

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026
for
Inspiring Communities

Drummond Laurie CA
Unit 5
Gateway Business Park
Beancross Road
Grangemouth
FK3 8WX

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

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Inspiring Communities

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

TRUSTEES

Mr T H Addison (resigned 28.1.26)
Mrs B Donoghue
Mr J J Kilmurray
Ms M H R H McKinlay (resigned 1.1.26)
Mr A McKenzie
Mrs I Lowe (resigned 1.1.26)
Mrs J MacPhail
Mrs H Piper
Ms H Eason
Ms R Verelst (appointed 1.10.25)

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

Raploch Community Campus
Drip Road
Stirling
FK8 1RD

**REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER**

SC037761

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Drummond Laurie CA
Unit 5
Gateway Business Park
Beancross Road
Grangemouth
FK3 8WX

Inspiring Communities

Chair's Introduction for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to present this year's Trustees' Report for Inspiring Communities SCIO. The year to 31 March 2026 has been one of consolidation, transition and renewed focus. It has also been a year in which the depth and importance of our work has been clearly demonstrated across the communities we serve.

Demand for our support has remained high. Families continue to face the effects of financial pressure, health inequality, caring responsibilities, isolation, digital exclusion and uncertainty. Many of those who come through our doors are not facing one single barrier, but a combination of pressures that require patient, relational and person centred support. Inspiring Communities has continued to meet that need with skill, compassion and resilience.

This year has also seen the organisation continue its journey of strengthening. Through our REACH programme, standing for Review, Engage, Align, Co design and Harmonise, we have continued to listen carefully to staff, volunteers, trustees, partners and communities. REACH is more than a strategic review. It is a process of understanding where our work has greatest impact, where systems need to be strengthened, where community voice must sit more clearly in decision making, and how the organisation can move into its next stage with confidence and clarity.

The Board has also overseen a period of important governance transition. Tom Addison stood down as Chair at the January 2026 AGM, having served in that role since 2019. On behalf of the Board, staff, volunteers and communities, I want to record our sincere and particular thanks to Tom for his steady leadership over a period of significant organisational change. His time as Chair spanned the organisation's development as a SCIO, the extraordinary challenges of the pandemic, the cost of living crisis, governance strengthening, and the foundations of the more structured and resilient organisation we see today. His contribution has been substantial and lasting.

We also thank Isabella Lowe and Mary McKinley, who stood down from the Board at the AGM, for their service, commitment and thoughtful contribution. Trustees give their time voluntarily, and their stewardship, judgement and care are central to the health of any charity. We were pleased to welcome Rita Verelst to the Board in October 2025, bringing further experience and perspective to the organisation. Heather Easson continues as Treasurer, and Helen Piper has taken on the role of Vice Chair from April 2026, strengthening governance as we move forward.

The Board has continued to give close attention to financial sustainability, risk, safeguarding, delivery quality and organisational resilience. At the April 2026 Board meeting, trustees reviewed the financial position, management accounts, forward budgets and reserves position, approving the 2026 to 2027 budget and agreeing that the current reserves position should be retained in light of ongoing uncertainty across the sector and the need to protect delivery capacity.

At the heart of all this work remains a simple principle: we do things with people, not to them. Across early years and family support, employability, volunteering, digital inclusion, music, wellbeing, hardship support and community development, Inspiring Communities continues to create trusted spaces where people can rebuild confidence, form relationships, learn new skills and take their next steps.

I would like to thank our dedicated staff team, our volunteers, our trustees, our funders and partners, and, most importantly, the people and communities who continue to shape our work. The stories and outcomes described in this report show not only the scale of delivery but the human difference made when community led support is consistent, compassionate and ambitious.

Barbara Donoghue
Chair

The trustees of the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) present their report with the financial statements of the charity 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 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The organisation's purposes are as recognised in section 7(2) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005:

1. The prevention or relief of poverty.
2. The advancement of education.
3. The advancement of health.
4. The advancement of citizenship or community development, including rural or urban regeneration.
5. The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science.
6. The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.
7. The promotion of equality and diversity.
8. The advancement of environmental protection or improvement.
9. The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.
10. The advancement of other similar charitable purposes, projects, initiatives or activities as the charity trustees may consider appropriate.

Our organisation's main aim is to ensure that people are actively involved in the regeneration and development of their communities across Stirling. We work across a range of themes, including learning and skills development, volunteering and active citizenship, employability, digital inclusion, intergenerational activity, early years and family support, health and wellbeing, and reducing social isolation and loneliness.

We work hand in hand with local people to co design and deliver holistic, person centred community regeneration. Our programmes create opportunities that bring people together, build confidence, strengthen skills, reduce isolation and support people to shape their own futures.

With the backing of forward thinking funders and partners, Inspiring Communities stands alongside residents to build stronger connections and create resilient neighbourhoods where everyone has the chance to thrive.

Our approach is rooted in the belief that people and communities are not passive recipients of support; they are active participants in shaping change. Health, wellbeing and active citizenship sit at the heart of everything we do, because real, lasting change begins with people.

"We aim to help people in the inspiring priority communities in Stirling realise their potential through their activity, wellbeing, work and incomes. We want prosperous communities, and for that prosperity to be sustainable, with economic wellbeing enhancing social wellbeing and quality of life."

This approach has guided our work throughout 2025 to 2026. From early years support and family learning to digital inclusion, volunteering, community music, dementia friendly activity, employability, hardship support and environmental projects, our programmes are designed to strengthen confidence, connection and community resilience.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that Inspiring Communities SCIO meets the charity test as set out in the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and continues to provide clear public benefit in line with its stated purposes.

All activities are designed to support individuals and families experiencing disadvantage, reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, strengthen skills and confidence, and increase community participation. The organisation works across communities where poverty, exclusion, health inequality, digital exclusion and low levels of opportunity continue to affect life chances.

No private benefit arises beyond what is incidental and necessary for the delivery of our charitable aims. Trustees consider that no undue harm results from any of our activities. Our work is delivered through accessible, trauma informed, inclusive and proportionate approaches, with strong attention to safeguarding, equality, dignity and community voice.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

We continue to review our aims, objectives and activities each year, reflecting on the success of each key area of work and the benefits they bring to the people and communities we support. Service user involvement, staff reflection, partner dialogue and funder reporting remain central to our monitoring and evaluation processes.

Throughout 2025 to 2026, demand remained high across all areas of delivery. This was particularly evident in early years and family support, digital inclusion, employability, mental health and wellbeing, hardship support, and activities aimed at reducing social isolation. Many participants continued to present with complex and overlapping barriers, including financial hardship, caring responsibilities, health and wellbeing challenges, low confidence, limited digital access, social isolation and reduced employment readiness.

In response, Inspiring Communities continued to develop a model of support that recognises progression as something broader than immediate employment or attendance at a single group. Progress can mean a parent feeling confident enough to attend a group for the first time. It can mean an isolated older person beginning to form friendships. It can mean a young volunteer gaining the confidence to apply for work. It can mean someone learning to use a device, completing training, joining a community activity, or beginning to believe that they have something to contribute.

During the year, our strengthened Senior Leadership Team continued to guide delivery across the organisation. The Chief Executive was supported by the Operations and Impact Manager, Social Connection Manager and Community Development Manager, with project officers, volunteers and sessional contributors delivering across communities. This structure has enabled the organisation to manage increasing complexity while continuing to strengthen reporting, accountability and delivery quality.

Trauma informed practice remained central. Our staff and volunteers work with individuals and families who may have experienced poverty, isolation, bereavement, caring pressure, low confidence, poor health, or previous negative experiences of services. Our approach is therefore relational, patient and grounded in trust.

We continue to balance warmth and flexibility with clear boundaries, safeguarding, and strong referral pathways.

A defining feature of the year has been the continuing development of our KPI and impact reporting systems. The organisation has moved towards a richer understanding of progression, confidence, community participation, skills development and distance travelled. This is particularly important as our work increasingly supports people whose progress is not linear and whose outcomes may take time to emerge.

Lottery Community Connections

The National Lottery funded Community Connections programme has provided an important foundation for community activity across Raploch, Fallin, Plean and Cowie. The programme supports people of all ages through a range of community based activities, delivered through existing part time posts and supported by volunteers.

Since the start of the Lottery funded project on 1 April 2025, we delivered 253 sessions to 1,717 individuals. This significantly exceeded the projected reach of the programme and demonstrated strong demand for accessible, local, relationship based activity. Across the year, 1,121 people reported a decrease in social isolation, while 833 reported improved family cohesion. A further 777 people demonstrated improved formal or informal skills, and 504 reported increased wellbeing and resilience.

