

Active Communities

Annual Report

April 2025 - March 2026

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Active Communities

Active Communities is a community-led health and wellbeing charity based in Johnstone, working across Renfrewshire.

Our mission is to build healthy, supportive and vibrant communities.

We do this by empowering local people to improve their health and wellbeing.





Who we are and our charitable object:

Active Communities is a community led health and wellbeing charity based in Johnstone, working across Renfrewshire, dedicated to helping people live healthier, happier and more connected lives. At our core, we work to reduce health inequalities by supporting individuals and communities disproportionately affected by poverty, trauma and poor health outcomes.

We deliver a wide range of programmes designed to improve physical health, mental wellbeing and social connection. These include inclusive fitness classes, a food pantry, wellbeing workshops, creative activities, social groups and community events, often with the provision of healthy warm food at the centre that bring people together in supportive, stigma free environments. Our flagship community hub, Station Seven, is a vibrant welcoming space where local residents can access activities, support and opportunities tailored to their needs.

We operate with a core staff group of 15 and 65 volunteers.

Our flagship community hub, Station Seven, is a vibrant welcoming space where local residents can access activities, support and opportunities tailored to their needs.



Our Vision, Our Mission, Our Values.

Active Communities

Our Vision:

Everyone in Renfrewshire can live a healthy fulfilling lives.

Our Mission:

To build healthy, supportive and vibrant communities.

Our Values:

We champion

We listen and amplify the voices of communities advocating for those who need us the most.

We care

We are inclusive and compassionate, valuing every individual, and treating all with dignity and respect.

We connect

We bring people together creating a sense of belonging and purpose.

We celebrate

We celebrate achievements big and small.

We challenge

We challenge indifference and prejudice at all levels.

We are courageous

We innovate, adapt, and learn from success and mistakes.



Message from the Chair

It is a pleasure to introduce Active Communities' Annual Report for 2025/26, a year in which we continued to strengthen our work across Renfrewshire while navigating a period of significant organisational change.

Throughout the year, our focus remained firmly on the communities we serve. From supporting people to improve their health and wellbeing, to creating opportunities for families and young people, tackling food insecurity and bringing people together, Active Communities continued to make a positive contribution to community life. Station Seven remained at the heart of much of this work, while our growing engagement in Gallowhill demonstrated the importance of listening to communities and responding to local priorities.

This was also a year of leadership transition. Following the departure of our Chief Executive in July 2025, our Senior Leadership Team, supported by the Board, ensured continuity of services and maintained our commitments to communities, partners and funders.

I would particularly like to recognise the dedication and professionalism of our staff and volunteers throughout this period.



In March 2026, we were delighted to appoint **Sarah Hand** as our new Chief Executive, marking the beginning of an important new chapter for Active Communities.

As we look ahead, we have an opportunity to build on our established strengths, develop a clearer strategic direction and ensure that our work continues to respond to both community needs and wider health and wellbeing priorities.

We remain committed to strengthening our programmes, building partnerships and making the best possible use of Station Seven as a vibrant community asset. Above all, we want Active Communities to remain a trusted, welcoming and responsive organisation, helping people across Renfrewshire live healthier, more connected lives.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our staff, volunteers, fellow Trustees, partners and funders for their continued commitment and support, and the many local people who participate in and help shape our work.

Above all, we want Active Communities to remain a trusted, welcoming and responsive organisation, helping people across Renfrewshire live healthier, more connected lives.



Susie Paterson

Chair of the

Board of Trustees

Active Communities

Section 1:

Our Year in Review:

Throughout 2025/26, Active Communities worked alongside local people, volunteers and partners to create opportunities for people to improve their health and wellbeing, build relationships, develop skills and play an active part in their communities.







