The Transforming Words Foundation

SHARING STORIES, SHAPING SOCIETIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD 24 June 2025 TO 31 December 2025

FOR

THE TRANSFORMING WORDS FOUNDATION

Registered Charity: 1213798



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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 24 JUNE 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 24 June 2025 to 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

1. INTRODUCTION

2025 marked a defining year for The Transforming Words Foundation (TTWF). After several years of building momentum as a social enterprise, TTWF formally became a registered charity on 24 June 2025, establishing a new chapter of governance, transparency and long-term sustainability. This first reporting period as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) captures the achievements, challenges and learning that shaped our work between June and December.

Throughout this period, TTWF championed its founding belief that*" words and ideas can change the world"*. Our programmes, workshops, publications and community engagement activities created spaces for expression, reflection and empowerment – particularly for individuals navigating experiences of prejudice, racism and unconscious bias. The charity's work this year demonstrates both the strength of our mission and the commitment of our trustees, volunteers and partners.

2. INCORPORATION

The formal registration of TTWF as a CIO followed months of preparation, including responding to Charity Commission queries, refining governance structures and ensuring clear separation between Transforming Words Limited and the new charity. Trustees worked collaboratively to finalise the Charity Commission response by the June deadline, and registration was confirmed shortly thereafter.

This transition strengthened TTWF's credibility and opened the door to new fundraising and enabled the charity to establish its first dedicated bank account, an essential step in managing finances independently and transparently.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

TTWF exists to promote equality and diversity for public benefit. We do this by:

A. Delivering an annual poetry competition and the publication of poetry collections which allow a wide demographic of people to express and understand the impacts of prejudice, racism and unconscious bias.
B. Running online poetry workshops, conducting work with schools and other educational institutions and community outreach initiatives.
C. Advancing education and raising awareness about the causes, effects and solutions to societal and individual prejudice, racism and unconscious bias.

These activities empower individuals to articulate lived experiences, build confidence and contribute to wider conversations about social justice.

Vision, Mission and Values

- Our vision is a society where every voice – especially those historically silenced – is heard, valued and empowered to shape social change.
- Our mission is to harness the transformative power of words to uplift, heal and inspire action.
- Our values – equity, creativity, integrity, community and courage – guide every aspect of our work.

Public Benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (PB2) in considering the Charity's objectives and activities. TWF's activities clearly advance education, promote equality and provide accessible platforms for public expression. The trustees are satisfied that the charity's work delivers meaningful benefit to a wide demographic.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Despite being newly registered and operating with limited early-stage resources, TTWF achieved substantial progress. The period was characterised by strong groundwork, visible momentum and a growing recognition of TTWF as a safe, vibrant space for creative expression.

4.1 Black in White Poetry Competition (2025)

The 5th annual Black in White Poetry Competition remained the cornerstone of TTWF's work. The competition closed on **20 June 2025**, receiving **117 entries** across Workplace and Childhood categories – a testament to the appetite for platforms that nurture authentic storytelling.

Judging took place throughout July and August, with trustees and volunteers contributing to shortlisting and scoring. The final judging session was held on **16 August 2025**. The book manuscript was completed on **15 September 2025** and submitted to publishers, with delivery of printed copies in early October.

The Awards & Book Launch event, held on **25 October 2025**, brought together entrants, supporters and community members. Alongside significant sponsorship from Transforming Words Limited, TTWF's official corporate sponsor, volunteers secured an additional **£650 in corporate donations**, reflecting the growing engagement from TTWF's supporter network.

4.2 Workshops and Community Engagement

TTWF delivered its first Online Poetry Workshop on **5 June 2025**, facilitated by actress and author Anni Domingo. The workshop was widely praised for its warmth, accessibility and impact. Participants expressed pride in their creative outputs, reinforcing the importance of psychological safety and authenticity in TTWF's programming.

Weekly volunteer meetings provided structure, accountability and community, though delivery was occasionally inconsistent due to capacity constraints.

4.3 Away Days
Two Away Days shaped TTWF's strategic direction:

- **17 May 2025**: Trustees and volunteers explored personality colours, drafted a risk framework and reflected on team dynamics.
- **12 July 2025**: A highly energising session at The Grove Hotel, followed by dinner, strengthened relationships and clarified priorities, including performance metrics, fundraising strategy and improved delegation.

These sessions were instrumental in building cohesion and aligning the team around shared goals.

4.4 Digital and Social Media
TTWF's digital presence grew steadily. Instagram and Facebook remained active, though posting frequency varied due to volunteer capacity. The launch of TTWF's LinkedIn page significantly strengthened external visibility and professional credibility.

Website development progressed, with trustees identifying the need for improved SEO optimisation and clearer content workflows.

