



ANNUAL REVIEW 2025



**NOTTINGHAM FOREST
COMMUNITY TRUST**



NOTTINGHAM FOREST COMMUNITY TRUST

Supporting those who need us

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Welcome FROM THE CEO

“ As we reflect on 2025, I am proud of the progress Nottingham Forest Community Trust has made and grateful to everyone who has contributed to our work over the past year. Our staff, trustees, partners, funders, volunteers and, most importantly, the communities we serve continue to shape a Trust that is ambitious, values led and deeply connected to Nottingham Forest Football Club.

This year has been an important one of consolidation and focus. Against a challenging external backdrop for the community and voluntary sector, we have been clear about our priorities and where we can make the greatest difference.

Community engagement remains our golden thread. It reinforces how we design programmes, how we work with partners and how we measure our impact.

Throughout 2025 we have continued to support children and young people, families and adults across Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire through a wide range of education, employability, health and wellbeing, and sport-based programmes. Our work has included initiatives such as Think Big, delivered in partnership with Ideagen, alongside the launch of Healthy Goals, as well as inclusive sport, physical activity and school holiday provisions. Across all areas, our delivery has remained firmly rooted in local need and lived experience. We have also responded to growing pressures on families, particularly around the cost of living and reductions in public funding, by working smarter and more collaboratively.

Our relationship with Nottingham Forest Football Club has remained central to our success. The appeal of the club badge, the involvement of players and staff across the men's, women's, academy and netball teams, and our shared commitment to being a force for good have enabled us to reach audiences that traditional services often cannot.

Over the years, we have strengthened this alignment and taken further steps to ensure the Trust is clearly recognised as an integral part of the wider Forest family.

2025 has also been a year of reflection and preparation for the future. We have reviewed our strategic direction, tested our mission, vision and values, and begun shaping the next phase of our journey. This work has reinforced the importance of clarity, accountability and impact, and will inform the launch of our new five year strategy in 2026.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and professionalism of our team. I would like to thank every colleague for their commitment, adaptability and passion, and our Board of Trustees for their support and guidance throughout the year. I would also like to thank our funders and partners for continuing to believe in our work at a time when resources are increasingly stretched.

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence and purpose. We remain committed to tackling inequality, improving life chances, and bringing people together through shared experiences centred around football. I hope this annual report gives you a clear sense of our impact in 2025 and the ambition we hold for the years to come.

Thank you for your continued support. ”

CALUM OSBORNE

CEO, Nottingham Forest Community Trust

NOTTINGHAM FOREST COMMUNITY TRUST EXISTS TO OPEN DOORS AND CREATE OPPORTUNITY WHERE IT IS NEEDED MOST.

Inspired by the reach and influence of Nottingham Forest, we engage people, build confidence and improve lives.

Everything we do is shaped by our commitment to being accessible, committed and progressive, ensuring our work is inclusive, ambitious and rooted in real community need.

Our programmes support healthier lifestyles, stronger skills and deeper connections, helping individuals and communities across Nottinghamshire to grow, adapt and succeed.





A note from **THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES**

“ As Chair of Nottingham Forest Community Trust, it is a privilege to reflect on 2025 and the remarkable difference the Trust continues to make across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. This year’s report gives us the clearest picture yet of our sustained impact, grounded in robust evidence and the voices of many of those who have participated in our programmes.

Our work has touched the lives of thousands of people of all ages. Data from our 2024/25 impact report suggests beneficiaries have experienced measurable improvements in their mental health and their personal wellbeing, as well as an increased sense of belonging in their communities.

There have been some stand-out results this year that I am particularly proud to highlight. Improvements in mental wellbeing, where 85% of participants reported a positive impact. Levels of physical activity in children aged 11-16 now stand at 81% which is 38% above the national average. Personal measures such as, resilience, trust in others, and sense of belonging all continue to outperform national benchmarks, demonstrating that our work builds strong, connected communities.

