

York Travellers Trust

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

(Charity number: 1189827)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended

31 March 2026

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

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YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

This report contains quotes from anonymised impact stories and sensitive community reflections shared for reporting, learning and funding purposes. Some names and identifying details may have been changed to protect privacy and confidentiality

Introduction

York Travellers Trust (YTT) is the longest-running registered charity in the United Kingdom working primarily with Gypsy and Traveller Communities (GTC). Based in York and supporting individuals and families across York and surrounding areas, YTT exists to improve the lives, wellbeing, and opportunities of GTC through practical support, advocacy, education, and community development.

For many years, YTT has worked alongside community members to address inequalities and barriers relating to education, health, housing, finance, discrimination, and social inclusion. At the heart of our work is a commitment not only to supporting individuals and families directly, but also to challenging myths, tackling prejudice, and building greater understanding between GTC and the wider public.

This report presents key information relating to the delivery and impact of YTT's work during the 2025–26 financial year. It reflects both the breadth of support provided across our services and the continued evolution of YTT as an organisation committed to listening, learning, and adapting to the needs of the communities we serve.

This year marked an important period of transition for YTT. Following the conclusion of the five-year National Lottery Community Fund Safe Space Project, 2025–26 began a new chapter shaped by a 3-year National Lottery Community Fund Strengthen and Build investment alongside other grants and donations. This new phase has provided both continuity and opportunity: building on the strong foundations of the Safe Space Project while supporting YTT to strengthen frontline delivery, rebuild capacity following staff changes, and continue developing as a resilient, community-led organisation. This work would not be possible without all our funders including the National Lottery Community Fund, Esmée Fairbairn, Moving for Change, City of York Council, the University of York, York CVS, and Two Ridings Community Foundation among others.

With new team members joining over the past year, this period has been one of both consolidation and growth - ensuring YTT remains rooted in its core mission while adapting to the evolving needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities in and around York.

If you would like more information about the content of this report, or about YTT more broadly, please contact us:

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Acknowledgements

This year has felt like one of those years where you can really see both how far YTT has come, and how far there still is to go. There is so much to be proud of. Every day, whether that's in the centre, on site, through casework, education, wellbeing support, or just being there when someone needs us, YTT continues to make a real difference to people's lives. We see it in the trust people place in us, in the families who keep coming back, in young people building confidence, and in the small but important moments where someone feels heard, supported, or less alone. That work matters, and I never want us to lose sight of that. But if I'm honest, this year has also reminded me how frustrating bigger change can sometimes feel.

We know the difference YTT makes on the ground. We know what happens when people are given the right support, when communities are listened to, and when people are treated with dignity. But we are still often working against wider systems that can feel slow, rigid, or simply not built with Gypsy and Traveller Communities in mind. Sometimes it can feel like we are constantly proving what we already know – that our communities deserve better, and that real inclusion should not be this hard. That can be exhausting. But it also keeps us going.

To all our funders, thank you. Your support has allowed us not only to keep doing the day-to-day work that matters so much, but also to keep pushing for something bigger.

To our Board of Trustees, thank you for continuing to support YTT through both the opportunities and the growing pains. As YTT changes, grows, and thinks about its next phase, that support matters.

To our staff team, past and present, thank you. This year has brought challenge, change, and a lot of learning. I am especially proud that we are continuing to move towards a stronger GT-led workforce, because representation matters. That journey is not always simple, and there is still much to learn, but it feels important and necessary.

To our volunteers, partners, and supporters, thank you for standing with us, especially when the work feels difficult.

And most importantly, to our community, thank you. Thank you for trusting us, for challenging us, and for continuing to believe in what YTT can be.

I've always believed YTT could be more than just a charity that helps people get by. I want it to keep growing into something that helps change the conversation, challenges systems, and creates more space for GTC in York and further afield to shape their own futures. We've done good work. We should be proud of that. But I think we all know there is more to do.

Violet Cannon, CEO

Treasurer's Statement

This has been another strong and productive year for YTT. The renewed support from the National Lottery Community Fund has provided us, once again, with the anchor funding that has allowed us to go out and raise funds from a wide range of other sources to strengthen our work in developing community-led Gypsy Traveller Community initiatives in York. Our staff have also been able to contribute to developments in the wider region and nationally.

We are particularly grateful to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation for supporting our work on community leadership through our sociocratic governance initiative.

We ended the year in a healthy position with restricted funds in hand to complete work to which we are already committed as well as a sufficient level of unrestricted funds to underpin the longer-term sustainability of the organisation, in line with our reserves policy.

I want to thank our staff team, who have shown exceptional commitment through a challenging year, and all our funders and partners for their continued trust. YTT is in a strong financial and governance position which gives us the confidence to move forward sustainably while staying rooted in our community values.

Stephan Pittam, Treasurer

Chair's Statement

We are proud of how far YTT has come. We are proud of the staff team, the leadership, the volunteers, and the communities that continue to shape the organisation. But as Trustees, our role is not simply to celebrate YTT's growth, it is to also help ensure that the organisation is ready for what comes next.

Our priorities as Trustees remain clear:

• Continuing to strengthen governance, systems, and organisational resilience.

• Supporting the development of sociocratic and community-led ways of working.

• Building financial sustainability, including funding pipelines and traded income opportunities.

• Protecting and strengthening core strategic priorities, particularly housing, education, health and wellbeing, and community identity.

• Supporting workforce development, including greater GTC representation across the organisation.

These priorities are essential to our commitment to community-led governance. By ensuring YTT has robust structures, sustainable resources and effective ways of working, we can create the conditions for a new community-led governance model to take route and flourish, rather than allowing organisational barriers to hold it back. As Trustees, we look forward to supporting YTT through this next stage, while ensuring that the communities it serves have an increasingly strong voice in shaping its future.

Patrick O'Kelly, Chair

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2026. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, the CIO's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102).

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	York Travellers Trust
Other Name(s) charity is known by	YTT
Registered Charity number	1189827
Company registration number	CE022094
Charity's principal address	20 Falsgrave Crescent Clifton, YORK, YO30 7AZ

Names of the charity trustees, who also manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole period
Patrick O'Kelly	Chair	
Stephen Pittam	Treasurer	
Caroline Hunter		(resigned 29 October 2025)
Claire Wilton		(resigned 29 October 2025)
Joy-Kirsten Jackson		
Michael Turnpenny		
Tom Beer		
Katie Young		(appointed 29 October 2025)

Name of the Chief Executive or names of senior staff members:

Violet Cannon, CEO

Structure, Governance, and Management

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing Document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 8th June 2020
Trustee selection methods	Nomination and Co-option

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Objectives and Activities

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

To relieve the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community in York and the surrounding areas by:

1) the relief of financial hardship, in particular but not exclusively by the provision of advice and information on housing and welfare benefits;
2) the preservation and protection of good physical and mental health;
3) the advancement of education and training of those in the community who are in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within the wider community;
4) the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities;
5) providing workshops, forms, advocacy and general support that encourages and enables members of the Gypsy/Traveller community to participate more effectively in the wider community;
6) promoting good race and community relations through providing information and educational opportunities to statutory and voluntary agencies and the public on the history and culture of the Gypsy/Traveller community

Our activities can be divided into 4 areas:

1) We organise education and accredited training. This leads to increased employment opportunities and a more active engagement in community life.
2) We offer advice and advocacy in benefits, housing, money/debt, drug/alcohol abuse, and employment. We also give practical support in letter writing and form filling. These activities address issues of poverty, discrimination and promote social inclusion.
3) We engage with other agencies (both voluntary and statutory) to advocate for the needs of the communities we serve. This strategic level work contributes to the social inclusion of one of York's most significant ethnic minority communities.
4) We promote an understanding of the Gypsy and Traveller cultures. This work is undertaken first with our clients to increase their confidence, improve their emotional wellbeing and to empower them. Second, we work with other residents and agencies to build bridges and improve community cohesion.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and Performance

Organisation - Rebuilding and Finding Our Feet.

This year has felt, in many ways, like a reset.

Recruiting, inducting and embedding new staff across key areas brought inevitable pressure, learning curves and moments of uncertainty. But staff reflections suggest that, while challenging, YTT has largely succeeded in bringing in the right people i.e., people who not only strengthen capacity, but who are increasingly helping shape the kind of organisation YTT wants to become. Rather than simply keeping YTT going through change, this period created an important opportunity to rethink how our organisation works, how it grows, and what its next chapter can look like.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

"It feels like a completely different place to work from when I started."

The biggest shift was not one single project or service, but YTT itself beginning to feel more structured, supported and stable after a period that could often feel highly reactive. Over the course of the year, clearer day-to-day management, stronger coordination, and improved operational oversight appear to have made a significant difference.

"We're much more adequately staffed."

This has mattered internally, but it has also mattered to the community.

"People trust us when we say we're going to be there."

For communities who are often used to services being inconsistent, stretched, or disappearing, reliability is not a small thing.

Building Strategic Pillars Across the Organisation.

This year has also been important because recruitment was not simply about replacing staff; it was about strengthening YTT more intentionally across its four key pillars:

- Housing and Welfare
- Education
- Health & Wellbeing
- Community & Identity

As newer staff came into roles, we increasingly began building a structure that feels more sustainable and more capable of balancing immediate frontline need with broader strategic ambition. One of the clearest balancing acts this year has been becoming more structured without losing the flexibility, trust and humanity that people – staff and clients – value.

"Big problem, little problem, or small something – you come here."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

That remains central to YTT's identity. Its strength has never been simply in formal service delivery. It is in being somewhere people come, somewhere they trust, and somewhere that feels safe. As the organisation develops, staff were clear this identity matters.

"We need to be careful with our space and protect it."

Strengthening Data and Learning.

