



Swindon Town FC
Community Foundation

Swindon Town FC **Community Foundation**
Football in the Community

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Swindon Town FC
Community Foundation

Trustee Annual Report & Accounts Summary

1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022



CHARITY NUMBER 1121820

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Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Charity registration number 1121820

Company registration number 06366200

Principal office and registered office Foundation Park
County Ground Lane
Swindon
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UK

The trustees

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Year ended 31 December 2022

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 10 September 2007 and registered as a charity on 4 December 2007. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Appointment of trustees

The trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report, are set out on page 1. The number of trustees shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall be no more than twelve. New trustees are appointed upon the recommendation of existing trustees. One third of the trustees must retire at each annual general meeting and may offer themselves for re-election. It is relevant and appropriate to appoint trustees who represent a true cross section of the community and reflect its diversity, and the current Board of Trustees includes representatives from business, the Football Club, education, human resources and financial and legal organisations which together enhance the credibility and status of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation.

Risk management

The trustees regularly review and assess the procedures and formats for risk assessment to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Foundation to fulfil its responsibilities.

Due to the nature of the work, the Foundation never underestimates the importance of safeguarding or its responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of every child, young person and vulnerable adult who has been entrusted to its care. It is fully committed to working to provide a safe environment for all participants.

Every child, young person or vulnerable adult who plays or participates in sport with the Foundation should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and has the right to protection from abuse and exploitation. This is why the Foundation works to ensure that safeguarding is the responsibility of every adult in the organisation. To ensure that safeguarding is paramount across the Foundation, the aims are as follows:

- All participants, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
 - All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice are taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
 - All staff are recruited and checked in accordance with safer recruitment processes.
 - All staff, paid and volunteers, working for the Foundation have a responsibility to report concerns. All staff are given the appropriate level of training to deal with situations which may occur and have the support required to report their concerns or suspicions.
 - All staff working with children and vulnerable adults are accredited as necessary and all coaches and volunteers are appropriately qualified and checked through the Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS).
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Organisational structure

Day to day responsibility for the charitable activities rests with the Head of Foundation Jon Holloway who holds a UEFA 'A' Licence coaching qualification as well as studying a Business HND. He is supported by Shane Hewlett, the assistant Head of Foundation.

Objectives and activities

The Foundation's objects are to further and assist in the education (on a social and physical basis) of children and adults within Swindon and surrounding areas, without reference to race, sex, creed or social background, through the use of the game of football (including its history and rules) and other ancillary sporting activities as educational tools and in furtherance of that object to provide in Swindon and surrounding area facilities for meetings, lectures and classes for the benefit of such children and adults. The Charity also supports the development of a Community Football Development programme in Livingstone, Zambia.

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Foundation's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Swindon Town FC is one of 72 league clubs with a community programme affiliated to the English Football League Community Trust, delivering sporting and social opportunities to people within their communities.

It delivers football and multi sports-based programmes within Swindon and the county of Wiltshire, and endeavours to deliver and increase participation for people from 2 - 85 years of age. Under the guidance of the English Football League Trust, the delivery is designed to meet the four key themes of: Sports Participation, Education, Social Inclusion and Health.

The Foundation, with the support of its local partners, continues to engage with over 30,000 participants on an annual basis.

The Foundation's Charter sets out its vision, mission and core values:

Vision

'Where People Matter' is the fundamental consideration in helping people achieve their goals by taking part in quality and innovative programmes which focus upon their needs and requirements.

Mission

To deliver a wide range of programmes in Swindon and the surrounding areas. These programmes are delivered with the aims of **engaging, participating and achieving** by increasing sports participation, whilst looking to increase the allegiance between the local community and their local professional football club.

Core values

1. Delivering professional, quality, safe and affordable programmes.
 2. Listen to the views of children, young people, adults and our partners.
 3. Provide excellent communication and customer care.
 4. Offer opportunities for all participants to be empowered to achieve their goals.
 5. Invest in and support staff to develop.
 6. Make a difference.
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The Foundation works closely with a number of key partners, including Swindon Town FC, the EFL Trust, the Premier League, the PFA, Swindon Borough Council and the Wiltshire Police and Probation Services. It also receives financial support from commercial sponsorship opportunities including sponsorship from the Intel Corporation.

Swindon Borough Council has supported the Community Programme since the early 1990s through the Community Initiatives Fund and continues to support the work undertaken by the Foundation.

Achievements and performance

The Foundation's activities and achievements during 2022 include the following

Education

Education is a cornerstone of the Foundation with football being used as a tool for inspiring inside and outside the classroom; whether through the C6 further education programme, coaching delivery, after school clubs, teacher CPD or PPA cover.

Football Education Programme

The 2021/2022 season was mixed in terms of results, with all three boys' teams playing in higher leagues. The First Team continued their good form defeating league leaders from the central league West Bromwich Albion 3-0 to reach the last 16 of the National Cup. This was quickly followed up with a 3-2 league victory over Chelsea before being defeated 4-3 by Ipswich Town in the quarter finals of the cup.

The girls also picked up some better results and performed admirably against Manchester City in the quarter finals of the National Women's Cup eventually losing 3-0.

Away from the pitch the students spent time volunteering to support community programmes which is also a crucial element of the programme.

There was a really positive start to the 2022/2023 season after a proactive pre-season in July, which ended with the first team winning tournament matches against Manchester United, Cardiff City and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

The Women's team also had a superb start to the 2022/2023 season with some notable victories.

In September, five boys from C6 were invited to attend the England School Boys Trials at Millfield with three of them making it through to the second stage and two continuing to the very final selection for the eighteen places.

After School Clubs

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, the programme of after school clubs' delivery had been pared back, but the year has seen a gradual increase in that delivery to reach new participants in the local area.

At the start of the new academic year in September, 16 schools and over 350 students were involved in the weekly after school club activities.

Some of these clubs are fully funded by other key projects such as Premier League Kicks enabling children in deprived areas of the town to access sessions for no cost.

During the latter part of the year new procedures such as new session plans, increased session times and better in-school protocols have been implemented.

Premier League Primary Stars

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During January to March, the second wave of the years Primary Stars programme which included teacher supported PE lessons, targeted interventions, PSHE, Literacy interventions and social action projects was completed.