Our achievements are presented across four connected areas of work:

- **Active Connected Communities**
  Creating opportunities for people to be active, improve their wellbeing, build relationships and access support.
- **Young People, Families & Communities**
  Supporting children, young people and families to build confidence, resilience and stronger connections.
- **Food & Nutrition**
  Improving access to affordable, nutritious food while developing knowledge, skills and confidence around healthy eating.
- **Volunteering**
  Enabling local people to contribute, develop skills and strengthen their connection to their community.

While these areas reflect the breadth of our work, they are closely connected. People often engage with Active Communities in more than one way – joining an activity, accessing food support, volunteering or connecting with a partner organisation. Building these relationships and helping people access different opportunities is central to our community-led approach.





Active Connected Communities

Our aim: To create accessible opportunities for people to improve their physical and mental wellbeing, build social connections and participate actively in their communities.

During 2025/26, we continued to provide a broad programme of health, wellbeing and social activities, primarily through Station Seven and increasingly through our community development work in Gallowhill.

Our HEALTHY programme remained at the heart of this work. **Supported by 25 volunteers**, the programme delivered **13 weekly groups** offering a mix of physical activity, wellbeing and opportunities for social connection. Activities ranged from Zumba and yoga to our Man Cave social group, with new sessions introduced during the year including an exercise class in Gallowhill and Chair Yoga with Qigong.



Alongside our regular programme, we offered targeted opportunities to help people manage particular health and wellbeing needs. These included fatigue management, nutrition and weight management, anxiety and wellbeing programmes, dance meditation and writing for wellbeing. We also worked with partners to extend access to health information and support, including a Samaritans awareness event and blood pressure checks delivered with Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland.

Across the year, **517 people engaged with the HEALTHY programme**, including **234 people who were new to the programme**. Importantly, we continued to broaden participation, with **122 men taking part during the year**, **including 68 who were new attendees**.



More widely, activities and groups based at Station Seven recorded **9,476 attendances during the year**. Alongside physical activity, groups such as Walking Groups, Social Space and Knit & Knatter provided regular opportunities for people to connect, reducing isolation and creating a sense of belonging. Our **telephone befriending** service, **run by volunteers made 675 phone calls** to people in their homes, offering connection, friendship and warmth to people otherwise isolated. Singing Buddies group also took its activities out into the wider community, performing four times during the year, including in partnership with Luminate Scotland.

This year also marked the 21st year of our annual Jingle Bell Run, which saw over **700 Santa-themed runners** come to Barshaw Park for three fun runs suited to different abilities.

Partnership is an important part of this approach. Our ongoing relationships with the **Recovery Café** and **Andy's Man Club** enable people to access specialist peer support and connection within a familiar community setting, while new collaborations, including Home-Start Renfrewshire and Inverclyde, helped us extend the range of support available.

Active Communities

Spotlight on Gallowhill, Paisley

During 2025/26, we began turning the findings of our community needs assessment in Gallowhill into action.

Rather than arriving with a predetermined programme, our starting point was what local people had told us. During the year this led to more opportunities for children and families through our weekly lunch and social club, Summer of Fun activities, access to food and recipe kits, and community activities including a local litter pick.

This work also helped us build relationships and secure further investment for the community.





Funding secured during the year enabled us to develop a broader programme of activity from April 2026, including a men's group, exercise activities and the expansion of Games & Grub into Gallowhill.

Our experience in Gallowhill reinforces something fundamental to Active Communities' approach: sustainable community development starts by listening, building trust and working alongside communities to develop responses that reflect local priorities.

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Young People, Families & Communities

Our aim: To support children, young people and families to build confidence, resilience and stronger relationships, while creating opportunities for them to participate, learn and support one another.

Our work with children, young people and families recognises that health and wellbeing are shaped by much more than individual choices. Strong family relationships, supportive peer networks, opportunities to participate and trusted spaces within the community can all make an important difference.

During 2025/26, our work ranged from peer-led parenting support through to community-based clubs for children and young people and health and wellbeing education delivered by young people themselves. While these activities work with different age groups and in different settings, they share a common approach: building confidence and skills and enabling people to play an active role in supporting their own families, peers and communities.

