Roots Independent Street Team CIO

Annual Report and Accounts

Period from 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025

Charity Number 1185783

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Reference and administrative information

Charity Number: 1185783

Registered Office: 9 Otter Way, Cam, Gloucestershire, GL11 5FH

Trustees: John Duggan (resigned 13/02/2026)
Justine Hooper (nee Pemberton)
Gina Tattersall
Charlotte Robson
Sarah Perry (resigned 13/02/2026)

Bankers: Lloyds Bank

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The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the 12-month period ended 31 December 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 form part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's Constitution, and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

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Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

The objective of the CIO is:

To relieve the charitable needs of homeless adults, or adults at risk of homelessness, in Bristol by the provision of food, drink, companionship, advice, signposting and practical and emotional support.

Review of the Charity

Governance

Roots Independent Street Team has existed as a CIO since 14th October 2019.

A committee of trustees was set up under a new foundation constitution.

The Trustees meet formally with a committee of volunteers on a regular basis and informally each week during the outreach work to discuss both short and long term plans and issues.

Activities

The CIO provides hot and cold food and drinks and other necessities to the homeless community of Bristol.

Service and Operations

During 2025, our service remained consistent in both scale and delivery compared with 2024. We continued to operate from the same community building in central Bristol, making use of its kitchen facilities to prepare food and the pedestrianised area outside to provide our service.

The ongoing cost-of-living pressures continued to affect the people we support. Throughout the year, we saw a consistent number of individuals accessing our service because they were unable to afford sufficient food for themselves.

Our relationships with local sandwich retailers also continued to be an important source of food for

the service. These businesses provided us with surplus stock, which we collected and distributed to our service users on the same day, helping to reduce food waste while providing additional support to those experiencing food insecurity.

Financial and Operational Challenges

2025 presented a number of financial and operational challenges. Most significantly, we lost a substantial grant that had supported our work over the previous few years. We also undertook fewer fundraising activities and sponsored events than in previous years, and, for the first time, we did not have the support of a corporate donor.

At the beginning of the year, we also made the decision to sell our service vehicle after losing access to our free parking provision and being unable to identify a suitable alternative location for it. This was a practical decision intended to avoid incurring unnecessary ongoing costs associated with retaining the vehicle. However, we lost a significant amount on disposal due to the value being considerably higher post Covid when we purchased it and then a dramatic drop in the time that has elapsed since then.

The rising cost of food and utilities continued to be a significant consideration throughout the year. We closely monitored these costs and managed our resources carefully in response to the increased financial pressures. Our expenditure on food supplies increased by approximately £1,000 during the year, reflecting both the continued demand for our service and the wider increase in costs.

Volunteers

Our overall volunteer numbers remained stable throughout 2025, and we continued to benefit from a committed and dependable team. However, recruiting sufficient volunteers to undertake cooking remains a challenge. The cost of utilities associated with cooking, together with the number of meals required to meet demand, can make it difficult to secure enough volunteers for this aspect of our service.

We also invested in new volunteer clothing during the year, providing the team with a smart and consistent uniform. This has strengthened our presentation and branding when representing the charity at public events and other activities.

Fundraising and Public Engagement

During the year, we attended a large-scale festival in Bristol with the aim of increasing awareness of our work and raising funds. While the event provided an opportunity to increase our visibility, the overall cost of participation exceeded the funds raised. Following a review of the outcome, we decided that participating in similar events would not represent the best use of the charity's resources in future.

Supporting Service Users Beyond Food Provision

Where appropriate, we continued to provide practical support beyond our core food service. During 2025, we were able to provide white goods and other essential equipment to a small number of regular service users who had moved into permanent accommodation. This enabled us to support individuals as they moved towards greater stability and independence.

Governance and Compliance

There were a number of changes to our trustee board during 2025. We welcomed two new trustees at the beginning of the year, bringing additional capacity and experience to the board. However, towards the end of the year, two trustees stepped down. In response, we undertook a review of our trustee roles and responsibilities to ensure that the board remains appropriately structured and that trustees have a clear understanding of their individual responsibilities and collective duties.

We also continued to strengthen our governance arrangements during the year. We engaged an independent compliance professional to draft a number of bespoke policies for the charity, and developed additional policies and procedures to support effective governance and consistent decision-making. We also began to formalise our trustee onboarding procedures to ensure that new trustees receive appropriate information, guidance and support when joining the board.

