

**WESTER HAILES  
GROWING  
COMMUNITIES**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Charity No: SC047594**

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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# **Wester Hailes Growing Communities Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity Name:** Wester Hailes Growing Communities  
**Charity Number:** SC047594  
**Address:**

**Trustees:**

**Independent Examiner:**

Hollis Accounting Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
3 Melville Crescent  
Edinburgh  
EH3 7HW

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Constitution**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 17 July 2017. The Charity is administered in accordance with the terms of its constitution..

### **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Upon incorporation the individuals who signed the Charity Trustee declaration forms which accompanied the application were deemed to have been appointed as Trustees. The constitution requires that there should be at least three Trustees and not more than 10. Other Trustees were sought and appointed recently based on the representation required and the skills of the Trustees. All Trustees are given a copy of the constitution and suggested to review the guidance issued by OSCR on their role and responsibilities.

### **Objectives and Activities**

Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC) was incorporated in 17th July 2017 to support residents of Council estates and other communities in the South West of Edinburgh to work together with their neighbours to instigate and develop community greenspace projects. We have found that participation in community greenspace supports individual and community health and wellbeing. This is particularly important in disadvantaged communities within council estates.

## **Wester Hailes Growing Communities Trustees' Annual Report (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2024**

### **ACTIVITIES – WHO DO WE HELP**

In October 2023, we updated our constitution to reduce our target community to Wester Hailes and the Calders. Previously, our target community was all council estates in the south west of Edinburgh. We made this decision for several reasons, however, it primarily resulted from a request from the Scottish Land Fund relating to our bid to take ownership of a site in Wester Hailes through a community asset transfer. It also reflected the reality of the communities within which we had started the organisation and where we had been focusing our support.

When appropriate, we will still undertake projects outwith Wester Hailes if it supports the objectives of the organisation, but we will not seek representation of communities outside Wester Hailes and the Calders on our board of trust.

### **COMMUNITY FOOD**

In Spring 2024, we transferred responsibility for the management and delivery of the Sunflower Food Pantry to The Health Agency. We took this decision after [REDACTED], our community food officer left us to take a role in another organisation in February 2024. We felt that the transfer would be best for both the organisation and the Pantry, as The Health Agency's community food officer [REDACTED] had been involved with the set up and running of the Pantry, and had capacity to take on the management of the project [REDACTED], our community food assistant was TUPE's over to The Health Agency to work alongside [REDACTED]

We are pleased to have played a key role in the creation of the Sunflower Pantry which has supported hundreds of Wester Hailes households with affordable food and goods. We hope to work in collaboration with The Health Agency in the future when we open the Greenway Hub which will have space for a food pantry.

### **COMMUNITY GARDENS**

All three gardens have benefited from having regular sessions with their community gardeners. [REDACTED] have made a real impact in both Clovie and Calders Greenshoots respectively since joining gardens have had a productive growing season with plenty produce being shared between, members, participants and volunteers, as well as excess being sent to the Sunflower food pantry, the Community Flat and being used in Community Meals and food workshops. We established a relationship with the Inch nursery who have provided resources and support to all three gardens. It's been a very beneficial partnership.

#### **Greenway Gardens**

We were delighted to have students from Wester Hailes High School using the garden as an educational space this year with their course tutor from SRUC. They helped complete a section of the garden by working through modules in horticulture. We really benefited from our amazing volunteers, 21 of them, who contributed 944 hours over the year. We salute you. We established two bee hives in the garden with beekeeper Wade who is always happy to get people suited up to learn more, and of course the honey is very welcome. We held a fantastic summer community event and xmas wreath making workshops at year end.

#### **Clovenstone Community Garden**

The year got off to a good start with the garden paths being renewed and the shed roof being upgraded. [REDACTED] joined the garden as their community gardener to provide support and wasted no time in getting stuck in, helping get the communal areas in the garden under control and ensuring the garden is as productive as possible. A summer fun day was held with the Sunflower Food Pantry and excess produce harvested each week and sent to the Food Pantry. The garden has really benefited from its interactions with the pantry.