Supporting parents through peer-led learning

Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities (EPEC) is a national peer-led parenting programme that we deliver in partnership with KLAS Care CIC and Renfrewshire Council.

During the year, we continued to deliver EPEC Autism courses, supporting parents to develop practical skills, confidence and connections with other families who understand some of the challenges they experience. Our programme delivers six courses each year, engaging around 150 parents.





Central to the EPEC model is the principle that parents themselves can become a source of knowledge and support for others. During 2025/26, our annual Parent Group Leader training programme resulted in a further four parents joining our volunteer pool, enabling them to go on to support the delivery of EPEC courses within their communities.

Strong family relationships, supportive peer networks, opportunities to participate and trusted spaces within the community can all make an important difference.

Young People, Families & Communities





Working in partnership with Create Paisley, we continued to provide regular community-based activities for children and young people.

Creating positive spaces for children and young people

Working in partnership with Create Paisley, we continued to provide regular community-based activities for children and young people.

Our weekly Games & Grub club in Johnstone brought together 20–25 primary-age children for games, creative activities and a healthy meal. Alongside providing a safe and enjoyable place to spend time with friends, the combination of activity, food and trusted youth support creates opportunities to promote wellbeing in an informal and accessible way.

Our weekly Hearty Lives youth club similarly provided a regular space for secondary- school-aged young people, combining games and creative activities with a healthy snack. Mental health and wellbeing are embedded within the club, with youth workers available to listen, provide guidance and connect young people with further support where needed.

Both activities operated at full capacity during the year. Building on the success of Games & Grub in Johnstone, funding secured from The National Lottery Community Fund will enable the model to expand into Gallowhill during 2026/27.

Young people supporting young people

Our Hearty Lives peer education programme takes this approach further by giving young people themselves an active role in promoting health and wellbeing.

Working across all eight Renfrewshire High Schools, the programme supports schools to recruit and train young people as peer educators. During 2025/26, **190 young people were recruited and trained as peer educators**, going on to engage **5,573 of their peers** on health and wellbeing topics relevant to young people in their schools.

Spotlight on Summer of Fun in Gallowhill

During the school summer holidays, we delivered our first Summer of Fun programme in Gallowhill, supported by Renfrewshire Council.



Across seven weeks, children and families were able to take part in a varied programme including drumming and music, puppet storytelling, cooking, arts and crafts and a community disco. **A total of 122 people took part – 82 children and 40 adults**.

The programme gave families access to free local activities throughout the summer while also helping Active Communities build relationships with children, parents and carers as our wider community development work in Gallowhill continued to grow.



Food and Nutrition

Our aim: To improve access to affordable, nutritious food while helping people build the knowledge, practical skills and confidence to make healthy choices for themselves and their families.

Food is an important entry point into much of our community work. Our approach goes beyond responding to immediate food insecurity.

Through our pantry, community meals, cooking activities, volunteering and training, we aim to create opportunities for people to eat well, develop practical skills, connect with others and build confidence.

Improving access to affordable, nutritious food

Our Community Pantry continued to provide an important source of affordable food for local households. During 2025/26, an average of 60 households accessed the pantry each week, with more than 1,000 households registered as members.

Partnerships with FareShare and local retailers also enabled us to redistribute approximately **16 tonnes of surplus food** during the year – making good-quality food available within the community while helping to reduce food waste.

Alongside the pantry, we delivered **14 community meals attended by 354 people**. These meals provide much more than affordable, nutritious food: they create welcoming opportunities for people and families to eat together, meet others and strengthen social connections.

Building skills and confidence

Throughout the year, we continued to develop opportunities for people to build practical knowledge and confidence around food and nutrition.

Supported by a grant through the Scottish Government, Investing in Communities Fund, participants took part in activities designed to increase confidence in preparing healthy and affordable meals. We also worked with local primary school pupils, combining practical cooking with learning about nutrition through recipes, games and activity workbooks.

