NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

(Charity No. 1173349)

Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2026

As the national umbrella organisation of the largest voluntary movement for crime prevention in England and Wales, we support people to prevent and reduce crime by coming together with their neighbours to create safer, stronger and active communities.

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About Neighbourhood Watch Network

Neighbourhood Watch Network is the strategic voice and national umbrella organisation for England and Wales. We support the grassroots Neighbourhood Watch movement which involves over 2.3 million volunteers in preventing crime and strengthening communities. This work is delivered by our local Associations who are the members of Neighbourhood Watch Network.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

Friendly: Welcoming and bringing people together

Trusted: Reliable and respected

Active: Energetic and practical

Introduction from the Chair and the CEO

The trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network are pleased to present this report on the work of the charity and its financial results for the year ending 31 March 2026. In reflecting on our work to support the activities of our local Neighbourhood Watch associations across England and Wales, we are struck by how different our country appears from the perspective of a vibrant and dynamic social movement of 90,000 coordinators, 60,000 active volunteers, and 2.3 million supporter households, from the picture of our society so often presented to us.

Sadly there are politicians, newspaper and broadcast pundits and online activists who would have us believe that we are a polarised society, riven by conflicts and increasing anger at others with different views or backgrounds. While it is true that many people feel powerless and vulnerable in the face of political, social and economic uncertainty at home and internationally, and look for simple answers about what or who is to blame, we see through our movement far more people who value their communities and want to strengthen them for everyone, in whatever way they can. The work of everyone involved in the Neighbourhood Watch movement and other civil society groups, in thousands of communities on a daily basis is less widely reported, and this report is part of our ongoing efforts to tell that less familiar, but much more positive, story.

Over the past year, our charity successfully completed the five-year strategy we set in 2020 and co-created with our members a new plan for our work through to the end of the decade. The aim of our new strategy is: 'Flourishing communities, where neighbours look out for each other.' As we look to the future, we envision a society where people help build safer, stronger, and more inclusive communities by coming together in ways that recognise and respect their differences but place more emphasis on the values and behaviours that unite all of us.

This is a strategy that puts community cohesion to the fore but which remains rooted in our longstanding mission to prevent crime because these are not mutually exclusive ambitions. We know that people are rightly concerned about becoming a victim of a serious criminal offence such as assault, theft or fraud and we will continue to provide advice and information to help prevent this. But for huge numbers of our fellow citizens, anti-social behaviour, vandalism, and harassment in public spaces are everyday occurrences and a real blight on their lives, and are often precursors of more serious offences. These problems cannot be tackled by the police alone but depend on a genuine partnership between the police and local residents to demonstrate that such behaviours are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. We are pleased to see these aspects of community and neighbourhood policing emphasized in the recent White Paper on Police Reform, and we are keen to play a part in its implementation. This will build on existing work, presented in this report, such as our Neighbourhood Safety Training and Bystander work to equip people with the skills and knowledge to intervene safely when they witness anti-social behaviours or harassment.

Fundamentally, our work is – and always has been - about helping people to connect with the neighbourhoods we live in and the people who are our neighbours. In our modern age, when so many of our connections are rushed and made through phones and computers, it can be easy to forget the value of making time for simple, personal connections with the people around us. Starting with our street, building to our villages and towns, to make a difference to our regions, our cities, and ultimately our country and our planet. Helping more people in more places to make that a reality is the mission of Neighbourhood Watch and we invite everyone to join us.

John Hayward-Cripps	Ian Bretman
CEO	Chair

Trustees report

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (FRS 102 is the main accounting standard in the UK for charities).

Delivering Our Charitable Purpose

The Objects of NWN, as set out in the Constitution dated 10 April 2017 are to:

- Promote for the benefit of the public good citizenship, community safety and greater public participation in the prevention and detection of crime, and;
- Promote public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

To achieve these objects, we provide free online resources for everyone to help them reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. We also signpost them to local Neighbourhood Watch groups which aim to strengthen community cohesion and wellbeing and create better connected and more resilient communities.

At a national level, we work closely with UK Government departments, the National Police Chiefs Council, Police and Crime Commissioners and voluntary sector partners to extend the reach of our work as far as possible and involve policy and research institutions in assessing our impact and help us plan for future improvements.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups make a real, long-lasting difference to communities: as well as helping to reduce crime they increase neighbourliness and community wellbeing and strengthen the voice of the community with councils, the police and other public services. We support and enable local schemes to operate by providing resources, training and networking support to volunteers and members.

Public Benefit & Contribution Made by Volunteers

The public benefit from the activities carried out by the Charity by:

- Having access to information and advice on crime prevention and personal security;
- Being part of better connected and more resilient communities – the Charity facilitates the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers to maintain and develop community-based Neighbourhood Watch schemes which in turn contribute to better connected and more resilient communities, where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and also the incidence and impact of loneliness and isolation.

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers (estimated to number at least 60,000 active individuals) work through their local schemes, many of which are charities in their own right. So, while this is not a direct contribution to NWN, it is important to recognise the significant social value created within communities by preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, alleviating loneliness and isolation, and providing practical assistance between neighbours.

Main Activities

We review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's stated purposes. In this report, we describe what the charity has achieved and how it has performed in the reporting period and how each key activity has benefitted the people that the charity was set up to help.

Objectives set out in our 2020-2025 strategic plan are to be:

- *the authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention*, so that everyone will be able to access advice and support they need.

- *a recognised contributor to community health and wellbeing*, so that community cohesion is increased, and loneliness and isolation are reduced

- *the most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality*, so that neighbours have a place to go to connect with each other and their communities.

