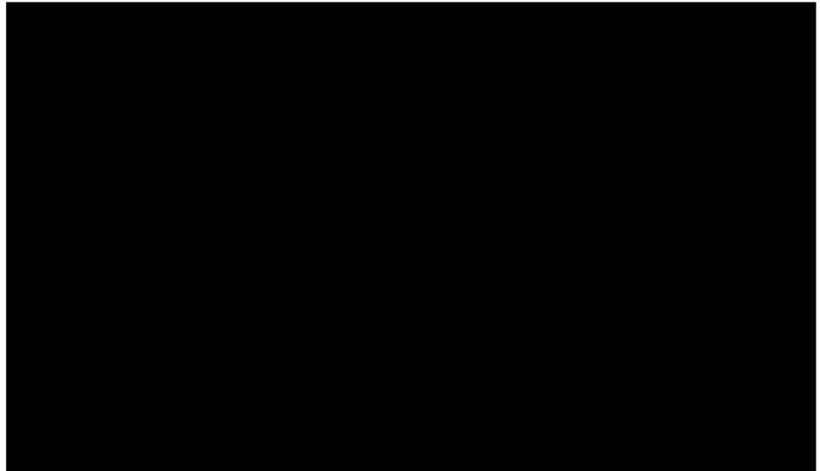


HALDANE YOUTH SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
TO 31 MARCH 2025



Independent Examiner

ABR Accounting Ltd.



Bankers

Bank of Scotland
133 Main Street,
Alexandria
West Dunbartonshire
G83 0NX

Principal Address



Trustees' Report and Accounts for the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Governing Document

The Haldane Youth Services is an unincorporated charitable association, and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our constitution.

Charitable Purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our constitution, are to increase the availability of and facilitate access to social, recreational and educational services geared to the needs of young people of Haldane and the surrounding communities of Balloch and Alexandria. To generally promote the benefit of the inhabitants of our community by ascertaining, coordinating and representing those interests to other bodies and partner agencies.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees.

The committee may at any time appoint any person to be a Charity Trustee by way of a resolution passed by majority at a committee meeting. The committee may consist of up to 13 members.

Chairpersons Report -

On behalf of Haldane Youth Services Management Committee, I am pleased to share our annual report for the fiscal year 2024 – 2025. This has been another remarkable year and in my remit as Chairperson, I would like to offer my thanks to our staff for their devotion and patience in delivering another successful year for Haldane Youth Services. Alongside our staff, our success needs to be shared with our volunteers, whether it be assisting with funshops, or assisting with administrative duties, we couldn't have got through the year without your input and support, and to all our funders, partners and supporters.

Since 2006, the organisation has overcome many challenges with positive changes, thanks to the passion and commitment of the voluntary Board of Trustees, made up of local residents who care about our younger generation. HYS began as a single project for children in P4-P7 and now runs 4 projects for children and youth from age 5 to 18. One thing that has always remained the same, is that we still aim to offer more opportunities, develop skills, boost confidence and self-esteem, and empower the young people to have a say in their community.

Our main sources of income were grants, donations, and fundraising. Our main areas of expenditure were staff salaries, program costs, operational costs, and activity costs.

Carolyn has settled in well to the new position of Project Manager and the projects are going from strength to strength.

Two staff members have almost completed their modern apprenticeship, supported by WDC Working 4U.

We welcomed a new full time Youth/Outreach worker to the HYS team; they are working alongside our new Outreach worker funded by West Dunbartonshire Alcohol & Drug Partnership. This has allowed us to run the Hub project for 16 yrs+.

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Training:

We continued to provide staff and volunteer training, thank you to Youth Scotland who have provided free training in Child Protection, Autism awareness, Health issues in the community, Involving Young people in decision making, Children's Rights, self-harming awareness, we also received EpiPen training by NHS, Early Intervention and prevention, and Public Health Scotland Assist training, lastly, No Knives Better Lives training.

Highlights:

One of the highlights of the year was when Haldane youth services received £5000 from the Kilt Walk "Happiest Moment" this is when the Hunter Foundation decide on a local charity to support, this is announced at the annual Kilt walk.

We receive support in so many ways, the local Sea Life Centre (Merlin Entertainment Group), continue allowing visits to their facility at Lomond Shores, raising funds, collecting gifts for the children and young people and sharing their mascot "Sharky" at our Christmas party, we would like to thank the Scottish road runners for their very generous donation of Christmas gifts collected in partnership with the Sealife Christmas collection.