Across our wider food and nutrition programme, we provided **278 training places between April 2025 and March 2026**, supporting people to develop practical skills and knowledge that can be used at home, through volunteering and, for some, as a step towards employment.

Our Community Pantry continued to provide an important source of affordable food for local households. During 2025/26, an average of 60 households accessed the pantry each week, with more than 1,000 households registered as members.





Food and Nutrition

Active Communities

Volunteering and pathways into employment

Volunteers are fundamental to our Food & Nutrition work. During the year, **49 volunteers contributed 1,962 hours**, supporting food preparation and service, cooking and baking activities and the day-to-day running of our pantry.

For many people, volunteering also provides an opportunity to build confidence, develop workplace skills and consider their next steps towards education or employment.

Our partnership with Street League demonstrates how food and cooking can provide a practical route into employability support.

During the year, we continued preparations for our new mobile pantry service, which will enable us to take affordable food and wider support beyond Station Seven.

During 2025/26, we delivered four cooking and employability courses for **32 young people who were not in education, employment or training**.

Participants developed practical experience in cooking and baking alongside food hygiene, kitchen safety and customer service skills. The informal, hands-on environment also helped young people build confidence and recognise skills they could take into the workplace.



As one participant reflected:

"I feel more confident in myself and my cooking skills."

Another told us:

"I learned skills I didn't know I had."

Looking ahead: *taking the pantry into the community*

During the year, we continued preparations for our new mobile pantry service, which will enable us to take affordable food and wider support beyond Station Seven.

The first pilot will take place in Gallowhill, building on our existing relationships and community development work there.

We will also continue to develop our work with schools and families, expand opportunities to build cooking and nutrition skills, strengthen partnerships and find practical ways to reduce food waste.

Together, this work reflects our ambition to make food a positive part of community life – improving access to nutritious food while creating opportunities for people to make healthier practical and achievable food choice.





Volunteering

Our aim: To create meaningful opportunities for local people to contribute to their communities while developing skills, confidence, relationships and improved wellbeing.

Active Communities

Volunteers are at the heart of Active Communities. They bring their time, skills, experience and local knowledge to our work, helping us deliver activities and services that are genuinely rooted in the communities we serve.

Volunteering is also an important part of our health and wellbeing approach. For many people, it provides opportunities to reconnect with others, develop confidence and skills, establish routines and make a positive contribution to community life.

For some, it can also provide a supported pathway towards education or employment.

Growing and broadening participation

By March 2026, 65 people were actively volunteering with Active Communities, contributing across our programmes and at Station Seven.

We were particularly pleased to see a broader gender balance within our volunteer community. During 2025/26, we achieved an even 50:50 balance between men and women, compared with approximately 70% female participation in the previous year.

Volunteers supported a wide range of activities, including our Community Pantry, reception at Station Seven, gardening, sharing digital skills, food preparation and cooking, and activities with children and young people.

An important achievement during the year was the continued development of Station Seven's community garden. Volunteers helped transform the space into a welcoming area where groups can meet, relax and grow vegetables that can be used in our Food & Nutrition programme. The garden demonstrates how volunteering can bring practical benefits to the wider community while creating opportunities for people to work together, learn and develop a sense of ownership.

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Volunteering

Opportunities to contribute and develop

We aim to offer flexible and inclusive volunteering opportunities, recognising that people bring different experiences, abilities and aspirations.

Alongside contributing to our programmes, volunteers can access training and development opportunities, helping them build practical and transferable skills.

We also continued to provide supported placements for people who may face additional barriers to participation. Through our partnership with Mary Russell School, young people requiring additional support volunteered regularly in our Community Pantry, gaining valuable life and workplace experience within a welcoming community environment.



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Spotlight on volunteering: Janice's story

For Janice, volunteering with Active Communities has provided opportunities to learn, connect with others and build confidence.