We have conducted an annual Crime and Community Survey of our supporters and the wider public for the past 5 years with responses from between 18,000 and 37,000 people each year. Our performance across the key strategic targets has continued to be very positive with this year's annual survey findings being that:

- The authoritative voice on community-based crime prevention - 77% agree that NW is effective at preventing crime (2024:65%; 2023: 64%; 2022: 57%)
- A recognised contributor to community health & wellbeing - 82% agree that NW contributes to community health and wellbeing (2024: 71%; 2023: 66%; 2022: 62%)
- The most popular gateway for citizens to engage in their locality - 65% agree that that NW provides the first step for neighbours to connect with each other (2024: 65%; 2023: 57%; 2022: 50%)

Activities to achieve our objectives as the umbrella body and the national voice for the Neighbourhood Watch movement in England and Wales, we focus on various activities including:

- **Providing advice and resources**: we host the Ourwatch website for supporters and the public to access crime prevention and community wellbeing advice and resources.

- **Campaigning**: we raise awareness of crime prevention actions that everyone can take, by launching national crime prevention campaigns across social media channels.

- **Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement**: we work with other charities, government bodies, sponsors, and the press to show Neighbourhood Watch as a modern, relevant movement for safer, connected communities for all.

- **Facilitating work of local Neighbourhood Watch groups**: we provide training, resources and networking opportunities for local groups, schemes and association across England and Wales.

- **Protecting the intellectual property of the NW movement**: we hold trademarks of the Neighbourhood Watch logo and name, to protect the reputation of the Neighbourhood Watch movement and to maximise income opportunities.

- **Assessing and reflecting**: we regularly survey Neighbourhood Watch members and also members of the public and commission research, to evaluate the impact of our work and assess ways to improve.
- **Increasing our reach**: we constantly look for new avenues to reach younger and more diverse audiences.
- **Growing the resources of our charity**: we continuously look for new sources of income and actively manage our relationships with existing sponsors, grant-givers, and other funders to ensure our income is sufficient for us to achieve all the work we set out to do.

Achievement and Performance

Some of our achievements in furthering Neighbourhood Watch Network's charitable purposes during 2025-2026 are described below.

Providing advice and resources

Website: We continued to update our website during the year with simpler search functions and updated crime prevention pages. During the year the website had over 3.2M views with over 1.1M users. This shows a continued increase in both use and users over recent years and an increase of 18.5% over last year.

Newsletter: Our monthly newsletter is distributed directly to 1.35M households (down 50,000 from March 2025). The drop is likely due to members of the public who signed up to police messaging services and also signed up to Neighbourhood Watch but were unaware of this and later left the Neighbourhood Watch messaging element of the Alert system. The open rate of the newsletter remains at approximately 40% which is high. During the year we have moved from a pdf format newsletter to an email click through format which has kept the open rate but has led to a higher engagement rate with the articles and campaigns.

We run targeted crime prevention campaigns in each edition including the on the Governments key priorities. Over the year we have run newsletter campaigns or articles on VAWG, Knife Crime, Mobile Phone Theft, Stalking, ASB, Street Safety, Student Safety, Vehicle Crime, Travel Safety, On-line scams, Parcel Theft, Rogue Traders, Home Security, Nuisance calls, Wildlife Crime, and Rural Crime.

Community Safety Training: We expanded our Community Safety Training offer to small businesses and organisations and relaunched it as Neighbourhood Safety Training. We have focused on small businesses and used social media including Linkedin to promote the offer. Modules include: Harassment, ASB and Personal Safety. The modules on Retail Crime and Hate Crime are due to be launched and were developed with the British Retail Consortium (BRC) and various hate crime charities respectively. The BRC will also be promoting the module and training to its members in spring 2026.

Campaigning

We share all our crime prevention campaigns directly with 1.35 million supporters via the Alert system and also via organic or paid social media. Because of this the reach of each campaign is significant but varied depending on the amount of paid coverage. We also know from our Crime and Community Survey that 64% of those surveyed say they always or usually follow Neighbourhood Watch advice.

This year we ran a major campaign supporting the UN's 'Orange the World' campaign to end VAWG. To support the campaign, Neighbourhood Watch created '16 Days of Actions' featuring simple steps people can take to help reduce violence and digital violence against women and girls. The campaign was created with the support of Women's Aid and the Her Centre. Over the course of the 16 days we delivered social media advice and information and ran a webinar with 421 participants. We also updated the VAWG best practice and information on our website.

We also delivered two ASB campaigns to our supporters and via social media to existing and non-members. We supported 'ASB Week' and worked with RESOLVE (the ASB Charity) and delivered a joint webinar 'Tackling ASB together - Partnership working' to 374 practitioners, and a 'Let's talk ASB' webinar to 417 members of the public.

Over the past year we have collaborated with the Ben Kinsella Trust to help address Knife Crime. This has included highlighting and supporting the work of the Ben Kinsella trust to our 76,035 supporters across London with 36,517 confirmed as read message and shared across Social media over 1000 times.

We supported Stephen Lawerence Day with information and a public webinar and ran three sets of information articles on knife crime to our 1.35M supporters and via two social media campaigns. We have supported local groups to undertake knife sweeps with the police. These have taken place in Greenwich and several other areas of London.

We have developed an on-line training offer for the Bystander approach as well as in person training. We have been trialing this in 3 London Boroughs and delivered it to 299 people online and 145 in person. We have also offered short 1 hour bystander training sessions to our members delivered by the Suzi Lamplugh Trust. To date over 1,500 members and supporters have attended these sessions.

We have continued to work with the Royal College of Policing and the HO to support and develop 'Clear, Hold, Build'. This has included presenting with Police Officers at our annual conference to ensure local Associations work with their Police Forces to support the 'Build' phase. We have also taken part in Royal College training and development sessions on 'Clear, Hold, Build' and highlighted the importance of engaging with community groups at the earliest stage ie the 'Clear' phase as developing trust and confidence with community groups takes time and cannot be simply turned on and off. We have also spoke at the Royal College/NPCC/APCC conference supporting both the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee and 'Clear, Hold, Build'.

