the poor and needy or to, or for, such other charitable purpose as the trustees shall in duly constituted meeting from time to time direct;
3. to advance the Christian religion.

This report sets out the charity's activities in pursuit of our objects.



Public Benefit Statement

The charity's trustees continue to have regard both for the charitable objects set out in its governing document and to ensuring that the activities of the charity, as described in this report, meet the public benefit test. In so doing, they take account of the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance. The Trustees of Shared Space are confident that the activities of the charity demonstrate strong evidence of public benefit.

Shared Space is an example of Christian business as mission

By re-purposing a charity shop model, we provide life-changing volunteering and training opportunities for 169 volunteers in the year. Their volunteering work raises funds to support local charities and initiatives through the Shared Space **'Boost Fund Grants Programme'** with the awarding of grants directed by panels of volunteers.

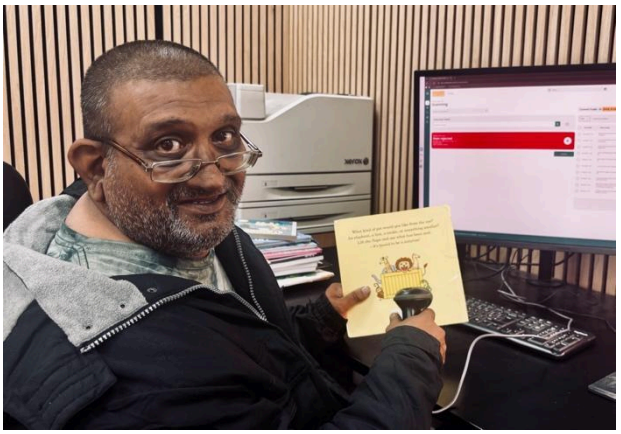


Craft event at Shared Space Southchurch

Our shop teams are vibrant communities: an example of cohesion through the building of social capital; a place of belonging and a significant contributor to volunteer capacity in the area.

In both Westcliff and Southchurch, our teams comprise people from a diverse range of backgrounds, volunteering for a range of reasons. Many of the volunteers are from marginalised groups in society: a high percentage have learning difficulties, physical disabilities, refugees, mental health conditions or are economically disadvantaged. The volunteering builds confidence and self-esteem and may also assist in the securing of paid work.

Through a wide range of groups and other activities all in the team have opportunities to broaden horizons, holiday together, explore Christian faith and spirituality, and hear the stories of Jesus – many of these things are supported by our sister organisation, Church from Scratch.



Scanning books to raise more money!

Whilst faith motivates many of the Shared Space family, we enthusiastically operate an equal opportunities policy where people of all faiths and none are equally welcome.

Significant actions and impacts in 2025

During 2025 our work took place mainly at our volunteering centres:

- Shared Space Westcliff, at 453 London Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 9LG
- Shared Space Southchurch, at 593 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2PN

We are delighted to report the following significant achievements for 2025, despite a challenging retail and volunteering environment.

- **Building the volunteer team,** recruiting many new people in an environment where overall the third sector reports difficulty in volunteer recruitment.
- **Continuing to keep Shared Space a safe, secure and positive place** for the many vulnerable adults who volunteer with us.
- **One-to-one pastoral support from the staff team** through phone calls, visits and activities for volunteers in times of difficulty.
- **Working with Church from Scratch** as a partner, providing opportunities to explore faith and experience Christian spirituality.
- **Running a work experience programme** and course for pupils from local secondary schools.
- **Developing a new enrichment programme** of activities and events for the volunteers from theatre trips, a visit to London, a meal out, etc. with many of the volunteers never having had these experiences before.
- **Residential holidays and experiences** to Mersea Island in Essex, Carroty Wood in Kent and Forge Wood in Sussex in partnership with Church from Scratch.
- **Distributing 37 Boost Fund Grants totalling £12,537** to a wide range of grass-roots local charities and organisations along with other non-monetary support.
- **Sign language training** for groups of volunteers.
- **Several parties and social events** in store and off site for the volunteers.
- **Developing the refugee project** which started in 2022, working with a range of nationalities, helping them integrate into Southend, holding a weekly day of volunteering, shared meals cooked by people from around the world, support with accommodation issues and paperwork and delays in the asylum system, pushing back against a national culture of increased hostility to asylum seekers.