We’ve added a new dimension to our understanding of how our programmes are working by introducing parent feedback and I’m pleased to say that 98% of parents reported improvements in their child’s physical wellbeing, and 97% in personal development. For us, this is a testament to the Trust’s effectiveness in supporting young people both directly and indirectly through engaging with families.

We have also been able to quantify the wider social value of our work. Social value is the nationally recognised measure of the meaningful and lasting change a charity creates.

Between 2023-25, the Trust has generated over £52.5 million in social value, delivering more than £13 for every £1 invested. This remarkable return reaffirms the importance of our programmes not only for participants but for the broader community.

At the same time, our impact evaluation highlights areas where we can improve. Access to opportunities and measures of personal development showed small declines this year, reminding us that sustained impact requires continuous adaptation and focus. These insights will shape our priorities as we move into 2026 and beyond.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank our staff, volunteers, partners, and participants for their dedication, energy, and creativity. Together, we are ensuring that Nottingham Forest Community Trust remains a catalyst for positive change, creating healthier, more resilient, and more connected communities.

As we look ahead, I am confident that by building on our strengths, responding to emerging needs, and embracing innovation, the Trust will continue to grow its impact and make a meaningful difference to those who need us most for many years to come. **”**

JUDITH LYONS

Chair of Trustees, Nottingham Forest Community Trust



VALUES

Accessible
Committed
Progressive

VISION

To be Nottinghamshire's leading charity for improving community health and wellbeing for those who need us most.

MISSION

To deliver transformative programmes that promote health, wellbeing, and personal growth, supporting Nottinghamshire communities to thrive and reach their full potential.

TAKING CENTRE STAGE IN EUROPE



During the 2025/26 season, Nottingham Forest Football Club provided an unprecedented platform to showcase and raise awareness of Nottingham Forest Community Trust on the European stage.



Across five UEFA Europa League fixtures against Real Betis, FC Utrecht, SC Braga, SK Fenerbahce and FC Porto, the Men's first team wore shirts featuring Nottingham Forest Community Trust on the front.

This high-profile exposure was made possible through the generous support of the Club's principal partner, Bally's, whose donation enabled the Trust's name to be seen by global audiences. The initiative positively highlighted and reinforced the Trust's role at the heart of the wider Forest family.

Beyond visibility, the gesture sent a powerful message about the value of community impact, helping to raise awareness of the Trust's work supporting communities across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

FURTHER SOLIDIFYING OUR IMPACT

We were proud to present the second edition of the Nottingham Forest Community Trust impact report, capturing detailed insight from the 2024/25 season and comparing the impact of our programmes against 2023/24.

Developed in collaboration with Evid Impact, the report once again highlighted our progress, showcasing the positive social, physical, and mental wellbeing outcomes experienced by participants across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

The findings confirmed the Trust's strong and sustained influence across all three strategic priorities. Health and wellbeing outcomes were particularly strong, with mental wellbeing improving year on year, junior physical activity reaching 38% above the national average, and adults maintaining high activity levels alongside strong general health.

In education and employment, results remained broadly positive, with resilience consistently above national benchmarks, although access to opportunities and longer-term personal development were identified as areas requiring renewed focus.

Community engagement continued to perform strongly, with high levels of belonging and sense of community, supported by encouraging results from a new community integration measure. Parent feedback further reinforced these outcomes, with over 90% reporting positive impacts across their child's wellbeing, development, and community connection.

Together, these findings provided a strong foundation for 2025/26, highlighting where the Trust excelled and where targeted action would further strengthen impact.



86%

of participants reported improvements in physical wellbeing



85%

of participants experienced a positive impact on mental health



91%

of primary-aged participants felt that their activity has a positive or very positive impact on them being active



81%

of junior participants were classed as active – 38% above the national average

SOCIAL VALUE

Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Social Value Report (2023–25) showed the Trust generated

£52.5 MILLION

of social value over two seasons, delivering more than

£13 OF VALUE FOR EVERY £1 INVESTED



This represented a 21% year-on-year increase, rising from

£23.8M

IN 2023/24

to

£28.7M

IN 2024/25,

reflecting continued growth and impact across all age groups.