Foundation coaches engaged with nine teachers helping them to increase their knowledge and confidence to deliver high quality PE. The ten-week PE provision focused predominantly on working with Key Stage 1 classes.

300 books were donated to five Primary schools across Swindon for World Book Day. One school also received a visit from club mascot Rockin' Robin to present the books and support the delivery of a lesson on the importance of reading.

Two social action projects were delivered at Tadpole Farm school with their two Year 4 classes. Both classes participated in PSHE style lessons about environmental causes before creating posters in groups which they could put up around the school to encourage their peers to make sustainable choices to help the environment. One class decided to make posters about climate change whilst the other focused on saving the animals. Now that both social action projects have been completed, the KPI target for the year of four projects has been reached.

After Easter, the third wave of Primary Stars supported PE lessons began with the coaches working with ten teachers from four different schools across a ten-week block. This took the total number of teachers supported across the 2021/2022 academic year to 30 and exceeded the initial KPI set with the Premier League of 24 teachers.

In May, two Year 6 classes from local school Holy Family were invited to Foundation Park for a collapsed curriculum day. The children had a PE lesson on the Foundation Park pitch and a tour of the County Ground Stadium with some educational activities including a Maths challenge and a quiz.

In the build-up to the Women's European Championships, a gender equality workshop was delivered to 54 Year 5 pupils. This included a PSHE style lesson considering the effect of media, economics and role models, followed by a Q+A session with Swindon Town Women's player Alice Telling.

During the Summer Term, two tournaments were organised to give Year 6 pupils from local Swindon primary schools the opportunity to participate in more competitive extracurricular football. The first tournament was a girls-only tournament with seven participating schools and around 70 girls taking part. The emphasis of the tournaments was to increase engagement in football, so schools were encouraged to invite children who were not currently accessing competitive football opportunities.

Throughout the tournament the coaches were looking to identify four individuals who demonstrated the Premier League values of 'Be Connected', 'Be Inspiring', 'Be Ambitious' and 'Be Fair' with the selected children being presented with a Premier League goodie bag.

Before the start of the new academic year in September, some new events were added to the programme including a club author event in partnership with the National Literacy Trust who provided funding for a published author to attend and deliver a workshop about his career, as well as some more collapsed curriculum days to help meet the KPI for education activations.

A total of 80 Year 5 pupils from Drove Primary School were invited to take part in the author workshop with Martin Smith, receive a stadium tour of the County Ground, followed by a physical activity session, with a surprise visit from Swindon Town Player Jordan Lyden for a question-and-answer session.

At the end of the event, each child received their own personalised, signed copy of one of Martin's books. Following the event, all pupils completed an event survey where the results showed that 79/80

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(98.8%) participants enjoyed the event whilst 59/80 (73.8%) found the event inspiring.

During the first term of the school year, between September and December ten football sessions for five different schools in the Swindon area were arranged to engage with children diagnosed with SEND. There were between 10 and 15 participants from each school suffering from either ADHD, Autism, Cerebral Palsy or Dyslexia.

The sessions involved ball control, teamwork, balance, and communication to help them gain more confidence, not just in football but in any activity they do.

The sessions culminated in a disability festival at Foundation Park, where each school also had the opportunity to go on a tour of The County Ground. On this tour they were able to see the Home, Away and Officials changing rooms and they were told about the preparations managers, coaches, players, and officials go through before the game.

After all participants had completed their football sessions and ground tours, they were joined at their presentation by two Swindon Town first team players for a question-and-answer session.

Before the end of November, nine targeted interventions were delivered including Premier League Reading Stars groups and SEND Maths sessions aimed at children with low attainment or disengagement within academic subjects. In addition, football lunchtime clubs were delivered in three of the Primary Stars partner schools. This included a girls' only lunchtime club at Haydon Wick Primary School which used the success of the Lionesses Euros victory in the summer to encourage eighteen Years 5 and 6 girls to join. In total 114 children took part in targeted interventions since the beginning of September.

In October, pupils heard about real life stories of racism through videos from Premier League footballers and learnt how to be a good ally before receiving a free book on Hamza Choudhury's story and experiences of racism. Workshops were delivered to 116 Years 5 and 6 pupils using the 'No Room for Racism' resources from the Primary Stars website which were well received by the schools.

During November, three competitions were delivered including a mixed tournament and girls-only tournament for Years 5 and 6 pupils, in collaboration with Swindon PSFA.

Over more recent months the Foundation's Primary Stars programme received recognition for good practice at a national level and the Foundation was asked to make a presentation at the National Conference concerning the targeted Maths interventions delivered to children with Special Educational Needs.

Following the National Conference, the Premier League Charitable Fund (PLCF) approached the Foundation to ask for support in the development of a new Maths resource for targeted interventions. This involved attending a resource development day at the Premier League offices and involved work in collaboration with other CCO's to produce lessons which can be used across the network.

Health and Fitness

Extra Time

The Extra Time groups provide excellent opportunities for men and women who are retired and semi-retired, allowing them to remain fit and healthy while maintaining important social contact with likeminded people.

The regular activities include Water Polo, Bowls, Croquet, Swimming, Snooker, Cycling, as well as a couple of new activities such as Handball and Padel, utilising the excellent new facility at Bassett Downs.

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Padel is a fast-growing sport, and the group was treated to a training session given by some local coaches, in part thanks to the Padel Club's sponsorship deal with Swindon Town FC. Since attending, many of the members have gone on to make regular weekly block bookings at the facility. July marked the annual summer picnic, which this year was held at St. Johns Lock Lechlade for the second time in the last few years. A beautiful setting down by the river where both the men's and women's groups got together to celebrate another year together.

The members took part in an end of year quiz which they absolutely loved, and returned to the Haydon Centre for some Badminton and Short Tennis. They have not been able to do these activities for many years due to lack of leisure centre facilities, so it was great to be back playing again. The ladies even tried a chair aerobics class, which proved really popular.

The annual Extra Time Christmas Dinner was an excellent social event as always, at which over 30 Extra Time participants attended.

Five new members have been welcomed to the groups across the last few months. With the clientele being slightly older and activities not always being accessible for all members, ensuring there are good numbers and new members in the groups is crucial to the long-term sustainability of the group.