Christmas 'goody bags' being prepare for those caught in debt - funded by a Boost Fund Grant.

- **Developing video-based training** materials for volunteers, shift leaders and staff.
- Establishing a **comprehensive new data system** to help us better communicate with and serve our volunteers, measure impact and increase efficiency.
- **Sustaining a successful retail operation** despite difficult trading conditions.
- **Increasing the number of volunteers** to a record of 169 people serving during the year.



Some of the team on a residential weekend in Kent

Strategic partnerships

A key strand of our strategy for growth and development is the ongoing strategic partnerships with other agencies that share our values, in whole or in part.



Cooking team on a residential weekend in Kent

Following our charity registration in 2015, we have enjoyed a strong partnership with Church from Scratch, the local Baptist church that started Shared Space as a project and then constituted it as the charity it is today. We continue to enjoy a close and strong working relationship with the church for mutual benefit in the furtherance of shared objectives.

Plans for 2026

In the year ahead, we plan among other things to:



One of our longest serving volunteers

- Continue to be motivated by **Christian faith**, while being open to people of all faiths and none.
- Seek the **transformation** of volunteers through training, courses, residentials and events to build their resilience, skills, confidence, spirituality and well-being for life and potentially for employment.
- Invest in the locality through the **Boost Fund Grants Programme**.
- Build upon our **partnership with Church from Scratch** and other community organisations and statutory agencies for the good of the area.
- Recruit **additional staff** to increase our abilities and enable our growth.
- **Streamline our systems** to improve our operations, analysis and reporting.
- **Celebrate and affirm** our volunteers and staff through regular events.
- Hold an **AGM for increasing numbers of members**, to reflect on and celebrate Shared Space progress.
- Continue to strengthen the **board of trustees**, through training and recruitment.
- Seek to open at least **one new Shared Space training and retail centre**.
- Continue to develop **relationships within the locality** to support and aid the local community.



Shared Space Westcliff volunteers at the 2025 AGM one of our long-standing volunteers

- Share news of our work and insights through effective use of **print and web** to continue engaging with the local communities.
- Be **receptive to opportunities** and needs as they present and respond with agility.

Summary for the year

The trustees are pleased to present a report which evidences Shared Space as a deeply caring, and agile community, which continues to evolve and adapt as an example of business as Christian mission and is dedicated to the good of Southend and the volunteers through effective work which flows from a desire to follow Jesus. Shared Space is well placed for next year, with the challenges and opportunities that will lie ahead.

Accounting basis

Throughout the year our accounts were prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Reserves Policy

Reserves will be maintained to ensure core activities can continue during any period of unforeseen difficulty.
A proportion of reserves will be maintained in a readily realisable form. The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the organisation's planning, budget and forecast cycle. It takes into account:

- Risks associated with each stream of income and expenditure being different from that budgeted.
- Planned activity levels – including the intended opening of further retail centre(s) which need to be financially pump-primed before costs can be recouped through a return on investment.
- The charity's commitments.



A special Shared Space week concentrated on mental health and well-being for all the team and culminated in a sponsored walk to support a mental health charity in Southend.

On this basis and having reviewed the approach in the course of the year, the Trustees believe that for 2026 a reserve equivalent to two months' running costs should be maintained.



