

Edinburgh Community Health Forum SCIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2026



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Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	Edinburgh Community Health Forum SCIO	
Charity Number	SC023808	
Principal Address	222 Leith Walk Edinburgh EH6 5EQ	
Trustees	Charlie Cumming Brenda Black John Halliday Marion Findlay Magda Czarnecka Alan Gray Ryan Lytwyn Catriona Windle	<i>Co-Chair</i> <i>Co-Chair</i> <i>Treasurer</i> <i>(appointed 2 September 2025)</i> <i>(appointed 2 September 2025)</i> <i>(resigned 2 September 2025)</i> <i>(resigned 2 September 2025)</i>
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	
Independent Examiner	David Nicholls Brett Nicholls Associates Herbert House 24 Herbert Street Glasgow G20 6NB	

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their report and annual accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Lothian Community Health Initiatives' Forum (SCIO Charity Number: SCO23808) was founded by a constitution dated 16th April 2014. On 28th August 2019, its name changed to Edinburgh Community Health Forum. The organisation has been recognised as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) by OSCR and is generally exempt from taxation.

Trustee Recruitment and appointment

The members elect the Board of Charity Trustees at every annual meeting. The day to day running of the Forum is delegated to its Strategic Development Manager, Stephanie-Anne Harris.

Key Management Remuneration

In the opinion of the trustees there is one member of key management, the Strategic Development Manager. The total employer costs relating to this post in 2025-26 were £33,260 (2025: £31,410).

Objectives and Activities

The charity's main objective is to advance education and community development and to preserve and protect the good health of the people living in Edinburgh by bringing together in association community based health initiatives.

Membership is open to any individual aged 18 and over responsible for an organisation in Edinburgh which has clientele status and whose main objectives are the advancement of health using a community development approach.

Achievements and Performance

2025/2026 has been a turbulent year, marked by great uncertainty and rising demand for our work. The need to tackle health inequalities and poverty through early intervention and prevention has continued to grow, while long term funding has been withdrawn or destabilised. This has required sustained political and strategic lobbying, countless letters and emails, and repeated explanations of the essential role we play — all while our members work daily in some of Edinburgh's most deprived communities, supporting people experiencing poverty and dealing with internal and external shocks to their lives.

In responding to reports to both the Finance Committee and the Policy and Sustainability of the City of Edinburgh Council, we made both in person verbal as well as written deputations to call for more financial support for the community health sector as well as making the case for coproduction for the new grants scheme for the 3rd sector as a whole. This demonstrates both the scale of our engagement and the continued relevance of community led health and poverty intervention across the city.

Working in partnership with the Third Sector Interface, we played a significant role in successfully re- establishing the Third Sector Reference Group, bringing together expert multi sector voices to strengthen inequality insight, poverty awareness, policy influence, and collective oversight. This group now has 12 members, is chaired by the Forum's Strategic Development Manager and recently held an open Session at which over 60 Third Sector organisations were represented.

Throughout the year, ECHF has made significant progress in maintaining and articulating the value of tackling health inequalities and poverty. At a time when the sector has been under pressure, our 30 year legacy has been a stabilising force. It has enabled us to offer both practical participation and analytical reflection, helping partners navigate uncertainty while staying focused on long term impact for communities experiencing the greatest disadvantage.

Trustees' Annual Report

Achievements and Performance (continued)

We want to express our sincere thanks to the TSI leadership, particularly EVOC and Volunteer Edinburgh and key Council and EIJB staff whose understanding, collaboration and willingness to work with us have been vital; also, we want to acknowledge the ongoing support and work of many local Councillors who continue to advocate on our behalf. Together, we have found practical solutions at pace and begun shaping more robust long term strategies for poverty intervention, prevention, early intervention and sustainable funding. Many actions this year have been carried out quickly, by very few people, and we are deeply grateful for their commitment and partnership.

A particular thanks goes to Stephanie Anne, whose outstanding professionalism and calm capability have been invaluable. She has handled every situation — from representing the Forum at Public Health Scotland to taking calls from community leaders needing clear, grounded advice on poverty, crisis response and community pressures — with skill, steadiness and a deep understanding of the realities facing our sector.