Foundation Park Walking Football League

Foundation Park Walking Football League (FPWFL) is a 6 a-side league that gives all teams 2 matches per fixture night. Aimed at players aged 50 and above, it provides the opportunity to play the sport they love in an enjoyable and safe environment and provides major health, social and mental health benefits as well.

Every Thursday evening, 12 teams attend Foundation Park for the competitive league. This always brings a great atmosphere, engaging over 100 players on a weekly basis in the space of 1 hour 30 minutes.

Since July, rules for the league have evolved and now allow the over 40s to play in the league. This is to encourage ex-FFIT participants to get involved and to allow their ongoing weight management to be supported.

December saw the conclusion of another season of the FP WFL, an eleven-week season that went down to the very final night on December 8th and a Christmas Tournament was hosted on the December at Foundation Park.

The aim is to expand the league further to 16 teams, providing two divisions of eight which will lead to a more competitive fixture programme and enabling teams to play against other teams of a similar ability.

Football Fans in Training

The Foundation's Football Fans in Training programme continues to go from strength to strength with three cohorts of Under 35 Men, Over 35 Men, and Ladies beginning their 12 weeks courses in January, two cohorts in May and two in September.

As before, these courses have a really positive impact on those taking part, not only by achieving fantastic weight loss and reducing blood pressure but also by improving their mental health. The participants are given information about healthier eating, replacing bad habits with good ones and increasing their physical activity each week. The increase of challenges per week also helps increase everyone's step count.

A new boot camp was introduced for all previous participants to come in for an hour fitness session and a recap on topics like stages of change and the eat well plate.

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In the New Year these sessions will be extended from one to two per month which will increase contact with previous participants and in January the first walk and talk social event was staged.

Sports Participation

Holiday Courses

All school Half Term and main holiday courses throughout the year were really successful, with over 1600 children taking part across the ten school holiday weeks. The variety of courses included mainstream, girls, goalkeeping, Project Me and multi-sports pan-disability.

In addition to the regular courses, Mini Foundation summer sessions and one-day camps for Foundation Centre and Elite Boys/Girls CFFE participants, were held in the summer which attracted over 200 players.

A new coaches guide for the courses was trialled during the year, which included timings, session plans, pitch set ups and more to enable the coaches to deliver the courses in a more organised and planned way, enabling the overall setup and delivery to be more successful.

On the Wednesday before Christmas the Foundation held another Christmas Holiday Drop and Shop course to over 100 children at the County Ground and Foundation Park. The course enabled players to learn new skills throughout the day and gave them the opportunity to compete in some fun challenges. There was a special visit from Rockin' Robin on the day, who surprised the children with a gift of a chocolate selection box.

Foundation Centres

Throughout the year over 550 children, aged 18 months to 16 years have taken part in the weekly sessions covering mainstream, girls and goalkeepers.

Over 97% of sessions are regularly sold out and there is always a strong waiting list.

During the spring the Foundation Centre fixture programme was reintroduced which has enabled players who attend weekly sessions to play semi-competitive matches and for some, this would have been their first opportunity to play an actual match.

During the Christmas period, the Mini Foundation groups received their end of term medal and spent the month doing festive activities such as building football snowmen and delivering presents (footballs) to help Father Christmas.

Elite and Advanced

It has been a very busy year for the Elite & Advanced players.

During January to March the U13- U15 teams' fixtures included a first encounter against Bristol Inner City, who were a high-quality opposition and the U14 team welcomed the STFC Academy. All fixtures were played in a superb spirit and as always, in a professional manner.

During the February half-term, the Advanced players welcomed Crawley and the Elite teams welcomed Wycombe Wanderers to Foundation Park. The cohort of U7-13 teams participated in some challenging, but competitive games. It was great to welcome two different EFL clubs to Foundation Park, showcasing the state or the art facility.

During April, the U13 Elite, Advanced and U14 Advanced teams took part in the Blackpool Cup. During the Easter & May Day Bank holidays, the players made the 400-mile round trip north to experience their first taste of tournament football since the pandemic. They were facing some very different opposition, including teams from the North of England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. The

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fixtures were played at Blackpool FC Academy and the UCLAN arena, both state of the art facilities. Away from the football, the players spent two nights in a hotel in Blackpool, which pushed many players out of their comfort zone. This gave them a real insight into tournament football and the life of professional footballers. The players displayed exemplary behaviour and were a real credit throughout.

The U15 squad also had their first tour since the pandemic, taking part in the prestigious Barcelona Cup. Across the long weekend, the boys played against several different teams from across Europe, providing several different challenges, coming up against some very different playing styles. The trip was a fantastic experience for the U15 squad, who bonded incredibly well in such a short space of time, developing a really strong social bond between the group.

In June, the boys' teams concluded their EDP fixture programme, with all squads playing Ipswich at home and Northampton away. These fixtures were a great way to assess each squad as the season ended. It's safe to say all individuals have developed in leaps and bounds. A huge well done to all Elite & Advanced participants for a fantastic season of football!

The 2021/22 season concluded with the highly anticipated trip to the Gothia Cup. This was the first trip back to Sweden since the pandemic, and the Under 14 and 16 teams were incredibly excited about the experience. The players stayed at the Gothia Towers for the full week and took part in some incredible games of football. The Under 14 teams made it through to the second knockout round of the 'A' Cup and the 16's did the same in the 'B' competition. During the tournament, the Elite teams were matched against opposition from countries including Sweden, USA, Mexico and Singapore. These opposing teams provided the young aspiring players a unique experience to learn about different nationalities and cultures.

They also attended the opening ceremony, a professional Swedish football match, and had a visit to the famous Liseberg Theme Park.

The annual open trial process, recruiting for new U7-U13 age groups took place in July. Here, participants from the Foundation Centres, and further afield, were invited to trial for a space in the Elite & Advanced programme.

Competition for spaces becomes even more intense each year and the playing standard was higher than ever. Over 400 boys came through the gates of Foundation Park, a fantastic achievement and goes to show the attraction of the Elite & Advanced programme.