Looking ahead, we intend to explore the recruitment of additional trustees who have no existing connection to the charity. Our aim is to broaden the range of skills, knowledge and professional experience available to the board and to strengthen our governance and oversight. In particular, we are seeking individuals who can bring specialist expertise that will complement the existing trustee team and support the charity's development in the future.

Community and Seasonal Support

We held our annual festive evening for our service users at the end of the year. As part of the event, we provided every service user with a gift card, enabling them to purchase items of their own choice during the festive period. This remained an important opportunity for us to provide additional

practical support and bring our community together.

Plans for the year ahead

The Trustees are conscious that whilst the economy is still very uncertain, pressure will remain on our ability to fundraise. In 2026 we will need to focus on securing funding.

We will remain at our current location for as long as we have the agreement with the landlord of the premises.

We would like to continue the work that we do but find other ways to help including supporting people into accommodation where we can.

Public Benefit

All work undertaken by the charity were for charitable purposes and for the public benefit and the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance where relevant.

Financial Benefit

Investment Policy and Objectives

Although the Trustees have the power under the constitution to invest funds, we make no investments other than the savings account with a high street bank and have no plans to do so.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The charity keeps a reserve of £5,000 in a separate savings account, which the Trustees estimate would allow the charity to continue to run for a period of 4 months even if no other income was generated.

Financial Review

The total income for the period was £9,531.71 and expenditure for the work of the charity was £17,902.98

No salaries or wages are paid, all who work for Roots are on a voluntary basis.
The accounts are shown later in this report.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its constitution, dated 14th October 2019.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees meet regularly throughout the year to discuss the strategic direction and relevant matters including grant applications, operational plans, investment strategy, financial accounts, and staff performance.

Regular Committee meetings are held to discuss day to day matters relating to our service.

Statement of the Responsibility of the Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

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The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 01/10/2026 - with the exception of two that resigned before this report was prepared and one who was on a sabbatical - and signed on their behalf by;

Justine Hooper



On behalf of the Trustees

Roots Independent Street Team	
Financial Activities	
January-December, 2025	
	Total
Income	
Charitable activites	2,082.67
Donations and legacies	2,756.18
Grants and Sponsorships	4,370.00
Volunteer Donations	240.00
Total for Income	**£9,448.85**
Total	**£9,448.85**
Expenditures	
Advertising/Promotional	153.00
Bank Fees	53.33
Computer Costs	228.00
Consumables	1,285.96
Equipment	137.13
Food Supplies	6,012.85
Fundraising Costs	913.83
Gift Cards - Service Users	1,350.00
Insurances	378.80
Office/General Administrative Expenses	158.99
Other Professional Services	1,260.00
Rent or Lease of Buildings	3,668.70
Training	24.00
Travel and Accommodation	8.50
Volunteer Clothing	1,188.16
Volunteer Entertaining	451.75
White Goods - Service Users	629.98
Total for Expenditures	**£17,902.98**
Net Operating Income	**-£8,454.13**

Financial Activites Continued

Other Income	
Interest Received	82.86
Total for Other Income	**£82.86**
Other Expenditures	
Depreciation	3,135.00
Loss on disposal	3,655.00
Total for Other Expenditures	**£6,790.00**
Net Other Income	**-£6,707.14**
Net Income/(Expenditure)	**-£15,161.27**

Roots Independent Street Team	
Balance Sheet	
As of 31 Dec, 2025	
	Total
Fixed Asset	
Tangible assets	
Motor Vehicles Cost	0.00
Motor Vehicles Depreciation	0.00
Total for Tangible assets	**£0.00**
Total for Fixed Asset	**£0.00**
Cash at bank and in hand	
Lloyds Savings Account	4,180.92
Paypal	107.66
Petty Cash	£0.00
Treasurers Account (7560)	493.44
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	**£4,782.02**
Debtors	
Debtors	£0.00
Total for Debtors	**£0.00**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**£4,782.02**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£4,782.02**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**£4,782.02**
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£4,782.02**
Charity Funds	
Opening Balance Equity	204.85
Retained Earnings	19,738.44
Surplus/(Deficit)	-15,161.27
Total for Charity Funds	**£4,782.02**