Early years and family learning continued to form a major part of this programme. Stay and Play groups in Plean and Cowie remained established and valued, with new families continuing to attend. Plean saw attendance increase again following a quieter period as children moved on to nursery and school, while Cowie continued to offer a consistent weekly space for families. After school Stay and Play sessions were tested and adapted across school settings, including East Plean Primary and Cowie Primary, where engagement was strong. This approach has allowed us to take learning from one community and apply it carefully in another, rather than assuming that one delivery model works everywhere.

Young volunteers from St Margaret's Primary continued to support activity at Cowie Stay and Play, with several completing their volunteering hours and achieving the Vanguard Award. This intergenerational approach has strengthened relationships between children, families and young volunteers, while offering young people an early and meaningful experience of active citizenship.

Inspiring Communities

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Inspiring Senses continued to provide a progression route from baby massage, helping families build confidence, relationships and routines beyond the earliest stage of engagement. Blocks were delivered in Cornton, Raploch and Cowie, extending access to families who may not otherwise have taken part. Messy Mondays also continued to rotate across communities, with learning emerging about where bookable and drop in models work best. The positive response to drop in delivery in Hillpark confirmed the importance of retaining flexible, low barrier approaches where venues and community demand allow.

Family learning also developed through libraries. A four week Lego Club at Fallin Library, delivered as an after school family drop in, was well attended and demonstrated potential for community led continuation. The library indicated that it would seek to run further blocks itself, showing how our delivery can seed activity that becomes locally sustained.

CEOP delivery, focused on online safety and digital safeguarding, continued to be in high demand. During the year, pupil sessions were delivered in Cornton Primary, Bannockburn Primary and Braehead Primary, while parent and carer sessions took place across the St Modan's cluster, including St Margaret's, Our Lady's and St Mary's Primary Schools. Additional sessions were scheduled for Allans Primary and Cambusbarron Primary, and professional learning was delivered at Braehead Primary during an in service day. Due to capacity constraints, and in recognition of where our added value is strongest, the organisation refined this offer to focus primarily on parent, carer and professional delivery where requested.

The Health Issues in the Community short course was well received, engagement was strong and feedback was positive. This work built internal capacity, with the tutor completing coursework and gaining sign off to deliver future courses. Health, wellbeing and active citizenship sit at the heart of everything we do - because real, lasting change always begins with people. Our Health Issues in the Community offering will enable people to direct this lasting change.

Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund

The Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund has remained a core source of support for Inspiring Communities, enabling delivery across volunteering, digital inclusion, family support, employability, training, social connection and capacity building. The funding period from April 2023 to March 2026 has now provided a substantial evidence base of what can be achieved through sustained, community based investment.

Across the full funding period (April 2023 - March 2026), Inspiring Communities provided 1,372 instances of volunteer support, created 107 new volunteer roles and supported 26 people to move into strategic volunteering roles with third sector organisations or community structures. Volunteer drop in sessions reached 678 instances of support, while 220 people received support linked to community gardening and intergenerational outdoor projects.

Digital inclusion was a particular strength. Across the period, we delivered 923 IT drop in sessions and 1,255 digital inclusion service sessions in local communities. A total of 160 people completed the Getting Started with Computers course, exceeding the target and demonstrating the continuing importance of structured, accessible digital support. Digital participation remains central to financial inclusion, employability, learning, social connection and access to public services.

Early years and family support also performed strongly. Weekly parent and toddler support activity reached 200 sessions, and family learning delivery reached 305 sessions. These activities provided accessible routes into support for parents and carers, while also strengthening family confidence, community connection and early intervention.

Employability support remained important, although the year also demonstrated why success must be understood more broadly than job outcomes alone. Across the funding period, 95 people were supported into employment. This was below the original target, but reflects the increasingly complex barriers faced by participants and the need to focus on stabilisation, confidence building and positive destinations. Job coaching, life coaching and job search activity remained significant, with 484 coaching sessions, 503 job search training sessions and 189 employability baselines, vocational profiles or action plans completed.

Training and skills activity exceeded key targets. Accredited outcomes, including HIIC, Scottish Mental Health First Aid, REHIS, First Aid and Paediatric First Aid, reached 260 against a target of 240. Non accredited training outcomes reached 1,884, significantly exceeding the target of 450. This demonstrates the value of informal, accessible learning as part of a wider pathway into confidence, volunteering, employment and community participation.

Inspiring Communities

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The strongest numerical outcomes were seen in social isolation and active citizenship. Volunteers contributed 26,039 hours in active citizenship roles against a target of 15,000. A total of 4,137 people became more active in their community, and 309 people completed social wellbeing action plans. Advice, support and capacity building activity also remained strong, with 1,574 advice and support sessions, 57 information and awareness raising events, 596 instances of meeting space provided to developing groups and partners, and 222 appropriate referral routes established or used.

These outcomes reflect more than service delivery. They show a community infrastructure approach, where people are supported not only to attend activities but to contribute, connect, lead, learn and progress.

From Employment Outcomes to Positive Destinations

A significant learning point during the year has been the shift from viewing employment outcomes as the only measure of success towards a broader and more realistic understanding of positive destinations.

Many participants are not work ready when they first engage. Some are dealing with poor mental health, caring responsibilities, long term unemployment, low confidence, digital exclusion, trauma, financial hardship or isolation. For these individuals, a successful outcome may begin with attending regularly, completing a short course, volunteering, joining a group, improving confidence, building routine, or accepting support.

This shift is reflected in our approach to ICF Transition Funding in 2026 - 2027, where measures are increasingly designed to capture distance travelled, sustained engagement and pathway progression. It is also reflected in frontline practice, where staff recognise that relational support, stability and trust are often the preconditions for any later move into work, learning or volunteering.

Responding to Financial Hardship

Financial hardship remained a significant issue during the year. The Corra Foundation Household Hardship Fund enabled targeted support to families experiencing acute pressure. Support was delivered sensitively through trusted routes, including family support sessions, schools and partners, avoiding stigma and ensuring that help reached those most in need.

A total of 109 families received vouchers through this support. For some families, hardship support was a practical intervention at a difficult point. For others, it also acted as a gateway into wider support, enabling further engagement with early years activity, employability, wellbeing or family support.

The fund was managed carefully, with clear records, referral routes and sensitivity around confidentiality. A small number of committed payments extended into the following financial year, with full expenditure required by the end of June 2026.

Volunteer Support Fund

The Year One Volunteer Support Fund, covering November 2025 to March 2026, delivered strongly against all key targets. The programme recruited and inducted 15 new volunteers against a target of 6, alongside a further 5 primary school volunteers. Participation from priority groups was strong, including people with long term health conditions, individuals with additional support needs, and young people aged 15 to 18.

Volunteer retention was particularly positive at 100 per cent. This was supported by regular supervision, role design and peer mentoring, with 40 supervision and peer mentoring sessions delivered. Training exceeded expectations, with 28 sessions delivered, including inductions and accredited training in safeguarding, Playlist for Life and First Aid.

Volunteer roles were piloted across four community settings and two schools, demonstrating the flexibility of the model across community, care and education environments. Volunteers contributed 258 hours against a target of 50. A particularly strong additional outcome was the progression of three Playlist for Life volunteers into employment within care and community music settings, showing how volunteering can provide a bridge into paid work, confidence and vocational direction.

Coorie In and Sing, Community Chorus and Dementia Inclusive Work

Music, memory and intergenerational connection continued to be important strands of delivery. Through the Music for All funded Coorie In and Sing work, Inspiring Communities delivered 28 weekly Community Chorus sessions between August 2025 and March 2026, with 803 attendances from 97 individuals. Participants included people living with dementia, people with additional support needs, those with long term health conditions, carers and primary aged children.

Inspiring Communities

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The Community Chorus continued to provide an inclusive space where people could experience joy, routine, connection and belonging. It also strengthened intergenerational relationships, bringing children, older adults, volunteers and community members together through shared music.

Dementia focused work expanded through Playlist for Life training. Eight volunteers completed Playlist for Life training and a further two individuals were trained to support sustainability. Playlist creation sessions were delivered across two care homes, involving volunteers, residents and carers. Eleven personal playlists were created, with additional playlists developed through family and HEAL group activity. Equipment was provided to support ongoing use within care settings.