The findings were based on over

2,500

SURVEY RESPONSES

and used the Government-backed WELLBY methodology, providing a robust and credible measure of improvements in wellbeing, health, and life satisfaction.

Beyond the numbers, this impact represented real change in people's lives, supporting healthier lifestyles, improved wellbeing, and stronger, more connected communities across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

AWONIYI & OLDING: COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



Nottingham Forest was proud to celebrate Taiwo Awoniyi and Hollie Olding, who were named PFA Community Champions for the 2024/25 season in recognition of their exceptional dedication to community engagement.

Taiwo's contributions included visiting Premier League Kicks and self-funding and attending a community Iftar during Ramadan, bringing together local residents and emphasising unity and belonging. His commitment demonstrates the positive influence footballers can have beyond the pitch.

Hollie has been a standout advocate for mental health, serving as a Mental Health Ambassador and actively supporting our mental health programme, Tricky to Talk. She has inspired young people across the region through school sessions and community initiatives, helping to break down stigma and promote wellbeing.



THE RED THREAD: 2,000 KITS DONATED TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

The Red Thread campaign, launched by Nottingham Forest owner Evangelos Marinakis, saw 2,000 official club shirts donated to children across Nottinghamshire and surrounding areas, supporting schools in some of the region's most disadvantaged communities.



The initiative ensured pupils from more than 40 schools were able to access kits for PE, training and matches, helping to remove barriers to participation and strengthen pride in representing their school and club.

The campaign began with the delivery of 1,000 shirts, with over 100 handed out at St Ann's Well Academy and Nottingham Primary Academy, where Forest Men's players Ryan Yates, Neco Williams and Zach Abbott, alongside Women's players Sophie Haywood and Millie Chandarana, visited to personally present shirts to pupils. The impact led to a further 1,000 shirts being pledged and distributed, doubling the scale of the project.

As the campaign progressed, Forest men's, women's and academy players continued to visit schools across the county, helping to bring the initiative to life and strengthen the connection between the Club and local communities.

Forest described the Red Thread as a symbol of shared identity and opportunity, ensuring more young people could feel part of the club's journey.

Feedback from schools highlighted the impact on confidence, inclusion and participation, with pupils proudly wearing their Forest shirts during PE and school sport.

PLANNING APPROVED FOR FOREST SPORTS ZONE REDEVELOPMENT

Nottingham Forest Community Trust confirmed that planning approval had been granted for the redevelopment of the Forest Sports Zone at Forest Fields, the original home of Nottingham Forest Football Club.

First opened in 2015, the site has become one of Nottingham's most-used community sports facilities, welcoming over 2,000 people each week to take part in sport, physical activity and community programmes. The redevelopment is set to strengthen its long-term role as a key hub for local residents, schools, community groups and grassroots sports.

The £1.9 million investment will transform the site with two upgraded all-weather pitches, including a fully resurfaced existing 3G pitch and a new 3G surface replacing the adjacent sand-based pitch. Improved LED floodlighting will also support year-round use in a high-quality training and match environment.



A new, extended community building will be delivered, featuring improved changing facilities, expanded office space and a dedicated community area designed to make the site more welcoming and functional for all users.

Once complete, the redevelopment is expected to increase participation, improve the user experience and secure the Forest Sports Zone as a long-term community asset at the heart of Nottingham.

The upcoming project has been made possible through partnership investment from the Football Foundation, Nottingham Forest Community Trust and Nottingham City Council, reflecting a shared commitment to improving access to sport and physical activity across the city.



FUNDRAISING

Fundraising plays a vital role in enabling Nottingham Forest Community Trust to deliver and launch unrestricted programmes that support children, young people and families across Nottinghamshire. Every donation received helps create opportunities, remove barriers and strengthen communities. Support from fans, partners and the wider Forest family directly translates into real impact on the ground, helping the Trust reach more people and continue delivering life-changing activity year-round.

FA CUP SHIRT AUCTIONS RAISE OVER £16,000

Nottingham Forest fans raised over £16,000 for Nottingham Forest Community Trust through online auctions of signed 2024/25 FA Cup third and fourth-round shirts.