Peter Dominey - Chair of Trustees
5 March 2025

Independent Examiner Report

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A **Independent Examiner's Report**

Report to the trustees/ members of	SHARED SPACE CIO		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1161862
Set out on pages	1-13		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:	Ivan M. King	**Date:**	24 July 2026
Name:	Ivan M. King		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			
Address:	32 Sackville Road Southend-on-Sea SS2 4UQ		

Statement of Financial Activity – Shared Space
Up to 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Designated fund 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income					
Donations	1	12,256	-	12,256	1,116
Other Trading Activities (Charitable Primary Purpose)	2	138,769	-	138,769	144,510
Fundraising Events		743	-	743	-
Charitable activities		1,565	-	1,565	1,842
Investments		5,663	-	5,663	3,609
Total Income		158,995	-	158,995	151,077
Expenditure					
Charitable Activities	3	154,018	10,800	164,818	138,502
Total Expenditure		154,018	10,800	164,818	138,502
Transfer of funds		(10,800)	10,800	-	-
Net Income / (Expenditure)		(5,822)	0	(5,822)	12,575
Total funds brought forward		86,947	80,000	166,947	154,372
Total funds carried forward		81,124	80,000	161,124	166,947

Statement of Assets and Liabilities – Shared Space
Up to 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets		-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	5	576	1,063
Cash at bank and in hand		160,478	165,942
Total current assets		161,054	167,005
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(70)	59
Total net assets		161,124	166,946
The Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds		81,124	86,946
Designated fund		80,000	80,000
Restricted funds		-	-

Designated funds

Designated reserves include £60,000 provision for new Shared Space Training and Retail Centres, £20,000 provision in the case of loss of key personnel.

Notes to the Accounts – Shared Space

Up to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Total Fund	Total Fund
	2025	2025	2025	2024
1 Donations and Legacies	£	£	£	£
Donations	715	-	715	1,116
Grants	5,000	-	5,000	-
Retail Gift Aid	6,541	-	6,541	-
	12,256	-	12,256	1,116
2 Other Trading Activities				
Primary Purpose Trading	133,932	-	133,932	139,888
Recycling	4,837	-	4,837	4,622
Other	-	-	-	-
	138,769	-	138,769	144,510

Stocks of donated items for resale in the charity shops are not valued, as the trustees consider that it is impractical to apply value to these items and that the cost of attempting to do so would outweigh any benefits

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Total Fund	Total Fund
3 Charitable Activities	2025	2025	2025	2024
Staff costs	45,477	-	45,477	42,749
Joint Initiative with Church From Scratch	11,065	-	11,065	10,701
Operational running costs - training and retail centres	35,898	-	35,898	36,738
Premises running costs - training and retail centres	35,350	-	35,350	36,800
Setup and major refurbishment - training and retail centres	24,491	-	24,491	2,515
Grants awarded	1,737	10,800	12,537	8,999
	154,018	10,800	164,818	138,502

Notes to the Accounts – Shared Space
Up to 31 December 2025

4 Transfer of funds

To fund the finding, preparation and opening of the next Shared Space retail and training centre(s), the trustees created a designated fund called the "New Shared Space Training and Retail Centres Fund" in 2020.

5 Debtors

	2025	2024
VAT refund	576	1,063
	576	1,063

6 Net cashflow from operating activities

	2025	2024
Net income /(expenditure) for the reporting period as per SOFA	(5,822)	12,575
Adjustments for:		
(Gains) / losses on investments -Interest	(5,663)	(3,609)
Debtors - (increase) / decrease	486	337
Creditors - increase/ (decrease)	(129)	(627)
Net cash provided by operating activities	(11,127)	8,676

7 Trustee and staff remuneration

	2025	2024
Salaries	39,311	37,158
Employer National Insurance	-	-
Pension contributions	2,725	2,353

Average weekly number of staff employed during the year:

Full time	0	0
Part time	5	4

No employee received benefits of more than £60,000 during the year.

No trustee remuneration was paid in fulfilling their duties.

Notes to the Accounts – Shared Space
Up to 31 December 2025

8 Operating leases commitments

	2025	2024
Total miniumn leases payments falling due:	£	£
In the year following the balance sheet date	13,500	20,500
In years two to five	27,000	40,500
From year five until the end of commitment	-	-

Waiting lease review for Shared Space Southchurch. Due July 2025.