YTT has made important progress this year in strengthening how it captures, evaluates and communicates its work, particularly through renewed use of Lamplight as its CRM system and clearer expectations around recording data. At present, incomplete demographic data still limits YTT's ability to fully analyse patterns of engagement, identify underrepresented groups, or understand how needs may vary across age ranges. Improving this data will therefore be important not simply for reporting purposes, but for future service planning, strategic development and understanding reach more accurately.

Balancing frontline delivery with systems and "form filling" has previously been challenging for staff, however there is staff recognition that good data is essential. This year has seen more consistent recording, stronger evaluation, and clearer impact storytelling, supported by senior staff and communications capacity.

Further work is needed, especially around creative feedback gathering, staff confidence in reflective conversations, and routinely asking what the organisation is seeing, learning and needs to change.

Moving Forward with Sociocracy.

YTT is using Esmee Fairbairn funding to develop sociocratic principles that will reflect the organisation's existing values of voice, participation, reflection, shared responsibility and community-led working. The funding has enabled YTT to recruit a senior staff member, free up strategic capacity, support Gypsy Traveller staff development, and plan co-designed training for staff, trustees, volunteers and clients. While this work is still in a development stage, it is helping us work towards a more inclusive, community-led governance model.

Looking Ahead.

This year has not been about becoming something entirely different. It has been about rebuilding capacity, improving systems, and beginning to shape a stronger, clearer version of what YTT already is.

"Journey." "Learning." "Productive."

Those words, chosen by staff themselves, perhaps capture this year best.

YTT is still evolving. There is still friction. There is still pressure. There is still much to build. But there is also growing confidence that YTT is moving from a period of transition into one of more intentional growth. The challenge now is to keep building – stronger systems, stronger reflection, stronger community pathways – while protecting the trust, flexibility and authenticity that have always made YTT what it is.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Engagement and Reach - Who We Are Supporting.

Between 1st April 2025 and 31st March 2026:

- 87 new client profiles were added to Lamplight.
- 187 unique people were supported through York Travellers Trust and recorded on the CRM.
- 3,413 total attendances were recorded across all work areas.
- 977 sessions were delivered or recorded.

The figures demonstrate the organisation's role as a consistent and ongoing presence in many people's lives rather than simply a short-term intervention service, but should still be understood cautiously; in some cases, people decline to have a personal profile created on the CRM at all due to distrust of systems, concerns around confidentiality, literacy barriers or personal preference so in these circumstances, activity may instead be recorded under an anonymous profile.

Geographic Reach.

Postcode data strongly reinforces YTT's presence across York's local authority sites. At the same time, the data also suggests wider geographic reach extending beyond York itself, including Doncaster, Wakefield, Leeds and Darlington suggesting YTT's growing visibility and reputation beyond the immediate locality alone.

Ethnic Origin.

Ethnic Origin	GT	Romany Gypsy	Irish Traveller	White or White British	Unknown
Count of Profiles	40	38	3	8	100

Incomplete recording limits YTT's ability to fully understand who is engaging with different parts of the organisation and whether different groups experience different patterns of need, participation or outcomes. This is particularly important given the increasing strategic importance of ethnicity identification within education, training and wider anti-racist practice.

Age Range.

Age Group at Start of Engagement	Under 13s	13-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-65	65+	Unknown
Count of Profiles	8	7	10	10	11	7	14	8	112

Age profile data currently also contains significant gaps.

This reinforces the importance of culturally aware recording practices and the need to improve data quality without undermining trust. Future work will therefore include strengthening profile completion processes, recognising that experiences and barriers are not uniform across all groups.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Nature of Support.

Recorded activity across work areas reinforces the breadth of YTT's delivery model.

Work area	Number of attendances	Number of sessions	Number of different people
Case Work	530	447	82
Community Activities	1912	277	62
Education	394	142	53
Emotional Wellbeing	253	72	50
Research & Consultation	124	32	65
Strategic Work	308	38	39
Training	37	5	5

Community Activities generated by far the highest attendance figures, strongly reinforcing just how important low-barrier, relationship-based and community-led spaces are. Spaces such as Catch-Up Club, the Public Living Room and the Food Stall are not simply "activities"; they are often where trust begins, confidence grows and ongoing relationships are built over time.

Housing & Welfare remains one of the organisation's largest direct support areas, reflecting continued high levels of practical and crisis-led demand across issues such as housing insecurity, benefits, repairs, advocacy and navigating systems. Education also shows significant reach relative to staffing size and the partial-year nature of some reporting periods, further reinforcing education as one of YTT's clearest growth areas this year.

The Research & Consultation and Strategic Work figures highlight something increasingly important about YTT's evolving role. The organisation is not only delivering frontline support, but is increasingly participating in wider systems influence, research activity, training, partnership work and strategic challenge.

Taken together, the data reinforces that YTT's work is highly relational and interconnected. The next phase is not simply about collecting more data, but about continuing to improve how information is interpreted, reflected upon and used to strengthen learning, identify emerging need earlier, and support future strategic decision-making.

Housing & Welfare.

Housing & Welfare remain one of YTT's most significant pillars because, time and again, they are where wider inequality becomes most immediate. It includes homelessness risk, site conditions, repairs, pitch allocation, utilities, benefits, literacy, digital exclusion, ID and documentation, and the wider systems people must navigate to secure stability, dignity and fair treatment. As one staff member reflected:

> *"It's exhausting and it can be mundane. But it's the lynchpin that everything else hangs off. We have to get it right because without proper housing you can't get the other parts of your life right."*

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Across staff reflections, Housing & Welfare consistently emerged as foundational. If this pillar is unstable, progress elsewhere often becomes significantly harder.

Case Work.

Case Work is the primary operational activity through which much of this support is delivered.

Analysis of recorded activity showed the breadth and complexity of issues being brought into YTT. The largest areas of recorded demand this year show the extent to which poverty, housing insecurity and navigating welfare systems remain central pressures affecting many people engaging with YTT.

Most Frequently Identified Areas of Support	Number of Attendances
Homelessness support	156
Universal Credit Support	122
Grants & Goods Applications	69
Council Housing Applications	38
Adult Social Care	35
Debt	25
Discrimination	20

Smaller, but still important areas, of support included PIP, council tax, energy support, repairs, social care involvement, criminal justice issues, food vouchers, planning issues, rent arrears, pitch applications and physical health-related advocacy.

YTT's Case Work offer is rarely one-off; support is ongoing, relationship-based and responsive to complex or changing circumstances over time. Many individuals return repeatedly for support, advice, advocacy or follow-up help across issues, with YTT functioning as a trusted source of continuing practical support and navigation through difficult systems and situations.

"Case work is the foundation of YTT's work: building trust, understanding lived experience, and providing consistent support that helps people navigate systems, overcome barriers, and strengthen their voice."

Over the course of the year, following a period of staffing uncertainty within this area, our caseworker role evolved from a very limited, highly reactive drop-in offer into a broader and more consistent casework function with more appointments, more hours, greater visibility, and growing community trust. Rather than simply filling a gap, this development has helped re-establish casework as an embedded part of YTT's frontline offer.

"At first I was literally just trying to do the really urgent stuff so there was something in place."

As capacity increased, so did understanding of the scale of need:

"There's a lot of unmet demand on the sites that either don't know YTT already or don't know me personally; or it's about stuff that they would never think to give someone a call - but then you start a conversation."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

One of the clearest operational insights this year was that hidden demand often becomes visible only when YTT is physically present:

> *"a visit to one of the traveller sites generated two weeks' worth of case work."*

This suggests that while YTT's existing casework offer is vital, demand-led support alone may still miss significant unmet need – particularly where trust, visibility or confidence are barriers. It also reinforces the ongoing importance of YTT's Community Outreach Worker role, which remains crucial in bridging that gap: building trusted relationships, maintaining site presence, creating natural pathways into support, and helping identify needs that may never emerge through centre-based or appointment-led models alone.

Casework itself has ranged from urgent housing insecurity and applications through to the everyday realities of navigating systems: This reinforces a major learning: many barriers are not simply crises, but system navigation gaps i.e., literacy, digital confidence, inaccessible processes, or systems designed without GTC in mind.

> *"We need to make sure everyone on travellers sites understands how energy bills work."*

Staff also identified the need for more tiered and preventative approaches, suggesting future potential for a broader model where not all support needs to sit within intensive casework, and where lighter-touch intervention, triage and confidence-building can reduce pressure while broadening access.

This year also highlighted that how support is delivered matters.

> *"I feel like for clients it's much easier to chat on a sofa…"*

Achievements and Performance (continued)

This comment reflects YTT's wider relational strength: practical support often works best when it feels human, informal and culturally safe, rather than purely bureaucratic in a closed office.

"I wouldn't have been able to do it without you, to be honest. You've really been there for me, checked on me and supported me, you know. I can't read or write but you've made sure I'm alright." (Client Reflection)

"I feel relieved that I don't have to worry about the debt, as long as I pay a little bit every month." (Client Reflection)

"[this] highlighted the importance of trusted gypsy people working in the organisation, without this there wouldn't have been that initial contact. As a GTC member of staff it gave me a sense of empowerment – I can make a difference, I can challenge authority when authority is wrong." (Staff Reflection)

Strategic Influence.

While casework remains essential in responding to immediate need, this year has increasingly demonstrated that many of the issues presenting through Housing & Welfare are not isolated individual problems alone, they are often symptoms of wider policy gaps, structural inequality, inaccessible systems, and decision-making processes that have not been designed with GTC in mind. As a result, YTT's strategic work within this pillar has continued to grow in both confidence and scope. This has included:

- York Local Plan challenge
- Pressure around site provision and expansion
- Tenancy vs licence agreements
- Scrutiny of pitch allocation systems
- Repairs and site management challenge
- Policy consultation
- Negotiated stopping conversations
- National planning conversations
- Exploring alternative land and cooperative ownership models

A particularly significant strategic moment came in advance of the final year before local elections, when YTT deliberately shifted from maintaining dialogue with the council towards more direct accountability.