The match-worn and match-issued shirts, featuring the Community Trust

logo on the rear, gave fans the chance to own a piece of rare memorabilia while directly supporting programmes across Nottinghamshire.

Funds supported our initiatives in sport, education, wellbeing, and food provision for families in need.

PRIZE DRAWS

Nottingham Forest supporters continued their support by raising £6,815 in the Trust's first-ever mascot prize draw for the Manchester City fixture in December 2025.

The draw gave fans the chance to win a mascot experience, with every entry directly supporting the Trust's work across Nottinghamshire.

OVER £10,000 RAISED AT ANNUAL GOLF DAY

Over £10,000 was raised at the Evelyn Partners Annual Golf Day, held at Beeston Fields Golf Club.

Funds were generated through entry fees and a charity auction, which featured a signed Nottingham Forest shirt that attracted strong bidding.

COMMUNITY TRUST HIGHLIGHTS



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Health and wellbeing guide our long-term vision and strategic priorities. We are proud to deliver a wide range of programmes that support both physical and mental health.

Our aim is to inspire healthier lifestyles and create meaningful, lasting impact. As a team, we remain committed to growing our initiatives, ensuring more people in our communities have the opportunity to enhance their overall wellbeing.

STRENGTHENING MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

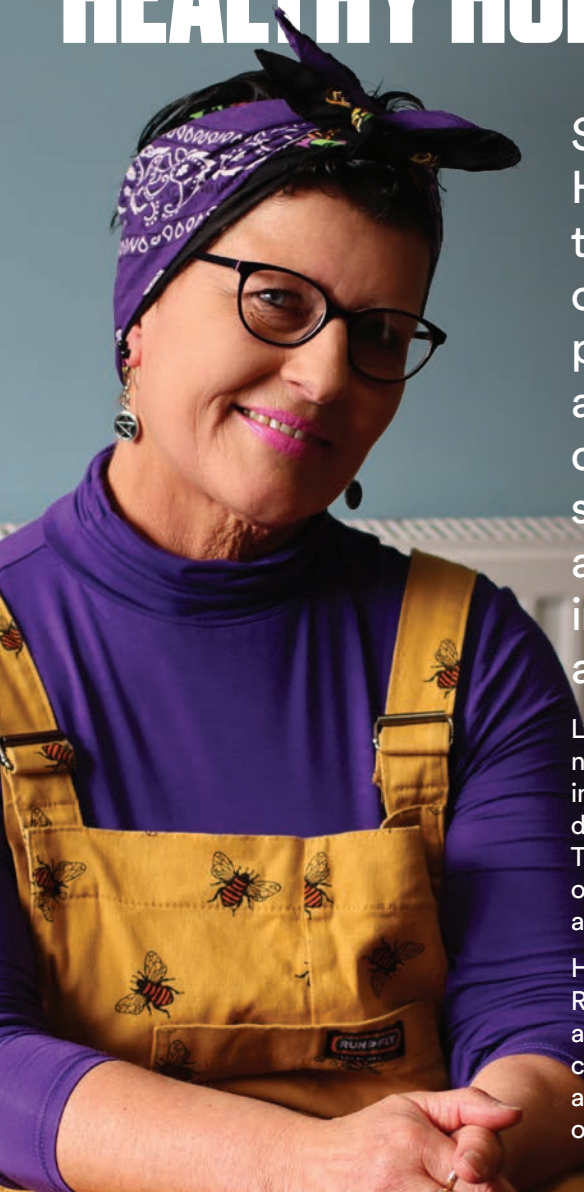
The Health & Wellbeing team hosted a mental health event at the City Ground, bringing together partners, stakeholders and service users to strengthen collaboration and improve access to support across Nottinghamshire. Featuring a Q&A with Mental Health Ambassador and former Nottingham Forest player, Harry Toffolo, the event highlighted the impact of the Trust's Tricky to Talk

programme in using football to reduce stigma and encourage open conversations.

