



2025 IMPACT REPORT

**ACCRINGTON STANLEY
COMMUNITY TRUST**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1139575

CONTENTS

WELCOME : PG 3

OUR TRUSTEES : PG 5

MISSION & VALUES : PG 6

YEAR IN NUMBERS : PG 8

CANCER PREHAB : PG 10

EXTRA TIME HUBS : PG 11

SPORT : PG 12

EDUCATION : PG 14

HEALTH : PG 16

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT : PG 18

SHIRT GIVEAWAY : PG 20

PARTNERSHIP NEWS : PG 21

FIFTEEN YEAR CELEBRATION : PG 22

BUSINESS CLUB CSR : PG 23

STANLEY SPORTS HUB : PG 24

FUNDRAISING : PG 28

ORGANISATION CHART : PG 30

PLAYER ENGAGEMENT : PG 32

FINANCE : PG 34

WHAT NEXT : PG 35

WELCOME



**MARTIN
FEARON**
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Welcome to Accrington Stanley Community Trust's 2025 Impact Report.

This report offers a snapshot of another exceptional year for our Charity and reflects the breadth, quality and impact of the work delivered across Hyndburn and the surrounding communities. I am immensely proud of what our staff, volunteers, partners and participants have achieved together during 2025.

Over the past year, we have continued to grow both the scale and the depth of our provision. More than 20,000 people have engaged with our programmes, spanning sport, education, health and community engagement. From grassroots participation and school-based projects to targeted youth work, veterans' support and health interventions, our work continues to change lives every day.

A major highlight of 2025 has been the continued development of the Stanley Sports Hub. Our investment in facilities and enhanced infrastructure, has enabled us to expand opportunities for grassroots teams, community groups and individuals of all ages and abilities. The Stanley Sports Hub is now firmly established as a focal point for community activity and a flagship facility for the region.

This year has also marked an important moment in our journey with the launch of our new three-year strategy (2025-2028). This strategy sets out a clear and ambitious vision to further strengthen our impact, widen access to inclusive provision, and ensure our services remain relevant, sustainable and responsive to local need.

Alongside this, we were proud to celebrate 15 years of community impact, a milestone that reflects the dedication and commitment of everyone who has contributed to the Trust's success since its formation.

We have continued to benefit from the support of outstanding partners and funders, and we were delighted to welcome new Patrons and Ambassadors whose experience and influence will help us reach even more people in the years ahead. Our fundraising events, corporate partnerships and community initiatives have played a vital role in enabling us to reinvest directly into frontline delivery.

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to our Trustees for their leadership and guidance, to our staff and volunteers for their passion and professionalism, and to our partners and supporters for their continued belief in our work. Most importantly, I thank the thousands of participants and families who place their trust in us and inspire us to keep improving.

As we look ahead, our focus remains firmly on delivering high-quality, impactful services that improve wellbeing, raise aspirations and strengthen our communities. We are excited about what lies ahead and remain committed to helping people participate, develop and achieve.

Thank you for taking the time to read our 2025 Impact Report and for sharing in our journey.

Martin

PURVES ALI

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



As we progress through 2025, I am extremely proud of the continued development and impact of Accrington Stanley Community Trust. This year has seen meaningful strides in our strategic direction, community engagement and organisational growth, building on our long-term commitment to supporting people across Hyndburn.

A major milestone for the Trust in 2025 has been the launch of our new three-year strategic plan (2025-2028), which sets out a bold vision to transform lives in Hyndburn through sport, education, health and community engagement. The strategy focuses on improving wellbeing, expanding access to inclusive programmes, enhancing the Stanley Sports Hub and delivering measurable, impactful services for local people.

We have also been delighted to celebrate 15 years of community impact this year, a significant anniversary that reflects over a decade of sustained delivery across sports participation, education, health initiatives and community programmes that have positively touched thousands of lives.

In line with our commitment to strengthening community connections, we were thrilled to welcome Marc Pugh, former Bournemouth player and David Dunn, former Blackburn Rovers player, as an official Ambassador for Accrington Stanley Community Trust. Together they bring valuable experience and enthusiasm that will enhance our outreach and inspire greater involvement across our activities.

Another exciting development has been the launch of a brand-new Youth Team programme in partnership with Accrington Stanley Football Club, aimed at providing talented young players with a pathway back into professional football while combining elite-level training with education at the Stanley Sports Hub.

In September, the Trust proudly hosted its first-ever Golf Day at Accrington Golf Club, bringing together supporters, partners and businesses to strengthen relationships and raise funds for future community projects.

Most recently, the Stanley Sports Hub was selected as a proposed official base camp for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2035 bid, highlighting the quality of our facilities and our growing reputation at a regional and national level.

Beyond these highlights, our programmes continue to engage and benefit participants of all ages, from grassroots activities and veteran support to education, employability and health-focused initiatives. We remain deeply grateful to our staff, volunteers, partners and supporters whose dedication makes all this possible.

Looking ahead, our ambition for 2026 is to build on this momentum, extending our reach, deepening impact and ensuring the Trust remains a valued resource for our entire community.

Purves

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Accrington Stanley Community Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees with overall responsibility for the strategic direction and governance of the charity. Since the Trust's inception in 2010, the Board has continued to grow in both size and expertise, bringing together a broad range of skills and experience. Our Trustees represent a variety of sectors including education, sport, health, business and commerce, ensuring well-rounded leadership and informed decision-making.

Led by our Chair of Trustees, Purves Ali, and supported by Accrington Stanley Football Club's Chief Executive Officer, Warren Eastham, the close relationship between the Club and the Trust provides a strong and effective partnership. This intrinsic link ensures clear communication, shared values and a consistent approach to delivering positive outcomes for our community.



AMBASSADORS & PATRONS

DAVID DUNN
MARC PUGH
IVOR LEFTON
STUART ROGAN
BARRY GAVAHAN

ABOUT US MISSION & VISION

USE THE POWER OF ACCRINGTON STANLEY FOOTBALL CLUB TO **IMPROVE** THE LIVES OF THE **PEOPLE OF HYNDBURN** THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN **SPORT AND EXERCISE**

Accrington Stanley Community Trust is an award-winning, non-profit, self-funding registered charity (Number 1139575) and community organisation that has been working within the Hyndburn community since 2007. After becoming a registered charity and re-forming as a Community Trust in 2010, the organisation has seen an accelerated rise and growth.

Accrington Stanley Community Trust was originally established under the banner of Football in the Community in 2007, with the aim to bring the professional club and their community closer together. Natural progression from Football in the Community resulted in the scheme being taken on to work alongside and under the guidance of the Football League Trust. Accrington Stanley Community Trust has expanded at a phenomenal rate and we now work in 4 key themed areas: Sports Participation, Education, Health & Wellbeing and Social Inclusion.