#### **Calders Greenshoots Garden**

The focus has been on upgrading the garden and supporting the growers as they move towards their 10th anniversary of establishing the garden. We began with a freshly skinned polytunnel coming out of winter which got growing activities off to a good start. Carol began supporting the growers during the summer and Gaby then took over as the community gardener towards the end of the season. Path upgrade works and a second tool shed are being planned for next season.

## **Wester Hailes Growing Communities Trustees' Annual Report (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2024**

### **GROWING YOUTH**

In July 2023, we transferred the Growing Youth project to our sister organisation Edible Estates. Our workshop leaders [REDACTED] were TUPE's over to Edible Estates. This decision reflected the reality that the bulk of the Growing Youth projects were outwith Wester Hailes, and the management of the service was largely delivered by Edible Estates. We will continue to work in partnership with Edible Estates to deliver renovations at our gardens in the future.

### **SCHOOL FARM**

Our School Farm Leader team, Julie, Shona and Stephanie continued to deliver a fantastic service delivering the school farm project at Canal View and Sighthill primary schools.

#### **Canal View Primary**

Throughout the year children across the school attend School Farm in regular weekly sessions. The children are encouraged to take part in horticultural activities including garden maintenance, sowing seeds, caring for plants, outdoor cooking and various garden crafts

The children harvested onions, beetroot and salad crops from their own plots and potatoes and beans from the shared beds. Unfortunately, the wheat beds had been destroyed by rodents. We picked apples from the orchard and made apple juice.

During September a trial was started of working with small groups of children identified by the school as likely to benefit from more outdoor, physical and 1:1 activities. They helped with maintenance tasks such as watering, raking, clearing and mulching beds. They did some outdoor cooking and they also created a play area for digging. (Comments from children about why they like the digging area: 'I like getting dirty. I like planning and building things. I like playing in the mud. Fresh air calms me down.')

In discussion with the Principal Teacher at school, groups were identified for slots at the farm. At lunchtime, P6 and P7 groups helped with maintenance and after lunch, small groups from P5,6 and 7 focused on refining and developing gross and fine motor skills, building confidence, self-esteem and concentration, and encouraging school engagement. Some of these groups attended farm every week, some attended for a block e.g. 5 weeks and then others come instead.

The school farm leaders had fortnightly meetings with the Principal teacher to discuss the development needs and progress of individual children so that successes and concerns can be shared with the school.

Each week there was an average of 25 children participated in School Farm Activities

## **Wester Hailes Growing Communities Trustees' Annual Report (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2024**

### **SCHOOL FARM (CONTINUED)**

#### **Sighthill Primary**

Throughout 2023/2024 terms Sighthill Primary have continued to work hard on their school Farm. Over the term the P 5, 6 and 7's have grown new crops including kale, broad beans and carrots, as well as the old favourites including salad crops and potatoes. Harvesting is always a good day and a lot of our crops were eaten before they had a chance to go home - the potato harvest turned into digging for treasure!

We're lucky to have beautiful plum and apple trees in the school farm to harvesting those are a firm favourite. Next door is the Calder Community Garden which we visit regularly so we tasted their apples too but we agreed the school farm apples were the best.

Each term the classes work on different topics and everyone is keen to explain what they are working on so we make connections to the school farm through growing, nature or the environment with each topic. One class is working on "the future" so we'll be looking at what we might be growing and eating - insect anyone?

This year we had a visit from some parents and everyone was very enthusiastic to tell them what we'd been growing and harvesting - even weeding got a mention! We also put the parents to work.

Over the year it's great that the classes see a whole growing year from seeds, potting on, planting out, maintenance, harvesting and lots of weeding. As their confidence grows we look at propagation, soft and hard wood cuttings, soil types - we've brought on our strawberry runners and will be selling these at the school winter fair. It's lovely to see young people engaged in growing food and enjoying being outdoors.