Follow on Musical Moments sessions supported group singing and reminiscence activity, with strong feedback on enjoyment, emotional connection and wellbeing. This work provides a strong foundation for future dementia inclusive delivery, particularly with Age Scotland funding commencing from 1 April 2026.

Inspiring Women Together

Inspiring Women Together commenced in January 2026 funded by the Community mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and provides a consistent and valued space for peer support, connection and wellbeing. Building from previous women's wellbeing activity, the group has developed within Inspiring Communities' governance and safeguarding framework, ensuring that peer support is delivered with appropriate oversight, boundaries and support.

The group contributes to reduced isolation, improved confidence and sustained routine. Its development also reflects one of the organisation's wider strengths: creating spaces that are warm, accessible and community led, while remaining safe, structured and accountable.

Additional Social Connection Outcomes

Although the Connect project is no longer in direct delivery, its learning continues to shape current activity. During 2025 to 2026, the organisation delivered 87 intergenerational sessions, 20 volunteer celebration or vision events, and 2,938 non accredited health and wellbeing learning opportunities.

These outcomes demonstrate the continued strength of social connection work across the organisation. Groups such as Soup and Social, HEAL, Craft and Chat, Community Chorus and intergenerational activity provide more than activity. They offer routine, friendship, informal learning, confidence, nutrition, purpose and belonging.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Systems and communication

During the year, Inspiring Communities continued to strengthen internal systems, reporting processes and organisational infrastructure. This work has been essential to supporting both delivery quality and accountability across a growing and increasingly complex funding portfolio.

Improved KPI reporting has enabled the organisation to track outcomes across multiple programmes more clearly. Staff have worked to align funder requirements with meaningful operational reporting, reducing duplication and enabling more accurate analysis of what is being achieved. This has included clearer mapping of outcomes across Scottish Government, National Lottery, Volunteer Support Fund, Music for All and other funding streams.

Financial reporting has also strengthened significantly. The organisation has developed more detailed cost to employer allocations, allowing staffing costs to be attributed accurately across grant streams. Purchase ledger and income reconciliations have been developed to show opening balances, income received, expenditure applied, accrued income and closing balances. This has improved transparency and will support year end accounts, funder reporting and Board oversight.

During the year, we also undertook important work on organisational identity and external communication. Inspiring Communities has evolved markedly in recent years, strengthening its scale, strategic focus, governance, delivery model and external presence. The REACH Strategic Review highlighted that our existing identity no longer fully reflected this maturity or the distinctive place based, co designed approach that now defines our work.

The review identified a need for greater visibility and recognition among partners, funders and communities; an identity that better represents our co design ethos; and a more modern, cohesive visual presence across digital platforms, printed materials, signage, staff resources and funder communications. As Inspiring Communities entered the next phase of development, exploring a refreshed visual identity became a natural part of strengthening our communication, profile and confidence.

Following discussion at the January 2026 Board meeting, the refreshed brand was soft launched in February 2026. The design process explored three broad directions: People and Pathways, highlighting movement, progress and personal journeys; Place and Roots, reflecting locality, stability and regeneration; and Connection and Co design, emphasising partnership, collaboration and shared power.

Following visual testing and reflection against the REACH priorities, the Modern Highland Bloom concept emerged as the strongest and most fitting direction. The design maintains continuity with the organisation's previous identity while offering a more contemporary, confident and vibrant expression of who we are today.

The geometric bloom retains a recognisable connection with the earlier three petal symbol, while strengthening it into a more distinctive mark. It represents people coming together, communities opening outward, and shared energy and growth. The design reflects a modern Scottish aesthetic that feels both rooted and forward looking, communicating inclusion, warmth and movement without relying on literal imagery.

The refreshed palette also reflects the organisation's values and direction. Deep navy represents stability, trust and clarity. Teal conveys growth, confidence and a contemporary tone. Emerald green reflects place, regeneration and connection to nature. Violet represents community voice, creativity and distinctiveness. Warm yellow provides a central point of energy, optimism and focus.

The updated identity supports the wider organisational strengthening emerging from REACH. It reflects a clearer sense of purpose, stronger governance and structure, renewed place based leadership, and the centrality of co design and lived experience in our work.

Digital presence continued to be strengthened. Inspiring Communities uses its website and social media channels to share programme updates, community opportunities, impact, volunteer stories and funding acknowledgements. LinkedIn has become increasingly important for partner, funder and strategic visibility, while Facebook and Instagram continue to support community engagement.

We remain committed to being open, accessible and transparent in how we communicate our work. Our digital platforms provide regular updates on programmes, opportunities, impact and community stories, enabling local residents, partners and stakeholders to engage with us easily.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

You can find us here:

-  inspiringcommunities.org.uk
-  Facebook: Inspiring Communities SCIO
-  Bluesky: @inspiring-comms.bsky.social
-  Instagram: Inspiring_Comms
-  Twitter: @Inspiring_Comms
-  LinkedIn: Inspiring Communities SCIO
-  Tel: 01786 272358

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

REACH: REVIEW, ENGAGE, ALIGN, CO DESIGN AND HARMONISE

A defining feature of the year has been the continued development of our REACH programme, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. REACH stands for Review, Engage, Align, Co design and Harmonise. It was established to support a period of organisational strengthening, strategic review and community engagement, enabling Inspiring Communities to move into its next stage with clarity, evidence and shared purpose.

REACH has not been a paper based strategy exercise. It has been a process of listening, reflection, challenge and alignment. It has involved staff, trustees, volunteers, partners and community members in considering what Inspiring Communities does well, where demand is changing, where systems need to be strengthened, and how future delivery can remain both community led and financially sustainable.

The review element has allowed us to consider our organisational structure, funding mix, governance arrangements, monitoring systems, delivery footprint and external identity. The engagement element has ensured that community voice remains central, recognising that the people who use and shape our services are best placed to tell us what matters. Alignment has involved mapping programmes, funder priorities, local strategic needs and staff capacity, so that future work is coherent rather than fragmented. Co design continues to sit at the heart of our method, ensuring that people are not simply consulted but involved in shaping activity. Harmonise reflects the need to bring all of this together into a sustainable operating model.

During the year, REACH influenced several areas of work. It supported clearer thinking around our place based footprint, particularly across Raploch, Fallin, Plean, Cowie, Cornton, Hillpark, St Ninians and other Stirling communities. It helped strengthen internal reporting and Board oversight. It informed funding applications and partnership discussions. It also supported reflection on our public identity, resulting in the soft launch of a refreshed brand in February 2026.

As we move into 2026 to 2027, REACH will move further from review into implementation. The next stage will focus on embedding learning into strategy, sustainability planning, programme design, funding priorities, community voice mechanisms, and our wider role within Stirling's partnership and commissioning landscape. The Board sees this as central to ensuring that Inspiring Communities remains rooted, relevant and resilient.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Partnership working is fundamental to Inspiring Communities' model and remains one of our greatest organisational strengths. Our approach is rooted in cooperation, shared accountability and clear multi agency practice. We actively avoid duplication and instead work alongside organisations whose expertise complements our own, enabling individuals and families to benefit from a coherent network of support.

During the year, our involvement in Stirling Council's Thriving Communities work and the wider Stirling Civic Alliance has been important. As an approved provider, and as part of wider third sector collaboration facilitated through Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise, we have contributed to discussions about how commissioned services, community led delivery and third sector capacity can be better aligned. This work is still developing, but it reflects the need for a more mature relationship between statutory partners and local voluntary organisations.

Our partnership with schools and early years settings continued to grow. CEOP delivery, Stay and Play sessions, young volunteer pathways, transition activity and family learning all depended on effective relationships with schools, nurseries and wider education partners. Work with St Margaret's Primary, Cowie Primary, East Plean Primary, Braehead Primary, Cornton Primary, Bannockburn Primary and the St Modan's cluster demonstrates the breadth of this engagement.

We continued to work closely with health visitors, Stirling Council Family Support Teams and other statutory partners in relation to early years, family support and safeguarding. Parents and carers engaging in Twinkle Stars, Stay and Play, IAIM Baby Massage, Inspiring Senses and wider wellbeing activities benefited from trusted referral routes and multi agency awareness.

Our collaboration with Stirling Libraries continued to provide important routes into social connection, learning and community activity. The use of Fallin Library for family learning and Lego activity demonstrated how partnership spaces can support community led continuation.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Music and intergenerational activity remained strong through collaboration with Big Noise, Playlist for Life, Music for All, schools and care settings. These partnerships have widened access to creative and dementia inclusive opportunities, enabling people of different ages and backgrounds to connect through music and memory.