Football and in particular, Accrington Stanley Football Club has the ability to engage people, improve community cohesion and raise the hopes and aspirations of the people of Hyndburn. As a Club we are committed to ensuring that we respond to local needs whilst working strategically in line with regional and national agendas. We all recognise that sport can play a prominent role in addressing major issues such as obesity, anti-social behaviour, health, employment and attainment.

Through key partnerships and a robust multi-agency approach, we ensure that we can achieve our aims and objectives effectively and efficiently. Our partnerships work underpins the entire scheme delivery programme and enables us to work strategically within Hyndburn. These relationships enable us to engage with underrepresented and hard to reach groups.

OUR MISSION IS TO **SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND PROMOTE A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES** BY ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES THAT **ENHANCE CONFIDENCE, DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING.**

OUR 11 VALUES



ROLL OF HONOUR

2024 - **Runners Up**
Orphanage Cup

2023 - **Runners Up**
Orphanage Cup

2022 - **Winner**
Orphanage Cup

2019 - **Winner**
Hyndburn Business Awards
(Beacon Award)

2019 - **Finalist**
Hyndburn Business Awards
(Not For Profit)

2018 - **Winner**
Hyndburn Business Awards
(Not For Profit)

2017 - **Finalist**
Hyndburn Community Business

2016 - **Winner**
Hyndburn Community Business

ACCRRINGTON
STANLEY



COMMUNITY
TRUST

YEAR IN NUMBERS

In total, 20,187 people from the local community engaged with our programmes, with an average weekly footfall of 4,012 visitors at the Stanley Sports Hub. We were also proud to gift 1,248 free Accrington Stanley shirts to every Year 3 pupil in Hyndburn, continuing an initiative that strengthens connections between young people and their local club.



20,187

People engaged in our community



3,795

Free tickets given to the local community



512

Children attended holiday courses



348

Summer kicks participants



150

Veterans Connected



£1,409,075

ENABLING US TO REINVEST DIRECTLY INTO SERVICES

2025



1,248

Accrington Stanley shirts given to local children



4,012

Interactions per week at the Stanley Sports Hub



73

Extra Time Hub Participants



110

Students studied at our football college



282

Children received free school holiday provision

RAISED TOWARDS CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

THAT IMPROVE LIVES AND STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY.

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH CANCER PREHAB

Accrington Stanley Community Trust has been quietly transforming lives through its Cancer Prehab sessions, held weekly at the Stanley Sports Hub. These sessions are part of a wider initiative across Lancashire and South Cumbria, designed to help people prepare for or cope with cancer treatment in a supportive, non-clinical environment.

What makes the programme so special is its balance of tailored exercise and social connection. Participants take part in gentle exercises aimed at building strength, improving fitness, and boosting resilience before surgery or treatment. Alongside the physical activity, a Macmillan nurse is often present to offer professional guidance, ensuring that everyone feels safe and supported.

“Before I started coming here, I felt very alone with what I was going through. Walking into the sessions, I didn’t know what to expect, but straight away I realised everyone understood. The exercises have helped me feel stronger but it’s the people that make the difference. We chat, we laugh, and it feels like a weight has been lifted some weeks. It’s not a hospital, and that’s what keeps me coming back each week.”



For many, the chance to sit down with others who understand what they are going through is just as important as the exercise. It’s a place to chat, laugh, and share experiences without the clinical atmosphere of a hospital. People often describe the sessions as a lifeline, somewhere they can feel understood, regain confidence, and look forward to each week.

The impact has been profound. Attendees report feeling stronger, more prepared, and less anxious about their treatment. Beyond the physical benefits, the sessions provide a mental boost, restoring dignity, reducing isolation, and creating friendships that last well beyond the programme.

Lee Walsh, Head of Sports and Health commented, “These sessions are so effective because they are about people coming together rather than just exercising. We see individuals walk in feeling nervous or alone, and over time they grow stronger, more confident, and more connected. It’s safe space outside of a hospital where they can speak candidly with people who genuinely get what they’re going through. For many, it’s become the highlight of their week.”



EXTRA TIME HUBS

Since their introduction, the Extra Time Hubs for over-50s have delivered clear and measurable benefits to residents across Hyndburn. The programme offers structured weekly sessions that actively promote social connection, helping to reduce loneliness and support positive mental wellbeing among older adults.

Ongoing participant feedback highlights significant improvements in wellbeing, increased confidence, and greater engagement in healthy lifestyle habits. Attendance levels remain consistently strong, reflecting both the continued demand for the service and the high quality of its delivery.

The true impact of the Extra Time Hubs is perhaps best illustrated through the personal stories shared by participants. One member described the profound change the programme has brought to their life:

“Six months ago, I felt like my life had come to a standstill. Because of my disability, I was spending most days stuck at home while everyone else was out working, and it left me feeling isolated and low in confidence. When I found the Extra Time Hub for over-50s, I asked one of my carers to come with me because I was so nervous.

Since then, everything has changed. I now come on my own, riding my scooter with confidence I never thought I'd get back. I only miss a session if I'm having a really bad day with pain or headaches, because I genuinely love being here.



It's one of the best decisions I've ever made. I've met a wonderful group of ladies I can talk to, laugh with, and lean on. If someone is thinking about coming along, I'd tell them not to hesitate. It's a warm, welcoming place with good company, plenty of laughs, and a table that never seems short of biscuits or fruit. If I love it, I know others will too.”

Stories such as this demonstrate how the Extra Time Hubs have become a trusted and valued community asset, strengthening social connections and supporting healthier, more active ageing. Their continued development remains a key part of Accrington Stanley Community Trust's commitment to delivering meaningful, long-term impact across Hyndburn.

SPORT

512
CHILDREN
ATTENDED
OUR HOLIDAY
COURSE
PROVISION

1012
CHILDREN
TOOK PART
IN SPORTS
TOURNAMENTS

MEET DEC

A 19-year-old former participant, Dec, regularly attended Stanley Sports Hub Kicks sessions and quickly became a familiar and positive presence. He consistently joined in with enthusiasm, socialising with a wide range of young people and engaging openly with coaches, whether through conversation or a kick-about. His energetic and friendly nature made him approachable and well respected by both staff and fellow participants.

Recognising the opportunities available, Dec later approached the Trust to explore volunteering as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award. From the outset, it was clear that he was an excellent fit for the Kicks Programme delivery team. His dedication, reliability and enthusiasm during his volunteering placement quickly stood out, opening pathways into the early stages of his coaching career.