### **GREENWAY HUB**

Though 2023 and 2024, we continued to work on the development of a new community centre for Dumbryden, Murrayburn & Hailesland. Supported by a Scottish Land Fund stage two development grant, we commissioned Community Enterprise and Calum Duncan Architects to prepare a feasibility study and concept design for the "Greenway Hub".

In September 2023, our request to Edinburgh Council for a community asset transfer of the proposed site was approved to allow WHGC to purchase the site for £9,500. This in turn, allowed us to apply to the Scottish Land Fund for a grant to employ a part-time development officer, which was also successful. We will not start the post until the transfer of the site is concluded, which we now expect to happen in December 2024.

In 2023 we submitted a tentative bid to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund for the construction of the Greenway Hub. The bid was not recommended to pass to stage 2, as we had not yet secured the site or planning permission. They did however, indicate that they liked the project and were open to a resubmission once the site and planning was secured.

### **Financial Review**

Income of £184,947 came from grant funding, contract income, donations and sale of assets as shown in note 4 of the accounts. Expenditure was £145,304 which was mainly staff costs but also costs relating to tools and equipment, construction and materials and overheads. The charity had a surplus of £39,643 for the year (2023: deficit of £16,766). The bank balance as at 31 March 2024 was £43,696 and as these accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis does not include expenditure totalling a further £2,775 (2023: £2,255) which was due but not yet paid at that date as noted on the statement of balances on page 7 and income due to the charity at that date of £8,235 (2023: £4,420).

### **Reserves Policy**

The reserves (being the bank balance as above) at 31 March 2024 are £43,696 (2023: £4,053). The current level of reserves held is for use by the organisation in forthcoming years in order to meet its objectives.

The level of reserves the trustees would like to maintain is 3 months of expenditure which would equate to £37k for this current year. The reserves are necessary to protect the staff team and may be needed should there be a drop in funding. The majority of projects are funded directly and so we would be able to reduce expenses in the absence of funding but with a staff team in place this is more difficult.

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities  
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Plans for Future Periods**

The trustees are committed to maintaining and improving the services currently provided.

The trustees are pleased to commence the 2024-2025 period with the following new funding:

Clothworkers £3,000, Valuing Nature (Eco System Fund) £6,714, VSA Volunteering Support Fund £10,488 as well as the continuing projects at Canal View and Sighthill School Farm Projects generating income and the continuing funding from the National Lottery Community Fund and Cost of Living.

A number of other grants are pending as we continue to look to secure funding enabling the continuation of our work.

We continue to work towards the Greenway Hub project as noted above.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and / or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date: 21/11/24**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date: 21/11/24**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to Wester Hailes Growing Communities**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

### **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.

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 particular matters have come to my attention.


### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

An 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 those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention,

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1)(a) of the 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 Regulationshave not been met, or
1. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
Hollis Accounting Limited  
3 Melville Crescent  
Edinburgh  
EH3 7HW

Date: 22/11/24



**Wester Hailes Growing Communities**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts**  
**Year ending 31 March 2024**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations		2,046	141	<b>2,187</b>	1,257
Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	57
Charitable activities		66,230	104,530	<b>170,760</b>	211,490
Sale of Containers		12,000	-	<b>12,000</b>	-
Insurance Claim		-	-	-	10,553
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>80,276</b>	<b>104,671</b>	<b>184,947</b>	<b>223,357</b>
<b>Payments</b>	<b>5</b>				
Cost of charitable activities		76,900	68,404	<b>145,304</b>	240,123
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>76,900</b>	<b>68,404</b>	<b>145,304</b>	<b>240,123</b>
Net receipts/(payments)		3,376	36,267	<b>39,643</b>	(16,766)
Transfers between funds		(911)	911	-	-
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>2,465</b>	<b>37,178</b>	<b>39,643</b>	<b>(16,766)</b>

