

The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Period

1st September 2025

To

31st August 2026

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name: The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal

Also Known as: The Mayor's Charity

Registered Charity Number: 1169188

Charity's Principal Address: C/O The Mayor's Office
Wigan Town Hall
Library Street
Wigan
WN1 1YN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Miss Judith Atherton

Mr Andrew Sharrock Chair and Treasurer

Mr Michael William Winstanley OBE Secretary

Independent Examiner:

Stephen Atherton

Bank:

HSBC
21 The Grand Arcade
Wigan
Lancs
WN1 1BH

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of Governing Document: Trust Deed adopted 13th September 2016

How the Charity is constituted: Membership of the Charity is open to everyone who can support the Charity and there are currently 11 members.

Trustee selection Method: Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the General Meeting usually held in May following the appointment of the Mayor for the ensuing Mayoral Year.

All trustees give their time voluntary and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Risk: The risk that the charity is exposed to is reviewed annually by the trustees and due to its operating model, the risk is deemed to be low and this is reflected in the reserve policy.

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document:

To further such exclusively charitable purposes, according to the laws of England and Wales, as the trustees determine by the provision of grants.

Grant Making Policy:

The policy on grant making is that the incoming Mayor during their year as Deputy Mayor will select an organisation or organisations which they would like the charity to support during their Mayoral Year; they put this to the trustees who consider the request and make the decision to accept or reject the request. The organisation selected to be supported by the charity **must benefit the residents of the borough**. The charity prefers that the selected organisation uses the grant for some capital purpose, to give some longevity from the grant; but the charity does not rule out the grant being used for some revenue purpose. The selected organisation will discuss and agree with the charity how the grant will be used.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives:

During this year, 2025-2026, the Mayor was Councillor Jenny Bullen, The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal was selected two charities within the Borough to supported:

Curious Minds – A Wigan based charity with a vision for a future, where being creative and experiencing brilliant culture is a regular aspect of every child's life learning. They connect children and young people, and teachers and youth workers with incredible artists and creative practitioners; giving them access to information, expertise, space and resources to facilitate collaboration and innovation in the field of creative and cultural education.

All Ears MHA C.I.C – Mental Health Awareness & Support in Young People. Since 2020, they have specialised in providing educational emotional wellbeing workshops and assemblies to support young people in schools and colleges across Greater Manchester. These are catered to different ages and aim to provide young people with their own toolkit to healthily process their emotions. They also run specific vulnerable groups (i.e. care leavers) and offer a safe space for them to offload, through group art therapy sessions or one-to-one counselling.

Achievements and Performance

'The Mayor of Wigan Charity Ball' continues to be the biggest event that the Charity stages and this year was again held at the Macdonald Kilhey Court, Standish. Everyone enjoyed the food, drink, DJ and vocalist Victor Michael for the second year. It was also attended by many of the Civic Heads from across the Greater Manchester conurbation and the Deputy Lieutenant Melanie Bryan OBE was also present at the Ball, along with the Scarlet Guards. The was the traditional 'Heads and Tails', auction and raffle to raise funds for the charity. This year saw us trial the 'Genius Mobile Pay' app to take card payments.

The Charity Committee organised a joint fundraising event with Winstanley Tennis Club. The evening consisted of live entertainment provided by local artist Neil Dunlop. The evening was a great success and proceeds were split between the Mayor of Wigan's Charity Committee and the Tennis Club as many of their members supported the event.

This year saw an evening of good food and music at 'The Post House' Orrell, organised by a member of the Charity Committee and the owners of 'The Post House'. This was a great opportunity to raise funds for the Mayors Charity but also support a local business. This was the first time that we had used the venue for an event.

The Prayer Breakfast was held again, with speaker, prayers and breakfast.

This years 'Charity sponsored walk' took place, it was cancelled last year due to the weather. It was jointly organised with the support of the staff and volunteers at Haigh Woodland Park. While being shorter in distance the walk involved stops at key point across the Haigh estate where staff and volunteers talked about the exciting work that has taken place and is scheduled to take place across Haigh Woodland Park, the Hall and the lodges.