Whilst spaces were limited, all unsuccessful trialists were offered a place in an 'Invite-Only Session' or the recreational 'Foundation Centres', meaning all participants could be a part of the Community Foundation

From August to October, the fixture programme expanded, providing several different opportunities to the players. In August, each age group had a pre-season fixture against Colchester United. In addition, the 11-a side teams were tested against unique opposition including the JPL side Bridgwater United and Welsh Premier League side Risca United. The younger age groups also participated in festivals, providing round robin fixtures against a number of different clubs, including Shrewsbury, Chelsea, Crystal Palace, Peterborough United and Cheltenham.

In the October half-term, the Elite & Advanced teams played against Brentford, with fixtures taking place at Gunnersbury Park, West London.

At the end of October, the U8 and U9 teams were invited to a Halloween party, which was delivered by

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a team of coaches with the support of volunteers from Intel. All the participants certainly enjoyed the evening and a huge thank you goes to Intel for their support in delivering a fantastic event.

In November, there were further matches against the STFC Academy when both the U13 and U14 Elite groups were invited to take part in a small-sided games evening at the Academy. This was a fantastic learning experience for the younger players, who had the chance to see what is required of a Swindon Town Academy footballer.

During December, the Elite and Advanced players were enrolled in a brand-new sustainable initiative, in partnership with Intel, known as 'The Green League'. The initiative consisted of a series of 'Earth Missions' that were examples of sustainable behaviours, relevant to footballers. For example, some of the challenges involved saving water by washing kit, cleaning boots, and showering more sustainably. The aim of the four-week programme is to influence and shape sustainable behaviours positively for the long term. To make the opportunity more competitive, our teams competed against one another.

The theme of positive behaviour also continued during December when the Elite and Advanced players were encouraged to donate items to the Swindon Food Collective, a local food bank, as part of the Christmas project.

Girls' Centre of Excellence

EFL Girls Cup

In January, Foundation Park was the venue for the Area Finals of the EFL Utilita Girls Cup. Eight teams were competing for a place in the regional stage of the competition with the winners of that round going on to compete in the grand finale at Wembley Stadium

Foundation Park was also selected by The EFL Trust to host the regional stage of the competition which took place in March.

Barcelona Copa Jordi

In April, three teams were taken to the Barcelona Copa Jordi Cup, U15s and two U17s teams made up of U16s and C6 students. This was a new tournament for the Foundation and it was a fantastic experience for all the players and staff. The teams competed against opposition from Switzerland, France, Ireland, Germany, and Sweden across three days. The U17s teams fought brilliantly throughout the tournament with one team reaching the final and taking on a team from Switzerland, which they had previously been beaten by. After a closely fought contest, the game finished 1-1. Unfortunately, the Swiss won the game on penalties. The U15s had a fantastic tournament, winning every game and not conceding a single goal, and were crowned Barcelona Copa Jordi Cup champions, closely followed by the U17s who finished second and third in their age group.

Blackpool Cup

During the May bank holiday weekend, the U13 girls team travelled up to Blackpool to compete in the Blackpool Cup. Following the long journey north, the players enjoyed an evening at the opening ceremony at the Blackpool Tower before kick-starting their tournament the following morning. The girls competed across the two days against teams from England, Scotland and Ireland and after finishing second in their group on the Saturday, headed into the semi-final on the Sunday morning. With a place in the final up for grabs the girls fought hard in their semi-final and sealed their place with a 3-1 win. The girls really upped their game heading into the final, finishing in tremendous fashion, winning 6-0! Well done Girls on becoming the official Blackpool Cup U13s Winners 2022!

Barcelona Girls' Cup

In June, the U14s and U15s Girls CFFE teams travelled to Cambrils to compete in the Barcelona Girls Cup at Futbol Salou. The teams competed across two days against teams from Sweden, Spain,

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Iceland, Switzerland, Germany, Norway, Finland, and France.

The U14s finished third in the group which meant they headed into the B cup competition, elsewhere the U15s finished second in their group, securing their place in the 'A' finals on Sunday. After competing brilliantly in three matches on Sunday the U14s finished 11th overall. The U15s unfortunately lost their semi-final against Spanish team UD Viladecans, but rallied one more time to take on German team FFC Turbine Potsdam in the 3rd place playoff. The girls put in an excellent performance to win the game 5-2 and claim 3rd in the tournament.

Girls CFFE EDP Fixtures

During Easter half term the CFFE teams travelled to Watford FC's training ground to compete in fixtures against Watford and Ipswich. The day was filled with highly competitive fixtures for all age groups where the players showed off their hard work in training.

Foundation Park also hosted fixtures against South Wales Performance Centre for the U10s, U11s and U13s teams who once again put in some fantastic performances against strong South Wales teams.

During July, over 100 of our CFFE Girl's players were taken to two games of the 2022 Women's European Championships. On Friday 15th July they attended England's 5-0 victory over Northern Ireland at Southampton's St Mary's Stadium. This was then followed by a trip to Wembley Stadium on Sunday 31st July, for the final of the Tournament, which saw England lift the trophy after a 2-1 victory over rivals Germany. These were two days the players will never forget, allowing them to watch players that they idolise and aspire to be like one day.

In August, the FA awarded the Foundation an ETC licence which means that certain age groups will be part of The FA's emerging talent pathway allowing high performing players to be monitored by The FA's elite Women's coaches with a view to pushing them as high as possible in the Women's game.

As well as gaining the ETC licence, August was used as pre-season for the players. Like all pre-seasons, this was an important period used to integrate new players, who were successful in the trial process into their new squads and refresh the ideas of returning players.

Saturday Team Club

The Foundation offers the opportunity for junior football teams and local youth groups to be a part of the Football League season, with a Swindon Town Football Club match-day experience -which includes: - A professional football coaching session delivered by Foundation coaches for the team. - A Domino's Pizza lunch - A match day ticket

Both players and parents are invited to take in the atmosphere and be a huge part of a home game at the County Ground.

In March, the biggest Saturday Team Club package post COVID took place with 164 attendees from Cricklade Youth Juniors arriving for the Swindon vs Oldham fixture and by the end of the year over 1000 people have taken part in this popular event.

Social Inclusion

Super Robins

Super Robins is the Foundation's Mental Health football team and this project seeks to reduce the social isolation and stigma often associated with mental health problems, whilst improving physical, and mental, health and well-being. There are now 50 men and women signed up, with around 24 attending in any given week.

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During the first few months of the year, they worked hard on the training pitch, and reached the top of the Wiltshire FA Ability Counts league.