Following this successful experience, Dec was offered a part-time role delivering PE sessions in primary schools across Hyndburn while completing his Level 1 Football Coaching Qualification. Today, he is a valued member of the Kicks Delivery Team, demonstrating an inspiring progression from participant to staff member and highlighting the positive pathways our programmes can create.



Sport has the power to transform lives, and when combined with the strength of the Accrington Stanley brand it enables us to engage and inspire thousands of people each year. We are committed to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to take part in sport, regardless of age, gender, race, religion or ability.

Our wide-ranging sports programmes mean there is something for everyone, from children taking their first steps in football through Stanley Kickers at just two years old, to adults enjoying the social and physical benefits of our over-50s football sessions. We take great pride in creating inclusive opportunities that encourage participation, build confidence and support healthier, more active communities.



75

CHILDREN
AGED 2-4
LEARNING
FOOTBALL
FOR THE
FIRST TIME



MEET SAM

Sam has been attending our holiday club and has shown a remarkable growth in confidence. When he first joined, Sam was quite shy and often felt unsure about joining in, finding new experiences overwhelming at times. With the consistent support, patience and encouragement of our staff, alongside carefully planned group activities tailored to his interests, Sam has gradually become more comfortable and engaged.

He now confidently takes part in sessions, enjoys spending time with other children and is happy to share his experiences with others. Sam feels at ease seeking help from all members of staff and has been a pleasure to coach as we have watched him develop into a more confident and assured young person. The sessions have played a significant role in strengthening his social skills, building resilience and supporting his ability to try new things and adapt to change.



EDUCATION

Education plays a vital role in everything we do, and our projects continue to deliver outstanding outcomes. We work in close partnership with local schools to engage young people through a wide range of inspiring programmes that support learning, personal development and aspiration.

We are proud of our strong track record in creating educational pathways and encouraging progression to further and higher education, including university. Our unique education projects offer innovative and engaging experiences that make a lasting difference, positively impacting the lives of many young people each year.

110

STUDENTS
STUDIED ON
OUR FULL-TIME
EDUCATION
PROGRAMME

2781

CHILDREN TOOK
PART IN OUR
PREMIER LEAGUE
PRIMARY STARS
PROGRAMME



In March, our students travelled to Lisbon, Portugal for an action-packed four-night educational and sporting experience.

After settling in and familiarising themselves with their surroundings on the first day, the group began day two with a visit to FootLab Lisboa, a high-tech interactive football laboratory. Here, students tested their technical and physical abilities through a series of challenges, combining learning with competitive fun.

That evening saw the first fixture of the tour against local opposition, Seixal Clube. The match was competitive from the outset, with Accrington Stanley Football College securing an impressive 2-1 victory.

Jacob Pollard opened the scoring in the first half after rounding the goalkeeper and finishing neatly from a tight angle, before Breighson Bentley doubled the lead midway through the second half with a well-taken volley. Although the opposition pulled back a late consolation goal from a free kick, the result marked the College's first-ever victory on foreign soil.



MEET ZACHARY



Zachary a pupil at Simonstone Primary School has made excellent progress in physical education. Over time, his confidence in PE has improved significantly, and he now approaches lessons with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Zachary is more active, increasingly willing to try new skills, and eager to take part in a wider range of sports. His resilience has strengthened, enabling him to persevere when activities are challenging, and his overall focus and attentiveness have also improved.

This progress has been supported by the strong relationships formed with both our staff and school staff, who have created a safe, supportive and nurturing environment where Zachary feels valued, motivated and confident to succeed.

Mrs Sutcliffe said: "Zachary always struggled to join in with activities and to follow instructions. He regularly became upset and often required one-to-one support. He particularly struggled to access PE and would usually remove himself from the activity.

Fast forward to now and Zachary is like a different child. He joins in with class activities, follows instructions and is excelling in PE. He also plays really nicely with other children, something that was rare last year when he instead sought adult comfort. Zachary's development has been a joy to see."



LISBON EXPERIENCE FOR SPORT STUDENTS

Day three brought a highlight of the trip, with students training at the world-famous Benfica Academy under the guidance of academy coaches, followed by a tour of the first-team training campus.

The group then visited the Estádio de Luz for a stadium and museum tour. Home to one of Portugal's biggest clubs, Benfica's academy is renowned for producing elite players such as Rui Costa, Bernardo Silva, João Félix and Rúben Dias. Later that day, the students returned to the academy for their second training session before enjoying free time to explore Lisbon city centre.

The tour concluded with a final match against SD Sesimbra. Despite a strong performance, the team were defeated 2-0 in a tough and competitive encounter.

The trip came to an end as a thoroughly successful and memorable experience. Students gained invaluable sporting and cultural opportunities, represented themselves, their families and the College with distinction, and returned home with experiences that will benefit both their personal and sporting development.



HEALTH

Health is a central part of our community programme, with strong links to our sport and exercise provision. We are committed to playing a positive role in improving health and wellbeing across our community and work closely with a range of health organisations to achieve shared goals.

Our projects provide local people with regular opportunities to be active, supporting both physical and mental wellbeing. Alongside this, we engage children and families through dedicated programmes that build knowledge and understanding around nutrition, healthy eating and the importance of maintaining an active lifestyle.

1320

**CHILDREN
TAKING PART
IN THE JOY
OF MOVING
FESTIVAL**

The Over-50s Football session is about far more than just staying fit, and Danny's experience captures it perfectly. Speaking about the group, he says **"For me, over-50s football is about much more than just the sport. It's the motivation I need to stay active and the joy of being part of a team where everyone looks out for one another.**

I really value the social side of meeting new people, but the best part is simply the feeling of playing again. Every time I finish a session, I leave with a real buzz that does wonders for my wellbeing. It's a community where I feel good, supported and truly connected."

MEET DANNY





3320

**CHILDREN TAKING
PART IN OUR MOVE
AND LEARN PROJECT**



48

**PEOPLE AGED 50+
HAVE TAKEN PART IN
OVER 50's FOOTBALL**

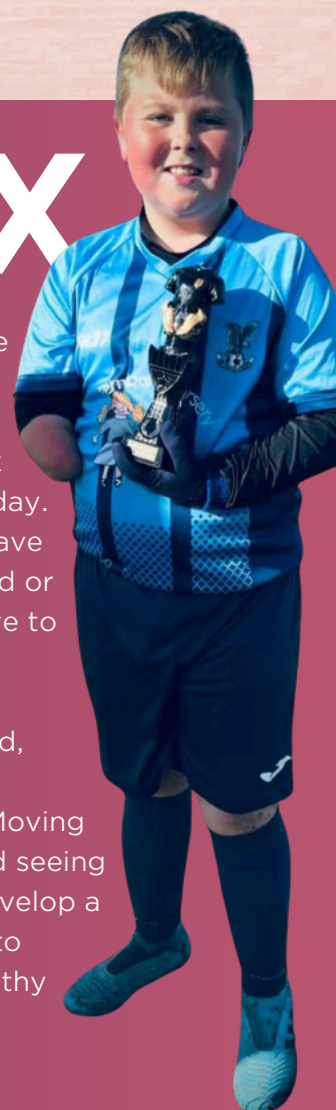
MEET ALEX

The Joy of Moving project has played a significant role in shaping children's health and fitness in local primary schools. One such participant is Alex, who has thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the programme, learning how to lead a healthy, active lifestyle, understanding the benefits of physical activity, and being encouraged to make positive choices around balanced nutrition, all while having fun.