4.5 Fundraising Progress
Fundraising gained momentum following charity registration. Income received during the period included:

- Competition entry fees
- Easyfundraising contributions
- Corporate sponsorship
- Event ticket sales
- Book sales
- Personal donations

Trustees explored partnerships with fundraising organisations, although these were not pursued. A PayPal account is planned to support future GoFundMe campaigns. Trustees encouraged leveraging corporate networks, particularly CSR budgets, to secure multiyear sponsorships aligned with TTWF's values.

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Position
TTWF's financial position strengthened following the opening of its bank account on **30 July 2025**. Income streams were modest but diverse, reflecting both early-stage fundraising and the charity's growing visibility.

Principal Funding Sources
Corporate sponsorship of £5,047 represented 84% of total income (£5,978), with Transforming Words Limited contributing £3,897 (65% of sponsorship income).

Going Concern
The trustees consider TTWF a going concern, supported by growing engagement, a clear annual programme and a committed volunteer base.

6. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

TTWF is governed by its CIO Constitution. The Board of Trustees provides strategic oversight, supported by the CEO, COO, volunteers and occasional contractors.

Trustee induction includes the strategic plan, governance documents, role descriptions and policies. Trustees emphasised the importance of quarterly strategic plan reviews and consistent communication.

Risk management remains a priority. A draft risk framework was produced at the May Away Day and is being developed into a formal document. Key risks include limited operational bandwidth, slow website development, volunteer dependency and early-stage fundraising constraints.

TTWF has no paid staff; all work is delivered by volunteers.

7. TRUSTEES

The trustees during the reporting period were:

Name	Note	Appointment Date	Other Trusteeships	Resignation Date
Winfred Keith Aki-Sawyerr	Chair	21 June 2024	None on record	N/A
Annette Amanda Oyekunle Fisher	Trustee	30 June 2024	None on record	N/A
Dean Monrose McCarthy	Trustee	30 June 2024	None on record	N/A
Tanya Weir	Trustee	30 June 2024	None on record	N/A

All trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no benefits. No or related-party transactions occurred during this period.

8. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. Company law requires them to prepare statements for each financial year.

The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity company will continue to operate.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

9. FUTURE PLANS

As TTWF enters its first full year as a registered charity, our focus is on deepening impact, expanding creative programmes and strengthening the community we serve.

We will:

- Grow the Black in White Poetry Competition, widening participation and strengthening outreach to schools and community organisations.
- Deliver more workshops that offer safe, creative spaces for exploring identity, confidence, and storytelling.
- Strengthen digital presence through LinkedIn, improved website development, and richer storytelling.
- Expand partnerships with organisations aligned to our mission.
- Prioritise sustainable fundraising to support programme delivery and community reach.

Above all, our plans are guided by the belief that *"words have the power to transform lives"*.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE PERIOD 24 JUNE 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the period are presented in accordance with SORP FRS102.

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Book sales		£ 85	-	£ 85
Raffle ticket sales		£ 160	-	£ 160
Event ticket sales		£ 578	-	£ 578
Easyfundraising income		£ 19	-	£ 19
Personal donations		£ 89	-	£ 89
Corporate sponsors		£ 5,047	-	£ 5,047
Total		£ 5,978	£ 0	£ 5,978
EXPENDITURE				
Book Production		£ 616	-	£ 616
Advertising		£ 623	-	£ 623
Event Costs		£ 3,323	-	£ 3,323
Total		£ 4,562	£ 0	£ 4,562
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		£ 1,416	£ 0	£ 1,416
Net movement in funds		£ 1,416	£ 0	£ 1,416
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 1,416	£ 0	£ 1,416

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

Bank Balance	**£ 1,416**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period 24 June 2025 to 31 December 2025

- **Income Classification**
  All income received during the reporting period was unrestricted. No restricted funds were held.

- **Corporate Sponsorship**
  Corporate sponsorship was the charity's primary income source. Transforming Words Limited contributed £3,897, representing most of the sponsorship income.

- **Expenditure Classification**
  All expenditure related to charitable activities, including book production, advertising, and event delivery.

- **Trustees and Related Parties**
  - Trustees received no remuneration.
  - No expenses were claimed.
  - No donations were received from trustees or close family members.
  - No related-party transactions occurred.

- **Staffing**
  TTWF had no employees during the reporting period. Volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements.

- **Reserves Policy**
  As a newly registered charity, TTWF intends to develop a formal reserves policy to build unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover at least three months of core operating costs.

Signed by:



Winfred Keith Aki-Sawyerr (Chair of Trustees)

Date:

25th September 2026

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number: 1213798

Registered office: Prime Apartments, 483 Green Lanes, London, N13 4FG