THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

Registered Charity Number 208053

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

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THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mrs D Brooker Mrs W D Kirkman The Rev'd Manuela Schmucki Mrs K C Donnelly Mr R C Thomas Mr R W B Clough Mr A N Dakshy
CLERK	Mr P Granger
CHARITY NUMBER	208053
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	St Margaret's Visitors Centre 2 Brandram Road Lewisham London SE13 5EA
BANKERS	CAF Bank limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill Kent ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	M P H Jones FCA Wallace Crooke Chartered Accountants College House St Leonards Close Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 4EJ

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026

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)

Structure, governance and management Governing Document

Although founded in 1622, the Charity is currently governed by a Scheme made by order of the Charity Commission dated 20th June 2005, and further amended by a Scheme dated 20th June 2025 which amended its governance to permit a wider area of benefit for the application of the Charity's funds and which enabled it to co-operate with other charities in the Lewisham area better to deliver its charitable objects

There is no need for the charity to engage in fundraising as it derives income from the Estate Charity of William Hatcliffe. The Trustees are required to pass 40% of the funds to The Lee Education Charity of William Hatcliffe. The Estate Charity has advised that it expects to be able to maintain its distribution to the Charity at the current level for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees are appointed for terms of four years, other than the Rector for the time being of St. Margaret of Antioch, Lee, who is an ex-officio Governor for the period of holding such office.
The Trustees meet monthly, except in August.
Those who served during the year were:
The Reverend Manuela Schmucki
Mrs. D Brooker
Mrs. K D Kirkman
Mrs. K C Donnelly
Mr. RWB Clough
Mr. RC Thomas
Mr. A N Dakshy

Under the direction of the Trustees, the Charity engages independent consultants to provide administrative services, promote the charity, and liaise with prospective and successful grant applicants.

The charity embraces all aspects of the Equality Act 2010.

Objects and activities

The Charity is grant-making with the objective of relief of persons resident in the London Borough of Lewisham (with preference to those living in the Ancient Parish of Lee) who are in need, hardship or distress without regard to their age, sex, ethnic background or religion either directly to individuals or to registered charities working in the field.

The Trustees confirm that they have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing objectives and planning activities

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they comply with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance. The Lee Charity of William Hatcliffe focuses its funding on the relief of poverty and on tackling social and health inequalities. It makes grants to support the work of charities and community groups that work with people affected by economic disadvantage, and to individuals in need, hardship, or distress. The charity awards grants based on published criteria and through a thoughtful and fair assessment of applicants' needs and aspirations. A monitoring process ensures each grant award delivers public benefit.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that the systems are in place to mitigate those risks. Internal financial risks are minimised by implementing procedures to authorise all transactions.

The Trustees have agreed it prudent to temper the Charity's level of grants awarded so that reserves are maintained at a minimum level of £30,000 as a safeguard against possible future eventualities.

Achievements and performance
Governance policies and procedures

During the year, the Trustees undertook a comprehensive review and update of the charities' governance policies, procedures and risk-management arrangements. The review covered key areas, including safeguarding, financial controls, data protection and confidentiality, complaints, conflicts of interest, equality, diversity and inclusion, health and safety, cyber security, serious incidents, whistleblowing and standards of conduct.

The revisions reflect the Trustees' growing experience of administering the charities, developments in good governance practice and the practical needs of our work. Together, they provide a clearer and more robust framework for decision-making, accountability, safeguarding, risk management and regulatory compliance.

Grants guidelines

We have revised our grant guidelines on the website to provide clearer, more accessible information about available funding and the application process. The revised guidelines also reflect the Trustees' growing knowledge and experience of the client groups we support, the needs raised in applications, and the wider funding environment in which the charities operate. This growing understanding has enabled us to refine our funding priorities, eligibility criteria and grant conditions, so that our resources can be directed as effectively as possible and applicants have a clearer understanding of the opportunities available and the steps involved before beginning an online application.

The Trustees also wish to thank Richard Crowe of Creative Wire Design, who continues to provide website updates beyond the standard hosting fee. His contribution has supported the ongoing refinement and presentation of our grant criteria and application processes and is gratefully acknowledged as a valuable benefit in kind.

Lewisham Funder Network

The charity is also part of the Lewisham Funders Network, which is a cross-sector forum open to any funder operating in the borough. It aims to provide a space for funders and investors to:

- Share intelligence and knowledge about local issues
- Find out about other funders' programmes and current activities
- Explore ways to align funding and target investment more effectively
- Seek opportunities to collaborate with others (e.g. shared funding initiatives)
- Share effective funding/grant-making practice

Grant applications

The Trustees meet monthly to consider grant applications and to manage the Charity's business. They also occasionally consider urgent grant applications arising between the meetings. Grant Applications are also invited from all registered charities in the London Borough of Lewisham engaged in the relief of need for grants to assist in any aspects of their work.