The event helped expand the programme's reach, sharing insights, building partnerships and outlining future activity including monthly Tricky Hubs, Mental Health Awareness Week initiatives and Wellness Walks.



LYNN'S JOURNEY WITH HEALTHY HORIZON HUBS



Since joining Healthy Horizon Hubs, Lynn has transformed her health, confidence, and sense of purpose. Initially hesitant and overwhelmed, she discovered a welcoming space offering a mix of activities beyond sports, including games, sewing, and gym sessions.

Lynn improved her diet, learning to cook new meals and experiment with healthy ingredients, while giving up chocolate and drinking more water.

The programme also gave her a sense of belonging, helping her build friendships and reconnect with her passions.

Health and Wellbeing Coordinator Ian Richardson noted that Lynn has become a key member of the group, embracing cooking, gardening, and creative projects, and looking forward to the future with optimism.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST AT THE SPORT PARKINSON'S WALKING FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Nottingham Forest Community Trust walking footballers took part in the world's largest Walking Football tournament for people with Parkinson's at St. George's Park, bringing together 24 teams from across the UK.

The event offered participants the chance to compete in a safe, inclusive environment while promoting physical activity, social interaction, and wellbeing for people with neurological conditions.

Forest topped their Shield group with four wins and a draw, advancing to the semi-finals where they were narrowly defeated by Arsenal in the Community on penalties. The team was made up of participants from the Trust's Neuro Walking Football sessions, which help players stay active, build confidence, and develop friendships.



COMMUNITY TRUST SUPPORTS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK



Nottingham Forest Community Trust supported Mental Health Awareness Week 2025 under the theme 'community'. The campaign highlighted the importance of connection in protecting mental wellbeing and tackling stigma.

Locally, where anxiety rates are high and wellbeing below national averages, the Trust delivers community-based programmes including its Tricky to Talk initiative, offering drop-in support, peer conversations and signposting. The Community Trust's 2024/25 impact survey showed 85% of participants reported improved mental wellbeing, with those engaged for over a year experiencing 28% lower anxiety. The Trust actively works with partners and professionals to further strengthen impact.

DANIEL REBUILDS CONFIDENCE

Our Healthy Horizon Hubs continued to transform lives by combining physical activity, social interaction and personal development in a supportive environment.

Daniel joined the programme looking for structure and support. Through regular sport sessions and group activities, he built strength, reduced anxiety and grew in social confidence. Over time, he began setting his own goals, including developing the skills and confidence to establish a community group. The programme gave him routine, belonging and a renewed sense of self-belief.



COMMUNITY TRUST SUPPORTS COACHES IN SINGAPORE



Nottingham Forest Community Trust represented the club on the international stage by taking part in the Premier League's Community Coach Development Programme in Singapore. Delivered in partnership with the Football Association of Singapore, the initiative aimed to develop grassroots coaches and expand access to football.

During a three-day training camp, Community Trust coaches worked alongside LFC Foundation and the Premier League to deliver sessions to local participants. The programme focused on inclusive coaching, session planning and developing leadership and communication skills.

It concluded with a Community Showcase event, where local children took part in activities led by the newly trained coaches, demonstrating the impact of the programme.



STAFF MARK WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Staff from Nottingham Forest Football Club and Nottingham Forest Community Trust marked World Mental Health Day in October with a collective Wellbeing Walk aimed at promoting mental health and connection.

Colleagues from across departments completed a scenic route along the River Trent.

Starting at the City Ground, the walk went along the Embankment, over Trent Bridge, and back to the stadium, combining gentle exercise with social interaction and mindfulness.

The activity highlighted the importance of taking time away from work to focus on wellbeing, encouraging conversation and a sense of shared support.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

We know that equipping people with the right skills and knowledge can transform lives and strengthen communities.

Our learning and development initiatives support personal growth, build practical skills, and encourage ambition, helping each individual reach their highest potential.

By offering workshops, mentoring, and guidance, we give people the tools and confidence to thrive personally and contribute positively to the places they live.