Over the six-week programme, Alex's confidence has developed considerably. He has taken part in a wide range of physical and mental team challenges and has shown growing independence in the classroom, confidently applying his knowledge to answer questions about health and fitness.

Alex said: "I look forward to the Joy of Moving sessions. I learn something new each week and try to challenge myself to drink six to eight glasses of water a day. I know how important it is to have my five a day and stay hydrated or I could get very poorly and have to go to hospital."

Olivia Little, Joy of Moving Lead, commented: "Alex has been a pleasure to deliver the Joy of Moving project to. I have really enjoyed seeing him progress physically and develop a greater understanding of how to live a balanced, active and healthy lifestyle."

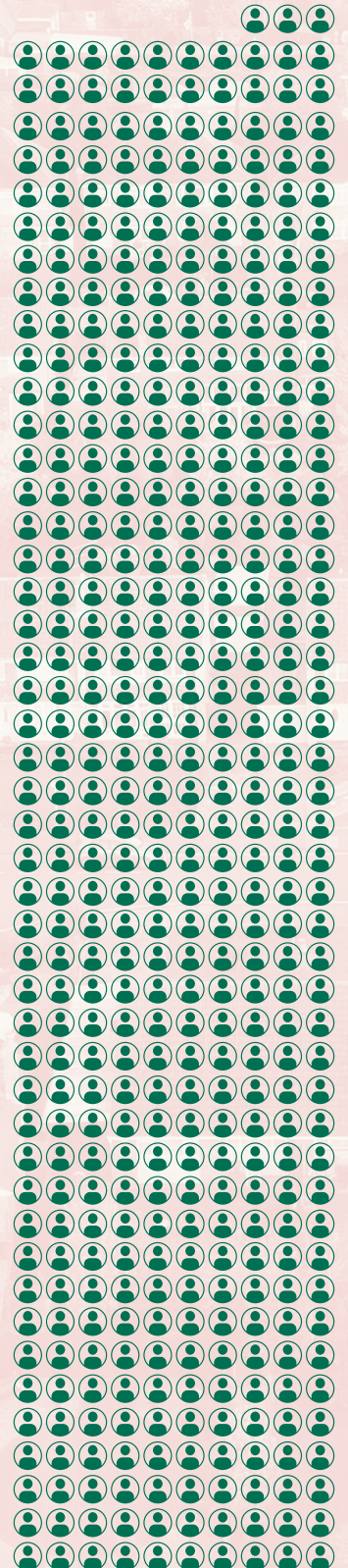


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

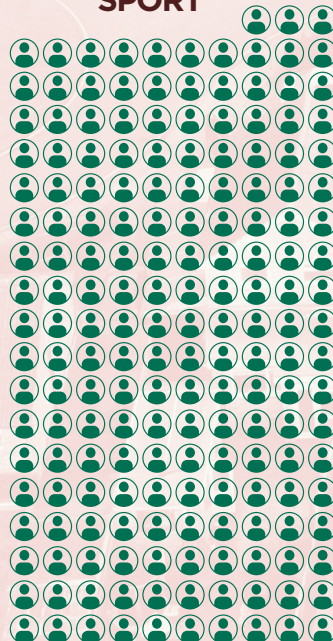
Community Engagement is a central pillar of our work, enabling us to connect with and support some of the hardest-to-reach members of our community. We work with individuals and families from areas of high deprivation across Hyndburn, offering inclusive opportunities to take part in a wide range of projects that promote confidence, wellbeing and social inclusion.

Through initiatives such as our Kicks programme, we actively engage with BAME communities, supporting social integration and creating safe, welcoming spaces for young people to build positive relationships. We continue to grow our reach and strengthen engagement across this area, helping to transform lives and deliver lasting, positive impact within our communities.

463 INDIVIDUALS HAVE TAKEN PART IN PL KICKS



183 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN DISABILITY SPORT



90 PEOPLE TAKING PART IN NCS



POIGNANT BELGIUM FOR VETERANS

In late October, our veterans embarked on an unforgettable journey through Belgium, visiting some of the most poignant sites of remembrance. From the vast and solemn Tyne Cot Cemetery, to the powerful history of Hoge Crater, and the quiet reflection at Essex Farm, where In Flanders Fields was written, each stop deepened our understanding and appreciation of those who served and sacrificed. The tour concluded with the honour of taking part in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, a truly humbling and moving moment of remembrance.

Gabby Sabatino, Head of Community Engagement, commented:

“Walking those historic grounds alongside our veterans was incredibly powerful. Each site told a story of courage, sacrifice and resilience, and you could feel how deeply it resonated with everyone on the trip. Taking part in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate was especially moving. It reminded us why remembering, supporting and honouring our veterans is so important, not just on this journey, but every day.”



FUNDRAISING TACKLES KNIFE CRIME

Champions mentors delivered a range of impactful activities during Operation Sceptre, with a key focus on fundraising for a community bleed kit. Reflecting on the initiative, Champions mentor Millie said:

“I couldn't be prouder of what our young people have achieved. They showed determination, compassion and real leadership throughout this fundraising journey. Knowing that their efforts will directly help save lives in our community makes this achievement even more special.”

The funds were raised through a series of purposeful initiatives led by young people on the Champions Programme, supported by their mentors. These included a 10-mile sponsored walk from the Wham Stadium to Blackburn Cathedral, where participants paused to leave reflective messages at the Knife Crime Memorial Bench, as well as cake sales organised by the young people and a matchday collection at Accrington Stanley's FA Cup fixture against Mansfield Town.

In addition to raising vital funds, each activity helped to spark meaningful conversations around knife crime, personal responsibility and community safety, reinforcing the programme's wider impact in developing awareness, leadership and positive change.

FREE SHIRT GIVEAWAY



Accrington Stanley Community Trust has now helped provide more than 10,000 free replica shirts to local children through its annual Big Shirt Giveaway initiative, which it proudly sponsors each year as part of its commitment to supporting young people across Hyndburn.