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities**  
**Statement of Balances**  
**as at 31 March 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Opening cash at bank and in hand	4,053	-	4,053	20,819
<b>Movement in Year:</b>				
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,465	37,178	39,643	(16,766)
<b>Balances carried forward</b>	<b>6,518</b>	<b>37,178</b>	<b>43,696</b>	<b>4,053</b>
<b>Bank &amp; Deposit Balances</b>				
Current Accounts	6,518	37,178	43,696	4,053
<b>Balances at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>6,518</b>	<b>37,178</b>	<b>43,696</b>	<b>4,053</b>
<b>Other assets</b>				
Debtors	8,235	-	8,235	4,420
<b>Balances at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>4,420</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
PAYE/NIC and Pension	1,635	-	1,635	1,115
Construction costs	-	-	-	-
Subcontractors	-	-	-	-
Independent Examiner's Fee	1,140		1,140	1,140
<b>Balances at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>2,255</b>

The Accounts were approved by the Charity on.....21st November.....2024

For and on behalf of all the trustees

[Redacted Signature]

Trustee -

[Redacted Name]

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities**  
**Notes to the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024**

**1. Accounting Policy**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

**2. Nature and purpose of funds**

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the objects of the charity.

**3. Related party transactions**

No remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the year (2023: £Nil).

	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>4. Analysis of Receipts</b>				
<b>Donations</b>	2,046	141	<b>2,187</b>	1,257
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Contract fee income	64,230	1,874	<b>66,104</b>	91,078
Grants	2,000	102,656	<b>104,656</b>	120,412
	<u>66,230</u>	<u>104,530</u>	<u><b>170,760</b></u>	<u>211,490</u>
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Other income	-	-	-	57
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57</u>
<b>Other receipts</b>				
Sale of Containers	12,000	-	<b>12,000</b>	-
Insurance claim	-	-	-	10,553
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>12,000</b></u>	<u>10,553</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u><b>80,276</b></u>	<u><b>104,671</b></u>	<u><b>184,947</b></u>	<u><b>193,403</b></u>

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities**  
**Notes to the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024 (continued)**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>5. Analysis of Payments</b>				
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Staff payroll	47,734	57,442	105,176	165,744
Consultants/Sessional	19,061	7,501	26,562	23,186
Construction	1,350	78	1,428	28,723
Project costs	6,228	(383)	5,845	9,162
Workshop materials	-	-	-	-
Office costs/Overheads	2,527	2,626	5,153	12,528
Independent examination	-	1,140	1,140	780
<b>Total cost of Charitable activities</b>	<b>76,900</b>	<b>68,404</b>	<b>145,304</b>	<b>240,123</b>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>76,900</b>	<b>68,404</b>	<b>145,304</b>	<b>240,123</b>

**6. Movements in Funds**

	<b>At 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Receipts £</b>	<b>Payments £</b>	<b>Transfer £</b>	<b>At 31 Mar 2024 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	4,053	80,276	76,900	(911)	<b>6,518</b>
	4,053	80,276	76,900	(911)	<b>6,518</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Big Lottery	-	42,429	31,804	-	<b>10,625</b>
Cost of Living	-	35,000	8,447	-	<b>26,553</b>
VSAF	-	6,487	6,487	-	-
EVOC - Mental Health	-	20,755	21,666	911	<b>(0)</b>
	-	104,671	68,404	911	<b>37,178</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>4,053</b>	<b>184,947</b>	<b>145,304</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,696</b>

Big Lottery	:	The National Lottery Community Led fund is a three year fund to assist with the three community gardens that WHGC has established.
Cost of Living	:	The Cost of Living grant was to support the pantry salary costs and the overhead costs of the organisation as a whole.
VSAF	:	Restricted fund to support volunteers, covering salary costs for supporting and encouraging volunteers.
EVOC - Mental Health	:	This funding was to support the Pantry and Clovie Community Gardening in respect of the staff salaries and materials.

**7. Transfer between funds**

A transfer from unrestricted fund was used to cover some costs from EVOC fund.