



# together

Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights

**Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)**

---

## **Report and Financial Statements** for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

**Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)**  
**Charity number SC029403**

Registered Office:

The Melting Pot  
15 Calton Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8DL

[www.togetherscotland.org.uk](http://www.togetherscotland.org.uk)  
[@together\\_sacr](https://twitter.com/together_sacr)

## Introduction

---

This year has felt like a turning point for children's rights in Scotland. With the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 finally coming into force in July, Together has moved from years of campaigning to the practical work of making rights a reality.

Our new Strategic Plan 2024-32 has guided this shift. We've launched the first #RightsOnTrack State of Children's Rights Report, sharing the views of more than 200 babies, children and young people and starting a conversation about how Scotland measures progress in taking forward the UNCRC. We've helped our members respond to major consultations, co-produced child-friendly information about the UNCRC Act, and continued to influence law, policy and practice across a wide range of issues affecting babies, children and young people.

It's also been a year of connection and community. We co-hosted the ROCK Conference in Edinburgh, strengthened partnerships through the Observatory of Children's Human Rights Scotland, and contributed to international conversations about children's rights. We launched new training and consultancy offers to give members and duty bearers practical tools to embed rights, while also helping Together build a more sustainable future.

I want to pay special tribute to Mary Glasgow, who stepped down in September as Chair after six years of leadership. Mary's commitment and determination were instrumental in steering Together through the long journey to incorporation.

Finally, my thanks go to our staff team, trustees and growing membership – now at 617 members and supporters – for everything you've done to make this year such a strong start to the next chapter. Together, we're well placed to keep pushing towards our mission to ensure that all babies, children and young people growing up in Scotland have all their human rights respected, protected, and fulfilled.

**Susan Hunter**  
Chair



# Contents

---

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Reference and administrative information</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>About us</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Thank you to our funders and supporters</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Highlights of 2024-25</b>	<b>6</b>
1. Getting children's rights right	6
What babies, children and young people say	6
What Together did	6
What our members say	8
2. Holding power to account	8
What babies, children and young people say	8
What Together did	9
What our members say	10
3. Leading the children's rights community	11
What babies, children and young people say	11
What Together did	12
What our members say	13
<b>Looking ahead</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Independent Examiner's Report &amp; Finances</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Charity Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Notes on the accounts</b>	<b>17</b>

## Reference and administrative information

---

Charity Name: Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)

SCIO Charity Registration No: SC029403

Registered Office: The Melting Pot  
15 Calton Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8DL

Telephone: 0131 5101565

Email: [info@togetherscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@togetherscotland.org.uk)

Website: [www.togetherscotland.org.uk](http://www.togetherscotland.org.uk)

### Trustees:

Chair: Mary Glasgow (to September 2024)  
Susan Hunter (from September 2024)

Treasurer: Mairi McReynolds

Vice Chair: Rona Blackwood

Board Members: Oonagh Brown  
Martin Canavan  
Maria Galli  
Katrina Lambert  
Rhona Mathieson (co-opted November 2024)  
Laura Pasternak  
Paul Sullivan

Bankers Bank of Scotland  
20/22 Shandwick Place  
Edinburgh  
EH2 4RN

Independent Examiner: Philip Duncan

Volunteer Accountant: Ian J Douglas

## About us



Together's vision is that Scotland becomes a place where every baby, child and young person grows up in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

This year marked the launch of Together's new Strategic Plan 2024-2032. As we move from our successful campaign for UNCRC incorporation into a focused drive on implementation, our work is now guided by three strategic priorities. These priorities will help ensure that children's rights are not just recognised in law but become the lived reality for every baby, child and young person in Scotland.



### Priority 1: Getting children's rights right

We lead systemic and cultural change by embedding children's human rights across law, policy and practice, promoting promising practice, communicating children's rights, and building the capacity of our members through training, academic rigour and expert consultancy.

### Priority 2: Holding power to account

We monitor how children's rights are being realised and strengthen children's access to justice by informing and scrutinising policy, sharing progress, supporting international accountability processes, encouraging routes to remedy and advocating for rights – including through the law.