This year's event, held at the Wham Stadium, welcomed over 1,200 Year 3 pupils from 41 local schools and marked the ninth edition of the initiative. The day was made even more special by the attendance of the Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, Mrs Amanda Parker JP, and the Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Brigadier (Retired) Peter S Rafferty MBE DL. Children were invited to tour the stadium, meet players and staff, and collect their brand-new Accrington Stanley shirts, proudly featuring Accrington Stanley Community Trust alongside What More UK, Telana and Hyndburn Borough Council as sponsors.

Now in its ninth year, the Big Shirt Giveaway reflects Accrington Stanley Community Trust's ongoing commitment to inspiring young people, encouraging active lifestyles and strengthening connections between children, schools and their local football club. By sponsoring this initiative annually, the Trust continues to invest directly in creating positive experiences and lasting memories for children across the borough.

Every child also received a goodie bag, prepared by Official Accrington Stanley Supporters Trust volunteers and supported by North Lancs Training Group (NLTG). These included lunchboxes from What More UK, fruit and bottled water from James Hall, flags from NLTG, and sunglasses and pens from BRSK. Each school also received a professional class photograph taken inside the Eric Whalley Family Stand by Scott Dawson Advertising.

Transport support for schools was generously provided by Haworths Financial Services, Hyndburn Borough Council, Lancashire County Council and the Duchy of Lancaster, helping to ensure that as many children as possible could take part.

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

FOWLER UK TEAMS UP WITH TRUST

Fowler UK, a leading provider of commercial laundry solutions, is proud to announce its new partnership with Accrington Stanley Community Trust. The collaboration sees Fowler UK supplying state-of-the-art laundry equipment to the Accrington Stanley Community Trust, significantly enhancing the charity's operational efficiency and supporting our ongoing commitment to excellence at our facility in Hyndburn.

The newly installed equipment will support day-to-day laundry operations for the Trust, helping maintain high standards in hygiene and kit care for its college players, and community programmes. The upgrade marks an important investment in infrastructure as the Trust continues to grow its impact within the local community.

"We're thrilled to partner with a charity that shares our values of quality, reliability, and community engagement," said William Fowler, Director at Fowler UK. "Accrington Stanley Community Trust has a proud history and a bright future, and we're proud to contribute to their continued success behind the scenes."

Accrington Stanley Community Trust Partnerships & Fundraising Manager - Joanna Williams added: "Having reliable and high-performance laundry equipment is essential for the daily operations of the Trust. Fowler UK's support ensures we can maintain the best standards for everyone involved in our programmes. It's fantastic to have them on board."

This partnership reflects Fowler UK's dedication to supporting local organisations through tailored equipment solutions and responsive service, while aligning with Accrington Stanley's ongoing efforts to enhance facilities for players and the wider community.

RENEWED PARTNERSHIP WITH ONWARD HOMES

Onward, a leading North West housing association with over 35,000 homes, has committed to funding the continuation of the Trust's Targeted Youth Work programme for a further 12 months, helping to provide essential support and opportunities to local young people.

The Targeted Youth Work programme plays a vital role in engaging vulnerable young people through sport, mentoring, and structured activities, promoting personal growth, positive behaviour, and community cohesion. Onward's continued investment ensures that this impactful work can carry on reaching those who need it most.

Joanna Williams commented: "We're incredibly grateful to Onward Homes for their continued support. Their contribution allows us to sustain and grow a programme that genuinely changes lives, offering young people a safe, supportive space and real opportunities for progress."

Joanne Danaher, Director of Housing and Home Ownership at Onward added:

"We're proud to continue our partnership with Accrington Stanley Community Trust, whose work is transforming the lives of young people across Hyndburn by giving them the tools, support, and opportunities they need to grow and thrive."

"This is just one of the ways we're working with local partners who share our vision of ensuring everyone has the chance to be their best and we look forward to working with the Trust this year to build brighter futures and make a lasting, positive impact together."

This renewed commitment underlines both organisations' dedication to strengthening communities and improving outcomes for young people in East Lancashire.



ACCRINGTON STANLEY COMMUNITY TRUST CELEBRATES FIFTEEN YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

We proudly celebrated our 15th

anniversary, celebrating a decade and a half of delivering life-changing programmes across sport, education, health, and community engagement.

Since its foundation on 8 September 2010, the Trust has become a cornerstone of local support, engaging thousands of people of all ages across Hyndburn and beyond.

A Journey of Growth and Impact

From small beginnings in 2010, ASCT has steadily grown into an award-winning charity. Over the past 15 years, the Trust has:

- Expanded to four key pillars of work: Sports Participation, Education, Health & Wellbeing, and Community Engagement.
- Delivered flagship programmes such as Kicks, disability sports, youth mentoring, and veterans' activities.
- Opened the Stanley Sports Hub, with over £4 million invested since 2019.
- Hosted the Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, in January 2024, who praised the Trust's role in driving community impact and grassroots development.
- Winners of various charity awards and recognitions including the Hyndburn Business Awards.
- Launched major youth initiatives which increased engagement to over 20,000 people each year.

Voices of Celebration

Chair of Trustees, Purves Ali reflected on the milestone:

“Reaching 15 years is a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners. The Trust was founded on the belief that football and sport can inspire positive change, and seeing the impact we've had on thousands of lives is truly humbling. We're proud of how far we've come, but equally excited about what lies ahead.”

Chief Executive Officer, Martin Fearon added:

“From day one, our focus has been on providing opportunities and support where it's needed most. The growth of the Trust over the past 15 years, particularly the development of the Stanley Sports Hub, shows what can be achieved when the community comes together. We look forward to building on this success and continuing to make a real difference in people's lives.”

Looking Ahead

With 15 successful years behind them, ASCT is already planning for the future. Priorities include expanding disability sports provision, strengthening educational programmes, and forging new partnerships to support the health and wellbeing of the local community.

As the Trust celebrates this milestone, it stands as a shining example of how football can be more than just a game, it can be a catalyst for education, inclusion, and opportunity.

LOCAL BUSINESS BACKS TRUST

Business Club for Local Businesses to Support Charitable Work in Hyndburn continues to grow.

We are delighted to announce our Business Club now has over **30 members**, with an aim of allowing local businesses the chance to support charitable work in Hyndburn.



The Business Club membership scheme provides an ideal way for local businesses to engage its corporate social responsibility (CSR) by supporting an organisation that improves health, social inclusion levels, as well as delivering sport and education programmes to over 15,000 local people.

It will also give you access to free and discounted room hire at the £4m Stanley Sports Hub, offering you opportunities to host clients, deliver workshops to your employees or provide a fantastic space for your business meetings. You will also benefit from a number of networking events we plan to host each year with members of this club.