"We sent a letter back in January to the executive team at the council saying you are almost two years into the current administration… basically highlighting where they're failing GTC."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

This reflected an important strategic choice i.e., to use the final year of the current administration not merely to preserve relationships, but to actively challenge whether commitments made through the York Local Plan process and wider public pledges were genuinely being delivered.

A major theme in staff reflections this year was also that many barriers facing GTC are not simply the result of inefficient systems, but systems shaped around assumptions, processes and power structures that can actively disadvantage those they are supposed to serve.

"It's not enough to not be racist, you need to be anti-racist."

That is, good intentions are not enough if outcomes remain inequitable, and this marks an important distinction. YTT's strategic work is increasingly not only about helping people gain access to existing systems, but also about questioning whether those systems themselves are fair, culturally competent, and fit for purpose.

This year also brought sharper focus to questions of power. Reflections around site management, petition processes, repairs and representation suggest that housing inequality is not only about bricks, land or policy – it is also about governance, accountability and whose voices are genuinely shaping decisions. This includes questions such as:

- How are site residents consulted?
- Who controls information?
- How are decisions communicated?
- Where are the checks and balances?
- Are systems building confidence and participation, or reinforcing dependency and silence?

These questions link closely to YTT's wider organisational priorities around sociocracy, transactional analysis, and community-led practice. If existing systems remain fundamentally limited, what alternatives might look more just? This has included early conversations around:

- Community-owned land
- Cooperative or family-led ownership models
- Rent-to-buy pitches
- Greater GT-led ownership and control

While these conversations remain at an early-stage heading into 2026-27, they reflect a significant strategic development. YTT is increasingly exploring not only how to improve existing structures, but how communities might eventually shape, own or influence better systems themselves.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Planning Policy and Partnership Working.

The CEO has led on a piece of work around planning policy which linked YTT with the national charity Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT). It began with small-scale contributions to national discussions on planning issues affecting Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. By sharing practical frontline insight from York and staying consistently involved, YTT helped ensure local lived experience informed wider policy conversations and built credibility in YTT as a grounded, trusted voice.

This relationship has now led to YTT being invited into national-level work on proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, including coordinated consultation activity and an MHCLG roundtable. The work shows how consistent, values-led engagement can create strategic influence, while also highlighting the need to balance national policy opportunities with YTT's own capacity demands of frontline delivery.

What Next?

Key next steps under the Housing & Welfare pillar include:

Operationally:

- Better Lamplight reporting and analysis (e.g., sub-work areas, case functionality, and case work case closure forms).
- More proactive site outreach.
- Tiered casework and quick-win approaches.
- Greater preventative education around utilities, literacy, digital systems and housing navigation.
- Better use of relational spaces like the Public Living Room for informal case work conversations.

Strategically:

- Continued pressure on allocations, repairs and site governance.
- Stronger anti-racist policy challenge.
- Better use of casework insight to shape systems.
- Political relationship-building ahead of local elections.
- Exploration of alternative housing futures.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Education.

Education at YTT is not simply about attendance, attainment or qualifications alone.

Across this year's reflections, education consistently emerged as one of YTT's most emotionally charged, strategically important and systemically challenging pillars because education is often where opportunity, identity, racism, aspiration, confidence and long-term life chances intersect most sharply.

For many GTC children, young people and families, education is not experienced as a neutral system. It can involve exclusion, off-rolling, unmet additional needs, school refusal, coercive deregistration, cultural misunderstanding, low expectations, bullying, inaccessible transitions, and deep mistrust shaped by lived and intergenerational experience.

"Education is an incredibly important tool in our arsenal for getting a better life. But mainstream education has a long way to go to getting a better life for GT kids."

For YTT, this means education is not simply about "getting children into school." It is about helping families navigate rights, systems and choices; advocating when things go wrong; creating alternative pathways where necessary; and challenging the structures that continue to fail too many GTC children.

This year has also marked an important period of growth within this pillar through the development of YTT's dedicated Education and Community Development Lead role, funded by the National Lottery. This role has significantly strengthened YTT's education capacity and visibility, allowing more focused time, relationship-building and operational development across education work than would otherwise have been possible.

University of York funding was used to support a cohort of eleven home educated young people, with three groups, and to provide additional one-to-ones to support three Year 11 learners who were applying to York College. Emphasis was placed on the Year 11 working towards helping them achieve both Maths and English L2 qualifications, college applications, interviews and attend York College for taster sessions with a view to starting post 16 study in Autumn 2025. An additional four learners joined the programme in September 2024. We had ten learners sitting both Maths and English functional skills in August 2025, including a post 16 learner that had not attended school since the age of 10 and has been fighting for his education. Six learners sat L2 Maths, five sat L2 English, four sat L1 Maths and five sat L1 English.

Following staffing change, the end of the University of York funding, and a soft relaunch, the Autumn Term focused heavily on rebuilding relationships with families, schools and strategic partners. By Spring, this had evolved into a much broader and more stable offer.

We have used additional funding from a donation to set up and maintain education days for young people who are Electively Home Educated. These are taught by a qualified teacher, helping the young people work towards their functional skills qualifications in both Maths and English. These will be ongoing into next year and we are actively seeking to secure future funding to support this project.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Operationally, this pillar has spanned far more than one-to-one school advocacy alone. YTT's education work has included individual school advocacy, Functional Skills delivery, the development of Education Days, Elective Home Education (EHE) support, SEND navigation, firebreak interventions[1], parent rights and advocacy, school staff conversations and relationship-building, income-generation and training development, and wider holistic wellbeing support.

One of the clearest themes this year was that too much of YTT's education work still begins at crisis point, often when families are already facing deregistration pressure, permanent exclusion or unenrolment. This has reinforced a growing organisational priority: the need to strengthen pre-crisis pathways so that YTT can increasingly work earlier and more preventatively through stronger school engagement, parent rights education, transition support, summer support, secondary school preparation, and more routine monthly information-sharing and relationship-building with families before situations reach breaking point.

Strategic Influence.

Repeatedly, staff reflections suggested that many of the challenges facing GTC children, young people and families are not isolated incidents or one-off school issues. Rather, they are often symptoms of wider structural patterns, recognising:

> *"There's no accountability. At times it feels like no-one has any power to change anything."*

While blunt, this quote captures something deeper than frustration. It reflects the exhaustion that can come when public rhetoric around inclusion, opportunity and equality repeatedly feels disconnected from what children and families are experiencing.

York College.

Few examples appear to have demonstrated this tension more sharply than the York College experience. For YTT, this was not simply about one incident involving several GTC young people. It became symbolic of something much bigger i.e., what happens when GTC young people do what they are asked to do – engage, prepare, aspire, work towards college – only to experience profound institutional failure at the point of access. As reflected internally:

> *"The four lads who spent four years taking a day off work so they could prepare to get into college so they could be unenrolled the first day…"*

[1] Short-term, targeted educational and wellbeing support offer for children and young people who are at immediate risk of educational breakdown.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

This appears to have had consequences far beyond the immediate individuals involved. Staff reflections suggest the incident damaged wider community trust in York College itself, reinforcing fears that educational systems may publicly encourage GTC aspiration while privately remaining poorly equipped, or insufficiently accountable, when GTC students encounter challenge. At the same time, this case also appears to have forced strategic gains:

- Senior meetings with York College
- Named contacts
- Greater scrutiny
- Slower, more supported transitions for future young people

These developments matter, even if they do not erase the harm and damage done to individuals.

The York Gypsy & Traveller Education Conference.

A major strategic development this year was YTT's active role in supporting the design, development and delivery of York's February 2026 Gypsy & Traveller Education Conference – a citywide event, attended by school leaders, education professionals, strategic partners and community voices, and supported by The Traveller Movement, York Travellers Trust, York Schools and Academies Board, and City of York Council.

This was not a generic inclusion or belonging conference where Gypsy and Traveller experiences were one small part of a broader conversation. It was a dedicated Gypsy & Traveller education conference, explicitly centred on improving understanding of Gypsy and Traveller children and young people's educational experiences, barriers and opportunities within York's education system.

The conference was a significant strategic opportunity to help shape and deliver the agenda itself and YTT played an important role in helping ensure that Gypsy and Traveller voices, priorities and lived realities were built into both the structure and substance of the event.

This included helping create space for:

- Upskilling wider staff teams
- Opening more honest dialogue with families
- Improving cultural understanding
- Raising visibility of GTC culture within school life
- Better tracking and monitoring of GTC pupil experiences / recording of ethnicity
- Exploring more consistent use of T code

Beyond simply raising awareness, the conference created at least some strategic momentum around how schools might better understand and respond to GT educational experiences. At the same time, staff reflections suggest YTT's involvement was not without tension. For YTT, participating in and helping shape strategic spaces like this is valuable, but only if it leads to more than performative inclusion.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

While schools and strategic leaders may publicly commit to inclusion, visibility and belonging, staff reflections suggest there is understandable caution around whether those commitments translate into action, accountability or measurable change for GTC children and families. For YTT, the role was therefore not simply to help the city feel more informed. It was to help create and shape a strategic platform where GTC voices were present strongly enough that York's education system could be more meaningfully challenged on whether its inclusion agenda genuinely includes GT children in practice.

"We, Not They".

The Education Conference was an opportunity for us to speak directly to school staff about GTC experiences of education. This was a lot to ask of those staff who are part of the community, some of whom were very nervous about public speaking, but it was hugely important and valuable that these voices were at the centre of our contributions – that we could put people on that stage who could say 'We', and not 'They'. One GT staff member commented afterwards that, despite her anxiety about delivering the story of her child's education journey to such a big audience, and the pressure of representing both the community and YTT,

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"It felt really empowering".

What Next?

