

Company registration number SC229753 (Scotland)

Charity registration number SC032934 (Scotland)

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors	Sandra Loney Sephton MacQuire Elaine Giannini Anne McQueen	
Secretary	Stephen Singer	
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom (Scotland)	SC229753
Charity registration	Scotland	SC032934
Registered office	63 Kilbowie Road Clydebank Glasgow G81 1BL	
Independent examiner	David Jeffcoat, F.C.C.A. TC Group Business Advisors & Accountants 180 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5SG	

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

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COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)".

Objectives and activities

The Company's objectives are to relieve poverty by promoting employment and education opportunities, to improve the environment and to promote social welfare.

The organisation uses a methodology of community development and empowerment to lead a variety of projects that are both service and capital based.

Achievements and performance

2025/26 saw Community Links Scotland completing its 24th year of working with Registered Social Landlords, community development trusts and other not for profit community organisations who are too small or who cannot afford to employ their own regeneration staff directly. Throughout the year we worked on a large variety of projects in West Dunbartonshire, East Dunbartonshire, Argyll & Bute, Inverclyde, and Glasgow. In total we have now attracted more than £57million of project funding for clients since our formation.

Consultancy projects CLS worked on varied over the year from trying to assist clients access funding, employ new staff, establish new community facilities, or preparing community consultation events, preparing business plans and preparing community development plans and Local Place Plans. Consultancy work in the last year has included making successful funding bids for Cadder HA, Spire View HA, Milnbank HA, Parklea Branching Out and Rosemount Development Trust. These bids covered a wide variety of projects including Energy Advice staff, Regeneration Staff, creation of new paths and heritage and arts projects. Below is a list of funding secured for clients which totals £1,789,015

- Knowes HA / Flourishing Faifley - £123,000 - variety
- Dunbritton HA - £37,080 – CyclingScotland
- Oak Tree HA - £157,500 – Energy redress
- Clydebank HA - £100,000 – ICF Continuation
- Milnbank HA - £199,000 - Lottery
- Spire View HA - £548,435 – variety – Lottery; Landfill Tax, GCC, ICF
- Parklea BO - £49,000 variety Paths for all, Scottish Power
- Rosemount Dev Trust - £135,000 GCC
- Cadder HA- £283,000 – Lottery, Energy Redress
- Financial Fitness - £65,000 – Inverclyde Council
- Bridgewater HA - £20,000 (awards for All)
- NGCFI - £63,000 Scottish Land fund, Lottery
- Partick Community Council - £9,000 GCC

Staff continue to work a hybrid system of office based and home working with the majority of the staff team of 9 working part time. Staff continue to display an excellent work ethic and flexibility to cope with a variety of situations. Three staff work on the consultancy side of the business with six staff working on a variety of grant funded projects delivering a range of services and activities in West Dunbartonshire.

Across 2025–26, CLS delivered three core programmes that combined practical support, community engagement and creative activity to respond to local need and improve wellbeing across West Dunbartonshire.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

During 2025-26 our Energy Advice service was delivered across West Dunbartonshire and Inverclyde. This was our largest area of delivery, providing intensive, personalised support to 587 households through 451 home visits and 31 community drop-ins. This approach helped reduce energy debt by £70,653 and supported households to save £153,230 in energy costs. Alongside advice, the service also delivered targeted practical support, including small appliances to 92 households and Starter Packs to 26 households, ensuring people could manage energy use, reduce costs and settle safely into tenancies. This integrated model of advice, advocacy and practical resources helped address immediate fuel poverty while supporting longer-term behaviour change and financial stability.

Delivery was made possible through a combination of funding from the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme, the Big Energy Savings Network, The Robertson Trust, West Dunbartonshire Council, the National Lottery Awards for All and the Lintel Trust, alongside commissioned delivery in Inverclyde through Cloch Housing Association and partners.