We have three levels of membership:

BRONZE

ONLY

£20/MTH - £240/YR

1 Conference room use
10% room hire discount
Business club network
Use of ASCT badge

SILVER

ONLY

£40/MTH - £480/YR

2 Conference room use
15% room hire discount
Business club network
Use of ASCT badge

GOLD

ONLY

£80/MTH - £960/YR

5 Conference room use
20% room hire discount
Business club network
Use of ASCT badge



STANLEY SPORTS HUB



The Stanley Sports Hub is a state of the art £4m community facility developed and operated by Accrington Stanley Community Trust. Situated at Higham Playing Fields on Thorneyholme Road, Accrington, the Stanley Sports Hub provides fantastic indoor and outdoor facilities for many grassroots clubs, sports groups and local organisations as well as being the home of Accrington Stanley Community Trust, an award-winning Charity.

We have transformed Higham Playing Fields into a multipurpose community facility that is friendly and affordable. As well as opportunities to hire sports pitches for your team or group, there is a variety of exciting activities provided for the local community by Accrington Stanley Community Trust.

OUR STATE OF THE ART £750,000 3G PITCH

The full size 3G floodlit artificial football pitch is located on the lower section of the site and will provide a fantastic playing experience for its users.

The pitch can be split into a variety of playing areas suitable for 5, 7, 9 and 11-side football. This state-of-the-art pitch will prioritise use on evenings and weekends for local grassroots clubs and community activities.

ACCINGTON
STANLEY



COMMUNITY
TRUST

SPORT
HUB



CHANGING ROOMS

We have four changing rooms and two officials' rooms available for people to use when hiring our facilities for matches. The changing rooms have a shower area, two separate toilets, a tactics board, large seating area and plug socket for teams who like to listen to music before a match. Our officials' rooms offer a comfortable space for match officials to use before and after a match.



CONFERENCE ROOM

The conference room is laid out in a boardroom style and like the meeting rooms can be used for meetings, interviews and training sessions. There are 2 large 75" LCD screens which can be used for presentations and has Sky TV included alongside free Wi-Fi. There is free on-site parking available.



SPORTS CAFE

Heading into the new extension we've created a Sports Café which overlooks the 3G pitch and has seating for 32 people. 3 large LCD screens are scattered around showing live sports throughout the day.



CAFETERIA

Through the main entrance is a 28-seat cafeteria and breakout space for participants, parents and the general public to relax and enjoy hot and cold refreshments as well as a sports. Public toilet facilities are included in this section.



YOUR SPACE



MEETING ROOM

Our large modern meeting room caters for up to 12 people and our smaller modern meeting room caters for up to 6 people. The meeting room has a board room layout and is suitable for meetings, interviews and training sessions. Free Wi-Fi and a LCD screen which can be used for presentations is included.



OFFICE SPACE

Accrington Stanley Community Trust's offices are situated in the Stanley Sports Hub. The offices are open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and are the main headquarters of the Charity. This base helps our Charity plan, devise and manage 30 projects which we deliver to thousands of people in our community each year.



TRAINING ROOM

Our adaptable training rooms are a great space for courses, workshops, interviews and meetings. We have four training rooms available for groups of up to 24 people with flexible layout options. The training rooms are both equipped with free Wi-Fi and a large LCD screen for use with laptops and tablets.



TRAINING ROOM



GRASS PITCHES



Stanley Sports Hub has several quality grass pitches which are suitable for a range of sports as well as a multi-use area. The pitches at Stanley Sports Hub will be taken care of all year round allowing us to get maximum usage from them throughout the year.

3G FLOODLIT CAGE



The 3G floodlit cage is located at the back of the building and will provide a fantastic playing experience for small sided football. The pitch is fully enclosed and has overhead netting, perfect for 5v5 matches or team training sessions.

Bookings are made on the hour, and evening use will end at 10pm.



YOUR SPACE

FUNDRAISING

TRUST HOSTS FIRST GOLF DAY AT ACCRINGTON GOLF CLUB

Accrington Stanley Community Trust proudly hosted its first-ever Golf Day in September at Accrington Golf Club.

Teams of four came together to enjoy a day of golf, complemented by a networking breakfast and a post-round meal. The event provided the perfect blend of friendly competition, networking and fundraising, with all proceeds going directly towards supporting the Trust's wide-ranging community projects across Hyndburn.

"Our first golf day has been a fantastic success and we're absolutely delighted with the turnout. It was wonderful to see so many people come together, enjoy a great day of golf and support the Trust's work in the community. A huge thank-you goes to everyone who took part and helped make the event so memorable."

The Golf Day marks an exciting addition to the Trust's fundraising calendar, with plans already underway to make it an annual fixture. Funds raised will support the Trust's ongoing work in sport, health, education and inclusion, helping to create positive impact for thousands of local people each year.



CORPORATE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Accrington Stanley Community Trust successfully delivered its first Corporate Football Tournament, hosting a six-a-side competition that welcomed teams from a range of local businesses.

The tournament culminated in a closely contested and entertaining final between a Trust staff team and D.E.S Group, featuring ASCT Ambassador Marc Pugh. After a goalless draw, the match was decided by penalties, with the Trust securing a 3-2 victory. Despite the competitive edge, the event was played in excellent spirit, providing an enjoyable afternoon for all participants as well as valuable opportunities for networking and engagement.

Joanna Williams, Partnerships & Fundraising Manager, said:

"It was fantastic to see so many businesses come together to support the Trust through our first Corporate Football Tournament. The enthusiasm, teamwork and friendly competition on display really highlighted the strength of our local partnerships, and we are grateful to everyone who took part in making the event such a success."





SUPPORTERS SLEPT OUT AT THE WHAM STADIUM TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES

The Clayton End at the Wham Stadium became a sea of sleeping bags and community spirit on Friday 10th October as 30 people took part in the Stadium Sleepout, raising vital funds for Accrington Stanley Community Trust and East Lancashire Hospice.

The unique fundraising event saw participants give up the comfort of their beds for one night, sleeping outdoors at the home of Accrington Stanley Football Club to show solidarity to support two organisations making a difference across Hyndburn and East Lancashire.

Together, attendees and sponsors helped raise over £2000 with all proceeds split between the two charities to fund local community projects and compassionate hospice care.

“The Stadium Sleepout is a powerful reminder of what our community can achieve when we come together,” said Joanna Williams, Partnerships & Fundraising Manager of Accrington Stanley Community Trust. “Sleeping out in the cold for one night doesn’t replicate the real challenges people face, but it builds empathy, awareness, and crucial funds that help us continue our work with those who need it most.”