"***Volunteering has helped me build new skills and confidence in myself. I have made new connections and friendships and feel part of a team.***"

Through roles including reception, the Community Pantry and food-waste activities, Janice has been able to try different things, access training and develop her skills while making a positive contribution to her community.

Looking ahead, we want to continue strengthening our volunteer programme, creating clear and inclusive pathways into volunteering and ensuring volunteers have opportunities to learn, develop and help shape our work.

For Active Communities, volunteering is not simply about supporting the delivery of services. **It is one of the ways we help build healthier, stronger and more connected communities.**





Summary of our year in numbers:

9,476
Attendances at activities and groups based at Station Seven

517
People engaged through our HEALTHY programme, including 234 new participants

190
Young people trained as Hearty Lives peer educators across eight Renfrewshire high schools

5,573
Young people reached through Hearty Lives peer-led health and wellbeing education

Approximately **150**
Parents supported through our EPEC parenting courses

60
Households accessing our Community Pantry each week, on average

278
Food and nutrition training places provided

65
Active volunteers supporting our work at the end of March 2026

1,962
Volunteer hours contributed to our Food & Nutrition programme

Approximately **16**
Surplus food redistributed through our food partnerships, helping reduce food waste

Figures relate to the 2025/26 financial year. Some measures represent attendances, training places or volunteer hours rather than unique individuals.

Station Seven – A Community Asset

Station Seven is at the heart of Active Communities. More than simply a building from which we deliver services, it is an important community asset, bringing people, activities, organisations and support together in one accessible and welcoming place.





As the owners and managers of Station Seven, we aim to balance its different uses: providing a home for our programmes, creating affordable space for community groups and partner organisations, and generating income that contributes to the long-term sustainability of Active Communities.

A home for community activity

Throughout 2025/26, Station Seven continued to be a busy and welcoming community hub. Our activities and groups recorded **9,476 attendances** during the year, while overall building footfall averaged approximately **1,500 visits per month**, including people attending our programmes, partner-led events and other activities.

An important part of our role is making the building available to other organisations. Partners using Station Seven during the year included Citizens Advice Bureau, Social Security Scotland, Invest Renfrewshire, Create Paisley, The Circle, Andy's Man Club, local theatre groups and adoption support groups.

Bringing different organisations together in a familiar community setting helps make services and support more accessible. As a Renfrewshire Digi-Zone, Station Seven also offers free public Wi-Fi and access to devices, so people can get online, whether to search for work, manage benefits or stay in touch with others. Someone may first visit Station Seven to attend an activity, volunteer or use the pantry, and through that connection become aware of other opportunities and services available to them.

This approach has helped Station Seven develop beyond a venue for activities and room hire into a community hub where organisations can work alongside one another and connect with local people.

Supporting our sustainability

Station Seven also makes an important contribution to Active Communities' financial sustainability. Income from tenants, room hire and other uses of the building provides valuable unrestricted funding that can be reinvested in our community work.

During the year, we strengthened longer-term relationships with organisations using the building, including agreeing an extended three-year lease with Roar – Connections for Life and developing longer-term room-hire arrangements with Renfrewshire Council.

Our aim is not simply to maximise commercial income, but to manage Station Seven sustainably, balancing community benefit with the resources needed to maintain the building and support our wider work

Start-Up Street – supporting local enterprise

The wider Station Seven estate also includes the Johnstone Start-Up Street units, part of a Renfrewshire Council-funded initiative providing affordable premises for new and growing local businesses.

During 2025/26, we welcomed new tenants including Geez Peace, Inspire Therapies and Oak Care Services.

We also celebrated the progress of It's Alive, a business producing naturally fermented food and drinks. During her time at Start-Up Street, founder Rebecca developed the business, received a Taste award and moved into larger premises before the end of her two-year lease.

Her experience illustrates the purpose of Start-Up Street: giving local enterprises an affordable base from which to establish themselves, grow and move on to the next stage of their development.