The Foundation is always looking for ways to grow the Super Robins group, and continues to work with groups such as MIND and the NHS AWP. During November and December many new participants were welcomed to the group thanks to the strength of the partnership with MIND.

Onside

Participants in the Onside project were referred from local secondary schools, because they may be struggling with their behaviour, attention or other problems linked to being in school.

The programme encourages the children to put more thought into their actions and gives them a chance to reflect on their reactions to both current and previous situations allowing them a better understanding of what kind of reactions would be more beneficial, for example being calm rather than angry. In addition to the behavioural changes noted, there was also conscious thought into the pathways they could go down after school and what they would need to achieve in school to help with this. The increased understanding of how important it is to be focused in schools and work hard really shone through towards the end of the course with many participants really wanting to be successful in school and later life.

Many participants from Onside also attended the Friday night Kicks sessions at Foundation Park.

Sadly, this was the last wave of Onside under this name as current funding from Swindon Borough Council has come to an end.

Pan Disability

Weekly sessions continued to take place throughout term times at the Deanery School, usually at the maximum capacity of 16. A waiting list is in operation and spaces are offered to those when possible and it is planned to expand the number of sessions delivered when the dome at Foundation Park is operational.

During January to April staff leading the sessions undertook CPD training with a focus on adapting activities to meet the needs of participants with more complex disabilities to ensure provision is accessible to all.

The Swindon vs Newport game in April was selected as part of a disability week of action under the 'Level Playing Field Banner'. This presented the opportunity for five of the regular Pan-Disability participants to go on the pitch at half time to take penalties against Swindon mascot Rockin' Robin.

During the Easter half-term, the multi-Sports holiday camp took place at St Joseph's for children and young people with disabilities. This proved to be popular with existing and new participants resulting in the course being sold out. The participants took part in a variety of activities in sports such as football and hockey before tackling the crowd favourite obstacle course.

Towards the end of the year, there was an increase in the number wheelchair users attending and whilst sessions were adapted to make them more accessible, plans are in place to have specific wheelchair sessions once the Foundation Park dome is open for use.

DS Active

At half-time during the Swindon vs Manchester City FA Cup 3rd round fixture, DS Active participants were selected to play on the pitch against Bristol City's Down Syndrome team. This gave the players the opportunity to play in front of a sold-out County Ground whilst gracing the same pitch as

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international footballers.

A return visit took place in March when six of the DS Active participants travelled to Bristol for some friendly fixtures against Bristol City's Down Syndrome group which was organised following the half-time event against Manchester City. The event also allowed a celebration of World Down Syndrome Day where the players all wore odd socks for the #LotsOfSocks campaign.

The matches were played in good spirits with both teams being able to see friends from previous meetings whilst having the opportunity to put into practice the skills they practice during weekly sessions. Following the fixtures in the morning, Bristol also organised for the players, parents, and coaches to attend the Bristol City vs West Brom Championship fixture.

The DS Active sessions recommenced at the start of September after the break for the summer holidays. All ten participants from last year re-joined the sessions and continue to attend on a weekly basis. During this period the team focused a lot on teamwork and made great progress as a team both in training and in other activities they do outside of football.

In October, one of the participants from the holiday camps and previously of the Foundation centres, Naet, was invited to the Deanery to write a review of the disability sessions for the matchday programme in a creative way to promote the session. Naet was very helpful with the DS Active group and the players really warmed to him.

Following discussions with the group, it became apparent that for some of the younger participants who wish to attend and are eager to join, the current session time is too late. This has been taken into consideration within the usage plan for the Dome and the DS Active session will be moved to an earlier time to allow the size of the group to expand.

Special Olympics - Adults with Learning Disabilities

The Special Olympics Learning Disability (LD) Team continues to train on a weekly basis at Foundation Park with many regular members returning each week as well as new members, signposted from the borough council being welcomed to the sessions.

The sessions not only develop the players footballing ability and their ability to perform fundamental movements but also allow them to develop social and interpersonal skills with other people with different challenges. The group is of very mixed-ability, but they are starting to develop an understanding of each other's abilities and challenges which allows for more team-based activities.

Staying Connected

The group celebrated its first anniversary with a buffet lunch ahead of the six-week summer break.

After the break there was a visit from Sam Allison, who not only provided an insight into his refereeing role, but also gave a valuable talk on fire safety. Many of the participants signed up for fire safety checks in their home. On another occasion the STFC kit-men also dropped in to talk about their roles and had a few stories to tell.

When there isn't a guest speaker, chatting about recent matches or a quiz is still at the forefront of the activities, and provides a valuable opportunity for these participants to meet up and socialise.

Premier League Kicks

The Premier League Kicks programmes have continued to expand throughout the year with over 700 participants engaged and attending the free weekly sessions at both Foundation Park and Abbey Park School.

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During February, the Foundation was chosen to host the Premier League Kicks 15th Year Anniversary. Thirteen community foundations from the South West, East and Wales travelled to Foundation Park for a day of football and workshop activities. Boys and girls participants were selected by the coaches, based on their engagement and contribution to the programme, to represent their EFL club at this landmark event. In addition, the teams also took part in a Street Doctors workshop, which aimed to educate the young people on how to deal with and manage knife wounds. They also attended a workshop with Sam Allison, the highest qualified BAME referee in the EFL. Sam, who is also a firefighter, delivered a session in dual careers and shared his inspirational journey as a trailblazer

In conjunction with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) the provision has been extended to increase outreach and to meet their strategic objectives. One of these targeted interventions has consisted of some direct coach mentoring with young people, who have been signposted to the Foundation by the Youth Justice Service. Three of them have attained structured volunteer coaching roles, supporting the Boys Elite & Advanced Teams. Here, participants have developed their interpersonal skills and have gained an insight into the key skills required to be a successful coach through the FA Playmakers Award and collaborative-based learning.

Following a successful year of delivery in collaboration with Wiltshire OPCC, the extended delivery plan for the programme has been re-commissioned for a further year. The support from the OPCC has been instrumental in increasing youth engagement outreach. Plans for the 2022/23 delivery year involve more football-specific activity, educational workshops, social action, and youth voice, all of which are aimed to engage participants from the North Swindon Area. This part of the borough has been identified as high need based on crime rates and intelligence led policing.