### Priority 3: Leading the children's rights community

We promote collaboration and build resilience to champion children's rights. This means strengthening alliances across Scotland, the UK and internationally, maximising our collective impact, and ensuring Together's own resilience through sustainable funding, investing in our team, our membership, and learning from our impact.

## Thank you to our funders and supporters

We acknowledge the invaluable core funding received from the Scottish Government Children's Rights Unit and the Children and Young People Early Intervention Fund, as well as funding to support the interim hosting of the Skills and Knowledge Framework. We thank Elevate Great who gave unrestricted funding to underpin Together's work in progressing the rights of babies and early years children, as well as project funding to enable Together to chair the Rights of the Child UK Coalition. We also thank our members and supporters for their continued donations, fundraising and wider support.



The Together team



## Highlights of 2024-25

### 1. Getting children's rights right

#### What babies, children and young people say

Children and young people have told us that getting rights right is about more than putting the UNCRC into law – it's about making sure rights are taken seriously and put into practice from the start. They want to see decision-makers listen, respond and act on what children say, so that rights are experienced in practice, not just promised on paper.



**"UNCRC in law."**

**MSYP, in response to the question 'What's good about life in Scotland?' (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

**"Everyone who fought for UNCRC incorporation."**

**MSYP, in response to the question 'What does a Rights Champion look like?' (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

**"Governments need to take more steps to protect our rights online."**

**Anonymous participant, supported by Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) and Carers Trust Scotland (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

#### What Together did

##### **Leading systemic and cultural change**

Following commencement of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act, we focused on making the shift from campaign to implementation real. We supported members throughout the Act's reconsideration, worked with children and young people to co-design child-friendly information on the final amendments, and brought members and government together via our Implementation Strategy Group to help shape the statutory guidance.

Our influencing aimed to put children's rights at the heart of policy and parliamentary debate. We supported the sector to respond to seven major consultations and calls for evidence, sharing early drafts of our own responses to encourage alignment. This included statutory guidance for the UNCRC Act, the Education (Scotland) Bill, the future of foster care, the Commissioner landscape review and the UN Committee's General Comment No. 27 on children's access to justice. Evidence from our State of Children's Rights Report was cited by the UK Youth Select Committee in its final report on social media and youth violence, underlining the weight of children's voices in our work.

We also took forward targeted policy interventions where children's rights were at stake. Our letters to Ministers pressed for action on issues ranging from transport barriers for families attending prison visits and a pupil opt-out from religious observance, to strengthening children's rights in the Human Rights Bill, ending Prevent in Scotland, and recognising an enforceable human right to a healthy environment. In Parliament, our briefing on the Commissioner landscape review was cited during debate, helping underscore the importance of independent scrutiny for children.



Our communications kept the wider community informed and engaged. Monthly e-news provided clear, accessible updates on legal and policy developments, key consultations and opportunities to act, ending the year with 1,982 subscribers. We also continued to share practical insights through our blog series, publishing 34 blogs over the course of the year. These explored themes such as UNCRC implementation, international learning, and rights-based approaches in education, justice and early years. Our most-read post remained a 2022 analysis of the Deputy First Minister's proposed UNCRC Bill amendments - which still attracted nearly 1,000 views during this reporting year - showing the ongoing demand for Together's accessible policy analysis. On 16 July 2024, the day the Act commenced, #UNCRCScotland and #ChildrensRights trended UK-wide. Over the year we shifted from X to Bluesky in line with our values and saw steady growth on other channels. Our LinkedIn community grew by almost 70% over the year, from 1,633 to 2,757 followers.

### **Capacity building**

Alongside policy work, we equipped practitioners and duty bearers to put rights into practice. In March 2025 we launched the Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework, developed with Children's Parliament, JustRight Scotland, JRS KnowHow and the Observatory on Human Rights of Children at Swansea University. Hosted by Together on an interim basis, the interactive Framework, Training Plan and Learning Library were accessed by more than 2,000 people in the first month, giving Scotland's workforce practical tools grounded in a children's human rights approach.