The Healthy Pathways project continued to support individuals experiencing isolation, poor mental health and low confidence, providing regular group activity, wellbeing sessions and one-to-one support. A core group of 23 participants engaged in weekly sessions, supported by volunteers and strong partnership working. Delivery focused on building confidence, strengthening relationships and creating peer-led opportunities, with participants increasingly shaping sessions themselves. Recruitment of a new Project Officer in February 2026 strengthened capacity and will support the ongoing development of the programme.

The project was supported through funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, alongside contributions from The Stafford Trust and the Glasgow Airport Flightpath Fund.

Threads of Time marked its final year of delivery as a two-year heritage project, culminating in a large-scale programme of workshops, creative outputs and a public exhibition. Overall, 285 people engaged in the project, contributing to oral histories, digital storytelling and creative design that captured Clydebank's industrial and social heritage. The final year focused on completing and showcasing outputs, including a graphic novel, digital reels and the "Bankie Spirit" textile, while strengthening community connections, improving skills and creating a lasting heritage legacy for the area.

The project was fully funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, enabling delivery of a comprehensive heritage programme and the creation of a lasting archive and community resource

The Energy Advice Project continues to support those in fuel poverty carrying out home visits and telephone consultations to resolve problems with suppliers, budgeting, claims, and improved insulation issues. The Threads of Time, Clydebank history projects has successfully engaged with a variety of groups and carried out research, and prepared short videos, and created a Spirit of Clydebank textile fabric which was exhibited for 2 months at Clydebank Town Hall. The Healthy Lives Project provides ongoing support to individuals with a range of issues and has delivered craft classes, book clubs and sewing groups throughout the year, in addition to supporting the creation of Mindfulness Moments.

Our financial picture remains steady, as reflected in the accounts and we now have a good cash flow position and increasing reserves going into the future. With support from the Management Board we hope to build on this year and meet the next challenges, however these may present themselves, including increased staffing costs and restricted funding budgets.

I would like to thank the Management Board and staff for their continued commitment, hard work and dedication to retaining CLS as a leading provider of regeneration services in 2025/26 and into the future.

Financial review

Per the Statement of Financial Activities, the charity reported Net Income (Surplus) for the year of £25,211 (2025: net Expenditure (Deficit) of £42,982). After taking into consideration actuarial gains/losses on the pension scheme, the charity reported a Surplus £48,211 (2025: Deficit £29,982) and total funds at 31 March 2026 of £330,254.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a level to provide sufficient funds to cover management, administration and support costs.

As per the Statement of Financial Activities, the General Fund (Unrestricted) amounted to £112,674 after recognising a liability of £75,000 which was the Charity's share of the Scottish Housing Association Pension Scheme.

Excluding the pension liability the General Fund (Unrestricted) had operating reserves of £187,674 (2025: £226,511) as at 31 March 2026

Risk Management

The Directors has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

Given the uncertainty of future Scottish Government funding, Community Links Scotland continues to develop its consultancy arm as an alternative source of revenue, in the main working with small not-for-profit community groups and trusts across Scotland.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee (No. SC229753) and a recognised Scottish Charity (No. SC032934) and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Directors who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Sandra Loney

Sephton MacQuire

James Weir

(Resigned 23 June 2025)

Elaine Giannini

Anne McQueen

Directors are elected from client RSLs and relevant groups and individuals and nominated onto the Board.

Organisational structure

The Management Board make all policy decisions on a bi-monthly basis with staff implementing day to day actions. A staffing sub-committee is in place to deal with recruitment and serious staffing issues. Both Boards are serviced by the Director. The Treasurer meets with the finance officer on a weekly basis to authorise large payments and discuss financial issues relating to the charity.

The organisation continues to be managed by a participatory Management Board with new Board members inducted in line with the Trustees Induction and Training Policy.

Independent examiner

The Directors recommend that David Jeffcoat FCCA, a Partner in TC Group, Business Advisors and Accountants, remains in office as independent examiner until further notice.

The Directors' report was approved by the Board of Directors.



.....
Stephen Singer

Secretary 18/8/2026

Dated:



.....
Sephton MacQuire

Director 18/8/2026

Dated:

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 5 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of Directors and examiner

The charity Trustees (who are also the Directors of Community Links Scotland for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity Directors consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a)-(c) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 does not apply.