The diversity of membership of the Forum has been a major asset, ensuring that lived experience, specialist knowledge, and organisational realities shape our shared priorities. Our response has been swift, united and successful. We have continued to provide consistent monthly meetings, creating structured learning opportunities and shared problem solving spaces. Alongside this, our coffee mornings have offered emotional and professional support for leaders and practitioners at all levels — a simple but powerful mechanism for strengthening resilience across the network and supporting those delivering frontline poverty and health interventions. These efforts have contributed to successful continuation of CEC funding and have positioned ECHF strongly for future planning and development.

Leadership Transition

This year we also mark the departure of our outgoing Chair, Catriona Windle, the then Chief Executive of Health All Round after 8 years of dedicated service; her hard work, commitment, and steady leadership shaped the Forum's identity and strengthened its role across the city. We extend our sincere thanks for the time, energy, and care she invested in ECHF.

We now welcome a new co chairing arrangement: Brenda, CEO of Edinburgh Community Food and Charlie, CEO of Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust. Together, we bring different skills, experiences, and personalities to the role — a combination that strengthens our ability to lead collaboratively and confidently.

We both understand the commitment required of the co chair position and share the responsibility while continuing to lead our own organisations. Each of us benefited from the support, challenge, and involvement of the Forum over many years, and prioritise our working relationship and our personal development as part of our engagement with ECHF.

We don't always agree, and we often have lively debate — but we do so with respect, trust, and a shared belief in the Forum's values: collaboration, equity, community voice, poverty reduction, and collective leadership.

These values guide how we work, how we make decisions, and how we support the organisations and communities we serve.

Trustees' Annual Report

Future Plans - Refresh, Rejuvenation and Collective Commitment

As we enter our 30th anniversary year, we are taking a deliberate moment to review survey results, member feedback, our overall direction, co ordination structures, and accountability mechanisms. This reflective process will guide a refresh and rejuvenation of our current offer, ensuring it remains relevant, responsive, and rooted in the realities of community health and poverty intervention.

We recognise that delivering this next phase requires more board members, greater willingness to step forward, and more hands to the pumps. We need new ideas, new energy, and new locations to strengthen our reach and deepen our impact on poverty, inequality, and community wellbeing.

This milestone year is an invitation:

Come with us.

Support us.

Question us.

But be with us.

Our legacy gives us strength — but our future depends on collective commitment, shared leadership, and the courage to evolve. Together, we can ensure ECHF continues to be a trusted, stabilising, and influential voice in tackling health inequalities and poverty across Edinburgh.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves of the Charity, at a level equivalent to three month's expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the organisation's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

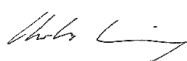
Based on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026, ordinary expenditure for 3 months amounts to £14,953 (2025: £17,541). At 31 March 2026 the charity held unrestricted free reserves of £29,618 (2025: £33,825) therefore the board are satisfied that this policy is being met. Funds held in excess of this policy will be reinvested in the development of the charity.

Financial Review

The charity incurred a net deficit of £4,207 for the year ended 31 March 2026 (2025: Deficit of £731). At 31 March 2026 reserves stood at £57,218 (2025: £61,425), with £29,618 of these being unrestricted (2025: £33,825) and £27,600 being restricted (2025: £27,600).

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

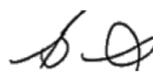


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Charlie Cumming

Date: 04/09/2026

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10170000-8906-C251-95F2-08DF0A553960

Brenda Black

Date: 04/09/2026

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Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of	Edinburgh Community Health Forum SCIO
Registered charity number	SC023808
Accounts of the charity for the year	1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
Set out on pages	8 - 12

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) 2005 Act 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:

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 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 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
- prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 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.