We maintained relationships with Start Up Stirling, Stirling CAB, Active Stirling, Strathcarron Hospice, Butterfly Conservation, local community councils and grassroots groups including Plean's Voice, Fallin Community Voice, Support for Families, CRAG and others across our delivery footprint. These partnerships support crisis response, advice, referrals, employability, environmental activity, volunteering, social prescribing and community development.

We also continued to provide space and operational support to partners whose work aligns with our mission, recognising that access to a trusted, trauma informed and community based venue can be critical for smaller organisations and groups.

The strength of these partnerships lies not only in referral numbers but in trust, shared purpose and practical problem solving. By working strategically and operationally with others across Stirling, Inspiring Communities continues to strengthen collective impact, widen access to support and contribute to a more connected local ecosystem of care, learning and opportunity.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Total income received during the year was £283,191. Of this, £72,813.00 relates to income received in advance for delivery in 2026 to 2027, including Forte Charitable Trust, Age Scotland Dementia funding and Year Two of Lottery Community Connections. Also in the year income of £47,834 was released in relation to National Lottery income deferred in the prior year. This therefore results in income recognised for 2025 to 2026 of £258,212.

The Board reviewed financial information at its April 2026 meeting, including income, expenditure, management accounts, year end reconciliations, forward budgets, reserves and going concern considerations. Trustees approved the 2026 to 2027 budget and discussed the reserves position, agreeing that retaining the current reserves position remains prudent in light of the organisation's commitments, restricted funding profile, staffing obligations and the wider uncertainty facing the sector.

The organisation continues to manage a complex funding environment, with multiple restricted funds, different delivery periods, accrued income, carry forward balances and staffing allocations. During the year, substantial work was undertaken to improve financial analysis, including cost to employer reconciliation by grant stream, purchase ledger allocation, income reconciliation, and clearer treatment of opening and closing fund balances.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

We remain deeply grateful to the funders who support Inspiring Communities and enable us to work with and in communities experiencing the greatest need. The organisation continues to rely principally on grant income, and we recognise the responsibility this places on us to ensure strong governance, accurate reporting, clear outcomes and careful stewardship.

The Scottish Government's Investing in Communities Fund continued to support core delivery across volunteering, digital inclusion, employability, early years, social connection and capacity building. This funding has been central to the organisation's ability to maintain a broad, place based and relational offer.

The National Lottery Community Fund continued to support two important strands of work. REACH enabled organisational review, engagement, alignment and strategic strengthening, while Community Connections supported a wide range of community activities across Raploch, Fallin, Plean and Cowie. Together, these awards have helped the organisation both deliver now and plan for the future.

Robertson Trust funding supported employability, particularly for those facing disadvantage, caring responsibilities and barriers to economic participation. This support has been important in sustaining personalised employability pathways and recognising that routes into work often require wider wellbeing, confidence and skills support.

The Volunteer Support Fund, through Impact Funding Partners, enabled us to strengthen volunteering, training, supervision and progression pathways. Its impact has been evident not only in volunteer numbers but in the quality of support, retention and progression into employment.

The Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund, through Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise, supported work to reduce isolation, improve wellbeing and sustain peer support activity, including Inspiring Women Together. Music for All supported Coorie In and Sing, Community Chorus and dementia inclusive music activity, enabling the organisation to deepen its intergenerational and creative wellbeing offer.

Barcapel Foundation supported digital and CEOP related delivery, helping us respond to demand for digital safeguarding and online safety support with parents, carers, professionals and schools.

Corra Foundation's Household Hardship Fund enabled targeted practical support to families experiencing acute financial pressure. This support was delivered sensitively and through trusted routes, with careful attention to dignity and confidentiality.

Other valued funders during the year included Warburtons, Skipton, McCarthy Stone, Barchester, Forte Charitable Trust and Stirling Community Lottery. Age Scotland funding was secured for dementia inclusive work commencing from 1 April 2026, and will support the next stage of our work with older people, carers, volunteers and intergenerational activity.

Together, this funding portfolio reflects both the breadth of our work and the strength of our alignment with funder priorities around poverty, health, wellbeing, community connection, learning, employability, digital inclusion, dementia, volunteering and community resilience.

Remuneration and Pay Setting

The charity's approach to pay is rooted in fairness, sector alignment, and transparency. All salaries are benchmarked against comparable roles within the Scottish voluntary sector and reviewed annually by the Board. Decisions on senior staff remuneration are made by trustees, taking account of affordability, sector standards, and organisational sustainability. No trustee receives remuneration for their role.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between two and three months of core operating costs. This level is considered appropriate given the scale of our services, the mix of multi year and annual grants, and the need to manage cash flow fluctuations associated with restricted funding.

Trustees recognise that in a grant funded charity, the headline cash position can sometimes mask the distinction between unrestricted reserves and restricted funds already committed to specific purposes. The Board therefore monitors unrestricted reserves carefully and continues to prioritise full cost recovery, multi year funding and appropriate use of unrestricted income.

At the April 2026 Board meeting, trustees considered the reserves position alongside the draft year end financial position and 2026 to 2027 budget. The Board agreed that retaining the current reserves position is appropriate and responsible, particularly given ongoing inflationary pressures, uncertainty in public funding, and the need to protect continuity of community delivery.

At 31 March 2026, unrestricted reserves stood at £16,809. Trustees continue to monitor the reserves position closely. The Board recognises the importance of rebuilding unrestricted reserves to strengthen organisational resilience and will prioritise this within future fundraising and strategic planning.

Going concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's financial position, current funding commitments, confirmed income, forward budgets and delivery plans. With confirmed funding in place, income received in advance for future delivery, and a budget approved by the Board for 2026 to 2027, trustees are satisfied that the organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the date the financial statements are approved.

The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

Pay and Workforce Sustainability

Rising staffing costs, recruitment and retention remain important considerations for the Board. The organisation's approach to pay is rooted in fairness, sector alignment, affordability and sustainability.

The Board has agreed in principle that, where the organisation is financially able to do so, it will seek to comply with proposed COSLA cost of living awards. The organisation was able to implement the award during 2025–26. This reflects a commitment to fair pay and workforce sustainability, while recognising that many grant awards are fixed, time limited or standstill. Trustees remain mindful that any pay movement must be considered alongside confirmed funding, reserves, contractual obligations and long term organisational sustainability.

Public Procurement and Commissioning

Inspiring Communities remains an approved bidder within Stirling Council's Thriving Communities programme and is also part of wider consortium approaches involving Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise and the local third sector. The organisation continues to engage in discussions around commissioning, partnership and the role of community led organisations within Stirling's broader support landscape.

Due to the nature of public procurement and commissioning processes, potential future income from this route is not treated as confirmed income until formally awarded.

CASE STUDIES AND COMMUNITY VOICES

The stories of our participants and volunteers remain the most powerful evidence of the impact of our work. They show that community based support is not simply about attendance numbers. It is about relationships, confidence, progression, belonging and opportunity. To protect privacy, the case studies below are anonymised and described by circumstance rather than by identifying initials.

A Young Volunteer's Journey into Employment and Higher Education

One young person first engaged with Inspiring Communities as an ad hoc volunteer within the Community Chorus. Initially volunteering on a flexible basis, she quickly demonstrated commitment, reliability and an interest in developing her skills and confidence.

As she approached the transition from school, she undertook Food Hygiene training, which supported her to secure paid employment within the catering sector. Alongside employment, she chose to maintain her connection with Inspiring Communities through continued volunteering, providing consistency and ongoing engagement within a supportive community setting.

She then progressed to complete Playlist for Life training, enabling her to take on a more active role within both Playlist for Life and Coorie In and Sing activity. Through these opportunities, she gained practical experience supporting older adults living with dementia, developing her communication skills, confidence and understanding of person centred care.

Building on this experience, she successfully secured employment within a care home setting. Her volunteering experience directly supported this progression by providing relevant skills, confidence and understanding aligned to the role. She has continued to volunteer alongside employment, demonstrating sustained engagement and commitment to her community.

She has since progressed further and has been accepted into university to study radiology, representing a significant step into higher education and a long term professional career pathway.

This case study demonstrates the value of early engagement in volunteering as a pathway to employment, education and aspiration. It also shows the role of community based support in developing confidence, skills and progression opportunities for young people.