It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from the 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 by the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44(1)(a) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 4 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

David Jeffcoat

David Jeffcoat, F.C.C.A.

TC Group
Business Advisors & Accountants
180 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
G2 5SG
Date: 18/8/2026

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2026 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
	Notes					
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	3	10,955	-	-	10,955	10,483
Charitable activities	4	145,870	-	279,850	425,720	349,923
Total income		156,825	-	279,850	436,675	360,406
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	5	194,910	993	215,561	411,464	403,388
Total expenditure		194,910	993	215,561	411,464	403,388
Net income/(expenditure)		(38,085)	(993)	64,289	25,211	(42,982)
Transfers between funds		(5,752)	5,752	-	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses:						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		23,000	-	-	23,000	13,000
Net movement in funds	6	(20,837)	4,759	64,289	48,211	(29,982)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		133,511	109,053	39,479	282,043	312,025
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		112,674	113,812	103,768	330,254	282,043

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	10,483	-	-	10,483
Charitable activities	4	134,381	-	215,542	349,923
Total income		144,864	-	215,542	360,406
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	141,282	1,468	260,638	403,388
Total expenditure		141,282	1,468	260,638	403,388
Net income/(expenditure)		3,582	(1,468)	(45,096)	(42,982)
Transfers between funds		(18,447)	13,734	4,713	-
Other recognised gains and losses:					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		13,000	-	-	13,000
Net movement in funds	6	(1,865)	12,266	(40,383)	(29,982)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		135,376	96,787	79,862	312,025
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		133,511	109,053	39,479	282,043

The notes on pages 9 to 25 form an integral part of these financial statements.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	£	2025 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		710		1,703
Investments	11		100		100
			<u>810</u>		<u>1,803</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	12	45,590		86,844	
Cash at bank and in hand		460,245		367,229	
		<u>505,835</u>		<u>454,073</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(101,391)		(80,833)	
Net current assets			<u>404,444</u>		<u>373,240</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>405,254</u>		<u>375,043</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>405,254</u>		<u>375,043</u>
Defined benefit pension liability	20		(75,000)		(93,000)
Net assets			<u><u>330,254</u></u>		<u><u>282,043</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		103,768		39,479
Unrestricted funds - general	15		187,674		226,511
Unrestricted funds - designated	17		113,812		109,053
Pension reserve			(75,000)		(93,000)
			<u><u>330,254</u></u>		<u><u>282,043</u></u>

The notes on pages 9 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

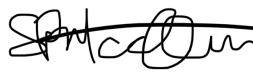
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on 18/8/2026



.....
Sephton MacQuire
Director



.....
Anne McQueen
Director

Company registration number SC229753 (Scotland)

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Community Links Scotland is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland. The registered office and principal place of business is 63 Kilbowie Road, Clydebank, Glasgow, G81 1BL.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Directors for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Liabilities are measured on recognition at historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. The exception is that certain financial instruments must be adjusted to their present value; these include financial liabilities where settlement is deferred for more than 12 months after the reporting date.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Raising Funds

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by a charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes. It includes the costs of all fundraising activities and events together with those costs incurred in seeking donations, grants and legacies and investment management costs.

Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by the charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities. The costs of charitable activities presented in the Statement of Financial Activities includes the costs of both direct service provision and the payments of grant awards if applicable.

Governance costs

Governance costs (which are included as a component of support costs in accordance with SORP) comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include those related to constitutional and statutory requirements, external scrutiny (audit or independent examination), strategic management, and other legal and professional fees.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment

Straight line over 3 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Employee benefits

Existing employees of the charity were entitled to join the Scottish Housing Association Pension Scheme which is funded by contributions from employee and employer. Members of the Pension Scheme may also contribute added years to that scheme or take out an Additional Voluntary Contribution scheme, each of which is funded by the employee alone.