Together, these different uses demonstrate the value of Station Seven as a community asset: a place for people to connect and participate, for organisations to work in partnership, for local enterprises to develop and for Active Communities to build a more sustainable future.



Section 2:

Building a sustainable organisation

Business Development:



Building a more sustainable and diverse income base remained an important priority for Active Communities during 2025/26. Our approach combines funding from statutory bodies, trusts and foundations with unrestricted income generated through Station Seven and other activities.
This enables us to maintain valued community programmes, respond to emerging needs and invest in the longer-term development of our work.

During the year, funding from the Scottish Government's Strengthening Communities Programme, administered through CEIS, enabled us to increase our fundraising capacity through the engagement of a dedicated fundraising professional. This supported a more structured approach to identifying funding opportunities, managing applications and developing relationships with prospective funders.

Our work would not be possible without the continued commitment of our funding partners. During 2025/26, we benefited from the support of Renfrewshire Council, Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, the Scottish Government, The National Lottery Community Fund and The Robertson Trust. We also welcomed new funding relationships with Virgin Money Foundation, the Hugh Fraser Foundation and the Souter Charitable Trust, helping to strengthen our funding pipeline and support programme development in the coming year.

Earned income also remained an important part of our sustainability model. Alongside income from Start-Up Street, our initiative with Renfrewshire Council, we continued to strengthen rental and room-hire arrangements at Station Seven, providing a more predictable source of unrestricted income while maintaining the building's central role as a community asset.

Together, these developments reflect our commitment to building a financially resilient organisation, reducing reliance on individual funding streams and ensuring that Active Communities can continue to deliver and develop its work in response to local needs.







Connecting learning and sharing:

Active Communities

Building a more sustainable and diverse income base remained an important priority for Active Communities during 2025/26. Our approach combines funding from statutory bodies, trusts and foundations with unrestricted income generated through Station Seven and other activities. This enables us to maintain valued community programmes, respond to emerging needs and invest in the longer-term development of our work.

During 2025/26, Active Communities contributed to a range of local partnerships and networks, including **Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Planning Group**, the **Johnstone Local Area Partnership**, **ENGAGE Renfrewshire**, the **Renfrewshire Anti Stigma Alliance** and local health, wellbeing and volunteering networks.

Our involvement in employability partnerships and the **Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce** also helped strengthen relationships across the public, voluntary and business sectors.

Our work in Gallowhill provides a particularly useful example of connecting community experience with wider planning and decision-making. Following completion of the community needs assessment, we shared the findings with partners across health, housing, education, social work and transport. The findings were also discussed at an Integration Joint Board development session in December 2025, helping build a shared understanding of local priorities and contributing to the case for further investment in community development.

Alongside these partnerships, we continued to engage with elected representatives and other decision-makers, sharing our experiences of working alongside communities and highlighting issues affecting local people.

Our work in Gallowhill provides a particularly useful example of connecting community experience with wider planning and decision-making.





Maintaining an effective organisation:

During 2025/26, we continued to invest in the day-to-day management of Active Communities, supporting our staff and volunteers, maintaining safe and welcoming environments and ensuring that our resources were used effectively.

Supporting our people

Our staff and volunteers are central to the quality and consistency of our work. We are committed to creating a supportive and inclusive working environment where people feel valued and have opportunities to develop their skills and confidence.

We continued our commitment as a Real Living Wage employer and maintained our Disability Confident Committed status, reflecting our approach to fair pay and inclusive employment.

Staff development and wellbeing also remained important priorities. During the year, colleagues took part in opportunities to learn and connect as a team, including a team away day focused on environmental activity and shared learning.

Like many small charities, we experienced challenges in recruiting and retaining staff for some specialist roles, particularly within our Food & Nutrition and Young People and Families work. These experiences reinforced the importance of workforce planning, clear responsibilities and ensuring that staff have the support and capacity needed to deliver programmes consistently.