We introduced a new training programme tailored to needs identified by members and aligned to the Framework. Early sessions received highly positive feedback and, alongside discounted places for members, created a modest stream of unrestricted income to support our wider work. Our consultancy offer also grew. With Circle's youth justice project in Lanarkshire, we helped staff develop and apply a bespoke Child Rights Impact Assessment and created resources for ongoing use. With Skills Development Scotland, we worked across teams to map how roles support children's rights, producing materials now shared on their internal learning network.



We continued to bring academic rigour into practice. Through the University of Edinburgh LLM Human Rights Clinic we supported a comparative analysis of CRIAs in Scotland and Wales, while two postgraduate placements strengthened our evidence base: research on babies' rights in courts, and case studies of promising rights-based practice that will inform the 2025 State of Children's Rights Report. As co-founders of the Observatory of Children's Human Rights Scotland we helped plan and deliver events connecting researchers and practitioners on rights-based budgeting, accountability, evolving capacities and priority research topics identified with members.

Our strength as a membership alliance underpins all of this. By March 2025 Together's network had grown to 617 members and supporters (up from 578 in May 2024), including 104 organisational members, 483 individual members and 30 registered supporters. This expanding membership is central to turning legal rights into lived reality for babies, children and young people across Scotland.



## What our members say



*"Being able to lean on the support and knowledge of Together and its members during this time means that we all feel better equipped to advocate strongly for this change to happen."*

**Children & Young People's Centre for Justice**

*"[M]embership of Together is crucial to our work. The team at Together support us with the latest research, knowledge and children's insights into the UNCRC and keep a focus on how bullying is a violation of children's rights to safety, education, equality and friendships."*

**respectme**

*"[W]e benefit from the leadership and expertise that the staff at Together provide on all aspects of children's human rights. We particularly welcome their policy briefings, policy influencing activities, and the annual State of Children's Rights Report. We value connecting with other organisations for peer support and understanding of shared experiences."*

**Befriending Networks**

*"Enquire are pleased to be members of Together. We have a lot of similar values and share the vision that children and young people should be supported, included and listened to when it comes to decisions that directly affect them. We have worked together formally and informally in a number of ways over the years and always find Together's knowledge, expertise and support to be invaluable."*

**Enquire**

## 2. Holding power to account

### What babies, children and young people say

Children and young people have told us that knowing about their rights is only the first step – they need ways to raise concerns, be taken seriously, and see change happen when things go wrong. They want adults, schools and public bodies to listen and act, so that rights are not just taught but protected in practice.



*"I have learnt a little bit about my rights in school, but I don't know much about them."*

**Ben, age 12, Aberdeenshire (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

*"I learned that children's rights are now part of the law in Scotland – so it's wrong that no one is listening to us. I think some adults think that they can tell children what to do because they are older. This isn't fair. My mum and dad always fight for my rights and what is best for me but a lot of the time adults don't listen to them either."*

**Gerald, age 10, North Lanarkshire (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

*"It can be difficult to know how to voice any concerns as teachers weren't good at making positive change."*

**MSYP (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**



## What Together did

### Scrutiny and accountability

Children and young people have told us that knowing about their rights is only the first step - they want to see change when those rights are not respected. This year, Together strengthened its role in holding power to account by monitoring how Scotland is implementing children's rights and giving members practical tools to do the same.

Our #RightsOnTrack campaign continued to track Scotland's progress on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's 2023 Concluding Observations. Through regular *RailMail* updates, we provided members with plain-language summaries of government action, highlighted gaps, and shared practical ways to influence change.



In December 2024, we launched the *State of Children's Rights Report (SOCRR) 2024* – our first major output of #RightsOnTrack. The report brought together the voices of over 200 children and young people from across Scotland, from 9 months to 17 years old. Their stories were expressed through writing, artwork, poetry and movement, giving an authentic picture of how rights are being experienced in practice. The child-friendly version was widely praised and even inspired S3 pupils to run a public-speaking competition to raise funds for future editions.