One of the most anticipated events in the PL Kicks Calendar is the Kicks Cup. This was the first event since the pandemic, and eight players were selected to represent Swindon in the boy's competition with the selection based on their contribution and engagement in the programme over the last year. The players, who were made up from Foundation Park and Abbey Park session groups, bonded very quickly on the way to Nottingham, and transferred this strong bond out onto the pitch!

Despite having the youngest side at the Kicks Cup, the team put on some fantastic performances against clubs including Newport, Bristol Rovers, Chelsea, Fulham & Chesterfield. More importantly, the boys conducted themselves with real maturity and professionalism, representing the Swindon badge with pride. The Premier League kindly rewarded the young people with a Nike boot bag and football, which they were all delighted with!

One of the key aims of the Kicks programme is to educate young people on contemporary issues, one of these being Sustainability. In August, a cohort of eight Kicks participants was invited to participate in a Sustainable matchday experience. The young people all participated in a pre-match litter pick. They were informed and educated on the issues surrounding litter and the problem we have locally, particularly with litter being left on a Friday evening after Kicks sessions. Following the completion of the litter pick, they had the chance to represent STFC in a fixture against Cardiff City PL Kicks team, as part of the first-team's preseason fixture.

As the beginning of new academic year, a new after-school club at Mountford Manor Primary School started. With an increasing level of income deprivation surrounding the school, many pupils do not have additional physical activity opportunities. Sixteen children from the school have been engaged every week and signposted towards the weekly Friday evening Kicks sessions.

In the month of October, the 'No Room for Racism' campaign was reinforced by the Premier League. As a result, a cohort of participants aged 10-13 Years was invited in for a workshop and tournament event. The workshop focused on the aims of the NRFR campaign, the impacts of racism, how to be

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anti-racist and be a good ally. 40 children attend the workshop event, who were then able to participate in a tournament. The winning team were provided with STFC match tickets and water bottles as a prize.

A 14-18 Years cohort was also invited to participate in their own workshop in collaboration with Police and Crime Commissioner. Youth violence and disorder has been a worrying concern, with most offenders aged 16-25 years old. A football violence and disorder workshop was rolled out to the participants with over 40 attending the event.

In the latter part of the year, the team of coaches together with a group of young people formed a brand-new Youth Voice Group. This group will provide an opportunity for young people to express their opinions and feelings on contemporary themes within the local community, being an ambassador for other young people to bring about positive social change. The first Youth Voice meeting shared some real positive discussions, which generated some key themes around youth violence issues and employability opportunities in Swindon. These points will be discussed further at the upcoming Premier League Youth Summit and will also help shape the delivery plan for the 2022-23 season. Having this input from young people has allowed their thoughts and feelings to be actioned, to facilitate positive social change on their behalf.

Project Me

Project Me is an early help mental health service for children and young people between the ages of 5-19 years within Swindon. Practitioners, also known as Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) are based in schools and work in close collaboration with nominated mental health leads within each school.

The team offers individual and group support to young people with mild to moderate mental health issues including anxiety, low mood, phobias, difficulty with anger, self-esteem and behavioural difficulties. The team delivers low intensity CBT interventions, parent-led CBT, group support, parenting programmes, and consultation for school staff.

The programme is designed to work within the community to raise awareness of mental health issues and promote healthy mental wellbeing. They also help children, young people and families, who might otherwise find it difficult to access mental health support, by introducing them to other local professionals, charities and organisations.

In January nine more schools were welcomed into the Project Me programme, including the first mentoring for two SEN schools. There have been some adjustments made to the programme from an earlier wave which both Barnardo's and the Foundation believe will further enhance the Project.

Barnardo's were delighted with the results from the Programme and committed to at least one more year of funding which is fantastic news for all the staff who have supported and worked with the children throughout the previous wave delivery.

As the success of the project has grown so has the demand with Barnardo's now operating a waiting list for the 33 schools which have enrolled. The programme continues to inspire and support young people and the Foundation was delighted to win the EFL project of the year award for the EFL League Two.

The EFL Awards - Project Me event was attended by Shane Hewlett, Jon Holloway and Kirsteen Fraser along with two representatives from Barnardo's, the project sponsor. It was extremely rewarding for Project Me to receive this award which clearly demonstrates the hard work, passion and commitment for this project from the Community Foundation staff. The EFL has since indicated that they plan to roll out a similar project across the CCO network.

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In April a further seven primary schools and two secondary schools were welcomed to the programme, with over 80 students being enrolled on the course over the nine cohorts. The course was delivered in line with the adjustments made prior to the previous Wave, which were found to be very beneficial for many of the enrolled participants. After the ten-week course, the participants from the primary school groups were invited to Foundation Park for the Project Me graduation day. The day included fun football sessions, a ground tour of the County Ground and a certificate presentation attended by Swindon Town FC's CEO Rob Angus.

Numbers increased at the Project Me Invite development centre on Saturday mornings at Foundation Park. These sessions have allowed participants who are all from previous Project Me waves to continue to develop in areas that the programme focusses on and have given them the opportunities to potentially join mainstream sessions or elite squads.

After the Wave 4 programme was completed, all the participants from the seven partaking primary schools and the invite development centre were offered the opportunity to be a part of the Saturday team club. Nearly 40 children attended a fun football session and a Domino's pizza lunch at Foundation Park, before being given complimentary tickets to watch Swindon Town vs Salford City at The County Ground. This was a new experience for a lot of the children and one that they greatly enjoyed. Many of them had never had the chance to attend a professional game of football before, which made the experience even more memorable.

During the summer, three Project Me holiday camps were held and a further one in the October half term with 25 participants on each course. 100 children attended the last four camps, and more and more of them are attending our weekly sessions.

Each camp focuses on teamwork, communication, and reactions. Football is a competitive game, but a big part of the course involves helping the participants understand the importance of winning and losing in the right way. This is to make sure they show respect to one another. They are also helped to understand the game of football better, by progressing their footballing ability, dribbling, passing and shooting sessions throughout the three days of the camp.

Following the October course, a further 11 of that group joined one of the Tuesday or Saturday weekly sessions. This was a great achievement for them because they were selected on their willingness to be resilient, show respect to others and make new friends. Giving these 11 participants the opportunity to join a weekly session is credit to themselves because we would like to see them progress in our development centres in the near future, to help increase their footballing journey.