Strengthening how we work

Throughout the year, we continued to review how we manage our activities, resources and organisational responsibilities. Our focus was on ensuring that programmes are well supported, operational processes are proportionate and staff can spend as much of their time as possible delivering meaningful work with communities.

The leadership transition during 2025/26 also highlighted the importance of strong internal management and teamwork. Following the departure of our previous Chief Executive in July 2025, the senior team, supported by the Board, maintained oversight of the organisation's operations and contractual commitments, ensuring continuity of services during the recruitment of a new Chief Executive.

We also recognised the need to strengthen our approach to communications and marketing. With limited internal capacity, we began exploring how external specialist support could help us communicate our work more effectively and improve access to information about our programmes and Station Seven.

Governance and accountability

Effective governance provides the foundation for responsible decision-making and the safe delivery of our work. During the year, the Board continued to oversee the organisation's finances, risks and operational performance. This included the annual audit, regular review of organisational risks and an external health and safety audit.

These processes help ensure that Active Communities remains accountable to its funders, partners and communities, while identifying opportunities to improve our systems and working practices.

As we entered the new financial year, the appointment of a new Chief Executive in March 2026 provided an opportunity to build on these foundations, with a renewed focus on organisational development, clearer management arrangements and strengthening our capacity to deliver joined-up programmes.



Section 3:

The Year Ahead:

Active Communities enters 2026/27 with a renewed focus on strengthening our programmes, building organisational capacity and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our work.



Sarah Hand,CEO

Following the appointment of our new Chief Executive in March 2026, we are developing a five-year strategic framework to bring greater clarity to our priorities and the difference we want to make. Central to this will be a stronger programme-led approach, connecting our activities across health and wellbeing, children and families, food and nutrition, and volunteering.

Our future direction will continue to be shaped by the communities we work alongside, informed by wider evidence and policy priorities. This includes Scotland's Population Health Framework, with its emphasis on prevention, tackling health inequalities and addressing the wider determinants of health, alongside the emerging strategic priorities of Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership. We want to ensure our work contributes to these shared ambitions while remaining responsive to local needs.

We will build on our established programmes while developing new opportunities, including expanding our community development work in Gallowhill, launching our mobile pantry service, strengthening our food and nutrition work and widening out our support for children, young people and families. As a Renfrewshire Digi-Zone, we are delighted to have secured three years of funding from the Virgin Money Foundation to continue and grow our digital inclusion and connectivity work across Renfrewshire. Sustaining accessible health and wellbeing activities and creating meaningful volunteering opportunities will remain central to our approach.

Alongside programme development, we will embed our new staffing structure, invest in staff development and strengthen collaboration across teams. We will also improve how we monitor, evaluate and learn from our work, ensuring we can better demonstrate our impact and use this evidence to inform future decisions. External communications support will help us improve our digital presence and make our activities and services more accessible. We will also welcome three new Trustees, bringing additional experience and expertise to the Board.

Financial sustainability will remain a key priority. We will continue to diversify our funding, strengthen relationships with funders and partners, and develop earned income. Station Seven will remain central to this approach, both as a welcoming community centre and an important contributor to our financial sustainability.

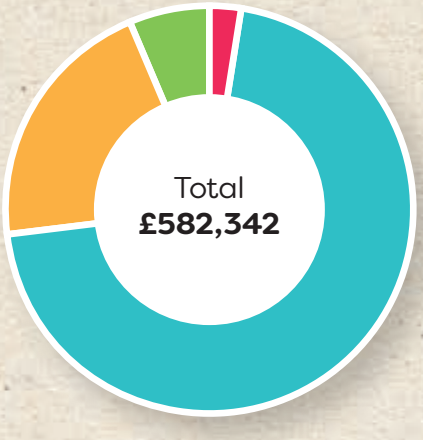
Our ambition is to build on Active Communities' strong foundations, bringing greater coherence to our work and ensuring we remain a trusted, responsive and sustainable organisation, helping people across Renfrewshire live healthier, more connected lives.