PRIMARY STARS SUPPORTS ST ANN'S WELL ACADEMY

At St Ann's Well Academy, our Lead Coaches had a clear and lasting impact in 2025, supporting both teaching and learning across the school. Working closely with staff, they helped shape a tailored PE curriculum and supported the introduction of new after-school clubs, increasing participation and engagement.

Their work has also strengthened classroom practice, with a growing focus on reading and literacy linked to the programme. Teacher Alison Thompson noted improved confidence, higher engagement and increased participation, alongside her own development in delivering PE.

Pupils have responded positively to sessions that combine sport, teamwork and learning, with many describing sport as their favourite subject. They particularly enjoy the active, game-based approach, which helps them build confidence, stay engaged and work together with friends in a fun and inclusive environment.





CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Pupils across Nottingham took part in a special International Women's Day workshop through Premier League Primary Stars and delivered by Community Trust Lead Coaches. The session focused on the theme 'Accelerate Action', encouraging pupils to reflect on gender equality and the importance of positive role models.

Ahead of the workshop, pupils wrote letters to female role models in their lives, with many choosing their mothers. These were shared in a powerful moment helping to create a reflective and personal start to the session.

The workshop included a Q&A with Nottingham Forest Women's player Caragh Hamilton and Nottingham Forest Netball NXT Gen captain Corey McGlynn, where pupils asked thoughtful questions about sport, ambition and inspiration.



JUSTICE AND JUSTIN: GROWTH THROUGH FOOTBALL AND MENTORSHIP

Justice and Justin's journey through primary school reflects significant personal growth supported through Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Premier League Primary Stars programme.

With consistent engagement in sessions led by Primary Stars Lead Coach, Ben, both boys developed stronger emotional awareness, improved behaviour and a more positive approach to competition. Their ability to manage emotions and make better choices has grown noticeably over time, alongside an increased understanding of how their actions affect others.

Both have also proudly represented their school football team, demonstrating progress that may not have been possible in previous years. Teachers highlighted their development in focus, emotional control and leadership, as well as the positive impact of their relationship with Ben, whose consistent support has helped build confidence and motivation.

COMMUNITY TRUST AND COLLEGE LAUNCH SPORTS COACHING COURSE

A new partnership between Nottingham Forest Community Trust and West Nottinghamshire College in 2025 saw us co-launch the CIMSPA Level 3 Community Coaching programme, creating a direct pathway for young people into sports coaching careers.

The course offers 16–18-year-olds the chance to gain industry-recognised qualifications alongside hands-on experience within the Trust's community programmes. Delivered across the Forest Sport Zone and West Nottinghamshire College's Derby Road campus, learners develop their coaching skills through practical delivery in schools and community settings, while also gaining exposure to matchday Fan Zone activities at Nottingham Forest home games.

With a strong emphasis on leadership, inclusion and real-world experience, the programme equips students with the skills and values needed for future careers in sport, supporting the development of the next generation of community coaches and strengthening long-term opportunities across Nottinghamshire.



JASON LEE REINFORCES NO ROOM FOR RACISM MESSAGE

Former Reds striker Jason Lee delivered a powerful anti-racism message to young players at the Premier League Kicks East Midlands regional qualifiers at Gresham Sports Park, reinforcing the importance of the Premier League's No Room For Racism campaign.

Speaking directly to participants, he highlighted the value of Kicks as a safe, positive space where young people can come together through a shared love of football, while also stressing the ongoing need to challenge discrimination in all forms.

He reflected on the importance of visibility and unity in the professional game, the role of education in driving understanding, and the need for football to remain inclusive and welcoming for everyone. Jason also emphasised the responsibility shared by clubs and community organisations in keeping these messages active and relevant within grassroots football and beyond.

PUPILS PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY THROUGH PREMIER LEAGUE INSPIRES CHALLENGE

Participants from Bramcote College took part in the Premier League Inspires Challenge 2025, using football to explore and address gender inequality in their community.

The group developed an interactive workshop for primary school pupils focused on bullying, gender equality and allyship. Using games, videos and activities, they created an engaging session designed to help younger pupils understand key issues in a relatable and accessible way.