Together also helped shape Scotland's approach to monitoring human rights more broadly. We contributed to the Scottish Government's Human Rights Tracker Design Group, ensuring the new tracker will support effective scrutiny of progress across all UN treaty bodies and international recommendations.

Our work extended internationally too. We co-authored the Scotland chapter of Eurochild's 2024 Flagship Report, submitted evidence to the UN Human Rights Council's Annual Day on the Rights of the Child, and contributed to the civil society ICESCR shadow report via Human Rights Consortium Scotland. In March 2025, our Director met with Volker Türk, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, to share Scotland's experience of devolution and discuss how it can better protect children's and wider human rights.

### Access to justice

Children and young people have also told us that they need clear routes to remedy when their rights are breached. This year, Together focused on breaking down barriers to justice and empowering our members to use the law to achieve systemic change.

Through our five-year partnership with Elevate Great, we strengthened our focus on babies' and young children's rights. In March 2025, we published the *Tiny Rights Detectives Report*, which explored how babies experience and communicate their rights and highlighted barriers that families face when seeking remedies – including transport issues, unsafe public spaces, and inaccessible complaints processes.

We co-hosted The Right Start conference with Starcatchers and Children in Scotland to share these findings and explore with stakeholders how the UNCRC Act can be used to strengthen babies' rights in law, policy and practice.

In December 2024, we launched Rights Empowered: Children's Access to Justice, a partnership with Clan Childlaw funded by the Independent Human Rights Fund for Scotland. This project is building members' confidence and capacity to use the law by offering strategic legal advice, producing practical resources, and identifying opportunities for strategic litigation.

### What our members say



*"Scotland is currently trying to incorporate various international treaties and implement significant legislation that has the potential to meaningfully embed a rights-respecting culture for children and young people. Being able to lean on the support and knowledge of Together and its members during this time means that we all feel better equipped to advocate strongly for this change to happen."*

**Children & Young People's Centre for Justice**

*"We are also delighted to be a member of Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) and have joined Together's Rights Detectives Steering Group. This work explores how the rights of babies can be realised and how we can increase emphasis on the voices of babies in decision-making processes. This is fascinating, exciting and important work, and an area that parents and carers need to be involved in."*

**Parenting Across Scotland**

*"The process so far has felt so supportive and collaborative. I really feel that together we are looking to promote children's voices in a way that is authentic and in a way that's really making a difference."*

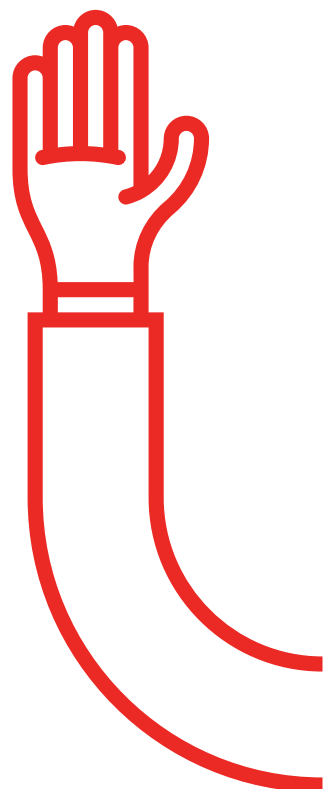
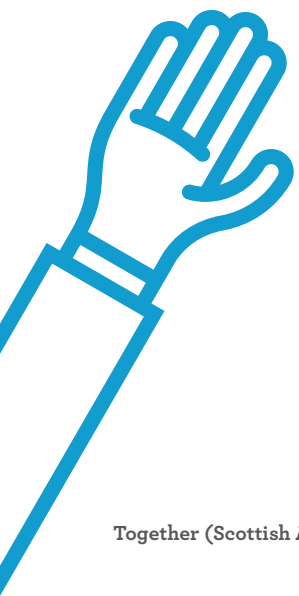
**Play Scotland, partner in SOCRR engagement**

*"Gerald is absolutely over the moon to see the impact of his words. He said it feels amazing to be heard in this way. He's been telling family members and watched the videos again this morning. He wishes the important people in his school and community would listen in the same way as this."*

**Parent of SOCRR contributor**

*"It has motivated me to 'see' children's rights in my everyday work. It helped me make the connection and will help me understand and do what's right."*

**Social worker responding to SOCRR**



### 3. Leading the children's rights community

#### What babies, children and young people say

Children and young people have told us they value the people and organisations who help them understand and claim their rights. They want a strong, connected community of adults and peers who can support them to make their rights a reality.