Active Communities

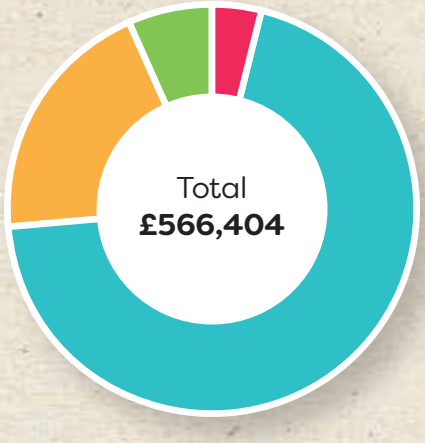
Financial Review:

2026 INCOME



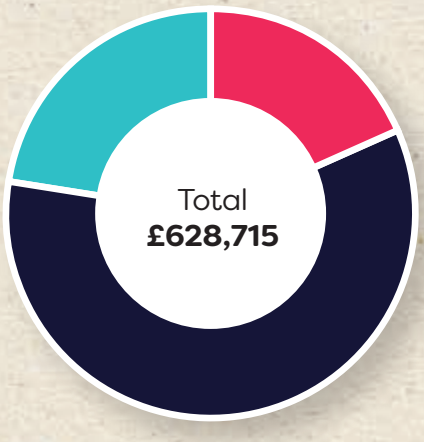
Donations and Legacies	15,111	2.59%
Grants and contracts	411,720	70.70%
Other trading activities	119,748	20.56%
Investment Income	35,763	6.14%
Total	**582,342**	

2025 INCOME



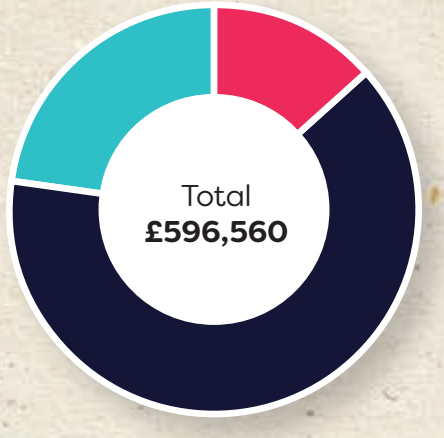
Donations and Legacies	22,837	4.03%
Grants and contracts	395,634	69.85%
Other trading activities	111,635	19.71%
Investment Income	36,298	6.41%
Total	**566,404**	

2026 EXPENDITURE



Programmes	115,733	18.41%
Salaries	372,116	59.19%
Operational running costs	140,866	22.41%
Total	**628,715**	

2025 EXPENDITURE



Programmes	80,658	13.52%
Salaries	381,108	63.88%
Operational running costs	134,794	22.60%
Total	**596,560**	

Reference and Administrative Details

Active Communities would like to acknowledge and thank our funders and partners for supporting our strategy and delivery across Renfrewshire.

Charity Name:	Active Communities (Scotland) Ltd
Registered Company Number:	SC370513
Registered Charity Number:	SC041275
Registered Office:	Station Seven, 7 Quarry Street, Johnstone, Renfrewshire, PA5 8DY
Trustees:	**Mr R T M Borland (resigned 31/03/26)** **Mr K B Hopkins** **Mr F A Boyle (appointed 28/10/25)** **Ms S M King** **Ms S J Paterson** **Ms I I Thompson**
Auditors:	Azets Accountants and Business Services, Titanium House, 1 Kings Inch Place, Renfrew PA4 8WF
Bankers:	Bank of Scotland, Virgin Money, Flagstone Group Limited



Thanks to our funders:

Renfrewshire Council
The Scottish Government
The Robertson Trust
The National Lottery Community Fund
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The Hugh Fraser Foundation
Souter Foundation
Virgin Unity Local Legends
Kew Gardens



Visit our website to learn more:
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