Their project was shaped by a desire to have long-term impact across local schools, ensuring future cohorts are supported to understand and challenge inequality. Having received the most votes in their heat, the group went on to represent Nottingham Forest at the national celebration event at Wembley Stadium, showcasing their work alongside clubs from across England and Wales.



READING STARS HELPS JOSEPH SHINE

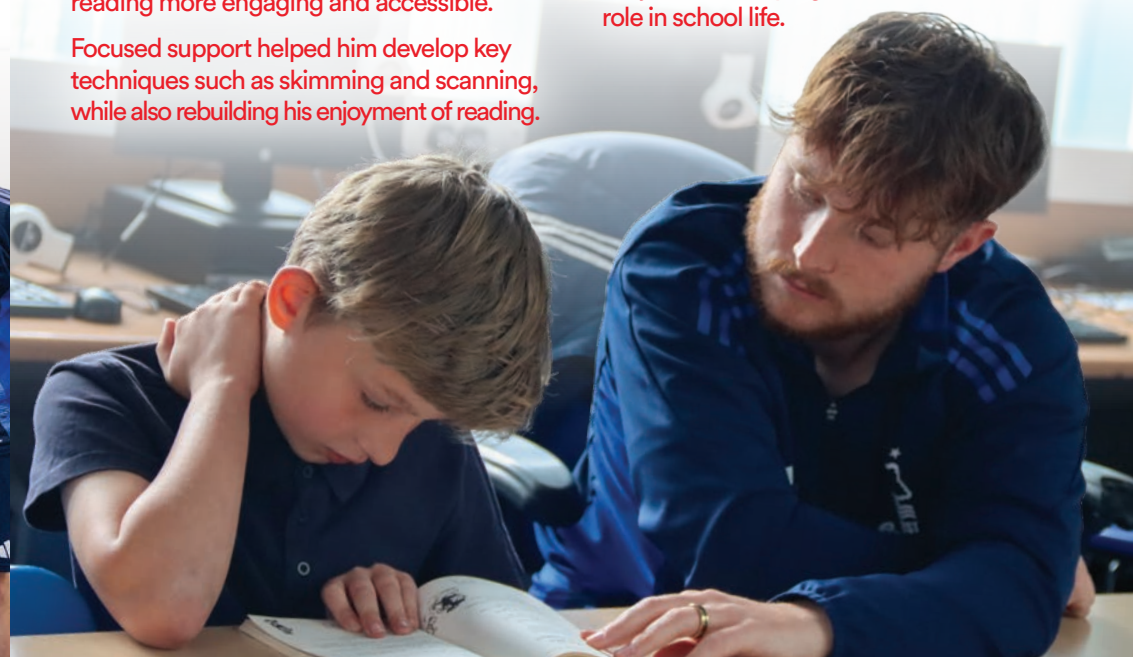
Joseph from Crabtree Farm Primary School made significant progress in reading through the Primary Stars reading programme.

When he first participated, Joseph found reading challenging and lacked confidence, particularly with SATs approaching. Working with a Community Trust Lead Coach, he began to rebuild his skills through sessions tailored around his interests, including football, making reading more engaging and accessible.

Over time, Joseph moved up two book bands, improved his assessment scores, and became more confident both in class and at home when reading.

His progress has also had a wider impact, improving engagement across other subjects and helping him take a more active role in school life.

Focused support helped him develop key techniques such as skimming and scanning, while also rebuilding his enjoyment of reading.



PUPILS ENJOY BEHIND-THE-SCENES CITY GROUND EXPERIENCE

Pupils from Nethergate Academy experienced a behind-the-scenes visit to the City Ground as part of the Think Big programme, delivered in partnership with Ideagen.

The day began with a workshop focused on teamwork, communication and skills, before pupils explored key areas of the stadium including the dressing rooms, technical areas and museum. Along the way, they were encouraged to identify how technology is used across a Premier League environment.

A highlight of the visit was a creative challenge linked to fundraising for

Rainbows Hospice, where pupils used a set budget in the club shop to consider value, purpose and impact.