*"Youth workers help children meet their rights."*

**Anonymous participant, supported by SYP and Women's Empowerment Project  
(State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

*"People talk about children's rights, but it just feels like talking. I am in a Rights Respecting School and we learn a lot about our rights. I love learning about my rights but it's really hard when the adults in charge don't take us seriously. The council don't reply to letters and emails we send. They don't get involved in the things we ask them to. So it doesn't feel that children's rights are as important as adult rights because adults always do what they want to do and there is nothing children can do about it."*

**Gerald, age 10, North Lanarkshire (State of Children's Rights Report 2024)**

#### What Together did

##### **Building sustainable alliances**

Children and young people have told us they value the people and organisations who help them understand and claim their rights. This year, Together strengthened the children's rights community by bringing members, academics, and decision-makers together to share learning and amplify collective influence.

We played a leading role in the Rights of the Child UK (ROCK) coalition, co-hosting the 2024 ROCK Conference in Edinburgh (right). The event brought together nearly 100 delegates from across the UK – including ministers, civil servants, NGOs and academics – to share progress on UNCRC implementation, identify common challenges, and strengthen collaboration. We were delighted to secure keynote speaker Guðríður Bolladóttir from the Icelandic Ombudsman for Children's Office, whose reflections on Iceland's incorporation journey offered practical lessons for Scotland.



As a co-founder of the Observatory of Children's Human Rights Scotland, Together continued to connect members with research that strengthens their advocacy. This year we co-designed and delivered a series of events, including a seminar on children's rights-based budgeting with the Improvement Service, a keynote lecture from Professor Simon Hoffman on strengthening accountability (with opening remarks from Minister Natalie Don), and a workshop with Gerison Lansdown on children's evolving capacities. We initiated four MSc dissertations and matched students with member organisations to explore key children's rights issues. Their research covered youth work's role in realising rights, children's experiences of vaping, and how to strengthen access to justice.

Internationally, we contributed Scotland's perspective to Eurochild and Child Rights Connect networks, ensuring Scotland's progress and challenges are represented in European and global advocacy spaces. We also joined a Finland-led EU project exploring how children can meaningfully participate in UN reporting. Our Director spoke at the first webinar alongside the Dutch NGO Coalition for Children's Rights, and Finland will visit Scotland in May 2025 for a study visit to deepen mutual learning.

### **Ensuring our own resilience**

This year marked the first full year of delivering our Strategic Plan 2024-2032, which guides our focus on implementation, accountability, and leadership.



Our total income for 2024-25 was £420,153 (up from £371,920 in 2023-24), including £384,991 in restricted funding and £35,162 in unrestricted funding. Expenditure rose to £437,970 (2023-24: £350,928), reflecting the increased demand on Together for support with UNCRC implementation. This resulted in a reduction of £17,817 in our reserves – the first time Together has reported a significant deficit – leaving total funds carried forward of £77,111. The Board of Trustees is actively addressing this, with a clear plan in place to not only rebuild but grow unrestricted reserves during 2025-26. This will strengthen Together's ability to respond to emerging challenges and invest in future priorities, ensuring the organisation's resilience for years to come.

Diversifying our funding base was a key focus for 2024-25. We secured a grant from the Corra Independent Human Rights Fund for our Rights Empowered project in partnership with Clan Childlaw, applied to four additional trusts and foundations (three pending at year end), and continued to grow income from training and consultancy. A refreshed fundraising strategy, led by our Assistant Director (Programmes & Participation), now guides work to diversify income streams and strengthen sustainability.