Participants were treated to an evening of entertainment including a quiz hosted by East Lancashire Hospice staff member- Ian Fox and a hot supper before bedding down on the stadium concourse. The event attracted a mix of local Stanley fans and supporters of both charities, each playing a part in raising awareness and much-needed donations.

Lia Holmes, Events Fundraiser at East Lancashire Hospice, added: “We’re so grateful for the incredible support from everyone who took part. The money raised will help us continue to provide specialist, compassionate care to local people and their families when they need it most.”

The Stadium Sleepout was made possible thanks to the support of hosts Accrington Stanley Football Club, Event Sponsor- Prestige Beds and The Cardboard Box whose generosity ensured every penny raised went directly to the two charities’ causes.

Accrington Stanley Community Trust delivers health, education, and inclusion projects that change lives across Hyndburn and beyond, while East Lancashire Hospice provides free, specialist care for people with life-limiting illnesses and their families.



BOARD of

Ram Gupta
(IT & Security)

Carl Ellwood
(HR)

Peter Leatham
(Environment)

Warren Eastham
(CEO ASFC)

Purves Ali
(Chair of Trustees & Business)

Martin Fearon
Chief Executive Officer
CPO/SSM

Joanna Williams
Partnerships & Fundraising
Manager

Rhian Sabatino
Head of Community
Engagement

Sarah Hunt
Facility & Administration
Manager

Kathryn Hoyle
Champions Programme
Mentor

Millie Hall
Champions Programme
Mentor

Prince Ndlovu
Champions Programme
Mentor

Adam Aspinall
Community Engagement
Officer

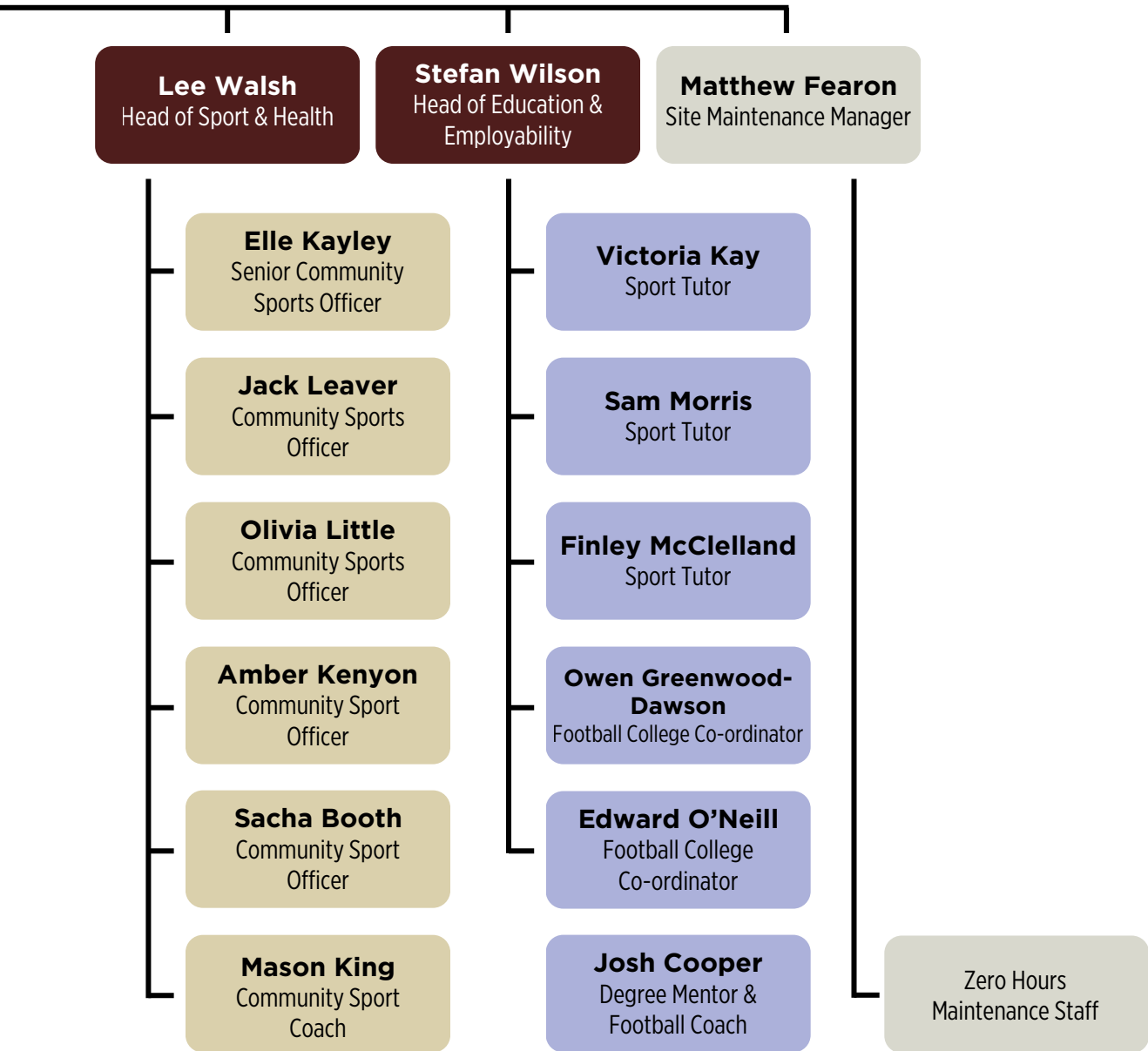
Zero Hours
Youth Workers

Zero Hours
Facility Staff

Senior Leadership Team

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

TRUSTEES





PLAYER ENGAGEMENT

Each year, Accrington Stanley players, coaches, staff and club mascot Winstanley make appearances at numerous community and corporate events.

Player visits are a fantastic way for all Professional Footballers to give something back to their communities and put a smile on people's faces.



WHALLEY NAMED COMMUNITY PLAYER OF THE SEASON

Accrington Stanley Community Trust is proud to announce that the PFA Community Champion Award has been presented to Shaun Whalley for his contributions to the community throughout the 2024-2025 season.

The experienced midfielder has not only been a key figure on the pitch but has also shown dedication off it, particularly through his work with our Champions Programme which aims to help those at risk of offending or reoffending. His willingness to engage with our football college students and community members at the Stanley Sports Hub has left a lasting impression on many.

Shaun's efforts were deservedly recognised by a panel of representatives from both the PFA and Accrington Stanley Community Trust.

Shaun commented, 'It's been great to be part of the fantastic work that the Community Trust do in the local area, and I've loved meeting with so many people in the community. I am aware of the position that I am in and am aware of the positive change's footballers can have in the local community.'