The Scottish Housing Association Pension Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme administered for the benefit of Local Authorities and other bodies and is managed in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended). Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the Scheme.

1.12 Retirement benefits

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method, and is based on actuarial advice.

The change in the net defined benefit liability arising from employee service during the year is recognised as an employee cost. The cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments are recognised as incurred.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Remeasurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £
Donations and gifts	10,955	10,483

Donated goods and services

Donations and gifts include a gift-in-kind of £10,955 (2025: £10,483) in respect of rent free use of office.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

4 Income from charitable activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Services provided under contract	145,870	134,381
Performance related grants	279,850	215,542
	<u>425,720</u>	<u>349,923</u>

Analysis by fund

Unrestricted funds - general	145,870	134,381
Restricted funds	279,850	215,542
	<u>425,720</u>	<u>349,923</u>

Performance related grants analysis

	2026 £	2025 £
West Dunbartonshire Council	12,715	7,000
The Scottish Association of Citizens Advice Bureau	6,587	8,340
Robertson Trust	10,932	-
National Lottery	137,489	94,952
The Stafford Trust	-	4,500
Glasgow Airport Flightpath Fund	-	1,450
Flourishing Faifley	29,724	25,380
Lintel Trust	1,000	-
Energy Redress	81,403	73,920
	<u>279,850</u>	<u>215,542</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

5 Cost of charitable activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	269,009	269,050
Depreciation and impairment	993	1,468
Project and activities costs	81,398	71,986
Premises costs	22,672	23,292
Running costs	25,271	25,405
Legal and professional	2,010	1,935
Interest and finance charges	6,000	6,000
Governance costs	4,111	4,252
	<u>411,464</u>	<u>403,388</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	194,910	141,282
Unrestricted funds - designated	993	1,468
Restricted funds	215,561	260,638
	<u>411,464</u>	<u>403,388</u>

6 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2026 £	2025 £
Operating for the year is stated after charging:		
Fees payable for independent examination of accounts	4,052	4,148
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	993	1,468
	<u></u>	<u></u>

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2026 Number	2025 Number
	9	11

Employment costs

	2026 £	2025 £
Wages and salaries	239,078	239,323
Social security costs	18,912	17,123
Other pension costs	11,019	12,604
	269,009	269,050

The remuneration of key management personnel during the year, including wages and salaries and employer's contributions to national insurance, was £73,482 (2025 - £69,406).

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2026	2025
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-

8 Directors

None of the Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2025	11,025
At 31 March 2026	11,025
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2025	9,322
Depreciation charged in the year	993
At 31 March 2026	10,315
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2026	710
At 31 March 2025	1,703

11 Fixed asset investments

	Other investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2025 & 31 March 2026	100
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2026	100
At 31 March 2025	100

	Notes	2026 £	2025 £
Other investments comprise:			
Investments in subsidiaries	22	100	100

12 Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	34,695	62,355
Prepayments and accrued income	10,895	24,489
	45,590	86,844

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2026 £	2025 £
Other taxation and social security		14,051	10,875
Deferred income	14	80,311	62,644
Trade creditors		18	1,131
Other creditors		100	100
Accruals		6,911	6,083
		<u>101,391</u>	<u>80,833</u>

14 Deferred income

	2026 £	2025 £
Other deferred income	80,311	62,644
	<u>80,311</u>	<u>62,644</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	80,311	62,644
	<u>80,311</u>	<u>62,644</u>

	2026 £	2025 £
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2025	62,644	-
Released from previous periods	(62,644)	-
Resources deferred in the year	80,311	62,644
	<u>80,311</u>	<u>62,644</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2026	80,311	62,644

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

15 Unrestricted funds

These are the unrestricted funds to the charity

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2026 £
General funds	226,511	156,825	(189,910)	(5,752)	-	187,674
Pension fund	(93,000)	-	(5,000)	-	23,000	(75,000)
	<u>133,511</u>	<u>156,825</u>	<u>(194,910)</u>	<u>(5,752)</u>	<u>23,000</u>	<u>112,674</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	236,376	144,864	(136,282)	(18,447)	-	226,511
Pension fund	(101,000)	-	(5,000)	-	13,000	(93,000)
	<u>135,376</u>	<u>144,864</u>	<u>(141,282)</u>	<u>(18,447)</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>133,511</u>