A Kinship Carer's Route Back into Flexible Employment

One participant first engaged with Inspiring Communities in early 2021 following redundancy during the Covid 19 pandemic. At that point, services were operating through an appointment based model and she required tailored one to one support to rebuild confidence and re enter the workforce.

Inspiring Communities delivered an individual Realising Actual Potential course to address confidence barriers, enabling her to identify strengths, rebuild self belief and take practical steps towards employment. She also received a digital device and MiFi connection through Connecting Scotland, allowing her to carry out job searches and access online learning.

As a direct result of combined employability and digital inclusion support, she secured employment in December 2021.

In 2023, her circumstances changed significantly when she took on kinship care of two grandchildren. She attempted to remain in work, but the caring arrangement became permanent and her employer was unable to offer the flexibility required. She returned to Inspiring Communities for support through Job Club, focusing on term time and school hours employment to align with her caring responsibilities. During this period, she accessed both accredited and non accredited training, strengthening employability and confidence.

While out of work, she experienced increased isolation and began attending Soup and Social, Activate and Job Club sessions. These provided routine, peer support and social connection alongside practical employability support.

Through tailored interview preparation and ongoing encouragement, she secured an interview in November 2025 and was subsequently offered a role within a local nursery, with hours aligned to childcare responsibilities. This supported long term stability for her family. She continues to engage with Inspiring Communities flexibly around employment.

This story demonstrates the long term value of accessible, relationship based community support. It shows joined up outcomes across employability, digital inclusion, wellbeing, family stability and social connection.

From First Contact to Community Connector

One retired community member first engaged with Inspiring Communities through a reading group facilitated by Stirling Libraries at the Raploch Hub. Initially arriving early for the reading group, she began to catch the end of the Soup and Social session taking place beforehand. This informal exposure led to her actively attending the full Soup and Social sessions, where she built stronger social connections and expanded her personal network.

Over time, she became someone who encouraged newcomers, helping them feel welcome and included in different sessions. She also brought friends along to Inspiring Communities activity, strengthening the reach of the Hub through personal recommendation and trust.

More recently, she joined the HEAL group, taking part in healthy eating and active lifestyle activity, and also began attending Craft and Chat sessions. Her involvement continues to strengthen her connections across different aspects of Inspiring Communities' work.

She has also registered for the Health Issues in the Community training course, which will equip her with new skills and knowledge to support community initiatives.

Her journey demonstrates how a single point of engagement can lead to wider involvement, confidence and contribution. She has become not only a participant, but an advocate for Inspiring Communities activity and community values.

These stories illustrate how our model works in practice. People may enter through one doorway, such as a reading group, digital support, volunteering, employability or family activity, but the wider network of support allows them to build relationships, discover strengths and progress in ways that are meaningful to their own lives.

GRATITUDE WALL

We continue to capture feedback and reflections through our groups, conversations, surveys and community stories. These voices bring to life the human impact of Inspiring Communities and remind us why local, relationship based support matters.

Participants have told us that early years groups helped them feel less alone as new parents. Others have described the confidence gained through digital support, the relief of receiving practical help during financial pressure, and the joy of finding friendship through music, soup, craft, gardening or volunteering.

Feedback continues to highlight the value of being welcomed without judgement, being given time, being supported by staff who know people by name, and being able to move between different kinds of support as life changes.

Across the year, people have described Inspiring Communities as a place where they feel seen, supported and encouraged. These reflections are as important as formal outcome data. They show that community regeneration is not only about programmes and targets, but about trust, dignity and belonging.

CONCLUSION

The year to 31 March 2026 has been one of significant work, transition and strengthening for Inspiring Communities. In a period marked by continued pressure on communities and uncertainty across the third sector, the organisation has sustained and developed a broad, responsive and impactful programme of work.

The outcomes described in this report show both scale and depth. Thousands of people have participated in community activity. Volunteers have contributed extraordinary hours. Families have accessed early years support. People have improved digital skills, gained qualifications, moved into volunteering, entered employment, built confidence, reduced isolation and strengthened relationships.

The year has also been one of organisational maturity. REACH has supported deeper reflection and clearer direction. Financial systems and reporting have strengthened. Safeguarding arrangements have been reviewed and reinforced. Governance has transitioned positively, with sincere thanks to trustees who stood down and a renewed Board structure moving forward.

The year has also clarified the organisation's identity and direction. Inspiring Communities is now better able to describe what it does, why it matters and how its work connects individual progress with wider community regeneration. The refreshed brand, emerging from REACH and soft launched in February 2026, gives visual expression to this confidence. It reflects people coming together, communities opening outward, and a shared commitment to growth, inclusion and place based change.

Our future focus is clear. We will continue to build strong, community led provision across Stirling. We will deepen our dementia inclusive and intergenerational work. We will sustain early years, digital inclusion, volunteering, employability and social connection activity. We will continue to work in partnership, contribute to local systems change, and ensure that people with lived experience remain central to the design and development of our services.

The trustees are proud of the progress made during the year and deeply grateful to the staff, volunteers, funders, partners and community members who make this work possible.

We remain firmly committed to the principle that real change starts with people. In the year ahead, Inspiring Communities will continue to work hand in hand with local people, funders and partners to build stronger connections, widen opportunity and support more resilient communities across Stirling.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 20 August 2019. The charity was previously an incorporated association but changed its legal form to a SCIO. The assets of the unincorporated association were transferred to the SCIO on the 20 August 2019. It has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed to the management committee elected biennially at the annual general meeting.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The trustees elected biennially at an annual general meeting form a management committee consisting of a maximum of 14. The management committee elects from within its numbers a chairperson, vice chairperson, treasurer, secretary and any other office bearers that the Partnership deem appropriate. Such office bearers will hold office for a period of two years. No member can hold more than one office at any particular time. A quorum for the management committee will be a minimum of five members. Advisors are not included as voting members and are not included to maintain the quorum of the committee. If a meeting is not quorate, decisions will be deferred to the next quorate meeting. The committee may co-opt new members to bring its membership up to a maximum of 14.

The committee will meet regularly throughout the year as the Partnership deems appropriate. The committee are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity.

The Partnership will hold the annual general and ensure that no more than 15 months shall elapse from one annual general meeting to the next.

Inspiring Communities is led by the Chief Executive Officer, supported by a Senior Leadership Team comprising the Operations and Impact Manager, Social Connection Manager and Community Development Manager. This structure provides strategic and operational leadership across the organisation's core areas of delivery, including employability and skills, digital inclusion, volunteering, early years and family support, health and wellbeing, social connection and community development.

The wider team includes project staff, sessional workers and volunteers, all of whom contribute to delivery across Stirling's priority communities. During the year, the organisation continued to strengthen its internal systems, reporting arrangements and management capacity through the REACH Strategic Review, ensuring that staffing structures remain aligned with organisational priorities, delivery requirements and future sustainability.

A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met. The Chief Executive has responsibility for the day to day operational management of the Hub, individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practises in line with good practices.

The Board experienced a significant period of transition during the year. Tom Addison stood down as Chair on 28 January 2026 at the AGM after serving in that role since 2019. Barbara Donoghue was subsequently appointed as Chair on 28 January 2026. Trustees wish to record their sincere thanks for his leadership, commitment and stewardship. His period as Chair covered some of the most challenging and important years in the organisation's development, including the transition and consolidation of the SCIO, the pandemic period, the cost of living crisis, organisational restructuring, strengthening of governance systems and the development of the REACH strategic review. Tom's contribution has helped leave the organisation in a stronger and more resilient position.

The Board also thanks Isabella Lowe and Mary McKinley for their service and contribution. Their time, judgement and support have been valued and have contributed to the development of the charity. The Board warmly welcomed Rita Verelst in October 2025, adding further skills and perspective as the organisation moves into its next stage.

Heather Easson continued as Treasurer, providing important financial oversight during a period of increasingly complex funding and reporting. Helen Piper has taken on the role of Vice Chair from April 2026 and continues to support governance development, including safeguarding oversight.

During the year, trustees remained actively engaged in financial oversight, risk management, safeguarding, strategic planning, and the REACH review process. The Board continued to receive regular reports on performance, funding, safeguarding, staffing, finance and operational risk. Trustees also reviewed the year end financial position, approved budgets and considered going concern at the April 2026 meeting.