The charity received regular applications for individuals sponsored by:

- Community Connections Lewisham (part of AgeUk Lewisham & Southwark)
- South East London Community Energy (SELCE)
- Citizens Advice Lewisham (CAL)
- 999 Club
- Refuge
- South London and Maudsley (SLaM)
- Primary Care Mental Health Trust (PCMHT)
- IMAGO
- Mammakind

Across our priority areas, the Charity has supported 9 groups and 38 individuals, providing grants for a wide range of needs and initiatives, including:

- Support for refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants.
- Dementia support through reminiscence and creative activities, reducing isolation and improving wellbeing.
- Advice, advocacy and community support for people facing poverty, isolation, housing difficulties and digital exclusion.
- Support for individuals seeking a new start following personal difficulties or homelessness.
- Foodbank provision and practical support for people experiencing food poverty.
- Free winter jackets for children from low-income families.
- Free winter jackets for vulnerable and low-income older people.
- Creative, multi-sensory activities for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities.
- Hospitality training and work experience for young refugees, building skills, confidence and pathways into employment.
- Improved access to advice, advocacy and digital support through community libraries.
- Support for women rebuilding their lives after domestic abuse, including essential household items when moving into safe, settled accommodation.

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

During the year

Grants totalling £15,080 (2025: £27,463) were awarded to 38 individuals (2025: 54), providing practical support across a wide range of needs.

Grants totalling £33,750 (2025: £41,190) were awarded to 9 groups (2025: 7) to support a range of services for Lewisham residents experiencing disadvantage or facing particular needs.

Financial Review
Reserves Policy

The Estate Charity of William Hatcliffe has approved a distribution of £165,000 during the financial year 2026-27, of which £66,000 will be required to be passed on to The Lee Education Charity of William Hatcliffe, leaving a net income of £99,000.

It is the policy of the Trustees that unrestricted funds that have not been designated for specific use should be maintained at a level which will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in income, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities for a period of at least one year while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

As of 31 March 2026, the free reserves held are £248,354 (2025: £ 216,568). All the Charity's funds are unrestricted and held to further its objectives.

As the economic downturn and adverse cost of living climate continue to cause financial hardship for many people, the Trustees will endeavour to meet the challenge by regulating the total amount awarded to successful applicants and to help as many suitable applicants as possible in some way but control the outflow of funds from reserves.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

Trustee

Date: 14th October 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

I report on accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2026, which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of Governors and Examiner

As the Charity's Governors you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charites Act 2011(the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, 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 Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has to come to my attention

(a) 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.
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements under the 2011 charities act have not been met; or

(b) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M P H Jones FCA
Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants
College House
St Leonards Close
Bridgnorth
Shropshire
WV16 4EJ

Date: 14th October 2026

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	2026 Unrestricted Funds	2025 Unrestricted Funds
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Income from the Estate Charity of William Hatcliffe	**150,000**	150,000
Less: 40% to Lee Education Charity of William Hatcliffe (Under Charity Commission Governance Order dated 20/06/2005)	**(60,000)**	(60,000)
	90,000	90,000
Gross Interest on Deposit Accounts	**3,996**	4,321
Donation	**-**	20
Total Incoming Resources	**93,996**	94,341
Resources Expended		
Charitable Expenditure:		
Grants to Individuals	**15,080**	27,463
Grants to Groups and Registered Charities	**33,750**	41,190
Consultants Costs	**10,289**	11,376
Administration Expenses	**2,605**	1,919
Examiner's Fee	**486**	486
Total Resources Expended	**62,210**	82,434
Net Incoming Resources	**31,786**	11,908
Funds Balance at 1 April 2025	**216,568**	204,660
Funds Balance at 31 March 2026	**248,354**	216,568

The notes on page 8 & 9 form part of these accounts

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2025 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
CAF Cash Account		**2,912**	4,817
CAF Gold Account		**272,731**	214,943
		275,643	219,760
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	3	**27,289**	3,192
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**248,354**	216,568
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	4	**248,354**	216,568
		248,354	216,568

The notes on page 8 & 9 form part of these accounts

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 14th October 2026

Trustee

Mr P Granger - Clerk

THE LEE CHARITY OF WILLIAM HATCLIFFE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the Charity.

1.3 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have all been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.4 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1.5 Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds are amounts which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for a specific, but not legally binding, purpose.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. Trustees Remuneration and Benefits

None of the Trustees (or any person or organisation connected with them), received remuneration or any other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2026, nor for the year ended 31 March 2025.

3. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
40% Contribution to the Lee Education Charity of William Hatcliffe	26,400	-
Grants to Regd Charities, Groups and Individuals	403	2,706
Examiner's Fee	486	486
	27,289	3,192

4. Movement in Funds

	2026	2025
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
Opening Balance	216,568	204,660
Incoming Resources	93,996	94,341
Resources Expended	(62,210)	(82,433)
Closing Balance	248,354	216,568
Total Funds	248,354	216,568