The Mayor, held a lunch with the Mayor in 'The Mayors Parlour' which was well attended.

The 'Quiz Night' this year was a run-away success and was a complete sell out. There was some serious quizzing, good food, drink, fun, the obligatory raffle of course and much fun had.

With the support of the Wigan Music Service the charity organised an of 'Evening Jazz' at St Paul's Church. You could not help but be joyful, happy and lifted by the music played by both the Wigan Youth Jazz Orchestra and the Training Jazz Orchestra, nor impressed by the talent of these young musicians, their dedication and that of their tutors.

Another key event was the cheque presentations to

- **Wigan and Leigh Hospice:** Provides palliative care and support for people with life-limiting illnesses across the borough.
  and
- T**alk First:** An Ince-based charity that specializes in family mediation, conflict resolution, and supporting young people and families.

These being the chosen organisation to be supported during the Mayoral Year of Councillor Debbie Parkinson. Both organisations receiving the sum of £15,549.19 each.

The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal could not raise the amount of money it does each year without the great support it received from individuals and organisations who make donations to Charity, organise fund raising events, or take part in sponsored running events and walks on its behalf, some doing so on an annual basis. Nor without the support of those people who buy tickets for fund raising events that the Charity organises directly, like the annual Charity Ball, and support them by turning up.

We are also appreciative of all those who provided prizes for the many raffles and given items for the auction at the Charity Ball.

The Trustees and The Mayor 2025-26, Councillor Jenny Bullen, say a special thanks to Peter Cain's Butchers, Garwood Street, Ashton in Makerfield for the donation of buffets to several events.

The Charity Trustees are also grateful to Charity Committee and friends, a dedicated group of volunteers who support the Mayor and Trustees organise and deliver events.

The Mayor and Charity Trustees would like to say a very big and special thank you to all who have supported the charity's year 2025-26. Without your support we could not raise the money that we do – **THANK YOU ALL.**

Financial Review

Reserve Policy:

The charity has no costs associated with meetings of the charity committee; the accommodation is provided free of charge by Wigan Council. Any costs associated with the administration of the charity are provided by the trustees at no cost to the charity. Any costs related to fundraising activities may be paid up front by the charity and then recouped from the proceeds of the event. The charity has no paid staff. In light of this the trustees have assessed that the charity does not require to hold any funds in reserve at this time.

Details of any funds materially in deficit:

Not applicable.

The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal - Balance Sheet 1st September 2025 to 31st August 2026

Balances Brough Forward			**Donations/Grants Made**		
The Mayor	£9,893.61		Wigan & Leigh Hospice	£15,549.19	
Cllr D Parkinson	£30,457.39	**£40,351.00**	TalkFirst	£15,549.19	**£31,098.38**
			Frees & Charges		
Transfers			Bank Charges	£28.36	
PayPal	£411.17		Evo Card Payments	£0.75	**£29.11**
Post Office	£10.00				
SumUp	£640.98		**Event costs**		**£1,370.00**
Cash in Hand	£230.20	**£1,292.35**			
Donations		**£14,901.69**	**Mayors Ball**		**£6,637.18**
Fund raising events		**£4,420.48**			
Mayors Ball		**£12,460.22**			
Total Income		**£73,425.74**	**Total Expenditure**		**£39,134.67**

Total Income	£73,425.74
Less Total Expenditure	£39,134.67
Balance	**£34,291.07**

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at a meeting held on

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Andrew Sharrock
Chair

Date: 13TH OCTOBER 2026

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	Charity Name: The Mayor of Wigan's Charity Appeal		
On accounts for the year ended	31st August 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	1169188
Set out on pages	8 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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.

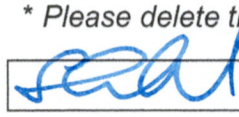
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:		**Date:**	10 · 10 · 2026
Name:	Mr Steve Atherton		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	M.A. B.A.		
Address:	Pippin Street Farm Smithy Lane Brindle PR6 8ND		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	