Our Board of Trustees provided strategic oversight throughout the year, meeting quarterly and operating Finance, Executive and Operations subgroups to oversee governance, risk and finance. At the 2024 AGM, Susan Hunter was elected as Chair, with Rona Blackwood as Vice-Chair and Mairi McReynolds continuing as Treasurer. We thank Mary Glasgow for six years of outstanding leadership as Chair. In November 2024, we co-opted Rhona Matheson to further strengthen the Board's expertise.

Together's staff team remains the driving force behind our work, with an average of 8.7 FTE employees this year (2023-24: 7.1). Supported by Elevate Great, we completed a role and remuneration review in August 2024, refined job descriptions, and created the post of Assistant Director (Programmes & Participation) to drive Strategic Plan delivery. Despite these positive developments, we ended the year with reduced capacity following the departure of our Policy & Participation Officer in March 2025.



We continued to invest in learning and evaluation, piloting Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) as a framework for linking strategic priorities to measurable outcomes. Our March 2025 Outcomes Workshop, attended by members and trustees, helped refine how Together measures impact going forward.



## What our members say



*"We love being able to learn from and share knowledge with other members of the children's rights community!"*

**Scottish Child Law Centre**

*"Being a member of Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) means organisations like Shared Parenting Scotland can actively participate in advancing children's rights and benefit from connecting with a supportive community dedicated to this cause."*

**Shared Parenting Scotland**

*"It is important to feel part of a network of organisations that are all working towards the advancement of children's rights or who are actively leading on best practice."*

**Anonymous, Membership Survey 2024**

*"Offers the wider perspective with input from different agencies and projects, discourages silo working."*

**Anonymous, Membership Survey 2024**

*"A massive thank you for all that you do – you bring such strength, integrity and hopefulness to the sector."*

**Anonymous, Membership Survey 2024**

## Looking ahead

With the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act now in force, the challenge – and opportunity – is to turn legal rights into lived reality for every baby, child and young person in Scotland.

Looking ahead, Together's priority is to make sure the UNCRC Act drives real change in children's lived experience of their human rights. We will keep growing #RightsOnTrack to monitor progress on implementing children's rights, hold decision-makers to account and amplify the voices of babies, children and young people. Our new training and consultancy programmes will give Together members, duty bearers and practitioners practical support to embed a children's human rights approach in their daily work, while our advocacy will focus on the issues where children's rights are most at risk.

At the same time, we are strengthening Together's resilience. The Board has a clear plan to rebuild and grow our unrestricted reserves, diversify income streams and invest in our capacity so we can keep driving change for years to come. We will continue to share our impact openly so members, partners and funders – and children and young people themselves – can see the difference their support makes.



## Independent Examiner's Report & Finances

---

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
  - which are consistent with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Philip Duncan**

5 James Bell Wynd  
Monifieth  
Dundee  
DD5 4NE

## Charity Statement of Financial Activities

(including income and expenditure account)  
for year ending 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income:</b>					
Charitable activities	13	0	384,991	384,991	342,369
Donations	14	35,142		35,142	29,551
Investment Income	15	20	0	20	0
<b>Total income:</b>		<b>35,162</b>	<b>384,991</b>	<b>420,153</b>	<b>371,920</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>					
Charitable activities	16,18,19	52,882	384,991	437,873	350,879
Governance costs	17	97	0	97	49
<b>Total expenditure:</b>		<b>52,979</b>	<b>384,991</b>	<b>437,970</b>	<b>350,928</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year</b>					
		<b>(17,817)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(17,817)</b>	<b>20,992</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		94,928	0	94,928	73,936
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>77,111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>77,111</b>	<b>94,928</b>



## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets		0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	21	53,042	13,728
Cash at bank and in hand		39,872	126,812
<b>Total</b>		<b>92,914</b>	<b>140,540</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	22	<b>15,803</b>	<b>45,612</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>77,111</b>	<b>94,928</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>77,111</b>	<b>94,928</b>
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted funds			
Unrestricted funds		77,111	94,928
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>77,111</b>	<b>94,928</b>

## Notes on the accounts

---

### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows.