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
Strengthening Community Links	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Healthy Pathways Fund	34,104	84,203	(49,447)	-	68,860
Threads of Time Fund	5,375	70,402	(75,520)	-	257
Community Energy Fund	-	111,487	(80,172)	-	31,315
West Dunbartonshire Energy Advice Project - First Steps (Starter Packs) Fund	-	10,758	(7,422)	-	3,336
	<u>39,479</u>	<u>279,850</u>	<u>(215,561)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,768</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

16 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Investing in Communities Fund	-	-	(120)	120	-
Healthy Pathways Fund	64,189	70,081	(100,166)	-	34,104
Threads of Time Fund	-	63,092	(57,717)	-	5,375
Community Energy Fund	15,673	82,260	(102,526)	4,593	-
West Dunbartonshire Energy Advice Project - First Steps (Starter Packs) Fund	-	109	(109)	-	-
	<u>79,862</u>	<u>215,542</u>	<u>(260,638)</u>	<u>4,713</u>	<u>39,479</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Strengthening Community Links Fund

This fund represents monies received from the National Lottery Community Fund to enhance Community Links Scotland's capacity to reach, engage and empower vulnerable and isolated individuals across West Dunbartonshire.

Healthy Pathways Fund

This fund represents monies received from The Big Lottery, West Dunbartonshire Council and the Flourishing Faifley project to deliver a programme of activities that will bring together socially isolated and vulnerable people, who experience social stigma and lack of self-worth and typically are disengaged from statutory services. Expenditure includes operational employment costs totalling £16,981 (2025 - £82,034) and operational overheads totalling £32,466 (2025 - £18,131).

Threads of Time Fund

This fund represents monies received from the National Lottery Heritage Funding to engage the local Clydebank Community to create a series of new heritage resources for the local community. Expenditure includes operational employment costs totalling £7,243 (2025 - £19,934) and operational overheads totalling £68,277 (2025 - £37,783).

Community Energy Fund

This fund represents monies received from the The Robertson Trust, Inverclyde Energy, West Dunbartonshire Council, Energy Redress and the Scottish Association of Citizen Advice Bureau to provide energy advice and advocacy to residents across West Dunbartonshire who are in fuel poverty or fuel fear. Expenditure includes operational employment costs totalling £53,543 (2025 - £45,588) and operational overheads totalling £47,307 (2025 - £56,938). During the year ended 31 March 2025 a transfer from the General Fund (Unrestricted) was received to cover an operating shortfall.

West Dunbartonshire Energy Advice Project - First Steps (Starter Packs) Fund

This fund represents monies received from the National Lottery Community Fund, Awards for All and LHC Lintel Trust to assist in providing the the local community with access to energy advice. Expenditure includes operational overheads totalling £7,422 (2025 - £109).

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

17 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are the designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2025 £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
Redundancy Fund	107,350	-	5,752	113,102
Fixed Assets	1,703	(993)	-	710
	<u>109,053</u>	<u>(993)</u>	<u>5,752</u>	<u>113,812</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2024 £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Redundancy Fund	94,176	-	13,174	107,350
Fixed Assets	2,611	(1,468)	560	1,703
	<u>96,787</u>	<u>(1,468)</u>	<u>13,734</u>	<u>109,053</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Redundancy Fund

This fund represents the potential liability for redundancies should the charity cease its operations.

Fixed Asset Fund

Represents the net book value of the fixed assets held by the charity. The transfer of £560 relates to fixed asset additions as financed by the General Fund (Unrestricted).