Promoting the Neighbourhood Watch movement

Neighbourhood Alert: This is a bespoke community messaging IT system provided by Visav Ltd. The majority of Police Forces in England and Wales use the system which enables them to relay information to residents who have signed up to receive messages. Residents can also sign-up to receive messages from Neighbourhood Watch and other organisations such as Report Fraud.

The Alert system also functions as our central membership database and by working closely with Visav we can directly message to 1.35 million. The Neighbourhood Watch Membership Support Administrators (MSA's) are a group of specially trained volunteers who maintain the database across England and Wales which is vital to Neighbourhood Watch and is also a significant benefit to the police forces who also use the database. The MSA's are supported through regular training webinars and meetings and 1-2-1 sessions to ensure their skills, practice and knowledge are up to date as the system develops and improves.

New 5-Year Strategy: With the support of the strategic experts, 'Caplor Horizons' we developed the next 5-Year Strategy over the course of the year. This work included sessions with the Board and staff, surveys of members and supporters, sessions with Association Leads, interviews with stakeholders and sponsors, workshops, and feedback sessions. We were delighted with the expert input and challenge from Caplor Horizons and the resulting 5-Year Strategy is both inspirational, and accessible to everyone in the Neighbourhood Watch movement. For the first time, our ambition and vision for the future has been simply described with clear goals and timescales that relate across the movement within a social context of increased division, complex challenges, and increased distrust of statutory services.

Crime and Community conference: We held our fourth national Crime and Community Conference online this year so more local coordinators would be able to attend. We had over 450 people attend making it our biggest conference to date with many local coordinators attending for the first time.

There were keynote presentations from Assistant Chief Constable Tom Harding (Director of Operational Standards, College of Policing) on Neighbourhood Policing, and Catherine Wohlers LIAISE Manager, Illegal Money Lending Team on Illegal Money Lending which were both very well received. The Central Support Team updated supporters on Member Benefits which was followed by a session on the new 5-Year Strategy with several audience polls on the direction and focus of the strategy.

Presentations from three local area Neighbourhood Watch groups (Tameside (Greater Manchester), Hillingdon (London), and Devon & Cornwall) were inspirational and received very positive feedback from attendees. Feedback on the event was positive with 81% saying registration was easy, 98% saying the sessions were informative and 95% saying the sessions were good or excellent.

Impact Report: We produced our sixth Impact Report celebrating the work of volunteers and groups across England and Wales. This included great examples of crime prevention, community support, Cyberhood Watch, work with young people, the Community Safety Charter and lots of local projects.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups

Volunteer training and Support: In 2025-2026 the Central Support team delivered 8,000 hours of direct training to volunteers, an increase of over 1,000 hours over previous years. Training ranged from running a crime prevention campaign, community engagement, equality & diversity, and developing an active scheme.

We have continued to expand both the resources available and the number of users of the volunteer Knowledge Hub, which contains all the support materials for coordinators and other volunteers. There is now an extensive range of short form video to train volunteers and numerous campaign materials. Over 5,000 volunteers are now users of the Knowledge Hub, an increase of 1,000 volunteers over the year.

Supporting Association Leads: We have continued with regional meetings for Association Leads following the successful introduction of the meetings last year. Feedback has been very positive and the meetings are a useful addition to the quarterly national Association Leads meeting where issues can be discussed in more detail with opportunities and experiences shared between leads.

Our 2025/2026 AGM was held in December and was attended by representatives from 37 local Associations. Key presentations from Tracy Robins, Head of Community, Eden Project and Rory Innes, CEO and Founder of the CyberHelpline were very well received and provided great context for the work of Neighbourhood Watch more broadly.

Working with local PCC's: We continue to work closely with a range of local Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC's), Mayors and Police Forces. In the West Midlands funding has continued to employ an independent support worker who is supporting the work of the regional Faith Alliance.

In Devon and Cornwall we were funded to continue employing a member of staff focusing on re-invigorating Neighbourhood Watch in 4 new areas as identified by the PCC.

Grant giving to local communities: We have now granted over £30,000 to local Neighbourhood Watch groups across England and Wales to support local projects. The grants support community-based projects that have a measurable positive impact for local residents.

Facilitating the work of local Neighbourhood groups (continued)

Examples of local projects supported include: the **Toynbee Road and Samuel Barnett Close NW** in Bristol putting on a self-defence class for the community, with the help of a local Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Academy, with the aim to build confidence and community wellbeing. The event also promoted Neighbourhood Watch and signed up new members; **Rosegrove NW** in Burnley held a successful event for local residents at their Neighbourhood Watch hub. The event got local residents together with local councillors, PCSO's, and volunteers in order to address key local issues; in Camberwell, London, **Warner Road NW** transformed neglected spaces in their neighbourhood into vibrant, accessible and sustainable green community spaces. The spaces were previously littered, being used for fly tipping and toileting.

Work by local Neighbourhood Watch groups: Examples of work carried out at local level are described below:

Warwickshire Neighborhood Watch joined forces with the police to promote crime prevention and community safety among students at several student events. The Neighborhood Watch team focused on drink spiking and staying safe at night speaking to over 700 students.

Oxford Neighborhood Watch has held over 50 bike marking events to help residents, including students, protect their bikes. Over 1500 bikes have been marked over the year and it's been well received by the local community.

Downton Neighborhood Watch in **Wiltshire** have been working with local residents and the police to address an increase in shoplifting and a spate of ASB and criminal damage. This work has led to the use of a Public Spaces Protection Order which has protected the local area and reduced crime.

After a spate of car thefts in **Tooting, London** the local Neighborhood Watch contacted local victims of crime and collected CCTV from door cams etc while working with the police. Now all residents know how to report incidents and provide contact details and CCTV links.

In **Ebbsfleet, Kent** Neighborhood Watch has been very successful in addressing local car crime by undertaking targeted campaigns to raise awareness about vehicle safety and distributing practical advice and resources to help residents secure their vehicles.