### 2. Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102), effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

### 3. Preparation of the accounts on an ongoing concern basis

The Trustees have prepared these financial statements on the assessment that Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) is an ongoing concern. There are no material uncertainties of which the trustees are aware that ought to be disclosed in relation to this assessment.

### 4. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

### 5. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of Together's (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) work.

### 6. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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. Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of staff time involved in applying for grants from statutory and trust funding sources, as well as meeting the monitoring and reporting requirements in relation to funds secured. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of all activities undertaken by Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) which promote the UN Convention on the Rights of Child and monitor its implementation across Scotland, including policy, membership and events and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### 7. Support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include some finance, personnel (including volunteers) and payroll costs which support Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) overall activities. Support costs have been detailed in note 16.

## **8. Debtors**

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered.

## **9. Cash in bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes petty cash and the cash balance of Together's deposit bank account.

## **10. Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in a 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 allowing for any discounts due.

## **11. Pensions**

Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) had a staging date of 1st February 2017 to meet the automatic enrolment requirements of the Pensions Act 2008. The Finance Subgroup, with agreement of the Board of Trustees, has opted to use NEST (National Employment Savings Trust) as its automatic enrolment pension provider. A defined contribution scheme with NEST has been in place from 1st February 2017 and is open to all staff. The NEST pension scheme operates in line with Government legislation and employer contributions will match at least the minimum levels stipulated by the Government. During the employee's term of employment, Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) will contribute 6% of basic salary each month to the NEST pension or other qualifying pension scheme that the employee may have.

## **12. Legal status of the charity**

Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and has no share capital. The members of the Together have no liability to pay any sums to help to meet the debts (or other liabilities) of the organisation if it is wound up; accordingly, if Together is unable to meet its debts, the members will not be held responsible.

### 13. Income from charitable activities

The income from charitable activities was £384,991 (2023-24: £342,369). Of this, £nil was unrestricted (2023-24: £nil). Together is particularly grateful for the ongoing support of the Scottish Government's Rights & Wellbeing Team and the Children & Young People's Early Intervention Fund which provides core funding for its activities.

Donations	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Scottish Government (Core)	182,000	182,000	Core funding from the Rights & Wellbeing Team
Children & Young People's Early Intervention Fund	50,925	50,925	Project funding towards the Policy & Communications Officer and the Business Support Officer posts
Elevate Great – Early Years	100,281	0	Project funding for babies and early years focus
Elevate Great – Rights of the Child UK	35,602	4,254	Project funding for Rights of the Child UK
Scottish Government (Human Rights Detectives)	0	46,424	Project funding for Children and Young People's Lived Experience Board
Scottish Government (Skills and Knowledge Framework)	14,488	48,287	Project funding for the development of a Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework to support the UNCRC implementation programme
Scottish Government (#TeamScotlandUN)	0	9,850	Project funding to support children and young people to travel to Geneva and give evidence before the UN Committee
Elevate Great – UNCRC celebration	0	629	Funding for UNCRC Incorporation celebration event
Corra Foundation: Human Rights Fund	1,695	0	Project funding for partnership with Clan Childlaw
<b>Total</b>	<b>384,991</b>	<b>342,369</b>	

## 14. Income from donations

The income from donations was £35,142 (2023-24: £29,551). Of this, £35,142 was unrestricted (2023-24: £29,551).