From September the Project Me programme started in seven new Primary Schools as well as two Secondary schools invited to Foundation Park. During the 10-week programme individuals focussed on their confidence, communication, resilience, and teamwork.

During October some of the Project Me & Staying Connected members attended a collaboration event at Foundation Park following on from Mental Health Awareness Day. The two groups were invited to complete some mindfulness tasks, including emotions worksheets and bracelet making and the purpose of these activities was to recognise 'who' and 'what' we are thankful for.

During these activities, everyone had the opportunity to engage with one another, forming positive relationships between different generations.

Refugee Sessions

Refugee sessions have been delivered since January 2022, targeting refugees and asylum seekers aged between 16-25 who reside in Swindon or Wiltshire. The programme is delivered in partnership

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with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and has engaged 20 refugees from 9 different countries. Since delivery commenced in this format, a long-term aim of the programme has been to provide opportunities for the refugees to represent Swindon in a competitive fixture. In July they played their first 11 a side game against a local community group where they narrowly lost by one goal. Each player was provided with a Swindon town kit to keep which they now wear proudly to training. Prior to this fixture, there was a meeting with the Wiltshire FA in the Nigel Eady suite to make the players aware of pathways available to them within football. This included making players know what grassroots clubs were local and which teams were looking for players. Following this meeting a couple of the refugees have made contact with local teams and now play competitively on the weekend with the teams being very supportive around subsidising the match fees. Since September, the sessions have recommenced following a break throughout August for the summer holidays. Between 10-12 refugees attend on a weekly basis and the Foundation is working with partners at The Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and The Harbour Project to reach out to a wider audience.

Threshold

The Foundation entered into a new partnership with Threshold, Swindon's homeless charity and funded by Nationwide during July. Threshold aims to end homelessness in the town and to help vulnerable people create a better life and gain independence.

The Foundation is very pleased to be able to work with Threshold to offer new programmes and opportunities to help our community and its programme has been a real lifeline for the participants who attend on a weekly basis. Not only does it provide physical activity but also a safe space to talk and consume a healthy smoothie to provide vital nutrients. Every Friday between 8 and 12 participants, ranging from rough sleepers, sofa surfers and those who reside in sheltered accommodation attend Foundation Park. The sessions are enjoyable and an excellent relationship between the staff and participants has developed.

In September, STFC Academy donated some playing kit to all the participants as an incentive for attending over three of the sessions. Due to their difficult lifestyles, it is not always easy to find ways of ensuring that they attend each week so that their health and wellbeing can be monitored and the kit really made them feel valued. The first fixture vs. Super Robins was played in October and was a fantastic way to get the participants to bond and feel part of the team, and they were elated when they won the game 5-3.

Zambia Coach Education

At the end of November, a team of staff made the 5076-mile journey to Livingstone, Zambia to continue the relationship that has flourished over the last thirteen years.

The last visit to the country was in 2019, and no visit has been possible since then due to the pandemic. The one positive of this is that there has been an extra couple of years to collect donations, and over 1.25 tonnes of kit and equipment, including over 60 full match kits, 60 coaches' tracksuits, 1500 football shirts, and over 1000 pairs of football boots was sent prior to the visit.

During the visit, a Coach Education programme of seminars and on-pitch practical activities was delivered to over 35 local youth coaches, helping them develop their skills in coaching their grassroots teams. Two youth tournaments were attended - one for girls and one for boys - and the players of the winning teams were presented with this seasons STFC away shirt, kindly donated by First City Care Group.

There was a visit to the David Livingstone School's Special Educational Needs unit, which has had a partnership with Swindon's Crowdy's Hill School for a number of years and Foundation members took part in a short Geography lesson based around the teams in the World Cup followed by a PE Lesson.

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A visit was also made to the compounds of Livingstone, which is where the majority of the grass-roots coaches hold their own sessions, on pitches that are often irregular shaped areas of deep sand, with rusted goalposts. Many of the teams have only one ball per team and the vast majority of the young players play in bare feet, but despite this, they show a passion and enthusiasm.

Foundation Park

North Wilts Youth Football League (NWYFL)

Throughout this season, the working relationship with the North Wilts Youth Football League (NWYFL) has been enhanced by hosting many events which has seen increasing numbers of people coming to Foundation Park.

Their flagship cup final events were held in May and the Under 7s event, which is one of the big events on the local grass roots calendar each season, took place in October. This was the first of 3 NWYFL events scheduled to take place at Foundation Park during the 22/23 season with the other two taking place in the new year. These events are very well attended and supported with a large footfall which generates additional revenues and interest in the facility.

National Literacy Trust Event

In June, Foundation Park was host for the National Literacy Trust event called "The World of Stories project". This project is focused on developing Primary School Library spaces, supporting schools to develop Reading for Pleasure strategies and promote the services of Public Libraries to school communities.

Otago Sessions

At the end of June, Foundation Park also became the home for Swindon Borough Council's Otago Sessions which are held in the Nigel Eady Suite. Otago is an evidence-based falls prevention programme for adults aged 65 and over. Courses are for 16 weeks and delivered in various locations, with Foundation Park being the Town Centre location after a visit from Council officials in late May. Each Otago session involves strength exercises to help strengthen the muscles around the hips, legs and ankles, where participants use tables and chairs to help improve their balance, thus improving their day to day lives when performing everyday activities that many of us take for granted.

Swindon Town Women FC

Swindon Town Women FC returned to their regular training slots at Foundation Park this season. As part of the expansion of support for the Women's team, some first team fixtures will be held at Foundation Park and the facility will be available for the Women to allow them to change and warm up prior to the big match.

Café

Following a successful trial period with Gorse Hill Tea Rooms running the on-site café, an 18-month contract extension was agreed with them to provide drinks and light bites for our participants and spectators through until the end of the season.

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Year ended 31 December 2022

Financial review

The net incoming resources for the year were £658,512 (2021: £233,462), resulting in accumulated funds carried forward of £4,057,007, (2021: £3,398,222) of which £1,739,509 (2020: £1,523,746) are unrestricted funds. Of this amount a sum of £570,288 (2020: £556,329) has been designated to a fixed asset fund representing the Foundation's internal funding of the Foundation Park facility, and further amounts of £503,636 (2021: £503,636) and £150,000 (2021: £92,500) have been set aside for a covered bowls facility and a 3G pitch sinking fund respectively. The residual free reserves figure at the year end stood at £515,585 (2021: £371,281) (see note 22 to the financial statements).

