DARLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB FOUNDATION CIO
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

The Annual Report of Darlington Football Club Foundation CIO (DFCF) covers the period from June 2024 to May 2025. During the year the DFCF has continued to show both the consolidation of existing services as well as some pleasing developments of new work. The year has also seen the continued development of the staff team and the maintenance of stable governance at board level. We continue to work closely with Darlington FC in a partnership that ensures that the whole community can be involved and supported.

As reported the previous year, it is with great pride that we have seen incremental growth both in terms of our programme of work as well as our financial stability. The fact that this can be reported is almost entirely due to the work the DFCF Chief Executive, Barry Thompson, and his team who continue to lead on all aspects of the development, running and sustainability of the programme and the organisation as a whole.

Backing up the staff team there are the trustees who have been strengthened during the year with new members recruited to offer skills and knowledge identified as needed in an audit of the board. We are also grateful to Andy Hodgson who has undertaken an Independent Examination of our accounts and approved them for submission to the Charity Commission.

The programme of work has only been made possible by our funders who ensure that the diverse nature of our activities is successful financially as well as giving benefit to those taking part. We are especially grateful to The National league Trust (NLT) who provide the bulk of core funding which, in turn, levers in other programme funding. Not only have the NLT provided much needed funds but also give background support and advice to ensure that DFCF is fulfilling its obligations and financial reporting to the highest standards. They have also introduced a programme of networking and training events to help ensure that the quality of services remain consistent across the family of football foundations.

Programme highlights include:
Think With Your Feet: Weekly session supported by MIND for those who need mental health support – referrals made from a variety of agencies including local NHS. 3-40 take part every week over two sessions;
Weight Goals: Weight management programme/football sessions in conjunction with the local NHS – 25-30 take part each week;
Women's Social Football: funded by Durham FA with up to 20 taking part.;
Well-Played: weekly programme of non-football indoor activities for people who are isolated and in need of support – 20-25 average attendance;
Refugee Football: Weekly session for local refugee community which they fund themselves;
Pre-Match Experiences & Mascots: full programme each home match now aimed at schools and community groups in the more deprived parts Darlington and surrounding areas;
Schools Programme: school funded programme of football and healthy activities;
School Holiday Football Camps: commercial programme in school holidays has started to show a small profit;
NLT Under 11s Cup: national competition run by NLT in which Darlington Teams progressed to Regional Finals;
Awards Night: recognition of achievements as well as a bit of fun for everyone – 100 attended;
Mini Quakers & Quaker Tots: introduced during the reporting year – mixed activities for 5-9 year olds in two age groups – currently 20 participants;
Walking Football: highly popular activity aimed at 50+ yrs – around 20 regularly take part in weekly sessions that help fitness, mental health and addressing social isolation.

New and emerging programmes started towards the end of the reporting year include working with adults with learning disabilities.

We are very grateful to Barry Thompson, Chief Executive, assistant manager Millie Garnett and all of the staff team for delivering such a successful and full programme of work.

Steve Rose, Chair of Trustees

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Darlington Football Club Foundation	1185957	Appendix A

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Apr-23	To	31/05/2024

Section A Receipts and payments 31-May-25

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
	-	-	-	-	
B/F			-	-	5,653
Reserves	3,116			3,116	
National League Trust Grant		26,250		26,250	23,083
Pioneering care Grant				-	4,850
National Lottery		16,000		16,000	1,333
MSG		2,500		2,500	5,000
Durham FA Womens Football Grant				-	-
Darlington Building Society Grant - TWYF		5,625		5,625	-
ASB Youth Grant		1,369		1,369	7,212
Misc Grants				-	3,250
Evening with Steve Watson	825			825	
Awards Night	2,120			2,120	
Holiday camps	1,241			1,241	7,806
Junior/Mini Quakers	2,685			2,685	
Refugee Income	4,688			4,688	4,359
Matchday Experience	391			391	
Womens Football session fees	1,556		-	1,556	2,135
Schools fees	3,280		-	3,280	3,777
Weight Goals	6,130			6,130	1,316
Mascot	789			789	953
Walking Football	1,705			1,705	
Charity match				-	829
Bank Interest	577			577	
Other	55		-	55	947
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	29,158	51,744	-	80,902	72,503
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	29,158	51,744	-	80,902	72,503
A3 Payments					
	-	-	-	-	-
Staff Costs		43,027	-	43,027	29,560
General office costs		3,360	-	3,360	3,916
Insurance			-	-	-
Storage		600		600	
Football Coaches	2,908		-	2,908	9,639
Pitch Hire	17,368		-	17,368	12,610
Equipment		3,705	-	3,705	4,070
Food	664	1,052	-	1,716	868
Other			-	-	200
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	20,940	51,744	-	72,684	60,863
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	**20,940**	**51,744**	**-**	**72,684**	**60,863**
Net of receipts/(payments)	**8,218**	**-**	**-**	**8,218**	**11,640**
A5 Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
A6 Cash funds last year end	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	
Cash funds this year end	**8,218**	**-**	**-**	**8,218**	**11,640**

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Grants in advance	-	21,059	-
	General Balances	10,743	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,743	21,059	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Tax and pension due	Restricted	369	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

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 Darlington Football Club Foundation		
On accounts for the year ended	31st May 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1185957
Set out on pages	1-2 (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 **31/05/2025.**

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.

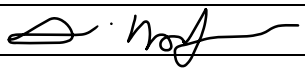
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (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:**	08/02/2026
Name:	Andrew Hodgson		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Chartered Institute of Management Accountants		
Address:	1 Usk Court, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton On Tees, TS17 5EG		

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.	