Key next steps under the Education pillar include:

Operationally:

- Strengthen Education Days.
- Sustain Functional Skills.
- Expand pre-crisis support.
- Parent rights sessions.
- Homework clubs / wider youth support.

Strategically:

- Build on Education conference momentum.
- Develop school training offer.
- Increase school visibility.
- Explore accreditation or standards models.
- Continue council and board influence.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Health & Wellbeing.

Health and Wellbeing at YTT is not a traditional clinical service, nor is it a single programme.

Health and wellbeing challenges do not appear neatly in isolation, so our work under this pillar has increasingly developed not as a standalone clinical model, but as a holistic and community-based approach that recognises health as both personal and structural. The "Our Wellbeing Our Way" Community Mental Health Transformation Grant funding from York CVS has supported Wellbeing work taking place throughout everything we do at YTT. This has included informal one-to-one check-ins, facilitated counselling pathways, group wellbeing spaces and practical support that often begins not with formal intervention, but with trust.

The Wellbeing Steering Group – our 'Barmy Army' - has had a brilliant year, raising their profile on the city-wide stage, and moving to a more sociocratic way of working. The CVS funding has enabled staff facilitation of this group, a dedicated Wellbeing Outreach worker, and trialling different outreach work. Clients from outside the GTCs have been invited into the group by members of the community for support with their mental health. Barmy Army members wanted to become mental health support workers within the community, they have received MHFA training and neurodiversity training to support them in this goal, they have begun taking more ownership over their group and managing their own drop-in sessions. Within other events and trips that taken place within York Travellers Trust, Barmy Army members have volunteered to talk about mental health and support others with their wellbeing. We have been trialled a family group on an evening which again members of the Barmy Army have been supporting and created a space for parents to talk about their wellbeing. Over the year:

- 7 steering group sessions have been held
- 44 Wellbeing circles and additional Family Group sessions have happened
- 46 additional attendees have accessed support
- 10 activities have taken place with support available from mental health volunteers.

We have signposted clients to a person-centred counsellor who has volunteered to offer this support in person at YTT, or a separate venue depending on the client's preference. We have also facilitated clients accessing drop-in mental support, and specific counselling around alcohol. Having a safe space, and trusted individuals who can support clients in accessing these services removes the barriers that prevent them from seeking this support elsewhere.

Staff reflections have highlighted the importance of confidence-building, familiarity and progression over time. This is significant because it suggests wellbeing support can also help create longer-term progression, confidence and participation opportunities. Evaluation has also highlighted the wider social and community value of wellbeing activity, particularly for younger people:

"The kids don't mix outside their community so it's nice seeing them come here and mixing from different sites. Great to see them all learning together."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

A safe, welcoming space. The group is hugely valued as a warm, supportive place where people feel comfortable opening up. There's a strong sense of trust, and people know they can talk honestly about what's going on in their lives.

"What's said in here, stays in here and it's so comfortable, it encourages me to speak to others."

Growing confidence and shared control. Over time, the group has become more organised and more confident in how it works. Members feel more in control and able to get things done. There's less reliance on a few individuals. Decisions are now shared. The group feels more structured and purposeful.

"Things got started but not finished… now we things get done."

Stronger resilience as a group. Changes to the YTT team impacted the group for a while but things now feel more settled and the group more focused on what they can and want to achieve.

"When [trained staff member] left, it felt like a significant loss and we weren't sure what to do next. But together we worked through that. A few of us completed Mental Health First Aid training, and we've strengthened our understanding of each other. There's a stronger sense of connection again, we've rebuilt that "glue".

Big ambitions for the future There's a real appetite to grow, connect with others, and raise the group's profile.

"We'd love to invite more people in, share what we do, and raise awareness. Having leaflets linked to council services and providers – clearly showing what they offer and what we can offer – would help people know where to go for support. We are open and welcoming to anyone who wants to join."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Research.

Research and consultation have been a significant part of YTT's Health & Wellbeing pillar this year. Across mental health, cancer research and wider health inequalities work, YTT has increasingly acted not simply as a gateway for researchers, but as a bridge between external systems and community trust.

However, staff reflections suggest this work is only truly valuable when it goes beyond communities simply being studied and instead becomes a route towards trust, influence and tangible change. A recurring theme was that GTC are often approached for research in ways that can feel extractive, as though communities are being observed or questioned without enough clarity around relevance, respect or what happens next. Without this, research risks reinforcing what was described more critically as a "fishbowl" dynamic where communities are repeatedly asked to share their experiences without always seeing proportionate benefit.

"We've got to see the value in the topic… the research needs to be community led."

A major strategic strength this year has been the GT Community Outreach Worker's role in helping bridge this gap. Her reflections strongly suggest that participation in several projects was not simply driven by institutional credibility, but by community trust in her personally. In practical terms, this meant her role often went far beyond outreach. It involved translating language, challenging inappropriate questions, protecting dignity, encouraging participation where there was genuine value, and helping ensure community voice was not lost.

City of York Council Healthy Child Service

CYC have funded a piece of work that started this year, using some of the Family Hubs Transformation Grant and the Health Inequalities funding to test a new way of providing community health; engaging families in communities through the Raise York Network, facilitated by us.

In December we began the "warm up" period of 6 months built into the start of the project to facilitate trust and relationship building, using the expertise and time of our Project and Community Lead. This has led to the start of engagement events with the community which we have co-designed and led. Initial community research has taken place to find out current access to health for the Gypsy and Traveller families in York. The key health professional has come along to our community events and been featured on our newsletter. This work will continue next year to further embed access to healthy child services through YTT.

City of York Council Healthy Relationships

Funding has supported the development of culturally appropriate healthy relationships resources for Gypsy and Traveller young people, with 15 young people involved overall.

Activities and scenario-based flashcards were created to explore healthy, unhealthy and potentially criminal behaviours, including coercive control, while encouraging facilitated discussion rather than focusing solely on written learning.

Feedback showed that the resources were easy to understand and prompted conversations that may not otherwise have taken place. The project has increased young people's knowledge of healthy relationships, warning signs, relevant laws and sources of support, while giving them a meaningful role in creating resources specifically designed for their community.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

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NHS Integrated Care Board
The ICB provided funding for a piece of light-touch work to explore community views on being recorded at GP practices under the correct ethnic group. This allowed us to develop resources to incorporate practical learning for Humber and North Yorkshire ICB and local practices.

University of York/Yorkshire Cancer Research
We are working with the University of York on research: Improving early diagnosis and screening among Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities: a community-participatory approach.

This year we have completed the first two elements of this research; our Project Manager and Outreach worker have introduced the project and recruited 100 participants from the Gypsy and Traveller communities across Yorkshire, from a range of ages and housing situations, to complete a community survey. Four focus groups have also been conducted to collect qualitative data on the issues facing the communities in diagnosis and screening. This research project is due to complete in September 2028.

University of York/Mental Health Research
YTT partnered with the Mental Health Social Care Research Centre at the University of York on two research projects: Hidden Troubles and Crossing Boundaries. Funded by the NIHR Programme Development Grant and Three Schools Mental Health Programmes, with support and participation from a number of organisations including the NHS, Northumbria University, the University of Bristol and Waythrough, these projects listened to Gypsy and Traveller communities, peer researchers, community organisations and professionals to better understand mental health, suicide risk, trust, support, and what good help should look like.

The research team were worried they might not get ten participants; Gypsy and Traveller Communities are often described as 'hard to reach' or 'difficult to engage'. However, the participation itself was a key early finding.

We arranged a number of open and accessible community events, including two Ladies Shopping Days, and also attended Lee Gap Horse Fair. These were not just "nice events"; they helped create the conditions where people could come together, feel comfortable, and speak about wider health, fear, grief and pressure without being labelled. Suicide, grief and trauma can be surrounded by silence, shame or fear of judgement so it was vital that we listened in a way that respected people's privacy, dignity and culture. People spoke through relationships, cups of tea, community conversations, familiar workers, repeated contact and spaces where they did not feel exposed.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

131 individual conversations happened, 188 people were reached at events and, in total, between 250 and 300 people were spoken with overall. While we look forward to the publication of the final report, this research project has already clearly demonstrated that engagement is not a personality trait of a community; it is shaped by the way people are approached.

Importantly, staff reflections suggest YTT increasingly wants research to lead somewhere practical. This may mean better professional training, more culturally competent tools, improved healthcare access, stronger local partnerships, or clearer preventative pathways. The organisational priority is shifting from simply asking communities what is wrong, towards ensuring research contributes to something useful.

YTT is increasingly not only participating in research, but beginning to challenge how research itself is designed, and at its best, this moves YTT from participant to co-producer. At the same time, this work is not without challenge. Research can be time-consuming, politically complex and dependent on trust that has often taken years to build. Staff reflections suggest there is real risk if that trust is overused for projects that do not lead to visible outcomes, or where communities feel they are contributing more than they are gaining.

For YTT, the next phase may therefore be less about how much research the organisation participates in, and more about how it helps shape research that genuinely matters – research that not only documents inequality, but actively contributes to better systems, better services and stronger futures.

What Next?

Key next steps under the Health & Wellbeing pillar include:

Operationally:

- Rebuild and strengthen therapeutic capacity following the loss of trained clinical support.
- Protect, scaffold and further develop Barmy Army as a peer-led wellbeing and leadership space.
- Strengthen preventative wellbeing pathways, including earlier support, clearer emotional wellbeing routes and trusted drop-ins.
- Improve awareness, visibility and accessibility of YTT's wellbeing offer so more community members know support exists.
- Continue improving wellbeing data, reflective practice and impact capture to better evidence need, outcomes and growth.

Strategically:

- Strengthen YTT's role in community-led health research and consultation.
- Build stronger partnerships with health, public health and preventative services (e.g. Health Visitors, outreach, screening).
- Shape more culturally competent health and wellbeing tools, systems and professional practice.
- Increase YTT's influence around wider health inequalities affecting GTC communities.
- Continue moving from reactive wellbeing support alone towards prevention, empowerment and longer-term health equity.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Community & Identity.