Donations	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Membership donations	22,034	25,963	Unrestricted income
Legal Education Foundation	0	100	Interview session with Juliet Harris
NSPCC	0	700	Training session
Aberlour	350	200	Training session
Central Union for Child Welfare	0	963	Speaker fees and expenses for conference in Finland
Scottish Arbitration Centre	0	350	Speaker fees for the School Closure Review Panel
WCVA General	0	150	Travel reimbursement for 4 Nations Civil Society Conference
Shetland Islands Council	0	1,125	Travel reimbursement for attendance of Shetland Child Rights Conference
Eurochild	284	0	Travel reimbursement for conference
JRS Knowhow	22	0	Reimbursement for IT costs
Individuals	35	0	Contributions from staff and trustees towards trustee gifts
Youthlink	250	0	Speaker fees for conference
Scottish Football Association	650	0	Training session
Lead Scotland	291	0	Training session
Circle	7,636	0	Consultancy
Skills Development Scotland	2,805	0	Resource development
Training courses	785	0	Income from in-house training courses
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,107</b>	<b>29,551</b>	

Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) benefits enormously from the ongoing commitment and enthusiastic support of its many Trustees and our dedicated Finance Volunteer who has supported our work for many years. More detail of their work is given in our annual report. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of these volunteers is not measured in the accounts.

## 15. Investment income

Other income	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Training courses	20	0	Income from treasurers bank account
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	

## 16. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities was £437,873 (2023-24: £350,879). Of this, £52,882 was unrestricted (2023-24: £8,510) and £384,991 was restricted (2023-24: £342,369).

Expenditure	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Marketing & promotion	4,580	3,949	Includes website, printing of reports, and merchandise
Office costs	10,340	2,520	Includes rent, registered address, telephone, stationery, postage, and IT equipment and furniture for all staff
Professional fees	1,886	1,202	Includes insurance
Travel	5,835	14,814	Includes all staff travel and subsistence
Events	17,162	9,584	Includes speaker fees, venues and refreshments for project related events, including remuneration of children and partners and accessibility tools
Staff costs & consultancy	375,306	300,066	Includes salaries, employer's NI and pension, and working from home allowance, and consultancy charges
Support costs	22,764	18,744	Includes IT subscriptions, HR support service, payroll, recruitment, training, bank charges, subscriptions and volunteer expenses
<b>Total</b>	<b>437,873</b>	<b>350,879</b>	

## 17. Analysis of expenditure on governance

Expenditure on governance costs was £97 (2023-24: £49). Of this, £97 was unrestricted (2023-24: £49) and £nil was restricted (2023-24: £0).

This comprised of the following costs:

Expenditure	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Trustee travel expenses	97	49	Travel to trustee and subgroup meetings
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>49</b>	

No remuneration was paid to Trustees during the year. Throughout the year, online conferencing has kept Trustee expenses to a minimum.

## 18. Analysis of expenditure on staff

Expenditure on staffing was £375,306 (2023-24: £300,066). Of this, £47,006 was unrestricted (2023-24: £nil) and £328,300 was restricted (2023-24: £300,066).

This comprised of the following costs:

Expenditure	2024-25	2023-24	Notes
Salaries & consultancy	329,751	269,205	Includes consultancy and working from home (WFH) allowance
Employer National Insurance	25,247	17,567	
Pension	20,308	13,294	
<b>Total</b>	<b>375,306</b>	<b>300,066</b>	

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023-24: nil).

## 19. Staff numbers

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including paid interns) during the year was 8.7 (2023-24: 7.1).

## 20. Corporation taxation

Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

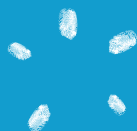


## 21. Debtors

Debtor	2024-25	2023-24
Scottish Government (Skills and Knowledge Framework)	0	7,524
Scottish Government (Core)	45,500	0
Skills Development Scotland	2,805	0
Prepayments	4,737	6,204
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,042</b>	<b>13,728</b>

## 22. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Debtor	2024-25	2023-24
PAYE	9,226	5,763
Mastercard	498	116
Accruals (Aviva)	0	-2,567
ROCK funding	0	35,602
NEST pension	2,080	1,464
Trade Creditors	3,928	5,234
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,732</b>	<b>45,612</b>



together

Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights

The Melting Pot  
15 Calton Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8DL

[www.togetherscotland.org.uk](http://www.togetherscotland.org.uk)  
Follow us at: @together\_sacr  
[info@togetherscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@togetherscotland.org.uk)  
0131 5101 565

Charity registration no: SC029403