The organisation recognises the wider challenge across the third sector in recruiting and retaining trustees. Inspiring Communities continues to consider skills, diversity, lived experience, professional expertise and community connection as part of Board development.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees are provided with a structured induction tailored to their role and previous experience. This includes the charity's governing document, latest Trustees' Report and accounts, strategic and operational plans, key policies, recent Board papers, safeguarding information, and an overview of the organisation's programmes, financial position and governance arrangements.

New trustees are supported by the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Chief Executive and fellow trustees to develop a clear understanding of their legal responsibilities, the organisation's charitable purposes, its funding environment, and the communities it serves. Trustees are encouraged to participate in relevant training, briefings and development opportunities throughout their term of office, including updates on governance, safeguarding, finance, risk management and sector developments.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Staff and volunteer acknowledgements

The Board extends its sincere thanks to our staff and volunteers, whose dedication, skill and compassion underpin everything Inspiring Communities achieves.

This has been another demanding year. Staff have supported participants experiencing complex needs, delivered across multiple communities, managed funder requirements, adapted activity in response to demand, and contributed to significant improvements in reporting, safeguarding and organisational systems. They have done this while maintaining the relational warmth and practical problem solving that define Inspiring Communities.

The Board is particularly grateful to the Senior Leadership Team and frontline staff for their resilience and professionalism. Their work often involves holding complexity: supporting families under pressure, responding to isolation and hardship, helping people build confidence, and recognising when issues require referral to specialist or statutory support. This requires judgement, compassion and clear boundaries.

Volunteers remain central to the organisation's impact. They contribute through community groups, music, gardening, befriending, peer support, digital activity, early years settings, care home work, school based roles and governance. The scale of volunteer contribution during the year, including over 26,000 hours across the Scottish Government funded reporting period, demonstrates both the strength of community participation and the importance of good volunteer support.

We are particularly proud of the pathways created through volunteering. For some people, volunteering provides confidence, routine and connection. For others, it becomes a route into employment, training or further education. The year's outcomes demonstrate that volunteering is not only an act of contribution, but a powerful mechanism for personal development and community resilience.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The trustees recognise their responsibility to ensure that Inspiring Communities provides a safe, supportive and well governed environment for all who engage with our services.

Safeguarding remained a major area of organisational focus during the year. The organisation strengthened its safeguarding framework, updated policies and procedures, clarified roles and responsibilities, and continued to embed safeguarding as part of everyday practice rather than a standalone compliance issue.

The Chief Executive acts as Designated Safeguarding Lead, with trustee oversight supported through the safeguarding trustee role. Helen Piper has provided important Board level oversight in this area. The organisation has also clarified responsibilities around PVG processes, staff and volunteer checks, record keeping, escalation and professional curiosity.

Safeguarding practice is embedded across the organisation. Staff and volunteers receive training appropriate to their roles, including induction, refresher learning and specialist training where required. CEOP and digital safeguarding have continued to form important strands of the organisation's wider work, particularly with parents, carers, professionals and schools.

During the year, the organisation continued to emphasise the importance of early recording, clear decision making, proportionate escalation and safe information sharing. This includes recognising when concerns sit within our remit, when support can be offered through our own services, and when referral to statutory or specialist services is required.

Inspiring Communities operates a multi agency safeguarding approach in line with national guidance. We work with Stirling Council, education, health, third sector partners and other relevant organisations to ensure that concerns are acted on appropriately and that people are supported safely.

This approach reflects our commitment to maintaining high standards of safeguarding, protecting participants, volunteers and staff, and ensuring that community based work strengthens, rather than substitutes for, statutory safeguarding frameworks.

FUNDRAISING STANDARDS

The charity adheres to the Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel's Fundraising Guarantee and operates within a governance framework that ensures fundraising and income generation are lawful, ethical and aligned with OSCR guidance.

Although the majority of our income comes from grants rather than public donations, the Board maintains oversight of funding applications, income generation, strategic partnerships and funder reporting. The organisation seeks funding that aligns with charitable purposes, community need and strategic direction.

Our fundraising governance framework includes policies and processes covering ethical fundraising, financial management, strategic partnerships, delegated authority, bid approval and partner values alignment. These documents support consistent decision making, compliance and reputation management.

Inspiring Communities does not undertake cold calling, door to door fundraising or practices that may cause undue pressure or distress. Anyone representing the organisation is expected to act in line with our values, code of conduct, safeguarding framework and data protection responsibilities.

Feedback from funders, partners, donors, participants or members of the public is welcomed and managed through appropriate procedures, with oversight from senior management and the Board.

COMPLAINTS AND FEEDBACK

Inspiring Communities operates a formal complaints procedure. Complaints are acknowledged, recorded and reviewed by senior management, with oversight from trustees where appropriate.

During the reporting year, the organisation received no formal complaints. Wider feedback from participants, volunteers, partners and funders continues to inform service development. Informal feedback is gathered through groups, surveys, conversations, case studies, funder reports and staff reflection.

We recognise that feedback is not only a matter of compliance. It is a way of listening to communities, understanding what matters, identifying where activity needs to adapt, and ensuring that people feel heard and respected.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Environmental sustainability

Inspiring Communities continued to strengthen its commitment to environmental responsibility during the year. Our environmental and waste management policy underpins day to day practice, including recycling, reducing waste, careful use of resources, and encouraging sustainable travel where possible.

Environmental activity is not treated as separate from community development. Instead, it is woven into programmes that support wellbeing, learning, community pride and resilience. This includes community gardening, local growing, food based activity, reuse and mend approaches within craft groups, and practical conversations around energy use and household costs.

The legacy of our earlier involvement in the Big Climate Conversation continues to shape this work. Staff have experience as climate conversation facilitators, and the organisation has continued to use accessible, community based methods to discuss climate, cost of living and practical household resilience.

During the year, local planting, greenspace and wildflower activity developed further, including work linked to school gardens and community spaces such as Glendevon Drive. These projects help connect people with nature, support intergenerational learning, and contribute to positive local environmental action.

Food activity also contributes to sustainability. HEAL, Soup and Social and related groups promote healthy eating, use of local produce where possible, reduction of food waste and practical cooking skills. Craft and Chat activity encourages reuse, repair and creativity, supporting circular approaches while also reducing isolation.

Energy advice and cost of living workshops continued to provide practical support, helping households consider energy efficiency, bills and digital tools in accessible ways.

As the organisation moves into 2026 to 2027, environmental sustainability will continue to be embedded across programmes, rather than isolated as a separate theme.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The charity is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in all aspects of its work. We strive to remove barriers to participation by offering accessible, trauma informed and culturally sensitive services.

Our work is delivered across communities where people may experience poverty, disability, long term health conditions, caring responsibilities, age related isolation, digital exclusion, unemployment, family pressure or other forms of disadvantage. We recognise that people's experiences are shaped by multiple factors and that services must be flexible enough to respond to individual circumstances.

Programmes are designed to be low barrier, welcoming and relational. This includes informal drop ins, community based delivery, support with digital access, accessible communication, and trusted referral routes. We work with people who may not engage with formal services, and we recognise the importance of creating spaces where confidence can build gradually.

EDI is also reflected in our volunteer pathways, intergenerational work, dementia inclusive activity, support for people with additional support needs, family support and employability activity. We continue to strengthen staff and volunteer awareness and to ensure that inclusion is reflected in both governance and delivery.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Future growth areas

Looking ahead, the organisation is focused on building from the outcomes of REACH and embedding the learning from 2025 to 2026 into strategy, delivery and governance.

A key future priority is the continued development of community led, place based provision across Stirling. Our experience shows that different communities require different models of delivery. Some activity works best as a drop in, some as a structured course, some through schools, some through libraries, and some through trusted local groups. Future delivery will continue to reflect this learning.

Early years and family support will remain central. Demand for Stay and Play, baby massage, Inspiring Senses, Messy Mondays, family learning and CEOP related parent support continues to demonstrate the need for accessible, early intervention work with families. The organisation will continue to develop this activity across Raploch, Fallin, Plean, Cowie, Cornton, St Ninians and other areas where demand and partnership opportunities exist.

Digital inclusion will continue to be a major priority. LINK, Digital DIYers, IT drop ins and CEOP activity all demonstrate the importance of helping people participate safely and confidently in an increasingly digital world. This work supports employability, financial inclusion, learning, parenting, safeguarding and social connection.

Dementia inclusive work will expand from 1 April 2026 through Age Scotland funding. This will build on the strong foundations of Coorie In and Sing, Community Chorus, Playlist for Life, care home partnerships and intergenerational musical activity. The aim is to strengthen connection, memory, wellbeing and volunteer pathways for people living with dementia, carers, families and wider community members.