While Housing & Welfare, Education, and Health & Wellbeing often respond to immediate needs or systemic barriers, Community & Identity is fundamentally about something deeper i.e., belonging, pride, visibility, connection and the long-term conditions that help GTC feel seen, heard and valued on their own terms.

This means Community & Identity at YTT is not just about events or activities. It is about creating safer spaces where people can connect, explore who they are, strengthen pride, challenge stigma, and build both individual and collective confidence. It is also about ensuring that GTC voices, experiences and identities are better understood beyond the community itself, particularly within systems, services and wider public life.

Catch-Up Club.

Catch-Up Club provides a safe space for GT women to come together regularly, build relationships, and support one another. The group is informal and participant-led, centred on shared activities such as cooking, crafts, and conversation. Over time, Catch-Up Club helps reduce isolation, build confidence, and strengthen a sense of identity and belonging.

This matters because GT women are often central to family life, frequently carrying significant responsibilities as carers, organisers, emotional anchors and cultural lynchpins within their families and wider communities. While this role can be a source of strength, it can also mean women's own wellbeing, confidence and social connection are too easily deprioritised.

Key Figures.

During the reporting period, 26 Catch-Up Club sessions were delivered, generating 122 recorded attendances from 23 identified YTT clients with Lamplight profiles. While overall session numbers were lower than previous years, staff reflections suggest the group maintained a relatively consistent core membership throughout the year.

A safe, welcoming space for women. Catch-Up Club remains one of YTT's most valued and consistent offers, providing a relaxed, inclusive space where GT women can come together each week. The group offers a sense of belonging and routine. Women feel comfortable being themselves without judgement. It creates a trusted environment for sharing experiences.

"I know everyone here… I still feel comfortable coming and that's really important."

Strong peer support and connection. At its heart, Catch-Up Club is about connection. Friendships form naturally and offer ongoing emotional support beyond the sessions themselves. Women support each other through everyday challenges. The group reduces isolation and builds lasting relationships. People feel listened to and understood.

"Friendships have come from here, connections grow, we make each other feel better."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Physical and emotional wellbeing benefits. Alongside social connection, participants report tangible wellbeing benefits. Activities help reduce stress and provide a mental break. Some report physical benefits, particularly from exercise sessions. The group creates space for both fun and more serious conversations.

"Sometimes everyone is talking and laughing, sometimes it's more serious."

Building confidence and independence. This year, there has been a clear shift towards members taking more ownership of the group. Members are now helping plan sessions and manage a budget. Decision-making is shared, increasing confidence and leadership skills. There is less reliance on staff, with more peer-led delivery.

"The group has made a big difference with my own confidence and connection to the people."

A gateway to wider support and opportunities. Catch-Up Club often acts as a first step for engagement with YTT and beyond. Women move into wellbeing support, casework or volunteering. Long-term relationships with YTT are strengthened

"I've had so much help over the years and now I can help."

Long-term impact and trust in YTT. Catch-Up Club reflects the strong level of trust built between YTT and the community over time. Some members noted the staffing changes over the past year, acknowledging it was difficult to see staff leave but highlighting the positive impact of the new team as relationships and trust continue to grow.

"It's sad when people leave but it all seems to be on a more even footing now… the new team is amazing and that's what has made the difference to this place and the progress it's made."

Supporting aspirations and future opportunities. The wider work of YTT, linked through spaces like Catch-Up Club, helps raise aspirations for both women and their families.

"This place [YTT] is about being able to achieve more than is expected of you, keep our heritage but if you want to go further it shows you that you can try."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Events and Trips.

Events (on-site) and trips (off-site) create opportunities for collective experience, celebration, and visibility, bringing people together in ways that build pride, confidence, and connection. These activities are designed to be inclusive, culturally affirming, and enjoyable, while also helping families feel part of a wider community.

During the reporting period, YTT delivered 8 recorded community events and trips, generating 177 attendances from 31 identified clients with Lamplight profiles. The events delivered this year were: Scarborough Trip, Summer Party, Halloween Party, Wetherby Trip, Christmas Party, Picnic and Gardening Day, Easter Party, and International Women's Day.

Events and Trips Impact.

These activities are not simply recreational "extras." Staff and community reflections throughout the year strongly suggest that events and trips play an important relational and wellbeing role within YTT's wider model. They create opportunities for families and community members to socialise safely, build positive memories, reduce isolation, strengthen identity and experience joy, celebration and belonging in ways that are often difficult within the pressures of everyday life.

Several events also appear to have carried wider symbolic importance. Activities such as International Women's Day and seasonal celebrations created opportunities not only for participation and enjoyment, but also for visibility, recognition and positive community connection.

The wellbeing event organised for International Women's Day provided clients with the chance to try yoga or Pilates with a professional instructor. There were also opportunities to enjoy professional hand and foot massages and get their nails done by nail technicians.

While simple in format, reflections suggest the event's significance extended far beyond the activities themselves. In this context, the event appears to have given permission to pause:

"It's good to try things you might not have tried before." (Client)

"I don't think I've had my nails done for years, you always put everyone else's needs ahead of yours, even if it's just like 15 minutes to sit and do something like this, it makes a difference." (Client)

"The difference this place [YTT] makes is massive, the staff are incredible, this is a great thing to organise for us." (Client)

"It's been brilliant to see people laughing, chatting, challenging themselves and encouraging one another to try different things. People said they felt better after treatments and were keen to have a go." (Pilates instructor)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

"I don't think people would be where they are without this place, it makes such a difference, having case workers are brilliant, the events, the space. I've been coming here for 25 years. I've had so much help over the years and now I can help." (Client)

"It's good to have something that's for you even when you go shopping you put your children's needs first, everyone's needs come first and you sort yourself out last then there's no time for you." (Client)

Alongside the wellbeing activities, International Women's Day also included a storytelling event exploring GTC experiences and identity. Reflections suggest this created valuable opportunities for learning and connection:

"I like the individual stories that Violet shared, that made it more human. It's important to embed stories and experiences of GT people in the wider society. I'm keen to understand more but embarrassed to ask naive questions. Events like this really help build that understanding." (Client)

"The storytelling was really relatable." (Client)

Public Living Room and Food Stall.

The Public Living Room is a drop-in community space that offers consistency, safety, and belonging. It provides a welcoming environment where people can come without an appointment, spend time together, and feel at ease. For many, it is a first point of contact with YTT and a place where trust is built gradually, often leading to engagement with other forms of support.

The Food Stall provides accessible, dignified practical support while also acting as a powerful community connector. It is open to both Gypsy and Traveller and non-Gypsy communities, helping to foster everyday interaction and challenge misconceptions through shared experience. For many people, it is an entry point into YTT, building familiarity and trust over time.

While on the surface these offers may appear simple, staff and visitor reflections strongly suggest they have become something much more significant – cornerstones of connection, belonging and low-barrier engagement. This low-barrier nature is particularly important because it means support often begins through familiarity, routine and relationship; not crisis.

Both offers have become a steady and reliable presence for the people who use them. For many regulars, it is something they can depend on each week. This sense of consistency is particularly important for those experiencing instability or isolation, providing not just practical help but a routine, a sense of security, and a space that feels like part of everyday life.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

"It's a constant thing for people, we know it's a safe space you can come in and make a coffee; there's the financial side and the social side in terms of help you can get."

"It has become a valued and consistent part of people's weekly routine. They look forward to it, clearly enjoy the opportunity to connect with others. I've noticed people become more confident and talkative in the space."

Key Figures.

During the reporting period, the Public Living Room ran across 129 sessions and recorded 940 attendances, while the Food Stall ran across 116 sessions and recorded 760 attendances. In practice, this meant both offers were providing year-round consistent and reliable community support. Together, these two offers generated 1,700 attendances across the year, making them some of the busiest and most consistently used parts of YTT's wider community offer.

At first glance, the number of named client profiles attached to this activity appears relatively low. Only 49 identified clients were formally linked to Public Living Room activity and 27 to the Food Stall. However, this does not reflect low usage. In reality, a very large proportion of attendances were intentionally recorded anonymously: 620 within the Public Living Room and 617 within the Food Stall.

Staff Reflections.

Staff reflections this year strongly suggest that the Public Living Room and Food Stall reaffirm the intended benefit and potential of the space, ran a relaxed community setting where people can spend time together, talk naturally, and access support without pressure.

"There's a lot of laughter here and varied conversation!"

There have been some important developments this year with the Public Living Room expanded to run across three-hour sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, reflecting growing and consistent presence and use. At the same time, staff reflections suggest there is still significant potential for wider reach and engagement, particularly through stronger communication and community-led promotion:

"It's well used and works well but we could be reaching more people. We need more information on the website. Word of mouth gets people through the door so we're trying to get people in the community to promote within the sites and community."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Staff also highlighted opportunities to further develop the Public Living Room as a more active and participatory environment, particularly through creative activity:

"People find it easier to chat when they're doing something with their hands so it would be good to do more arts and crafts in the Public Living Room. Say to people you don't have to do that if you don't want to, bring your own games in but those who want to do it can."

Staff reflections also provide an important example of YTT attempting to put its own values into practice internally through employment, trust and progression opportunities for GT staff members themselves. This is particularly significant within the context of wider educational exclusion and employment barriers discussed elsewhere in the report.

"YTT gave me the opportunity to work. I didn't have qualifications or credentials. I struggled to find work as I had no formal qualifications, I was taken out of school at 10 years old and I educated myself. This was my first job."

Importantly, this has happened within a visible and informal community space. The Public Living Room is a low-pressure environment where other GTC members can see someone "like them" growing in confidence, taking on responsibility and developing new skills in real time.