David Nicholls FCCA

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Brett Nicholls Associates
Herbert House, 24 Herbert Street, Glasgow, G20 6NB

Date: 04/09/2026

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Receipts and Payments Account

		<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Receipts					
Donations	3	208	-	208	-
Grants	4	-	49,763	49,763	63,263
Trading Income	5	-	-	-	2,265
Investment Income	6	131	-	131	143
Other Income	7	5,502	-	5,502	3,763
		<u>5,841</u>	<u>49,763</u>	<u>55,604</u>	<u>69,434</u>
Payments					
Charitable Activities Costs	8	9,208	49,763	58,971	69,445
Support Costs	9	840	-	840	720
		<u>10,048</u>	<u>49,763</u>	<u>59,811</u>	<u>70,165</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments)		<u>(4,207)</u>	-	<u>(4,207)</u>	<u>(731)</u>
<i>Funds Brought Forward</i>		33,825	27,600	61,425	62,156
Funds Carried Forward	12	<u>£29,618</u>	<u>£27,600</u>	<u>£57,218</u>	<u>£61,425</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form an integral part of these accounts.

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Statement of Balances

	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>2026 Total £</i>	<i>2025 Total £</i>
Opening Cash and Bank Balances	33,825	27,600	61,425	62,156
<i>Surplus/-Deficit for the year</i>	<i>(4,207)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(4,207)</i>	<i>(731)</i>
Closing Cash and Bank Balances	29,618	27,600	57,218	61,425

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



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John Halliday

Date: 04/09/2026

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Notes to the Accounts

1. General Information

Edinburgh Community Health Forum ("the charity") is a trust governed by its constitution dated 16 April 2014. It was registered as a charity in Scotland (registered number SC023808) on 13 May 1996. It's registered address is 222 Leith Walk, Edinburgh, EH6 5EQ.

2. Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

3. Donations

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
Donations	208	-	208	-

4. Grants

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
City of Edinburgh Council - Resilience Fund	-	37,322	37,322	49,763
Edinburgh Health & Social Care	-	12,441	12,441	-
NHS Lothian (C2C)	-	-	-	13,500
	-	49,763	49,763	63,263

5. Trading Income

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
Training	-	-	-	2,265

6. Investment Income

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest	131	-	131	143

7. Other Income

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
Employment Allowance	5,502	-	5,502	3,763

Notes to the Accounts

8. Charitable Activities Costs

		<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Salaries		-	46,906	46,906	45,674
Employer NI		2,645	2,857	5,502	3,763
Pension		2,053	-	2,053	1,979
Evaluation Framework		-	-	-	5,220
Gifts		200	-	200	-
Grants	10	-	-	-	3,000
Insurance		542	-	542	523
Office Expenses		1,286	-	1,286	2,101
Payroll Costs		656	-	656	562
Travel and Function expenses		1,826	-	1,826	1,956
Workshop and Training		-	-	-	4,667
		<u>9,208</u>	<u>49,763</u>	<u>58,971</u>	<u>69,445</u>

9. Support Costs

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Accounts Preparation & Independent Examination	780	-	780	660
Bank Charges	60	-	60	60
	<u>840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>720</u>

10. Grants Distributed

As part of the NHS Lothian agreement, grants of £3,000 were distributed to the following organisations:

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2025 Total</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Edinburgh Community Food Ltd	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>

11. Related Party Transactions

Trustee B Black is the CEO of Edinburgh Community Food Programme which received grant money from the Forum in 2024/25.
Trustee C Windle received a gift card of £200 for her service as chair to the charity. This was funded by donations from members and unrestricted funds.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

Notes to the Accounts

12. Funds Analysis	<i>Opening Balance 1 Apr 2025</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Closing Balance 31 Mar 2026</i>
Unrestricted					
General	33,825	5,841	10,048	-	29,618
Restricted					
City of Edinburgh Council - Resilience Fund	-	37,322	37,322		-
Edinburgh Health & Social Care		12,441	12,441		-
NHS Lothian (C2C)	27,600				27,600
	27,600	49,763	49,763	-	27,600
Grand Total	61,425	55,604	59,811	-	57,218

Purposes of Funds

General Fund	- The unrestricted, free reserves of the charity
City of Edinburgh Council - Resilience Fund	- Main Grant funding for the Forum
Edinburgh Health & Social Care	- To support staff costs
NHS Lothian (C2C)	- Collaboration fund for unspecified work with members of the forum. Expenditure from this fund was paused during the year to allow members to stabilise their operations and service delivery. Collaborative work with members is now being planned in the next financial year.