We had a return visit to Auchengillan Outdoor Centre for 30 young people; this is a very popular annual trip. Activities the group participated in included climbing, raft building, laser tag, and new activities this year were caving and grass sledging, the young people loved the day. All activities geared to improving team building skills and boosting self-confidence, with many trying for the first time.

This year we had a successful Family trip to Edinburgh Zoo, part funded by money raised by the Kilt Walk, it was a great day where young people got to spend quality time with their families away from home.

Thanks to our board members for assisting me with steering the project and liaising with our Youth Work Team, to our Vice Chair stepping in when required, our new Treasurer who has brought lots of fresh ideas.

Our fundraising efforts were supported by Bingo nights, sponsored events, Halloween party, Christmas Fayre and some of the staff and their families raised a fantastic amount by taking part in, "The Kiltwalk". We also welcomed a donation from our Tenants & Residents Association and [REDACTED] Sea Life raised funds taking part in a sponsored silence.

To our Funders without their income and generosity none of this would happen. To the National Organisations such as BBC Children in Need, The Robertson Trust, Henry Smith Charity, Young Start (National Lottery Community Fund), REACH (Bank of Scotland Foundation). Providing salaries and core costing for our projects.

Thank you to West Dunbartonshire Council for the continued support, we received the Youth Success fund, also for providing our premises, School lets and of course for helping part fund some of our school holiday programmes, Breakfast clubs, and Lunch clubs, through SHINE.

Finally, thanks to our partners, St Kessog's Primary, Ballloch Primary, OLSF, VOLA, Vale of Leven Trust, Ballloch Castle Country Park regeneration group, WD Street Futsal, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, Lomond Church, Premier Dance Company, WD Food share, Lomond Radio, ONPOINT Plastering roofing & roughcasting, Building Bridges and to our many partners, for continued support.

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HYS Mission Statement

Haldane Youth Services is a registered charity (SC0038681) delivering after school activities for children in P4 – P7 in the West Dunbartonshire area especially children attending local primary schools within Balloch Campus and also youth provision for S1-S6.

Our Aims

Our main aim is to make a positive difference to the lives of the children and young people, aged 7 - 18 years living within and immediately surrounding the Mill of Haldane.

To achieve this goal, we are specifically looking towards:

- Providing opportunities for children to broaden their horizons and raise their aspiration.
- Encouraging confidence and self-esteem.
- Enabling the young people to have a voice within their local community.
- Rewarding commitment, discipline, and positive social interaction.
- Assisting young people to have a better understanding about how to make healthy lifestyle choices.

To move the young people towards these goals, we set out the following objectives as a provision for the service we aim to provide.

- A variety of activities and funshops to positively engage young people including Arts, Culture, Community, Outdoor and Healthy Living activities.

- After school and holiday activities.

- A means to developing intergenerational relationships.

- Trips and outings involving art, sport, culture, music, and outdoor education.

- To work in partnership with local primary schools to support the young people.

Haldane Youth Service Youth Activities- (April 2024 – March 2025)

Haldane Youth Services has been offering a range of engaging and skill-building activities for children and young people during this monitoring period. These activities aim to enhance their skills, confidence, and well-being through experiential learning. We are grateful to our funders for supporting our projects, including Young Start the National Lottery Community Fund, The Robertson Trust, BBC Children in Need Main Grant, REACH Bank of Scotland Foundation, and Henry Smith Foundation.

This year has been marked by exceptional growth, engagement, and operational success across our youth programmes. With 416 sessions delivered and 6,523 participant attendances, our activities have engaged a wider range of children, young people, and families—each interaction building wellbeing, confidence, and community connection.

Projects

Mini Hoppers, now in its seventh year, the Mini Hoppers Project continues to spark joy, confidence, and curiosity in children aged 4 to 7 through creative and active play. With two after-school sessions each week, we've delivered another vibrant year of programming, 68 sessions filled with imagination, movement, and meaningful connection.

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This year, 72 children actively engaged in our three core programme elements:

Creative Arts

Children explored self-expression through themed arts and crafts, singing, dancing, and drama. These sessions offered joyful opportunities to share ideas, celebrate individuality, and build confidence in a safe, encouraging space.

Creative Thinking

STEM-based activities and group challenges sparked innovation and teamwork. From mini beast investigations to weather experiments and logic puzzles, children developed problem-solving skills while learning to collaborate and think critically.