On the **Goodwood Estate** in **Leicester** the Neighborhood Watch group stays connected via a group chat exchanging information on local events and crime. By working with the police to coordinate local intelligence, a thief targeting local vulnerable people was arrested and charged.

Over the past 2 years **Cumbria** Neighborhood Watch have fitted more than 200 video doorbells to the homes of vulnerable people who've been victims of domestic abuse, ASB or harassment and takes referrals from the police and local councils. The work has hugely enhanced protection and feelings of safety of the beneficiaries.

Hillingdon (London) Neighborhood Watch has fully implemented and is maintaining an automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) CCTV system locally which has proved a game changer for security. This initiative is coordinated with the local authority and has significantly enhanced the ability to monitor and deter criminal activity.

Increasing our reach

Newsletter: The monthly Neighbourhood Watch newsletter has a reach of 1.35 million households, in each edition we run targeted crime prevention information and articles on key priorities. Over the year this has inclided Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) x 2, Knife Crime x 3, Mobile Phone Theft x 2, Stalking, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)x 2, Street Safety, Student Safety, Vehicle Crime, Travel Safety, On-line scams x 2, Parcel Theft, Rogue Traders x 2, Home Security, Nuisance calls, Wildlife Crime, and Rural Crime x2. We know from our Crime and Community Survey that 64% of those surveyed say they always or usually follow Neighbourhood Watch advice.

Community Safety Training: We expanded our Community Safety Training offer to small businesses and organisations and relaunched it as Neighbourhood Safety Training. We have focused on small businesses and used social media including Linkedin to promote the offer. Modules include: Harassment, ASB and Personal Safety. New modules on Retail Crime and Hare Crime are due to be launched soon and were developed with the British Retail Consortium (BRC) and various hate crime charities respectively. The BRC will also be promoting the module and training to its members in spring 2026. We have seen a significant upsurge in small businesses and organisations signing up to the training with over 400 in the past 3 months. We also ran a webinar 'Safety in the high street' with 119 small business owners.

Bystander Training: With funding from the City Bridge Trust we have developed an on-line training offer for the Bystander approach as well as in person training. We have been offered this in three London Boroughs and delivered it to over 300 people online and 150 in person. We have also offered short, 30 minute, bystander training sessions to our members delivered by the Suzi Lamplugh Trust. To date over 1,500 members and supporters have attended these sessions.

Youth Offer Development: The National Lottery funded youth work has continued with very successful groups in York, London, Bristol and on-line. The Youth Board entered it's second year and fed into the development of both practice and policy. The aim is still that with the support of local, specially trained volunteers we will be able to have a viable Neighbourhood Watch youth offer to roll out more widely. While this is the aim, the need to ensure safeguarding practice are of the highest standard may make the need for trained, qualified and supported youth workers a requirement for this work on a local level. This is likely to require specific funding for such projects.

Social Media: We continue to focus on expanding our social media presence and grow our followers. To support this we have employed a Social Media Officer to develop our expertise and content.

Supporting vulnerable people to manage national digital transfer programs: We successfully completed the British Telecom project and delivered over 250 volunteer-led events across the South West, South East, East of England, Wales and the North West to offer in-person support and advice on the nationwide Digital Phone Transfer. Following the success of the project E-on Energy recognised our ability to mobilise locally and commissioned us to deliver 25+ events across England and Wales. These sessions were to advise people of what they need to check and do before the analogue electricity signal (RTS) is turned off. The project was also completed successfully to time and budget.

Cyberhood Watch: Our Cyberhood Watch programme has continued to expand with over 450 Ambassadors trained or awaiting training. More local sessions were delivered by Ambassadors this year on cybersecurity, cyber scams and staying safe online.

Growing the resources of our charity

Corporate Sponsorship: We had a successful year increasing our partnerships and sponsorship from commercial companies wanting to work with us. The resulting increase in funds has enabled us to be confidant about the future of the organisation and increase our the level of our reserves slightly.

We continue to work with Sopro to automate our prospecting, with potential sponsors. This approach, utilising AI and mass emailing, has facilitated us, as a very small staff team, to make direct contact with a huge number of companies, sift these into potential 'warm' contacts then follow up personally to explore partnership working, increasing the chance of successful sponsorship significantly.

Grants: We reduced our grant applications during the year as the grant environment, as reported by many charities, was increasingly competitive and challenging and we were not having great success. This enabled us to concentrate on income generation areas where we have a better chance of success including sponsors as above, membership benefits, and individual giving

Future Plans

Our new 5-Year Strategic Plan 2026 – 2030 was successfully developed during the year and approved at our AGM in December 2025. The new strategy has three goals: we will bring neighbours together, we will show our impact, and we will be trusted and innovative. Under each goal we have a number of specific deliverables over the next five years, which are:

1. Launch a "Flexible-Volunteering" Programme (that speaks to people of all ages and backgrounds)
2. Re-launch the "Communi-Tea Space" initiative
3. Develop a Buddy Scheme for local coordinators
4. Build a wider range of community partnerships to work with the Police to enhance safety and community cohesion
5. Work with national, umbrella and local organisations to facilitate partnerships at local level.
6. Expand the Community Safety Charter
7. Develop a comprehensive Communications and Storytelling Strategy
8. Invest in and deploy a digital infrastructure for impact storytelling
9. Establish a "Culture of Storytelling" and provide training for volunteers and members
10. Implement a targeted, data-driven approach to collecting impact evidence
11. Expand our Community Grants Programme to £15,000 per year
12. Develop our Policy Campaigning role
13. Relaunch a user-friendly and accessible "Knowledge Hub"
14. Partner with police and community movements to create a strategic training programme as part of strengthened Neighbourhood Policing

15. Expand Neighbourhood Watch's programmes on preventing modern, on-line enabled crimes (including fraud, scams, and theft)

16. Expand the annual awards programme to champion community successes (local and national), Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, and Police Neighbourhood Officers

17. Deliver widespread Bystander Approach training

In addition to the goals and specific deliverables the strategy highlights the importance of describing all the activities of the organisation within the Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Connect and Neighbourhood Act framework.