Lee Walsh, Head of Sport commented, 'Shaun has supported a number of community programmes and helps out where he can. Seeing the impact that he brings to the programmes is fantastic and I hope it inspires other players to get involved.'

"The players are fantastic at supporting the charitable work we deliver in the community. They really make a difference and give fans a real boost when they spend time with them at various events. We are privileged to have such a great set of players who realise the importance of giving something back to the community".

Martin Fearon - Chief Executive Officer of Accrington Stanley Community Trust



Each year, Accrington Stanley players, coaches, staff and club mascot Winstanley make appearances at a wide range of community and corporate events across the region.

These player visits provide a valuable opportunity for professional footballers to give back to their community, inspire supporters and create memorable experiences. Whether engaging with young people, supporting community programmes or attending special events, their involvement plays an important role in strengthening connections and bringing smiles to people's faces.

COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

Throughout 2025, Accrington Stanley first-team players continued to make valuable appearances within the local community. This year saw Shaun Whalley, Jake Batty and Farrend Rawson join our Champions clients for a dedicated games morning, creating an engaging and memorable experience for all involved.

Clients enjoyed the opportunity to interact with the players through a variety of activities, including darts, table tennis and snooker. Alongside the games, the players took time to offer informal advice and respond to questions from participants, providing encouragement, insight and positive role modelling in a relaxed and supportive environment.

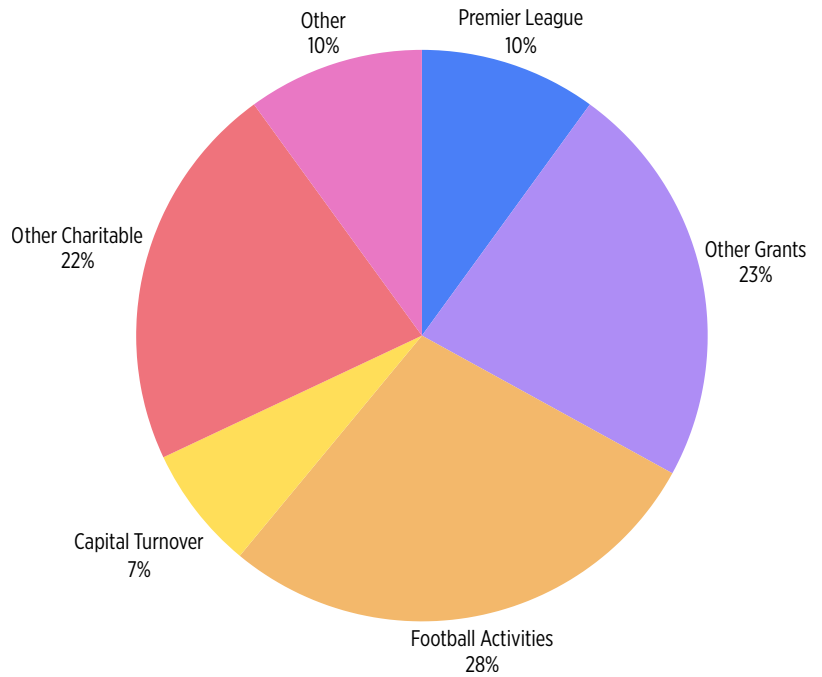
Millie Hall, Champions Mentor, commented: "Opportunities like this help young people build confidence, feel valued and see positive role models up close. Experiences that create genuine connection can have a lasting impact well beyond the event itself."



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

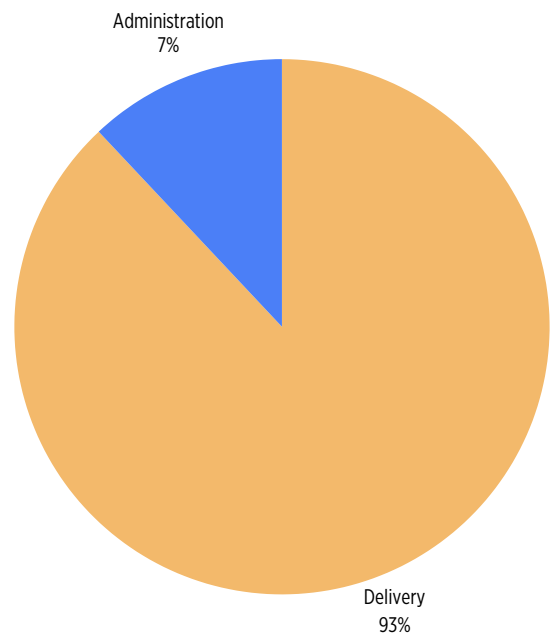
INCOME

	2024 / 25	2023 / 24
Income	£1,409,075	£1,245,405
Expenditure	£1,221,719	£1,092,038
Surplus	£187,356	£153,367



COSTS

	2024 / 25	2023 / 24
Net Assets	£3,700,233	£3,523,058



FINANCIAL HISTORY	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	SURPLUS
2024/25	£1,409,075	£1,221,719	£187,356
2023/24	£1,245,405	£1,092,038	£153,367
2022/23	£1,610,998	£989,432	£621,566
2021/22	£1,293,941	£927,887	£366,054
2019/20	£1,649,235	£524,183	£1,125,052
2018/19*	£694,421	£303,018	£391,403

*9 months accounts due to change of financial year end.

WHAT NEXT?

2026 promises to be another exciting and ambitious year for Accrington Stanley Community Trust as we continue to grow and strengthen our provision with a number of new developments planned.

A major highlight for the year ahead is a £200,000 investment in the development of new padel courts at Stanley Sports Hub. This significant addition will introduce one of the fastest-growing sports in the UK to Accrington for the first time, creating new participation opportunities for the local community and further enhancing the Hub as a regional centre for sport and activity.

Alongside this, our current facilities will continue to support grassroots teams, community groups and Trust programmes, enabling us to expand the range and reach of our services. We will also build on our health and wellbeing offer, including the continued development of our cancer rehabilitation sessions, providing people diagnosed with cancer with light exercise, peer support and a positive, non-clinical environment to support their recovery journey.



We remain committed to reviewing, developing and strengthening our existing projects to enhance the experience of participants and ensure our services continue to meet the evolving needs of our community.

Our close partnership with Accrington Stanley Football Club will remain central to our work, helping us increase our presence across Hyndburn and inspire more local people to engage with both the Trust and the Football Club.

We look forward to another year of 'helping people participate, develop and achieve' in 2026.

Martin

**MARTIN
FEARON**
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

HELPING PEOPLE PARTICIPATE, DEVELOP & ACHIEVE



WWW.STANLEYTRUST.CO.UK