Volunteer development will remain a major strength. The outcomes from the Volunteer Support Fund show the value of structured induction, training, supervision and progression. Future work will focus on sustaining engagement, supporting volunteers from priority groups, developing leadership pathways and recognising the contribution volunteers make to community resilience.

Employability work will continue to develop around positive destinations. While job outcomes remain important, the organisation recognises that confidence, volunteering, training, digital inclusion, caring stability and wellbeing are often essential steps towards work. Future reporting will continue to capture distance travelled and progression more meaningfully.

Partnership and systems work will also remain important. Through Stirling Civic Alliance, Thriving Communities, digital inclusion partnerships and collaboration with TSIs, schools, care settings and grassroots groups, Inspiring Communities will continue to contribute to wider system change.

The Board will also continue to focus on financial sustainability, reserves, governance, safeguarding, succession planning and workforce wellbeing. The charity enters 2026 to 2027 with strengthened systems, an approved budget, confirmed funding and a clear commitment to maintaining both community responsiveness and organisational discipline.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Board takes its responsibility for risk management seriously and maintains oversight of strategic, financial, operational, governance and safeguarding risks.

Financial risk remains significant, as it does across the voluntary sector. The organisation depends substantially on grant funding, much of which is restricted, time limited and increasingly competitive. Inflation, staffing costs, standstill grants and the timing of funder payments all create pressure. Trustees mitigate this through careful budgeting, reserves monitoring, diversified fundraising, full cost recovery where possible and close oversight of cash flow.

Strategic risk is managed through REACH, Board reporting, funder alignment, partnership engagement and regular review of community need. The organisation recognises the importance of avoiding mission drift while remaining responsive to emerging need.

Operational risk includes delivery capacity, staff workload, health and safety, safeguarding, data protection, premises issues, volunteer management and quality of reporting. The strengthened Senior Leadership Team, improved systems and clearer reporting frameworks help manage these risks.

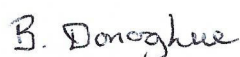
Governance risk includes trustee recruitment, succession planning, financial oversight and safeguarding accountability. The Board has experienced transition during the year, but this has been managed positively, with new office bearer arrangements and trustee recruitment strengthening continuity.

Workforce risk remains important. Staff retention, wellbeing and fair pay are critical to delivery quality. The Board continues to recognise the importance of supporting staff while balancing affordability and sustainability.

Safeguarding risk is managed through updated policies, clear reporting routes, training, designated roles, trustee oversight and multi agency practice.

The Board will continue to review risk regularly and ensure that learning from operational delivery informs governance and strategic decision making.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 June 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs B Donoghue - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Inspiring Communities

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 set out on pages twenty five to thirty six.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was 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 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 by the accounts.

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 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.



Mr Ian Bilsland FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Drummond Laurie CA
Unit 5
Gateway Business Park
Beancross Road
Grangemouth
FK3 8WX

29 June 2026

Inspiring Communities

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.26 Total funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		3,172	-	3,172	1,019
Charitable activities					
Access to Work		-	-	-	26,623
The Robertson Trust		-	15,000	15,000	15,000
Henry Smith		-	-	-	19,350
Impact Funding		-	5,987	5,987	11,031
IIC		-	119,935	119,935	111,302
TNL - National Lottery Activate		-	40,037	40,037	-
Scottish Communities Fund		-	10,000	10,000	13,495
Council		-	-	-	11,727
The Stafford Trust		-	-	-	13,295
General		-	-	-	5,000
Lottery Reach		-	15,300	15,300	-
Music for All		-	2,000	2,000	-
Skipton		-	2,000	2,000	-
Stirling Council / UKSPF		-	5,435	5,435	-
McCarthy Stone		-	7,500	7,500	-
Barcapel		-	-	-	-
		-	10,000	10,000	-
Barchester		-	1,000	1,000	-
Corra Foundation		-	12,000	12,000	-
Lottery Community Connections		-	7,797	7,797	-
Investment income	2	<u>1,047</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,048</u>	<u>400</u>
Total		<u>4,219</u>	<u>253,992</u>	<u>258,211</u>	<u>228,242</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Access to Work		-	21,789	21,789	2,800
The Robertson Trust		-	16,761	16,761	-
Henry Smith		-	-	-	38,699
Impact Funding		-	5,987	5,987	11,031
IIC		-	111,503	111,503	113,975
TNL - National Lottery Activate		-	40,037	40,037	-
Scottish Communities Fund		-	9,229	9,229	5,795
Council		-	4,104	4,104	2,215
The Stafford Trust		8,170	-	8,170	3,700
Stirling Long term Job Creation Scheme		-	-	-	20,032
General		3,451	-	3,451	8,917
Realising Actual Potential		-	-	-	4,707
Lottery Reach		-	15,299	15,299	-
Music for All		-	848	848	-
Stirling Council / UKSPF		-	5,435	5,435	-
McCarthy Stone		-	348	348	-

The notes form part of these financial statements

Inspiring Communities

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.26 Total funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £
Barcapel		-	2,075	2,075	-
Barchester		-	603	603	-
Corra Foundation		-	11,191	11,191	-
Lottery Community Connections		-	7,797	7,797	-
Total		<u>11,621</u>	<u>253,006</u>	<u>264,627</u>	<u>211,871</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(7,402)	986	(6,416)	16,371
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		24,211	58,166	82,377	66,006
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>16,809</u>	<u>59,152</u>	<u>75,961</u>	<u>82,377</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Inspiring Communities

Balance Sheet

31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.26 Total funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	1,858	1,017	2,875	2,829
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		17,745	131,844	149,589	134,214
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,794)	(73,709)	(76,503)	(54,666)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>14,951</u>	<u>58,135</u>	<u>73,086</u>	<u>79,548</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>16,809</u>	<u>59,152</u>	<u>75,961</u>	<u>82,377</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>16,809</u>	<u>59,152</u>	<u>75,961</u>	<u>82,377</u>
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				16,809	24,211
Restricted funds				<u>59,152</u>	<u>58,166</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>75,961</u>	<u>82,377</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 June 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

B. Donoghue.

Mrs B Donoghue - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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 and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

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 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 been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 33% on reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Cost represents purchase price together with any incidental costs of acquisition.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.26	31.3.25
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>1,048</u>	<u>400</u>

3. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Finance £	Information technology £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Access to Work	281	-	503	567	1,351
Impact Funding	338	-	18	-	356
IIC	-	-	325	-	325
Scottish Communities Fund	-	-	55	500	555
General	14	51	-	126	191
Lottery Reach	35	-	21	290	346
Music for All	90	-	62	-	152
Stirling Council / UKSPF	49	-	-	457	506
Barcapel	-	-	350	-	350
Lottery Community Connections	<u>1,668</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,051</u>	<u>2,719</u>
	<u>2,475</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>1,334</u>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>6,851</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	Access to Work £	Impact Funding £	IIC £	Scottish Communities Fund £
Travel and subsistence	281	338	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-	-
Computer software	503	18	325	55
Accountancy and legal fees	350	-	-	-
Legal fees	217	-	-	-
Bookkeeping and administration	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>
	<u>1,351</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>555</u>

	General £	Lottery Reach £	Music for All £	Stirling Council / UKSPF £
Travel and subsistence	14	35	90	49
Bank charges	51	-	-	-
Computer software	-	21	62	-
Accountancy and legal fees	126	290	-	439
Legal fees	-	-	-	18
Bookkeeping and administration	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>191</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>506</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

3. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

	Barcapel	Lottery Community Connections	31.3.26 Total activities	31.3.25 Total activities
	£	£	£	£
Travel and subsistence	-	1,668	2,475	2,330
Bank charges	-	-	51	-
Computer software	350	-	1,334	529
Accountancy and legal fees	-	1,051	2,256	2,130
Legal fees	-	-	235	475
Bookkeeping and administration	-	-	500	1,325
	<u>350</u>	<u>2,719</u>	<u>6,851</u>	<u>6,789</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2026 nor for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2026 nor for the year ended 31 March 2025.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,019	-	1,019
Charitable activities			
Access to Work	-	26,623	26,623
The Robertson Trust	-	15,000	15,000
Henry Smith	-	19,350	19,350
Impact Funding	-	11,031	11,031
IIC	-	111,302	111,302
Scottish Communities Fund	-	13,495	13,495
Council	-	11,727	11,727
The Stafford Trust	13,295	-	13,295
General	5,000	-	5,000
Investment income	<u>401</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>400</u>
Total	<u>19,715</u>	<u>208,527</u>	<u>228,242</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Access to Work	-	2,800	2,800
Henry Smith	-	38,699	38,699
Impact Funding	-	11,031	11,031
IIC	-	113,975	113,975
Scottish Communities Fund	-	5,795	5,795