Financial review

Financial position

The detailed figures for the year ended 31 March 2026 are set out in the financial statements that follow the Trustees' Report.

There was a net deficit in the year of £26,166 (2024/25 surplus of £96,036). The deficit was planned, and used up some of the reserves that were built up in prior years. The surplus in the previous year was planned to build up reserves for the future growth of the charity. This left total funds of £217,458 (2024/25: £243,624) at the end of the year.

Reserves

Total funds may include those that are –

- Restricted by the donor or funder for specific activities or programmes and that cannot be used for the general purposes of the charity,

  and/or those that are

- Received in one financial year as part of a grant for work to be carried out wholly or partly in future financial years.

The existence and level of reserves does not mean that there has been an underspend in the past. Reserves can be built up for various reasons, including timing differences between our financial year and our funders'.

The funds that form our unrestricted funds reserve, is calculated to be enough to keep a positive cashflow for day-to-day operations, and keep enough for emergencies. This could be including cutting back our operations in the event of a downturn in funding, or for a winding-up of the charity if there was a large drop in funding. Unrestricted funds can also be designated for investment in future development as part of our long-term strategy.

The full Board reviews the reserves policy annually and has agreed an unrestricted reserve fund target of between three and six months of budgeted general fund operating costs. The table below shows how reserves are calculated:

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
Total net assets	217,458	243,624
Less		
Carrying value of fixed assets	(566)	(1,711)
Carrying value of shop stock	(6,949)	(7,485)
Restricted funds	(23,232)	(40,014)
Certain designated funds	(5,167)	(6,327)
Total reserves	**181,544**	**188,087**
Budgeted general funds expenditure	607,720	568,720
Number of months of expenditure	4.0	4.0

The Board has instructed the Finance and Audit Committee to monitor reserves on a quarterly basis and to recommend any changes to the policy to the Board.

Going concern

After reviewing our forecasts, projections and its reserves, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. We therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Sources of funds

The Home Office grant provides funding for core activity and enables us to secure additional funding from commercial sponsors including ERA (home security products), Avast/Norton (internet security software), AirBnB (holiday accommodation), Simplisafe (home security products). We are indebted to our sponsors who support us and work closely with them to amplify our message through their networks.

Fundraising Practices

Neighbourhood Watch Network is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is fully compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Fundraising is an Individual Member of the Institute of Fundraising. In the year 2025/26 we did not carry out any direct marketing or face-to-face fundraising and received no complaints related to our fundraising practices. We are committed to always protecting vulnerable people and will ensure adherence to the Code of Fundraising practice and clear guidelines should we undertake different types of fundraising in the future. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Risk Management

We review the main risks facing the charity on a regular basis. The current risk register highlights the reliance on a narrow range of funders mentioned above and the related need to better demonstrate the impact of Neighbourhood Watch activities, particularly in respect of crime prevention. NWN also recognises the need to extend its reach and develop a stronger offer that is relevant to all parts of society and that builds engagement among younger people, those from ethnic minority backgrounds and those most at risk from crime. All of these issues are addressed in NWN's 2020-2025 strategy and being implemented in our future plans. The charity has also insured against risks where practical to do so.

Structure, governance and management

Legal structure

Neighbourhood Watch Network was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 9th June 2017. It replaced Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, a registered charity and company which was then dissolved. The voting membership of the CIO is explained below; trustees are also voting members.

Governance

Our governing document is its Constitution, dated 10 April 2017 which is available on our website www.ourwatch.org.uk. The overall governance, finance and operations of NWN are controlled by the Trustees, within the regulatory framework set by the Charity Commission.

The Constitution, resolutions and complementary procedures set by the Board, are the rules that we operate by, and by which decisions are made. The Trustees are ultimately responsible for NWN.

Members

NWN's membership structure aligns with the 43 Police Force areas across England and Wales and each of these can form a "Force Level Association" and become voting members of NWN by signing a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint working arrangements and providing a common framework of ethics and standards. There are currently 30 of these Force Level Associations. The exception to the national structure is the Metropolitan Police Force Area which is organized around the 32 London Boroughs and which collectively account for 4 votes within the membership.

Individual membership of local Neighbourhood Watch Associations does not confer membership of the CIO.

Trustees

The governing document states that there must be between 4 and 12 trustees in post at any time. Trustees who serve at the date of this report, and those who served during the year under review are set out on page 19.

The trustees delegate much of the day-to-day management of NWN to the CEO, but remain ultimately responsible. Their responsibilities are active, not passive, and include:

- regular evaluation of the strategic direction of NWN and its management policies
- evaluation of outcomes and the effectiveness with which the CEO and management implement them
- monitoring legal compliance
- management of risks related to NWN's activities

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on our website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Structure, governance, management (continued)

The trustees are members of the Charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed are set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

The Board's operations

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year to conduct its business and oversee progress against strategic and operational plans. Trustees are also involved in various working groups that support strategic workstreams. The Board is supported by a Finance and Audit Committee, which oversees the Charity's finances (including reserves), income generation and risk management, and reports regularly to the Board on these matters.

Appointment and retirement of trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Members at NWN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and others may be co-opted by the Board between Annual General Meetings, provided that the total number of trustees does not exceed twelve. Members are entitled to nominate candidates for election as trustees at the AGM and other trustees are recruited through advertising and evidence-based recruitment processes against the trustees' role description.

Board recruitment and induction

The Board is responsible for ensuring that it is made up of trustees who are collectively able to fulfil the governance function of the Board and therefore needs to have a mix of skills, both those which relate to the objectives of NWN and more generic skills and experience such as legal and financial.