Happy Minds

Our well-being strand helped children understand and process their emotions, build resilience, and learn coping strategies. Through playful discussions, role play, and peer support, they grew in emotional strength and empathy. Together, these elements form a holistic foundation that prepares children for their transition to our next stage project, Hop, Skip & Jump. By nurturing self-expression, problem-solving, and emotional awareness, Mini Hoppers equips children with essential skills for future learning and personal growth.

Happy Minds, this year, sport and fitness were introduced into Happy Minds, creating a more inclusive and engaging experience. Previously, members hesitated to participate in sports, often struggling with emotions around competition. However, with the addition of team relay sports and games, participation has increased. Now, the entire group is actively involved, supporting and encouraging their teammates. The participants who once avoided sports now take part enthusiastically and can be seen praising their peers. This introduction of the element has not only boosted confidence and teamwork but has also created a more resilient and supportive group dynamic.

We're proud of every child's journey this year; their creativity, kindness, and growing confidence are a testament to the power of play-based learning. Mini Hoppers remains a vital, responsive service that supports children and families across our community.

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Hop, Skip & Jump, is a dynamic after-school programme that blends fun and learning for children and young people aged 7–12. Operating every weekday during term time, the project offers a fresh theme each month, encouraging personal development, discovery, and social connection. This year, we delivered an incredible 178 sessions, each designed to spark curiosity, build confidence, and equip participants with lifelong skills and values. Our programme is built around six core elements, each supporting creativity, resilience, and personal growth:

- **Happy Minds** – Encouraging self-care, emotional awareness, and healthy habits to strengthen mental well-being.
- **Creative Minds** – Inspiring curiosity through science, technology, engineering, and maths, promoting critical thinking and innovation.
- **Life Skills** – Developing practical abilities through hands-on experiences like cooking and everyday tasks.

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- Creative Arts – Providing space for self-expression through themed arts, singing, dancing, and drama, helping build confidence and imagination.
- Community Connections – Strengthening social interaction and teamwork through group activities that encourage collaboration and friendship.
- Sport & Fitness – Promoting active play, teamwork, and resilience to keep participants engaged and physically active.
- **Homework Games Club – A Young-Led Success**
During design team consultations, young people voiced their need for homework support—and we listened. Although initial attendance was low, we adapted and rebranded the club into the *Homework Games Club*, making learning fun through interactive spelling, reading, and maths-based games. Now, 20 children attend weekly, and the impact is clear: local teachers have reported a significant rise in homework submissions where previously returns were low. By making learning playful, engaging, and community-driven, our young people are thriving. We're proud of their achievements and grateful to the families, staff, and partners who make this journey possible.

Project 7 continues to be a vibrant and inclusive space for young people aged 10 to 14, offering weekly sessions that blend creativity, education, and emotional wellbeing. This year, the programme delivered 20 sessions for the 10–12 age group, recording 102 attendances. Each session was carefully designed to be relevant to real-life experiences, while also fostering self-expression and peer connection. Activities ranged from issue-based discussions on bullying, online safety, and body image, to hands-on creative projects like tie dye, diamond art, and jewellery making. Sports, cooking, and wellbeing workshops added variety and depth, helping participants build practical skills and emotional resilience in a fun, supportive environment.

The programme is anchored by five core pillars: Community & Social Awareness, Creativity & Expression, Physical & Mental Wellbeing, Fun & Engagement, and Transition Support. These elements ensure that every session contributes to personal growth and confidence-building, especially for Primary 7s preparing for secondary school. Through themed evenings, group games, and open discussions, Project 7 creates a safe space where young people can explore who they are, connect with others, and feel proud of their achievements.

Ur-Turn offers a dynamic weekly programme for young people aged 15 to 18, empowering them to lead, learn, and make a difference in their community. This year, participants shaped their own journey—choosing activities that built confidence, explored career pathways, and tackled issues that matter most to them. Highlights included career talks from professionals in policing, health and social care, Aggreko, and the Navy, as well as participation in Youth Scotland's BIG Ideas event, where members shared innovative solutions to challenges facing their generation.

The group also engaged in issue-based sessions led by experts, covering topics such as cyber bullying, knife crime prevention, and substance abuse. Many participants took part in the Young Volunteer Programme, supporting junior groups and contributing to local projects. Accredited training in food hygiene, first aid, and leadership further equipped members with valuable life skills. Ur-Turn continues to nurture future leaders by giving young people a voice in how the programme is run and encouraging them to take ownership of their growth and impact.

Holiday Provision

During school holidays, HYS Breakfast and Lunch Club continues to be a vital source of nourishment, connection, and joy for children and young people across our community. Through nutritious meals and engaging activities, we aim to reduce food insecurity, social isolation, and boredom—while promoting healthy eating, physical activity, and learning.