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2026 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £
At 31 March 2026:				
Tangible assets	-	710	-	710
Investments	100	-	-	100
Current assets/(liabilities)	187,574	113,102	103,768	404,444
Provisions and pensions	(75,000)	-	-	(75,000)
	<u>112,674</u>	<u>113,812</u>	<u>103,768</u>	<u>330,254</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:				
Tangible assets	-	1,703	-	1,703
Investments	100	-	-	100
Current assets/(liabilities)	226,411	107,350	39,479	373,240
Provisions and pensions	(93,000)	-	-	(93,000)
	<u>133,511</u>	<u>109,053</u>	<u>39,479</u>	<u>282,043</u>

19 Contingent liabilities

Contingent liability

We have been notified by the Trustee of the Scheme that it has performed a review of the changes made to the Scheme's benefits over the years and the result is that there is uncertainty surrounding some of these changes. The Trustee has been advised to seek clarification from the Court on these items. This process is ongoing and the matter is unlikely to be resolved before the end of 2026 at the earliest. It is recognised that this could potentially impact the value of Scheme liabilities, but until Court directions are received, it is not possible to calculate the impact of this issue, particularly on an individual employer basis, with any accuracy at this time. No adjustment has been made in these financial statements in respect of this potential issue.

20 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined benefit schemes

Community Links Scotland participated in the Scottish Housing Association Pension Scheme (the scheme) a multi-employer defined benefit scheme which provides benefits to some 150 non-associated employers. The Scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK.

The Scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The last triennial valuation of the Scheme was performed as at 30th September 2024 by a professionally qualified actuary using the Projected Unit Credit method. The market value of the Scheme's assets at the valuation date was £690m. The valuation revealed a shortfall of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £79m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 90%). A Recovery Plan was put in place to eliminate the deficit which runs to 31 March 2030.

The Scheme operates on a 'last man standing' basis, meaning that in the event of an employer withdrawing from the Scheme and being unable to pay its share of the debt on withdrawal. Then the liability of the withdrawing employer is re-apportioned amongst the remaining employer. Therefore in certain circumstances the Association may become liable for the obligations of a third party.

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

20 Retirement benefit schemes

(Continued)

Key assumptions

	2026 %	2025 %
Discount rate	6.18	5.87
Expected rate of salary increases	4.03	3.80
Inflation (RPI)	3.28	3.08
Inflation (CPI)	3.03	2.80
Allowance for commutation of pension for cash at retirement (maximum allowance)	75	75

Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2026 Years	2025 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.7	20.2
- Females	22.9	22.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.9	21.5
- Females	24.4	24.2

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2026 £	2025 £
Net interest on defined benefit liability/(asset)	5,000	5,000
Other costs and income	1,000	1,000
Total costs	6,000	6,000

Amounts taken to other comprehensive income:

	2026 £	2025 £
Actual return on scheme assets	(26,000)	43,000
Less: calculated interest element	40,000	36,000
Return on scheme assets excluding interest income	14,000	79,000
Actuarial changes related to obligations	(37,000)	(92,000)

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

20 Retirement benefit schemes

(Continued)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Present value of defined benefit obligations	770,000	774,000
Fair value of plan assets	(695,000)	(681,000)
Deficit in scheme	75,000	93,000

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:

	2026 £
Liabilities at 1 April 2025	774,000
Benefits paid	(13,000)
Actuarial gains and losses	(37,000)
Interest cost	45,000
Other	1,000
At 31 March 2026	770,000

The defined benefit obligations arise from plans which are wholly or partly funded.

Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2026 £
Fair value of assets at 1 April 2025	681,000
Interest income	40,000
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest)	(14,000)
Benefits paid	(13,000)
Contributions by the employer	1,000
At 31 March 2026	695,000

The fair value of plan assets at the reporting period end was as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Growth Assets	484,000	468,000
Matching Plus	9,000	20,000
Liability Driven Investment	192,000	192,000
Net Current Assets	10,000	1,000
	695,000	681,000

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).

22 Subsidiaries

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 March 2026 are as follows:

The charity also has significant holdings in undertakings which are not subsidiaries of the charity and are not classified as joint ventures or associated undertakings:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
GroundLinks Limited	United Kingdom	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00	

23 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Within one year	11,503	10,955