Trustees' annual report and AGM or the period:

Period start date: 01.06.2025

Period end date: day/month/year 31.05.2026

Reference and administration details

Charity name: **Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation**

Other names charity is known by: Advantage!

Charity's principal address: The Speed Competitions Stadium (Craven Park), Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness, LA14 1XP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Karen Scarr	Chairperson		Board of Trustees
Kerry Kelly	Treasurer		Board of Trustees
Nina Bleasdale			Board of Trustees
Paul Littlewood			Board of Trustees
Deborah Maguire	Secretary		Board of Trustees

Names and addresses of advisors

Steve Neale	Chair Person Barrow Raiders RLFC	6 Kirkstall Close, Barrow-in-Furness
Lucy Piechura MAAT	Accountant	74 Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

Lisa Neale – Operations Manager Louise Scarr – Foundation Manager

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	By appointment

Additional governance issues

The trustees oversee the strategic vision of Advantage! and evaluate its application. The charity has a Child Protection Policy in place and carries out DBS verification checks prior to the commencement of employment. All organisations which work with us are required to have appropriate policies. A sample of organisations we work with, include: Westmorland & Furness Council; NHS, a variety of schools and education establishments; Cumbria Constabulary, Furness Youth Work Partnership, Rugby Football League. Advantage! is subject to professional scrutiny from these organisations, before embarking upon joint projects.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	The promotion of community participation, healthy recreation for the public benefit of our community by coaching and the playing of rugby league and associated sports and activities. To provide or assist in providing facilities for sport and recreation to persons who need such facilities by reason of youth, age, disablement or social economic circumstances, or for the public at large in the interest of social welfare. To promote other charitable purposes under the laws of England and Wales from time to time.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects	Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation is a registered charity, and has been in existence since January 2019, with charitable status being achieved in May 2021. Advantage! is the community arm of

	Barrow Raiders RLFC, and our aims are to tackle disadvantage in the area of Barrow and Furness, through sport and health and wellbeing activities and the promotion of, and playing opportunities of, rugby league. We work in a proud community which is beset with the problems associated with high unemployment for the young, and deprivation (both social and health) across the community. Advantage!, with its mix of enthusiastic volunteers and professional coaches, has a unique partnership with its professional rugby league club, which supports our charity in its pursuit of the public good in our community. We have also sought the assistance of major business partners in our area, such as the BAE Systems and Furness Building Society, and our work has been endorsed and supported by Westmorland & Furness Council, the High Sheriff of Cumbria and our local MP. We are using sport and wellbeing as a vehicle to improve the social and health conditions to numerous groups of disadvantaged people within our community.

Additional details of objectives and activities

We have been awarded grants from national charities, such as Sport England, BOOST, Peter Harrison Foundation, Alex Ferry Foundation, Bailey Thomas and Garfield Weston, and from local charities and organisations, Sir John Fisher Foundation, Roseland Trust, Hadfield Trust, Barrow Town Council and Ulverston Town Council. Advantage! has also attracted support from prominent local businesses, such as BAE Systems and the Furness Building Society.

Achievements and performance

Advantage!, the community arm of Barrow Raiders RLFC, is designed to support people who
suffer disadvantage within the heart of Barrow.
Advantage! is now a sustained, but still developing, programme, still with its focus of making an immediate dynamic impact improving the physical and mental wellbeing of the young people and
adults, and vulnerable adults, in the heart of Barrow: tackling issues such as the social
isolation.

Our work, supported by the prestigious endorsement of our partners, has led us to offer a comprehensive prospectus of sport and wellbeing activities in our town. Our work has attracted the interest of agencies such as Westmorland & Furness Council and NHS services. We continued throughout the year to work within our communities tackling anti-social behaviour. Our staff deliver a diverse schools and community programme and have also delivered a new initiative Inspiring Futures programme with local secondary schools.

Our funding streams, which come from donations and successful grant awards, are vital to us for sustainability. The relationship we have been building with funders and partner organisations, has allowed us to be more precise in focusing our activities in terms of the needs of the local area, and, as such, our targeted approach reflects the gaps and needs of our community.

Charitable donation is a vital element in allowing us to expand our programme of activities, so we
are offering numerous different community programmes, from nursery to ninety, and, as we
mentioned earlier, a very extensive school’s programme. Through the Government Holiday

and Food Programme initiative, we have provided sports camps specifically targeted at
children from families on lower incomes or those with health-related benefits. A vital element of this being the delivery of our nutritious food and healthy eating workshops.

One of our most successful programmes is Able Raiders – weekly sports and health and wellbeing provision for adults and children with learning disabilities and/or additional needs. This involves wellbeing walks from different locations around the South Lakes area, weekly multi-sports sessions and tag-rugby training sessions. These activities are attended by around 100 people weekly. Launched during Covid, from small beginnings, Able Raiders has gone from strength to strength, and we are now fielding an adult with learning disabilities rugby team in the Community Integrated Care rugby league Super League structure and a Junior Able Raiders team. Able Raiders is a particularly well received, and much needed, initiative within the community.