"I entered an environment that has given me the opportunity to develop that I didn't have and wouldn't have otherwise had... I think I demonstrate how important the YTT do is and show that YTT lives by their mission. Through me they have put that mission into practice."

Client Reflections.

A welcoming, low-barrier entry point for support. The Public Living Room and Food Stall provide an accessible, non-stigmatising way for people to engage with YTT. The informal "drop-in" style removes the pressure of seeking formal help and creates a natural first step into wider support.

"It gives people a reason to come in without feeling the pressure of seeking help."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

A safe, relaxed and trusted community space. The Public Living Room is described as a calm, welcoming environment where people can "breathe a bit" and feel comfortable being themselves. Staff relationships play a key role in building trust

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"This is my place, my husband is sick, I've gone from working full time to being a full-time carer. I love coming, it's not just about the food, it's the people in this place. It's close to home so if anything goes wrong, I can go home. They've seen me happy and sad, crying. I can be myself."

Practical support that meets real need. The Food Stall provides essential access to food, particularly fresh fruit and vegetables, which participants consistently highlight as making a real difference to their day-to-day lives. For many, it supplements limited household resources at a time of rising costs, allowing people to "top up" rather than go without. The availability of fresh produce also creates opportunities for sharing ideas, recipes and conversations, adding a social and practical dimension to the support.

"Everything has gone up in cost… this really helps."

Strong relationships with staff. Staff are consistently recognised as a key strength, playing an important role in creating a welcoming and supportive environment. Their presence shapes the tone and safety of the space.

"The sense of community is down to staff being approachable."

Building skills, confidence and independence. The Public Living Room supports people in practical ways that build confidence and independence, particularly for those facing barriers such as literacy or complex life situations. Staff provide informal, tailored support (e.g. reading letters, accessing ID). People gain confidence to manage everyday challenges.

"It's not just about food… it's the help you can get."

A gateway into wider services and activities. The Public Living Room plays a key role in connecting people to other opportunities. Staff regularly signpost to events, trips and support services. Attendees go on to take part in wider YTT activities helping people take small, manageable steps towards engagement.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Inclusive and open to all. The offer is genuinely inclusive, attracting a diverse mix of people from the local community and beyond. Users include local residents, asylum seekers and refugees. Most Food Stall users are non-GT, helping softly challenge assumptions.

Reciprocity and community contribution. The space encourages a sense of shared ownership and contribution, not just receiving support. People donate items and share resources. There is a culture of mutual support rather than dependency. Participants feel they can "give back".

> *"People drop things off and swap things… you feel you can give back."*

Areas for growth and improvement. Participants and staff have identified opportunities to further strengthen the offer:

- Improve organisation, space and layout of the stall
- Clearer labelling, including in other languages.
- Develop a simple feedback system to gather community input.
- Expand activities (e.g. crafts, shared activities) to encourage interaction.
- Strengthen outreach through promotion and word of mouth.

Training.

Training activity is delivered to support greater understanding of Gypsy and Traveller identities, experiences, and cultures, and to improve how services engage with and respond to the community. We know that this is an increasingly important part of YTT's wider strategic role, but that this area remains underdeveloped relative to its potential. At present, much of YTT's training offer has relied heavily on the Director's personal lived experience, credibility, facilitation skills and strategic leadership. This has undoubtedly been a major strength, particularly in terms of authenticity, challenge and trust.

Looking ahead, one of the clearest developmental opportunities appears to be supporting other GT staff members to build the confidence, skills and facilitation experience needed to contribute more actively to training delivery.

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) History Month.

GRT History Month, held annually in June, is an important national opportunity to celebrate GRT histories, cultures and identities; challenge stereotypes; increase visibility; and create spaces for pride, education and recognition. For organisations like YTT, it is closely connected to wider Community & Identity work, anti-racism, cultural celebration and the long-term strategic goal of ensuring GTC are seen, understood and valued.

This is particularly significant given YTT's long-standing connection to GRT History Month, including early involvement in wider national conversations around its development and a history of actively encouraging partners and wider systems to engage with it meaningfully.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

YTT's absence of activity around GRT History Month in June 2025 did not feel like a minor oversight or simple scheduling issue. It felt painful. Staff reflections suggest this was an example of how fragile the organisation had become during a year dominated by staffing instability, operational rebuilding and the pressure of responding to immediate need.

GRT History Month became an important reflective marker, exposing the tension between person-centred crisis response and the equally vital work of proactive cultural leadership. This year highlighted that when organisational capacity is stretched too thin, even deeply important parts of YTT's mission can struggle to receive the time, energy and attention they deserve, not because they matter less, but because too much is being carried at once.

Importantly, staff reflections suggest this year's disappointment has sharpened commitment. With greater staffing stability now emerging, and with named roles more clearly positioned to strengthen Community & Identity work, GRT History Month can and will become (again) a clearer priority moving forward.

Funding via the University of York from the Gypsy Traveller History Month project has enabled us to appoint an in-house Project Manager, who has made a strong start in developing and coordinating the project. We have established a core group of community members who have worked alongside York Museums Trust to help fill gaps in curatorial knowledge and ensure community voices and experiences are represented. We are planning to host events and publicise GRTHM in June 2026. Through the project, we are also working with Rural Media to produce a short film written by and featuring members of our community. A date and venue have now been secured for a flagship event to launch Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month in June 2027, and we continue to work closely with the community to develop further projects and outputs that will be showcased at the event.

What Next?

Key next steps under the Community & Identity pillar include:

Operationally:

- Strengthen and sustain core community spaces.
- Improve community activity structure, feedback and visibility.
- Expand inclusive activities and participant progression pathways.
- Develop wider staff and peer leadership capacity.
- Plan proactively for key cultural moments such as GRT History Month.

Strategically:

- Scale and diversify YTT's training offer.
- Strengthen YTT's role as a cultural and strategic voice.
- Reclaim and deepen leadership around GRT History Month.
- Move from participation to co-production and influence.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Partner Survey.

YTT's second annual partner survey, delivered between April and mid-May 2026, offers an important external perspective on how the organisation is currently seen by professionals, services and strategic collaborators. With 19 responses from a range of partners – including particularly strong representation from education alongside local authority, voluntary sector, advocacy and wider community organisations – the survey provides more than simple feedback. When considered alongside last year's partner reflections, it begins to show how YTT's external reputation may be changing over time.

One of the clearest findings is that, despite a year internally characterised by major staffing change, organisational rebuilding and significant operational restructuring, YTT's external credibility appears to have remained remarkably strong.

Last year's partner reflections, gathered at the close of the 5-year Safe Space Project, consistently positioned YTT as a trusted, distinctive and increasingly influential organisation. Much of that reputation was rooted in authenticity, advocacy and the organisation's ability to act as both a practical support service and a strategic voice, particularly through work linked to housing, the York Local Plan, research and community representation.

This year's survey strongly suggests that this foundation has held. Partners again repeatedly described YTT as welcoming, trusted, responsive, inclusive and values led:

"YTT are a hugely valued member of the York Community and deliver excellent work."

"York Travellers Trust is a welcoming and supportive organisation who provide help and resources to those in need."

Rather than internal turbulence appearing to weaken external confidence, there is stronger evidence that YTT has largely maintained, and in some areas deepened, its reputation.

What appears to be changing, however, is the shape of that trust. Where previous reflections often centred heavily on the organisation's leadership and the visibility of a relatively small number of key figures, this year's responses suggest trust is increasingly being recognised across a broader team. Reflections repeatedly acknowledge the contribution of newer staff, strengthened relationships and improved operational consistency.

"The new staff at YTT are phenomenal and have made a very strong start… They are incredibly helpful, invested and supportive of all elements of the community, and I am sure will continue to produce positive outcomes provided the fair and balanced approach they currently apply remains in spite of any potential staffing changes over coming years."

Achievements and Performance (continued)

A second major theme is the rising prominence of education. While education featured in previous partner reflections, this year it appears to have moved much closer to the centre of YTT's external identity. Not only were education professionals particularly well represented in the survey sample, but the nature of responses suggests that YTT's education work is increasingly being recognised not just as family or learner support, but as wider system-facing influence.

"In the last 12 months there has been a considerable change in engagement with school. We have really valued the renewed partnership with York Travellers Trust and look forward to future partnerships."

"The work the trust does to highlight young people's voice is excellent and extremely powerful."

Partners' reflections imply that YTT is now playing a more visible role in conversations around school engagement, inclusion, attendance, transitions, advocacy and broader educational belonging.

Education increasingly appears to be one of the clearest examples of YTT moving from direct intervention into strategic influence – shaping not only outcomes for individual children or families, but how education systems themselves think about GTC.

More broadly, the survey suggests YTT is increasingly being seen not simply as a frontline charity, but as a more embedded civic and strategic partner.

Last year's reflections often focused on why YTT mattered – its specialist role, trusted voice and community credibility. This year, there is stronger evidence that external partners are increasingly describing how YTT is actively influencing their own work: through partnership, through challenge, through inclusion conversations, through education, through research, and through wider strategic engagement.

"YTT have provided space and a warm welcome to our community which is not guaranteed unfortunately in the current environment. We stand in solidarity together and this makes all the difference, from the sofas to the council chambers."

"Without YTT, research with Gypsy and Traveller communities would not be possible."

At the same time, this year's reflections also hint at a new strategic challenge, capacity.

If last year's partner reflections were largely about credibility and growth, this year's responses suggest a growing sense of possibility around what YTT could do next. More partnerships, more training, more strategic collaboration, more educational reach and more influence all appear increasingly imaginable to external partners.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

"I hope that travellers trust will be able to build further relationships with college, employers and training programmes to further support young people to get high quality training opportunities."

"I think your Trust could take the lead in research partnerships; working with accredited academics institutions to validate the findings and effect further positive policy outcomes at both local and national level."