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Foundation to maintain unrestricted funds at least at the level required to provide sufficient funds to cover operating expenses for a six-month period. In the opinion of the Trustees a figure of £400,000 is considered adequate to meet this requirement, and unrestricted funds in excess of this amount are designated for the development of new covered sports facility.

Plans for future periods

The Trust aims to continue to provide and enhance its range of activities and seek new sources of funding including:

Indoor Community Sports Facility

In July 2022 the Foundation ceremonially cut the first sod on the future site of their state-of-the-art covered sports facility. John Carter and Gary Herbert, Executors of the Nigel Eady Trust, put the first spades in the ground, ahead of the site preparation beginning very soon.

This expansion of Foundation Park, which opened in January 2020, will provide a sheltered facility to allow more vulnerable groups the opportunity to enjoy sports and activities all year round.

On site for the ceremony were representatives from not only the Nigel Eady Trust, but also a number of other partners in the project such as the South Swindon Parish Council, as well as the participants of the Foundation's Staying Connected programme, who are just one of the groups who will benefit from the new facility.

The Foundation has been successful in obtaining funding for the project from the Premier League, The FA, the Government's Football Foundation and South Swindon Parish Council. These significant contributions will be used to support the construction of the Foundation's upcoming state-of-the-art indoor community sports facility, being built on the former County Ground Bowls Club site.

The Nigel Eady Training Centre officially opened in July 2023 covered sports facility on the site of the former County Ground Bowls Club.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut by Gary Herbert and John Carter, executors of the Nigel Eady Trust, and the event was attended by over 100 supporters and friends of the Foundation including representatives of other Swindon sports clubs, and members of local government.

The Foundation would like to thank The Nigel Eady Trust, the Premier League, the FA, and the Football Foundation for their continued financial support, and Swindon Borough Council and South Swindon Parish Council for their grant funding. Further thanks to the Wiltshire Community Foundation in partnership with the Hills Group and Crapper and Sons, for their funding towards the car park and the club house refurbishment. Also, thanks to the EFL Trust, the PFA, Imagine Cruising and our Main Sponsor Intel for their contributions.

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Year ended 31 December 2022

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

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 applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 5 September 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



K S Fraser
Trustee

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Year ended 31 December 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation *(continued)*

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Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Key audit matters: our assessment of risks of material misstatement

Key audit matters are those matters that in our professional judgement were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) identified by us, including those which had the greatest effect on the allocation of resources in the audit, and directing the efforts of the engagement team. There are no key areas identified as the audit is very low risk with normal audit procedures adequate in all audit areas. We agreed to report to the board of trustees any corrected or uncorrected identified misstatements.

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations - ability to detect

Identifying and reporting of risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of the Head of Foundation and the trustees and inspection of key papers provided to those charged with governance as to high level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud.
- Reviewing the minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We communicated identified fraud risks throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

As required by auditing standards, and taking into account possible pressures to meet targets and our overall knowledge of the control environment, we performed procedures to assess the risks of management override of controls. To address the pervasive risk as it related to management override of controls, we reviewed material journal entries and agreed these to supporting documentation where appropriate.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with the general manager and trustees. As the charity is regulated, our assessment of risks involved gaining an understanding of the control environment including the entity's procedures for complying with regulatory requirements.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably:

- Firstly, the charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting regulation (including related companies regulation), taxation legislation (payroll taxes) and pension legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures in the audit areas relevant to these items.

- Secondly, the charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequence of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect:

Health and safety laws.

Food and hygiene regulations.

Laws relating to working with, and the safeguarding of, young people and vulnerable adults.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of management and trustees and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if any breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Limitations to the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of laws and regulation

Owing to the inherent limitation of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as this may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement, and therefore we are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

statements is located on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Swindon Town FC Community Foundation *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Nicolas Michael FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
Elliott Bunker Ltd
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor
61 Macrae Road
Ham Green
Bristol
BS20 0DD

5 September 2023

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 December 2022

			2022		2021
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	126,496	438,741	565,237	258,874
Charitable activities	6	672,858	332,781	1,005,639	658,458
Other trading activities	7	98,402	–	98,402	72,690
Investment income	8	779	–	779	72
Total income		<u>898,535</u>	<u>771,522</u>	<u>1,670,057</u>	<u>990,094</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	9	682,772	328,500	1,011,272	756,632
Total expenditure		<u>682,772</u>	<u>328,500</u>	<u>1,011,272</u>	<u>756,632</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>215,763</u>	<u>443,022</u>	<u>658,785</u>	<u>233,462</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,523,746	1,874,476	3,398,222	3,164,760
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,739,509</u>	<u>2,317,498</u>	<u>4,057,007</u>	<u>3,398,222</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 30 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	16	2,907,783	2,466,241
Current assets			
Debtors	17	159,957	129,314
Cash at bank and in hand		1,050,847	1,003,381
		<u>1,210,804</u>	<u>1,132,695</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>61,580</u>	<u>200,714</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,149,224</u>	<u>931,981</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>4,057,007</u>	<u>3,398,222</u>
Net assets		<u>4,057,007</u>	<u>3,398,222</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		2,317,498	1,874,476
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,739,509</u>	<u>1,523,746</u>
Total charity funds	21	<u>4,057,007</u>	<u>3,398,222</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 5 September 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



K S Fraser
Trustee

The notes on pages 30 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	658,785	233,462
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	122,854	124,809
Other interest receivable and similar income	(779)	(72)
Accrued income	(96,078)	–
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	66,205	49,003
Trade and other creditors	(139,904)	(46,372)
Cash generated from operations	611,083	360,830
Interest received	779	72
Net cash from operating activities	<u>611,862</u>	<u>360,902</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(564,396)	(53,315)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(564,396)</u>	<u>(53,315)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	47,466	307,587
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,003,381	695,794
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>1,050,847</u>	<u>1,003,381</u>

The notes on pages 30 to 50 form part of these financial statements.