Our Inspiring Raiders / Equity project offers free activities during all school holidays to children with additional needs along with their siblings.

Recognising the health disparities experienced by the elderly in our community, we deliver chair-based exercise to the elderly, in community settings and in an expanding number of care home throughout the Furness Peninsula.

The impact we are having within our communities can be seen in the numbers that attend our activities, which averages around 1000 per week, including schools coaching. The longer-term impact in our contribution to the entrenched problem that is health and wellbeing, is more difficult to measure in the short term. We are one of several groups working within the area to help alleviate the health issues of the local population and tackle the challenges to those experiencing social isolation.
The effect of our work will become clearer as time goes on, but even then, it is often hard
to isolate that from the work of other agencies.

It is also worth noting that our work in coaching rugby in primary schools, plus Raider Girls and Raider Braves (a group for boys who are initially reluctant to join rugby clubs, because of issues
such as shyness, or even autism) has contributed to an increase of around 25% in the
participation of children of primary age in local rugby community clubs (figures from Barrow
and District League representative). Our new touch rugby initiative has also been greatly accepted and we have over 150 people playing each week. This includes people who have never picked up a rugby ball before, 6 new ladies teams and people who had previously had years out of the game. This initiative is proving to be a huge success and we have received a number of accolades from the RFL for our provision.

It is universally acknowledged that health and wellbeing activities are vital in improving the
lifestyles and chances of a community, and that Barrow desperately needs our sort of
provision. However, amongst that provision, we believe we are among the most accessible
and affordable, and therefore are able to be more effective in dealing with aspects of
deprivation on poverty.

In our long term journey, it is vital that our patrons, such as the Furness Building Society, that have a real regard for 'social value' remain with us, and hopefully increase the level of their funding to help us meet the increased level of the challenge.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Cash funds at 31.12.2025	£188,692
Cash Funds at 31.12.2024	£154947
Cash funds at 31.12.2023	£ 42528

It is the trust's aspiration to have a reserve of £40,000, but, we are subject to availability of grants and donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

Further financial review details:

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about: The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising). How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity. Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity does not invest in other areas beyond its key objectives.

Other optional information

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature (s)	KEScarr
Full name (s)	Karen Elizabeth Scarr
Position	Chairperson
Date	28.05.2026

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/members of

Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation

On accounts for the year ended

31.12.2025

Set out on pages

Please see attached report.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 2025.

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination,

I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification (s) or body (if any):

Address:

Disclosure Section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation	

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.01.2025		31.12.2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
HAF funding		35,440	-	35,440
Sir John Fisher Foundation funding		15,000	-	15,000
BAE Systems funding	10,000	-	-	10,000
Francis C Scott funding		9,000	-	9,000
Sponsorship of activities & donations	11,135	-	-	11,135
Alex Ferry Foundation funding	10,000			10,000
Boost Funding		5,000		5,000
Garfield Weston Funding		25,000		25,000
Sport England Funding		15,000	-	15,000
School Delivery income	32,325	-	-	32,325
RFL project delivery income		24,658		24,658
Westmorland & Furness Council funding		6,888		6,888
Merger final payment	2,300			2,300
Barrow RLFC refunds	14,039			14,039
miscellaneous income	407			407
Project delivery income	7,778	-	-	7,778
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	87,984	135,986	-	223,970
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	87,984	135,986	-	223,970
A3 Payments				
HAF Delivery		8,647	-	8,647
Website & bank charges	291	-	-	291
Uniforms	231	-	-	231
Venue Hire		3,613	-	3,613
Equipment		3,979	-	3,979
Transport		7,476	-	7,476
Wages	44,106	100,880		144,986
Trophies & medals		564		564
Printing & IT	1,097			1,097
Training	250			250
Rent	3,254			3,254
Equity Delivery		7,442		7,442
Sports Kit		1,911		1,911
Miscellaneous purchases / payments	3,430			3,430
Promotions	3,055			3,055
Sub total	55,714	134,512	-	190,226
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	55,714	134,512	-	190,226
Net of receipts/(payments)	32,270	1,474	-	
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	106,537	48,410	-	154,947
Cash funds this year end	138,807	49,884	-	188,691

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cumberland BS	-	63,507
	NatWest Bank	85,185	40,000
		-	-
	Total cash funds	85,185	103,507
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
			-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Barrow RLFC Debentures		-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

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

Signature	Print Name
K Scarr	Karen Scarr

CC16a

[redacted]

Last year

to the nearest £

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Endowment funds to nearest £
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OK

Endowment funds to nearest £
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-
-

Current value (optional)
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-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)
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-
-

When due (optional)

Date of approval

Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of
Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this Period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

   have not been met; or
(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R F Miller & Co
Chartered Accountants

Doubletree Court
10A Cavendish Street, Ulverston
Cumbria LA12 7AD
Dated: 10 September 2026