The Board regularly undertakes a self-assessed skills audit against the set of skills it has identified as being essential for the governance of the Charity; this enables the Board to identify skills gaps, which informs the recruitment process and training needs. Trustees are able to access learning and development opportunities relevant to their trustee position.

Management

The Trustees delegate day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO who reports directly to the Board. The CEO leads a staff team of 12 salaried staff (9.2 full-time equivalents) at the time of signing the report. The Chair and Treasurer hold a meeting with the CEO each month. The Board receives regular reports on operational performance and provides oversight and scrutiny of results, using a set of key performance indicators.

Remuneration

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and the remuneration of other staff is set by the CEO. In all cases, this is informed by formal and informal benchmarking information from comparable organisations in the voluntary sector, the responsibilities of each individual role and the requirements of the person specification.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name:	Neighbourhood Watch Network
Charity number:	1173349
Country of registration:	England & Wales
Principal office:	Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

Ian Bretman	Chair
Sue Pillar	Deputy Chair
Andrew Jones	Treasurer
Rebecca Bryant OBE	
Hugh Ind	
Karin Phillips MBE	
Andrew Whyte	
Roke Lockhart Beedell	(appointed 26 June 2026)
Kardaya Singh Rooprai	(resigned 27 January 2026)

Key management personnel:	John Hayward-Cripps, Chief Executive Officer
Bankers:	HSBC, 41 Market Place, Loughborough, LE11 3EJ
Independent Examiner:	Joanna Pittman, Sayer Vincent LLP 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

Trustees’ responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of NWN and financial information included on our website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ian Bretman

Chair

Date: 26 August 2026

Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch Network

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Neighbourhood Watch Network for the year ended 31 March 2026.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (‘the Act’).

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner’s statement

Since the CIO’s gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG
Date: 7 September 2026

Financial Statements

Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31 March 26 Total	31 March 25 Total
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations		1,394	-	1,393	2,610
Charitable activities	2	280,000	134,989	414,990	453,243
Other trading activities	3	347,868	-	347,868	495,319
Investments	-	5,556	-	5,556	9,274
Total income		634,818	134,989	769,807	960,466
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	566,589	151,772	718,361	755,551
Raising funds	4	77,612	-	77,612	108,859
Total expenditure		644,201	151,772	795,973	864,410
Net (expenditure)/income		(9,383)	(16,783)	(26,166)	96,036
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		**(9,383)**	**(16,783)**	**(26,166)**	**96,036**
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		203,609	40,015	243,624	147,588
Total funds carried forward	**10**	**194,226**	**23,232**	**217,458**	**243,624**

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities. There are no other gains or losses other than those stated above. Notes 1 – 13 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet
at 31 March 2026

	Notes	31 March 2026 £	31 March 2025 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	7	566	1,711
Total fixed assets		566	1,711
Current assets			
Stock		6,949	7,485
Debtors	8	109,982	165,290
Cash at bank and in hand		77,702	258,940
Short term deposits		100,000	-
Total current assets		294,633	431,715
Creditors: amounts due within one year	9	(77,741)	(189,802)
Net current assets		216,892	241,933
Total net assets		217,458	243,624
Funds of the charity	10		
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds		5,167	59,555
General funds		189,059	144,055
Total unrestricted funds		194,226	203,610
Restricted funds		23,232	40,014
Total funds		217,458	243,624

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Bretman
Chair
Date: 26 August 2026

Andrew Jones
Treasurer
Date: 26 August 2026

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	31 March 2026 £	31 March 2025 £
Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net (expenditure)/income as per the statement of financial activities		(26,166)	96,036
Investment income		(5,556)	(9,275)
Depreciation of fixed assets	7	1,145	1,695
Movements in working capital			
Change in stock		536	(2,213)
Change in debtors	8	55,308	(16,162)
Change in creditors	9	(112,061)	(309,196)
Cash flow from operating activities		(86,794)	(239,115)
Cash flow statement			
Cash flow from operating activities		-	-
Cash flow from investment activities			
Disposal of fixed assets	7	-	-
Investment income		5,556	9,275
Net cash used in investment activities		5,556	9,275
Change in cash in the year		(81,238)	(229,840)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		258,940	488,780
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		177,702	258,940
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Current account		25,372	10,665
Deposit account		2,330	128,275
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		50,000	120,000
Short term deposits (more than 3 months)		100,000	-
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		177,702	258,940

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting policies

a. Statutory information
Neighbourhood Watch Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Room V108, Vox Studios, 1-45 Durham Street, London SE11 5JH.

b. Statement of compliance and basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Charities SORP (FRS 102) – *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)*)
- FRS 102 – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- The Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c. Critical accounting judgements and estimates
When preparing the financial statements in line with FRS 102, the trustees are required to make judgements and estimates. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors that are considered relevant including expectations of future events. The estimates and judgements include:

- Accruals: costs not yet invoiced (see Expenditure policy below)
- Allocation of support costs (see Expenditure policy below); and
- Depreciation and impairment (see Fixed Assets policy below).

In the view of the trustees, no assumptions concerning the future have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

d. Going concern
When considering going concern, the trustees consider all available information about the future at the date they approve the accounts, which includes information from budgets and forecasts about income, expenditure and cash flows. Attention is also given to reserves.

The charity has not been adversely affected by the cost of living crisis as it does not rely on donations from the general public as a result of fundraising events.

Given the reserves currently held, the trustees believe that the current economic situation, including the cost of living crisis, does not pose a material uncertainty that would cast doubt on the charity’s ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably.