This year, we delivered 66 sessions and served 1,212 breakfasts and lunches, thanks to the incredible support of our funders and partners.

Trips & Experiences

This year's outings included:

- Loch Lomond Sea Life Centre.
- Youth Beats Festival.
- Auchengillan Outdoor Centre.
- Heads of Ayr Farm Family trip.
- Edinburgh Zoo Family Trip.

Special Thanks to Our Funders

We are deeply grateful to WD SHINE, BBC Children in Need Main Grant, Young Start – The National Lottery Community Fund, REACH – Bank of Scotland Foundation, and The Robertson Trust and Henry Smith Foundation for their generous support, which makes this work possible.

Easter Joy & Sea Life Adventures

A heartfelt thank you to the Sea Life Centre Balloch, who donated Easter eggs for every child and hosted a magical visit. We also appreciate the Haldane Tenants Resident Association for their contribution toward Easter treats.

Residential Magic

Thanks to HopScotch Children's Charity, 12 young people enjoyed an unforgettable 4-night residential at Ardvullin, followed by a 5-day stay at HopScotch House in Fort William - a transformative experience filled with adventure, confidence-building, and friendship.

Chairperson,

Trustees' Report and Accounts for the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Engagement with Other Agencies

The Haldane Youth Services engages with all of the agencies listed in Notes 2 and 3 of the financial accounts.

Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration during the year for their work in this capacity.

Accounts

The Haldane Youth Services project is an unincorporated charitable trust registered with OSCR and the accounts have been prepared on this basis.

Financial Review

Results for the year ended 31 March 2025 are given in the Receipts and Payments on page 10, showing a Surplus for the year of £22,547, (2024, Surplus £35,123), leaving a balance of unrestricted funds of £121,477, restricted funds of £38,237 as at 31 March 2025.

Therefore, total funds amount to £159,714 as at 31 March 2025.

Reserve Policy

Reserves for the Haldane Youth Services trustees have agreed to maintain a financial reserve to ensure the uninterrupted continuity of our main operations in case of funding difficulties.

This reserve has been reviewed and increased to £85,000 to provide for 6 months running costs. This has been classified as designated within unrestricted income and is calculated and monitored on an annual basis. This provision is included in the 'Statement of Balances' page 10.

The Unrestricted Designated Reserve is to provide for such as redundancy costs, essential property maintenance, temporary funding shortfall and any other contingencies.

The Haldane Youth Services has no other investments, assets or material liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Chairperson

Date:

17/12/25

Trustees' Report and Accounts for the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 2 to 15.

This being the relevant accounting period within the financial year from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, during which Haldane Youth Services was an unincorporated charitable organisation registered with OSCR.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiners

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) d 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 any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanation from the trustees concerning any such matter. 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 Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention, 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 comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 accounts Regulation have not been met.



Date: 12/12/25

Independent Examiner
ABR Accounting Ltd.

Trustees' Report and Accounts for the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Unrestricted Funds.

The unrestricted funds received during the financial year to 31 March 2025 were as follows:

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Henry Smith Foundation	45,000	-
Postcode Community	20,000	-
The Robertson Trust	17,000	-
Fund Raising	3,367	5,105
Donations	9,332	7,606
Total Unrestricted Funds	94,699	12,711

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Notes to the Financial Statements

3. Expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2025, Analysis by Funding Source

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Children in Need – Main Grants	23,238	8,369
Children in Need - Curiosity	16,657	17,000
The Robertson Trust	14,934	12,879
Bank of Scotland Foundation	1,331	7,248
The Co-operative Community	65	5,000
WDC Community	5,552	7,000
WDC Shine	25,863	939
WDC Cost of Living Capital	360	437
WDC Your Community	5,451	-
WDC – Youth Success	26,171	22,011
Young Start – Big Lottery	34	2,000
Scottish Police Authority	11,104	-
Working 4U	4,606	-
WDADP	26,429	-
The Henry Foundation	12,467	-
General Fund	-	7,606
Donations	45	5,104
Fund Raising	-	-
Total Expenditure	174,307	99,405

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Notes to the Financial Statements

4. Expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2025, Subjective Analysis

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Wages and Salaries	115,974	59,833
Projects and Activities	49,977	33,099
IT and Communications	4,659	3,639
Accountancy	360	360
Insurance	1,056	1,112
Administration	2,454	1,362
Total Expenditure	174,307	99,405

5. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, and applicable Accounting Standards.