This is positive, but it also raises a deeper organisational question. As YTT's reputation grows, so too may expectations. The challenge ahead may therefore be less about continuing to prove YTT's value, and more about determining where that value can be most effectively focused, structured and sustained without overstretching capacity.

Client Survey.

YTT's second annual client survey ran from April to mid-May 2026 and was designed primarily as an experience-of-service questionnaire i.e., a way of understanding how people who had engaged with York Travellers Trust over the past year experienced support, relationships and impact across different parts of the organisation. The survey was promoted through multiple routes, including in-centre conversations, newsletter promotion, direct sharing by staff with people they had supported, and wider encouragement through YTT activities and networks. To encourage participation, respondents were also offered entry into a free prize draw to win one of two £25 One4All gift cards.

With 42 total responses, the survey provides a meaningful snapshot of client experience, although it is important to recognise that this remains a relatively modest response rate when considered against the wider scale of YTT's overall reach across the year. This should be understood carefully rather than simplistically; a lower response rate does not necessarily suggest dissatisfaction or disengagement. Staff reflections and wider organisational context strongly suggest that participation itself can be shaped by broader realities e.g., ongoing life pressures, instability, literacy or digital barriers, trust, confidence, and the wider challenge that for many community members, "having a voice" or formally feeding back is not always routine, easy or prioritised amidst complex lives. In this sense, response rate may itself partially reflect one of YTT's wider strategic themes – that voice, participation and influence remain areas requiring continued long-term development.

It is also important to recognise that YTT's relational model can make defining an "end point" difficult. Unlike more transactional services, YTT relationships often remain ongoing, fluid and informal. Someone may first access support through housing, later attend a group, then seek education support, wellbeing support or simply continue using YTT as a trusted place over time. This means that unlike many services with clearer closure points, identifying when someone's "episode of support" has objectively ended can be difficult. This raises an important future opportunity. Rather than positioning the client survey primarily as an annual or time-limited exercise, there may be value in moving to a year-round feedback model, where people can complete the survey whenever they themselves feel a meaningful point of reflection has been reached. This could better reflect YTT's relational nature, improve inclusivity, and potentially generate more representative feedback over time.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Despite these caveats, the findings themselves are strikingly positive.

Across core service questions, client responses (on a 5-point Likert scale from 1 – strongly disagree, to 5 – strongly agree) suggest strong levels of trust and satisfaction:

- 62.5% strongly agreed and 27.5% agreed that it was easy to get help when needed.
- 68.29% strongly agreed and 21.95% agreed that they would recommend YTT to other Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 68.29% strongly agreed and 21.95% agreed that they felt listened to by staff.
- 87.5% agreed or strongly agreed that they felt in control of the support they received.
- 90% agreed or strongly agreed that support from YTT helped them feel more confident or better able to deal with life.

Overall weighted averages across these questions ranged from 4.33 to 4.54 out of 5, suggesting consistently high levels of positive client experience.

Qualitative responses reinforce this even more powerfully. Repeatedly, clients described YTT as a trusted, welcoming and emotionally safe place:

While YTT delivers across multiple work areas, the client survey strongly suggests that one of its deepest strengths remains relational i.e., being somewhere people feel heard, understood, supported, and able to return to.

The "what three words would you use to describe the support you got from YTT" exercise reinforces this further. Common descriptors included helpful, supportive, welcoming, understanding, trusting, reliable, and safe.

"Trusted place where you can go and speak and get support."

"Couldn't have done it without them."

"A great deal of difference. It gives me somewhere to go when I'm at my lowest."

"Knowing you have somewhere to turn to."

At the same time, the survey also offers useful insight into future priorities. Where improvement suggestions were made, they largely did not focus on dissatisfaction with current support, but on growth e.g., more communication, more visibility, more staff hours, easier appointments, more family activities, more mental health support, more youth opportunities, and more practical support navigating increasingly digital systems.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Conclusion.

The 2025–26 financial year has been a significant period of rebuilding, stabilisation and learning for YTT. Despite considerable staffing change and organisational pressure during the year, the report demonstrates that YTT has continued to provide substantial support across the four organisational strategic pillars, while also strengthening its systems, data collection and strategic direction.

Importantly, this year's reflections suggest the organisation is increasingly operating across multiple levels at once: responding to immediate practical need, creating trusted community spaces, supporting long-term wellbeing, advocating for GTC, and contributing more visibly to wider strategic conversations.

Alongside frontline delivery, YTT has continued to strengthen its internal infrastructure through improved use of Lamplight, clearer work area reporting, stronger reflective practice and increased focus on evaluation and organisational learning. While the data within this report should still be understood as part of a developing system, it provides a far clearer baseline than in previous years and creates stronger foundations for future analysis and planning.

Several themes also emerge consistently across the report: the importance of trusted spaces, the importance of culturally safe support, the growing significance of education work, the ongoing impact of poverty and housing insecurity, and the need to balance immediate crisis response with longer-term strategic development and community leadership.

With staffing stability now improving and clearer structures beginning to emerge, YTT enters the next phase of work. Challenges remain, particularly around capacity, sustainability and growing demand, but the year has demonstrated both the resilience of the organisation and the continued importance of its role within York and beyond.

Most importantly, the reflections throughout this report suggest that YTT continues to provide something that many people feel is increasingly rare – a trusted organisation that is rooted within, alongside and accountable to the communities it serves.

Financial Review

Income increased significantly during the year as the work programme develops and additional grants are obtained (£438,505 from £356,767 in 2025). Expenditure has also increased, largely due to an increase in expenditure on wages and salaries, and sessional work. This resulted in a significant surplus of £101,069 (£90,855 in 2025) and a rise in net current assets to £322,063 (£210,918 in 2025).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the target level of reserves should be between three to six months running costs. In the current period these costs would be in the order of £84,000 - £168,000. Free reserves, being unrestricted funds not committed to fixed assets, amounted to £128,420 (2025 - £100,858) which falls within the Trustees' target range.

Funds materially in deficit

None

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Patrick O'Kelly *Chair*	Stephen Pittam *Treasurer*

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of York Travellers Trust for the year ended 31 March 2026.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Trust 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.

Emma Collier ACA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

22 September 2026

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	23,392	349,592	372,984	320,863
Charitable activities	3	4,719	54,560	59,279	31,317
Other trading activities	4	3,850	-	3,850	3,333
Investments		2,392	-	2,392	1,254
Total Income		34,353	404,152	438,505	356,767
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		35,057	302,379	337,436	265,912
Total Expenditure	6	35,057	302,379	337,436	265,912
Net (Expenditure)/Income	5	(704)	101,773	101,069	90,855
Transfers between funds		18,190	(18,190)	-	-
Net movement in funds		17,486	83,583	101,069	90,855
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2025		147,130	110,060	257,190	166,335
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2026		£ 164,616	£ 193,643	£ 358,259	£ 257,190

The notes on pages 42 to 50 form part of these accounts.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

Charity number: 1189827

	Notes	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	9	36,196	46,272
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		330,085	213,132
Debtors	10	10,614	26,148
		340,699	239,280
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(18,636)	(28,362)
Net current assets		322,063	210,918
Total assets less current liabilities		358,259	257,190
Total Net Assets		**£ 358,259**	**£ 257,190**
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	13	164,616	147,130
Restricted funds	14	193,643	110,060
Total Charity Funds		**£ 358,259**	**£ 257,190**

Approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Patrick O'Kelly
Chair

The notes on pages 42 to 50 form part of these accounts.

YORK TRAVELLERS TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 or Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charites SORP (FRS 102)).

York Travellers Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The principal address of the Charity is: 20 Falsgrave Crescent, York, YO30 7AZ

b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has sufficient resources to be able to continue in existence for the foreseeable. They believe that the going concern basis is appropriate in the preparing the financial statements.

c) Funds structure

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Restricted funds represent funds received for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities relates to activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and includes their associated support costs.

f) Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from the payment of income tax in respect of its charitable activities.

g) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

i) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £200. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value on receipt.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:

Fixtures and fittings (leasehold improvements)	Between 0.7% and 2.8% per month straight line - over the remaining term of the property lease
Office and other equipment	20% per annum straight line

j) Pension scheme

The charity pays defined contributions into personal pension plans for its employees. Pension costs are charged to the SOFA and represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	*Restricted Funds*	*Total* 2026	*Total* 2025
	£	£	£	£
Grants	22,000	330,762	352,762	319,859
Other donations	1,392	18,830	20,222	1,004
	£ 23,392	£ 349,592	£ 372,984	£ 320,863

In 2025, income from donations and legacies amounting to £279,793 related to restricted funds.

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	*Restricted Funds*	*Total* 2026	*Total* 2025
	£	£	£	£
Consultancy and other income	£ 4,719	£ 54,560	£ 59,279	£ 31,317

In 2025, other income of £25,377 related to restricted funds.

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	*Restricted Funds*	*Total* 2026	*Total* 2025
	£	£	£	£
Rental income	£ 3,850	£ -	£ 3,850	£ 3,333

In 2025, all income from other trading activities related to unrestricted funds.

5. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year is stated after charging:	2026	2025
	£	£
Depreciation	17,715	16,414
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,700	1,620
Other fees paid to Examiner	3,857	2,393

6. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Wages and salaries	-	187,380	187,380	156,454
Staff and volunteer expenses	-	4,436	4,436	4,003
Sessional work	-	20,196	20,196	6,805
Activities and outings	-	17,141	17,141	18,686
Client travel	-	3,069	3,069	1,292
	-	232,222	232,222	187,240
Governance costs:				
Independent examiner's fees	1,700	-	1,700	1,620
Support costs:				
Consultancy and advice	3,724	14,126	17,850	5,958
Rent and rates	-	15,066	15,066	14,213
Insurance	-	479	479	3,468
Heating and lighting	-	2,750	2,750	5,173
Office costs	-	15,008	15,008	12,221
Subscriptions	-	1,822	1,822	467
Repairs and maintenance	-	10,342	10,342	4,646
Professional fees	3,857	-	3,857	2,393
Sundry expenses	1,022	-	1,022	913
IT support and training	-	2,995	2,995	456
Training, development & wellbeing	2,039	3,569	5,608	3,414
Planning work	5,000	4,000	9,000	7,316
Depreciation	17,715	-	17,715	16,414
Total support costs	33,357	70,157	103,514	77,052
Total expenditure on charitable activities	£ 35,057	£ 302,379	£ 337,436	£ 265,912

In 2025, expenditure on charitable activities amounting to £229,392 related to restricted funds.

7. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	2026	2025
	£	£
Gross salaries and wages	172,036	144,004
Employer's NIC	8,302	5,511
Employer's pension contributions	7,042	6,939
	£ 187,380	£ 156,454

The average number of employees in the year was 8 (2025 - 8) . There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2025 - none).

No remuneration, benefits or expenses were received by any of the Trustees who held posts during the year in respect of their services to the charity.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors/Trustees, the Director (CEO), Deputy CEO and Centre Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £112,494 (2025 - £94,960).

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the period.

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Office and other equipment	Fixtures & fittings (Leasehold improvements)	Total
	£	£	£
Cost:			
At 1 April 2025	10,213	128,183	138,396
Additions	2,862	4,777	7,639
At 31 March 2026	13,075	132,960	146,035
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2025	7,054	85,070	92,124
Charge for the year	1,752	15,963	17,715
At 31 March 2026	8,806	101,033	109,839
Net book values			
31 March 2026	£ 4,269	£ 31,927	£ 36,196
31 March 2025	£ 3,159	£ 43,113	£ 46,272

All fixed assets relate to unrestricted funds.

10. DEBTORS

	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	730	26,148
Prepayments	6,134	-
Other debtors	3,750	-
	£ 10,614	£ 26,148

Debtors totalling £3,750 (2025 - £nil) relate to restricted funds.

11. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	10,605	10,571
Taxation and social security	4,835	1,506
Other creditors	1,496	793
Accruals and deferred income	1,700	15,492
	£ 18,636	£ 28,362

Creditors totalling £12,423 (2025 - £13,316) relate to restricted funds.

12. DEFERRED INCOME

	Total 2026	Total 2025
Grants received in advance	£	£
Balance at 1 April	13,316	49,458
Released to statement of financial activities	(13,316)	(49,458)
	-	-
Deferred in the period	-	13,316
Balance at 31 March	£ -	£ 13,316

13. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2025	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2026
General	£ 147,130	£ 34,353	£ (35,057)	£ 18,190	£ 164,616

Comparative year	Balance b/f 01/04/2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2025
General	£ 113,235	£ 51,597	£ (36,520)	£ 18,818	£ 147,130

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year	Balance b/f 01/04/2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance c/f 31/03/2026 £
Allen Lane	2,576	-	(3,072)	496	-
City of York Council					
- Good Warm Space	-	1,600	(1,543)	-	57
- HAF Easter	2,090	-	-	-	2,090
- HAF Summer	2,465	-	(37)	-	2,428
- Planning Work	-	6,500	(4,000)	-	2,500
- Gardening Event	-	218	(115)	-	103
Education 25/26	-	24,783	(997)	1,668	25,454
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation					
- Sociocratic	36,152	54,167	(60,068)	-	30,251
- Financial Review	-	7,800	(7,800)	-	-
Groundwork	-	9,779	-	(9,779)	-
Moving for Change					
- Governance	3,807	-	-	(3,807)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	18,151	124,837	(103,954)	(600)	38,434
NIHR					
- Hidden Troubles	(2,316)	26,579	(26,302)	-	(2,039)
- Mental Health	16,580	27,481	(44,304)	-	(243)
Reaching Out	4,510	-	-	-	4,510
Roadside Futures Project	4,500	-	-	(4,500)	-
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	2,329	-	(159)	-	2,170
- Cost of Living	5,325	2,778	(4,759)	-	3,344
- MBSR Therapy	523	-	(37)	-	486
- Christmas Hampers	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
University of York					
- Youth Work/Skills	1,664	8,915	(8,911)	(1,668)	-
- GRTHM	-	73,239	(5,695)		67,544
- Cancer Research	-	10,346	(10,346)	-	-
York CVS	10,418	24,130	(18,865)	-	15,683
York Mind	1,286	-	(415)	-	871
	£ 110,060	£ 404,152	£ (302,379)	£ (18,190)	£ 193,643

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative year	Balance b/f 01/04/2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance c/f 31/03/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Allen Lane	-	7,500	(4,924)	-	2,576
Barrow Cadbury	1,747	6,000	(7,747)	-	-
City of York Council					
- Education	(805)	1,200	(726)	331	-
- Good Warm Space	366	-	(513)	147	-
- HAF Easter	2,090	-	-	-	2,090
- HAF Summer	2,764	-	(299)	-	2,465
- Home Energy Advice	-	11,176	(11,176)	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation					
- Sociocratic	-	45,833	(9,681)	-	36,152
Groundwork	-	18,616	-	(18,616)	-
Moving for Change					
- Governance	-	5,000	(1,193)	-	3,807
- GRTHM	-	500	(500)	-	-
- Cost of living	(1,644)	10,667	(9,023)	-	-
- Mentee	4,278	17,692	(21,970)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	14,261	95,542	(91,652)	-	18,151
NIHR					
- Hidden Troubles	-	-	(2,316)	-	(2,316)
- Mental Health	-	24,178	(7,598)	-	16,580
Reaching Out	4,510	-	-	-	4,510
Roadside Futures Project	9,587	21,956	(27,043)	-	4,500
Trailblazers	2,851	-	(2,171)	(680)	-
Two Ridings Foundation					
- Betty's Family Fund	2,889	-	(560)	-	2,329
- Cost of Living	3,825	2,222	(722)	-	5,325
- MBSR Therapy	523	-	-	-	523
University of York					
- Education Research	1,671	-	(1,671)	-	-
- Youth Work/Skills	(498)	17,754	(15,592)	-	1,664
York CVS	3,062	19,334	(11,978)	-	10,418
York Mind	1,623	-	(337)	-	1,286
	£ 53,100	£ 305,170	£ (229,392)	£ (18,818)	£ 110,060

Allen Lane Foundation
Funding towards staffing and development of the Public Living Room.

Barrow Cadbury
Funding towards gathering data to better understand the impact of the justice system on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young adults and their families.

City of York Council
Education – Funding towards supporting young Gypsies and Travellers in school through developing educational opportunities for young people from York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.
Good Warm Space – Funding towards maintaining the Public Living Room as a Warm Space during winter and providing food and toiletries to alleviate cost-of-living pressures.

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

City of York Council (continued)

HAF Easter/Summer - Funding towards Holiday Activities and Food for families

Home Energy Advice - Funding towards supporting Gypsy and Traveller community members living on York's traveller sites to take up home energy use advice.

Planning Work - Funding to develop a proposal to inform the development of the York Local Plan.

Gardening Event - Funding towards a local community-led event to tidy, refresh and improve the shared garden space at the rear of York Travellers Trust.

Education 25/26

Use of donation and funding to continue providing functional skills support to young people from York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Sociocratic - Funding towards implementing YTT's strategic goal to become a truly sociocratic organisation.

Financial Review - Funding towards co-production of financial management and reporting tools.

Groundwork

Capital funding towards improving the energy efficiency of YTT's community centre building.

The transfer in the year to unrestricted funds reflects the fund being fully spent on fixed assets.

Moving for change

Governance [restricted] – Funding towards administrative support including staffing costs for the Moving for Change organisation.

Cost of Living – Funding towards delivering direct financial support to individuals and families living roadside or in insecure accommodation.

GRTHM - Funding towards a Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month event.

Mentee - Funding towards a Professional Mentorship to recruit and develop a mentee Support Worker.

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards staffing costs, staff training, activity costs and IT costs.

NIHR

Hidden Troubles - Collaborative research project exploring suicide risk and suicide prevention within Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

Mental Health - Collaborative research project exploring effective approaches to partnership working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to co-design accessible services and support for mental health.

Reaching Out

Funding to undertake a research project to evaluate mental wellbeing support YTT provides to Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Roadside Futures Project

Funding towards engaging with City of York Council to develop policy and adoption of Negotiated Stopping and with North Yorkshire Police on the implementation of the PCSC Act provisions on unauthorised encampments.

Trailblazers

Funding towards celebrating the history and heritage of York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Two Ridings Foundation

Betty's Family Fund - Funding towards the running of the youth club.

Cost of Living – Funding towards financially supporting families during a cost-of-living crisis.
MBSR Therapy - Funding towards a Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction programme.
Christmas Hampers - Funding to create and distribute Christmas Survival Hampers for low-income families in the local Gypsy and Traveller communities.

University of York

Educational Research – Funding to undertake a research project to identify and analyse the experiences of education for York's Gypsies and Travellers.

Youth Work/Skills – Funding towards providing functional skills support to young people from York's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

GRTHM - Funding for research to embed Gypsy Roma Traveller history month in the public history calendar.

Cancer Research - Funding for research to improve early diagnosis and screening among Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

York CVS

Funding towards supporting adults with mental health needs including employment of an Integrated Wellbeing Support Worker.

York Mind

Funding towards the women's wellbeing project.

15. ANALYSIS OF THE CHARITY'S NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets	Net current assets	2026 Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	36,196	128,420	164,616
Restricted funds	-	193,643	193,643
	£ 36,196	£ 322,063	£ 358,259

Comparative year	Fixed assets	Net current assets	2025 Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	46,272	100,858	147,130
Restricted funds	-	110,060	110,060
	£ 46,272	£ 210,918	£ 257,190