Income is deferred when the Charity receives money in advance of the period to which it relates or before the Charity has fulfilled the related performance obligations. Deferred income is recognised as a liability in the Balance Sheet until the conditions for recognition are satisfied

Income from the online shop is recognised when orders are placed and funds are paid into the charity's Paypal or Shopify accounts.

f. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is attributed to the following areas:

- *raising funds*
- *charitable activities*

Where expenditure cannot be directly attributed to these areas, it is allocated to them on a usage or head count basis. Support costs, such as general management, finance, office rent and governance costs are allocated in this way. Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity and include audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Direct costs relating to the operation of the online shop are allocated on the following basis: 25% fundraising; 75% charitable activities.

Raising funds relate to the costs in carrying out activities that are intended to generate income, such as staff time managing grant applications and developing commercial sponsorship agreements. It also includes costs relating to operating the online shop, such as the cost of items sold and fees for fulfilling orders.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in delivering activities and services for the charity's beneficiaries. These include providing information and resources to Neighbourhood Watch members and the general public on the Ourwatch.org.uk website, staff costs for delivering campaigns and projects and paying grants. Grants are recognised as expenditure when they are approved and has been communicated to the recipient.

The charity is unable to recover the majority of VAT charged. This irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which arose when donors gave them for particular restricted purposes which are narrower than the general purposes of the charity. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general objectives of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the note 10 to the financial statements.

h. Operating leases

Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA when incurred. The charity does not acquire assets under finance leases.

i. Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1000 are capitalised and are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment: 25% reducing balance

Intangible fixed assets are held on the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Ourwatch.org.uk website for the national Neighbourhood Watch Network is capitalised as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life of 3 years.

Impairment reviews are conducted when events and changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. If any asset is found to have a carrying value materially higher than its recoverable amount, it is written down accordingly.

j. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, short term highly liquid investments and fix term deposits of less than three months.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

k. Stock

Stock consists of online shop branded items, such as road signs, mugs and pens and is valued at cost or written-down value. Stock is reviewed at least annually and its carrying value is reduced to the lower of cost or estimated net realisable value. If any items are given away at events, the cost is expensed at that time.

l. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due for the provision of services delivered. Prepayments are recognised at the amount prepaid or the amount paid in advance.

m. Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

n. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o. Pensions

Pension costs comprise the costs of the charity’s contribution to its employee’s pension schemes. The charity provides a money purchase scheme which is available to all employees.

2. Income from charitable activities

	31 March 2026			31 March 2025		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total**
	£	£	**£**	£	£	**£**
Grants						
Home Office	280,000	-	**280,000**	280,000	-	**280,000**
Partners	-	134,989	**134,989**	-	173,242	**173,242**
Total	280,000	134,989	**414,989**	280,000	173,242	**453,242**

3. Income from other trading activities

	31 March 2026			31 March 2025		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total**
	£	£	**£**	£	£	**£**
Sponsorship						
ERA	50,000	-	**50,000**	50,000	-	**50,000**
AVAST	51,134	-	**51,134**	42,932	-	**42,932**
Simplisafe	21,462	-	**21,462**	39,480	3,000	**42,480**
Airbnb	-	-	**-**	20,381	-	**20,381**
Other	9,781	-	**9,781**	17,000	10,000	**27,000**
Total sponsorship	132,377	-	**132,377**	169,793	13,000	**182,793**
Commission	20,329	-	**20,329**	7,973	-	**7,973**
Community projects - BT	63,648	-	**63,648**	248,352	-	**248,352**
Community projects - E-ON	77,500	-	**77,500**	-	-	**-**
Online shop sales	26,092	-	**26,092**	25,965	-	**25,965**
Lottery income	20,922	-	**20,922**	24,734	-	**24,734**
Other income	7,000	-	**7,000**	5,502	-	**5,502**
Total	347,868	-	**347,868**	482,319	13,000	**495,319**

Other trading income includes licence fees and advertising fees.

4. Expenditure

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	**Total £**
Direct costs					
Staff costs	49,144	412,481	28,335	76,237	**566,197**
Other direct costs	15,512	122,095	19,183	66,875	**223,665**
Grants paid	-	6,111	-	-	**6,111**
Total	64,656	540,687	47,518	143,112	**795,973**
Support costs	15,235	127,877	-	(143,112)	**-**
Governance costs	5,059	42,459	(47,518)	-	**-**
Total	84,950	711,023	-	-	**795,973**
Split between					
Unrestricted funds	84,950	559,251			**644,201**
Restricted funds	-	151,772			**151,772**
Total	84,950	711,023			**795,973**

Prior year, year ended 31 March 2025

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	**Total £**
Direct costs					
Staff costs	74,195	444,594	31,861	76,560	**627,210**
Other direct costs	8,824	154,314	12,288	59,968	**235,394**
Grants paid	-	1,806	-	-	**1,806**
Total	83,019	600,714	44,149	136,528	**864,410**
Support costs	19,526	117,002	-	(136,528)	**-**
Governance costs	6,314	37,835	(44,149)	-	**-**
Total	108,859	755,551	-	-	**864,410**
Split between					
Unrestricted funds	108,859	584,610			**693,469**
Restricted funds	-	170,941			**170,941**
Total	108,859	755,551			**864,410**

Staff costs are allocated to *raising funds, charitable expenditure, governance costs* and *support costs* using an activities-based time split. Non-staff costs are allocated directly to the category to which they relate.

Governance costs and support costs are allocated to *raising funds* and *charitable activities* on a percentage basis based on expenditure, as an approximation of usage.

5. Governance costs

The Independent Examiner's fee is included within governance costs. The amount payable in the year to the Independent examiner was £4,200 + VAT (2024/25: £3,900 + VAT).

Trustees give their time and expertise without charge and do not receive any other benefit from the charity. They are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs incurred when fulfilling their duties as trustees. During the year three trustees (2024/25: two) were reimbursed a total of £952 (2024/25: £600).

There were no donations to unrestricted or restricted funds from related parties which are outside the normal course of business (2024/25: none). There were no other related party transactions during the year (2024/25: none).

6. Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	481,896	510,834
Social security costs	49,870	44,833
Pension costs	21,490	21,581
Total employment costs	553,256	577,248
Other staff related costs	12,941	49,962
Total staff related costs	566,197	627,210

Other staff related costs include staff travel and other expenses, recruitment and training costs.

The average head count of staff employed throughout the period was 15.1 (2024/25: 17.3).

There was 1 member of staff whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) were between £80,000-£90,000 (2024/25: 1 member of staff).

Key management personnel

The total cost of employee benefits (salary and employer's National Insurance and pension contributions) for key management personnel in the year was £104,183 (2024/25: £104,273).

7. Fixed assets

Intangible assets – Ourwatch.org.uk website

Cost	£
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	16,971
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2025and 31 March 2026	16,971
Net book value at 31 March 2026	-
Net book value at 31 March 2025	-

7. Fixed assets (continued)

Tangible assets

	Office equipment £
Cost	
1 April 2025	6,692
Additions	-
Disposals	(812)
At 31 March 2026	5,880
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2025	4,981
Charge for the year	1,145
Disposals	(812)
At 31 March 2026	5,314
Net book value at 31 March 2026	566
Net book value at 31 March 2025	1,711

8. Debtors

	31 March 2026 £	31 March 2025 £
Trade debtors	78,703	105,317
Other debtors	11,678	25,366
Prepayments and accrued income	19,601	34,607
Total	109,982	165,290

9. Creditors

	31 March 2026 £	31 March 2025 £
Trade creditors	10,053	6,327
Other taxes and social security	22,074	30,786
Other creditors	1,074	4,361
Accruals and deferred income	44,540	148,328
Total	77,741	189,802

10. Movement in funds

Current year	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Community fund	6,327	6,188	(7,348)	5,167
BT Digital Switchover	53,228	63,648	(116,876)	-
Total designated funds	59,555	69,836	(124,224)	5,167
General fund	144,055	564,981	(519,977)	189,059
Total unrestricted funds	203,610	634,817	(644,201)	194,226
Restricted funds				
Devon and Cornwall	2,872	40,000	(42,644)	208
Young people	7,075	-	-	7,075
Young people: CBF	10,722	23,879	(24,357)	10,244
Young people: Lottery	5,442	49,068	(48,805)	5,705
Newham Project	11,605	4,300	(15,905)	-
Other restricted funds	2,298	17,743	(20,041)	-
Total restricted funds	40,014	134,990	(151,772)	23,232
Total funds	243,624	769,807	(795,973)	217,458

Prior year	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Community fund	2,660	5,473	(1,806)	6,327
BT Digital Switchover	(261)	248,352	(194,863)	53,228
Total designated funds	2,399	253,825	(196,669)	59,555
General fund	120,476	520,379	(496,800)	144,055
Total unrestricted funds	122,875	774,224	(693,469)	203,610
Restricted funds				
Devon and Cornwall	1,696	27,900	(26,724)	2,872
Young people	7,075	-	-	7,075
Young people: CBF	(5,009)	47,326	(31,595)	10,722
Young people: Lottery	(375)	48,048	(42,231)	5,442
Newham Project	-	47,000	(29,095)	11,605
Leicestershire	21,326	-	(21,326)	-
Other restricted funds	-	22,268	(19,970)	2,298
Total restricted funds	24,713	186,242	(170,941)	40,014
Total funds	147,588	960,446	(864,410)	243,624

10. Movement in funds (continued)

Designated funds

Community fund is money set aside for making small grants to local neighbourhood watch community projects across England and Wales. Money used for this fund comes from Patlock commission, where Patlock donates £7 from each lock it sells to Neighbourhood Watch members.

BT Digital Switchover
This partnership with BT is advising vulnerable people on the switch from analogue to digital telephone networks, reducing the risk of them becoming victims of scams and fraud. BT is running large events in cities and major towns and we have been commissioned to run smaller local events with volunteers. The project will run until July 2025.

Restricted funds

Devon and Cornwall is money received to fund a community project manager based and working in the Devon and Cornwall Police Force areas.

Young people is money raised from donations for use in youth projects.

Young people: City Bridge Foundation is a grant received to engage with young people in certain London boroughs. It enables us to employ a part-time project manager over two years.

Young people: National Lottery is a grant received to engage with young people across England and Wales. It enables us to employ a full-time project manager over three years and funds the Neighbourhood Watch Youth Council.

Newham Project is a restricted grant from London Borough of Newham's Violence Reduction Unit's grant from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). This project will set up a Neighbourhood Watch association in Newham, and carry out in-person events.

Leicestershire is money received from the PCC to fund a project worker based and working in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Other restricted funds includes donations, grants or sponsorship received for specific projects or events.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	**Total funds**
	£	£	£	**£**
Fixed assets	566	-	-	**566**
Net current assets	188,493	5,167	23,232	**216,892**
Total funds	189,059	5,167	23,232	**217,458**

Prior year	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	**Total funds**
Fixed assets	1,711	-	-	**1,711**
Net current assets	142,344	59,555	40,014	**241,913**
Total funds	144,055	2,399	40,014	**243,624**

12. Operating leases

The charity had one operating lease at the balance sheet date, for rented office space. The minimum non-cancellable lease payments are:

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£
Not later than one year	6,741	20,223
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	-	-

13. Prior year comparatives

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total (restated) £
Income from:				
Donations		2,610	-	2,610
Charitable activities	2	280,000	173,243	453,243
Other trading activities	3	482,319	13,000	495,319
Investments	-	9,274	-	9,274
Total income		774,203	186,243	960,466
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	584,610	170,941	755,551
Raising funds	4	108,859	-	108,859
Total expenditure		693,469	170,941	864,410
Net income		80,734	15,302	96,036
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
Net movement in funds		**80,734**	**15,302**	**96,036**
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		122,875	21,713	147,588
Total funds carried forward	**10**	**203,610**	**40,014**	**243,624**