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Council	-	2,215	2,215
The Stafford Trust	3,700	-	3,700
Stirling Long term Job Creation Scheme	-	20,032	20,032
General	8,917	-	8,917
Realising Actual Potential	<u>-</u>	<u>4,707</u>	<u>4,707</u>
Total	<u>12,617</u>	<u>199,254</u>	<u>211,871</u>
 NET INCOME	 7,098	 9,273	 16,371
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>17,113</u>	<u>48,893</u>	<u>66,006</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	 <u>24,211</u>	 <u>58,166</u>	 <u>82,377</u>

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2025	403	1,708	26,172	28,283
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,437</u>	<u>1,437</u>
At 31 March 2026	<u>403</u>	<u>1,708</u>	<u>27,609</u>	<u>29,720</u>
 DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2025	331	1,313	23,810	25,454
Charge for year	<u>23</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>1,288</u>	<u>1,391</u>
At 31 March 2026	<u>354</u>	<u>1,393</u>	<u>25,098</u>	<u>26,845</u>
 NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2026	<u>49</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>2,511</u>	<u>2,875</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>72</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>2,362</u>	<u>2,829</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.26	31.3.25
	£	£
Taxation and social security	-	3,267
Other creditors	<u>76,503</u>	<u>51,399</u>
	<u>76,503</u>	<u>54,666</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.25	Net movement in funds	At
	£	£	31.3.26
			£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	14,616	768	15,384
The Stafford Trust	<u>9,595</u>	<u>(8,170)</u>	<u>1,425</u>
	24,211	(7,402)	16,809
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	23,822	(21,788)	2,034
The Robertson Trust	15,000	(1,761)	13,239
IIC	2,131	8,432	10,563
SVE Scottish Communities	7,701	771	8,472
Council	9,512	(4,103)	5,409
Music for All	-	1,153	1,153
Skipton	-	2,000	2,000
McCarthy Stone	-	7,152	7,152
Barcapel	-	7,924	7,924
Barchester	-	397	397
Corra Foundation	<u>-</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>809</u>
	<u>58,166</u>	<u>986</u>	<u>59,152</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>82,377</u>	<u>(6,416)</u>	<u>75,961</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,219	(3,451)	768
The Stafford Trust	-	(8,170)	(8,170)
	4,219	(11,621)	(7,402)
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	1	(21,789)	(21,788)
The Robertson Trust	15,000	(16,761)	(1,761)
Impact Funding	5,987	(5,987)	-
IIC	119,935	(111,503)	8,432
TNL - National Lottery Activate	40,037	(40,037)	-
SVE Scottish Communities	10,000	(9,229)	771
Council	1	(4,104)	(4,103)
Lottery Reach	15,300	(15,300)	-
Music for All	2,000	(847)	1,153
Skipton	2,000	-	2,000
Stirling Council / UKSPF	5,435	(5,435)	-
McCarthy Stone	7,500	(348)	7,152
Barcapel	9,999	(2,075)	7,924
Barchester	1,000	(603)	397
Corra Foundation	12,000	(11,191)	809
Lottery Community Connections	7,797	(7,797)	-
	<u>253,992</u>	<u>(253,006)</u>	<u>986</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>258,211</u></u>	<u><u>(264,627)</u></u>	<u><u>(6,416)</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	17,113	(2,497)	14,616
The Stafford Trust	-	9,595	9,595
	17,113	7,098	24,211
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	-	23,823	23,823
The Robertson Trust	-	15,000	15,000
Henry Smith	19,349	(19,349)	-
IIC	4,805	(2,674)	2,131
SVE Scottish Communities	-	7,700	7,700
Council	20,032	(10,520)	9,512
Realising Actual Potential	4,707	(4,707)	-
	48,893	9,273	58,166
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>66,006</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>82,377</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,420	(8,917)	(2,497)
The Stafford Trust	13,295	(3,700)	9,595
	19,715	(12,617)	7,098
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	26,623	(2,800)	23,823
The Robertson Trust	15,000	-	15,000
Henry Smith	19,350	(38,699)	(19,349)
Impact Funding	11,031	(11,031)	-
IIC	111,301	(113,975)	(2,674)
SVE Scottish Communities	13,495	(5,795)	7,700
Council	11,727	(22,247)	(10,520)
Realising Actual Potential	-	(4,707)	(4,707)
	208,527	(199,254)	9,273
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>228,242</u>	<u>(211,871)</u>	<u>16,371</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.26 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	17,113	(1,729)	15,384
The Stafford Trust	<u>-</u>	<u>1,425</u>	<u>1,425</u>
	17,113	(304)	16,809
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	-	2,035	2,035
The Robertson Trust	-	13,239	13,239
Henry Smith	19,349	(19,349)	-
IIC	4,805	5,758	10,563
SVE Scottish Communities	-	8,471	8,471
Council	20,032	(14,623)	5,409
Realising Actual Potential	4,707	(4,707)	-
Lottery Reach	-	-	-
Music for All	-	1,153	1,153
Skipton	-	2,000	2,000
McCarthy Stone	-	7,152	7,152
Barcapel	-	7,924	7,924
Barchester	-	397	397
Corra Foundation	<u>-</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>809</u>
	<u>48,893</u>	<u>10,259</u>	<u>59,152</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>66,006</u>	<u>9,955</u>	<u>75,961</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	10,639	(12,368)	(1,729)
The Stafford Trust	<u>13,295</u>	<u>(11,870)</u>	<u>1,425</u>
	23,934	(24,238)	(304)
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	26,624	(24,589)	2,035
The Robertson Trust	30,000	(16,761)	13,239
Henry Smith	19,350	(38,699)	(19,349)
Impact Funding	17,018	(17,018)	-
IIC	231,236	(225,478)	5,758
TNL - National Lottery Activate	40,037	(40,037)	-
SVE Scottish Communities	23,495	(15,024)	8,471
Council	11,728	(26,351)	(14,623)
Realising Actual Potential	-	(4,707)	(4,707)
Lottery Reach	15,300	(15,300)	-
Music for All	2,000	(847)	1,153
Skipton	2,000	-	2,000
Stirling Council / UKSPF	5,435	(5,435)	-
McCarthy Stone	7,500	(348)	7,152
Barcapel	9,999	(2,075)	7,924
Barchester	1,000	(603)	397
Corra Foundation	12,000	(11,191)	809
Lottery Community Connections	<u>7,797</u>	<u>(7,797)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>462,519</u>	<u>(452,260)</u>	<u>10,259</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>486,453</u></u>	<u><u>(476,498)</u></u>	<u><u>9,955</u></u>

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2026.

10. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is under the control of its Board of Trustees.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	31.3.26 £	31.3.25 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	3,172	1,019
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	1,048	400
Charitable activities		
Grants	<u>253,991</u>	<u>226,823</u>
Total incoming resources	258,211	228,242
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	208,399	186,715
Rates and water	2,016	2,577
Insurance	2,053	1,572
Telephone	779	1,010
Postage and stationery	1,748	1,786
Sundries	857	1,629
Training, tutors and materials	19,246	2,240
Catering	296	446
Volunteer expenses	4,714	2,726
Subscriptions	1,037	940
Materials purchased	3,394	2,628
Gifts and samples	655	89
Grants	11,191	-
Plant and machinery	23	35
Fixtures and fittings	79	99
Motor vehicles	1,289	-
Computer equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>590</u>
	257,776	205,082
Support costs		
Management		
Travel and subsistence	2,475	2,330
Finance		
Bank charges	51	-
Information technology		
Computer software	1,334	529
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,256	2,130
Legal fees	235	475
Carried forward	2,491	2,605

Inspiring Communities

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	31.3.26 £	31.3.25 £
Governance costs		
Brought forward	2,491	2,605
Bookkeeping and administration	<u>500</u>	<u>1,325</u>
	<u>2,991</u>	<u>3,930</u>
Total resources expended	<u>264,627</u>	<u>211,871</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u><u>(6,416)</u></u>	<u><u>16,371</u></u>