The experience forms part of a wider programme of follow-up workshops designed to develop personal values, digital skills and confidence, helping young people connect classroom learning with real-world opportunities and future pathways.

PUPILS WEAR GIFTED KIT DURING CITY GROUND TOURNAMENT

Three Nottinghamshire primary schools experienced a memorable day at the City Ground, as pupils were invited to play on the pitch where professional footballers compete.

Pupils from Kirkby Woodhouse Primary, Nottingham Primary Academy and Arnbrook Primary School took part in a round-robin tournament, wearing official Nottingham Forest shirts gifted through the Club's Red Thread initiative, which supported schools across Nottinghamshire with official kit for PE and sport.

The experience included walking through the tunnel, stepping out onto a Premier League pitch, and playing in front of the iconic Trent End, creating lasting memories for all involved. Kirkby Woodhouse Primary finished as winners, lifting the trophy presented by Community Trust coaches.

The day highlighted the impact of providing inclusive opportunities through football, helping pupils build confidence, aspiration and a stronger connection to their school and club.

CLAREMONT GIRLS GROW IN CONFIDENCE THROUGH FOOTBALL

A group of girls from Claremont Primary School have grown in confidence, resilience and belonging through their involvement in the Premier League Primary Stars programme.

Since joining an after-school football club with little or no previous experience of the game, the group quickly developed into a committed team, progressing to the semi-finals of the Year 5 & 6 Regional Primary Stars Girls Football Tournament. For many, it was their first experience of organised competitive football.

Weekly sessions focused on fun, teamwork and confidence-building helped the girls overcome initial nerves and grow in both skill and self-belief. Over time, they began taking part in football during breaktimes, forming stronger friendships and becoming more involved in school sports.



AMELIA AND KAYDEN: HOW SPORT AND MENTORSHIP ARE IMPROVING LIVES

Kayden (Year 4) and Amelia (Year 6) at Djanogly Strelley Academy experienced significant personal growth through Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Premier League Primary Stars programme.

When he first began working with the school, Community Trust Lead Coach Richard supported Kayden through challenges with behaviour, confidence and engagement in PE. Over time, Kayden began to take pride in lessons, showing improved self-regulation, participation and a growing sense of belonging.

Simple routines such as helping set up equipment and attending breakfast club helped him start the day positively.

Amelia's journey has followed a similar path, moving from reluctance and low confidence in PE to active participation and leadership. She now supports peers, volunteers in lessons and engages fully in physical activity.





CODDINGTON PRIMARY WINS FAIR PLAY AWARD AT NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

Coddington Primary School proudly returned from the Premier League Primary Stars National Tournament at Molineux Stadium, home of Wolverhampton Wanderers, with the Fair Play Award, recognising their outstanding respect, integrity and embodiment of the programme's values.

Representing Nottingham Forest Community Trust, the mixed team qualified for the national finals after winning back-to-back regional tournaments, securing their place at a Premier League stadium for a second consecutive year following a previous appearance at Brentford's Gtech Community Stadium in 2024.

Although narrowly exiting at the group stage, the team stood out for their attitude throughout the competition, consistently showing respect to opponents and officials while upholding the spirit of the game.

E.ON NEXT GIVES GIRLS' TEAMS UNFORGETTABLE CHANGE TO PLAY AT THE CITY GROUND

Girls from Bramcote College, The Suthers Academy, Red Hill Academy and Kirk Hallam Academy experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play on the pitch at the City Ground, made possible through a donation from Nottingham Forest sustainability partner E.ON NEXT in collaboration with Nottingham Forest Community Trust.



The event brought together school teams involved in the Premier League Inspires programme, giving pupils the chance to play football in a Premier League stadium environment. The experience formed part of the programme's aims to build confidence, develop skills and raise aspirations through football-led engagement.

RETHINKING FUTURES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE

At the Thinking and Doing Differently Conference held in Nottingham, Ideagen and Nottingham Forest Community Trust highlighted the impact of the Think Big programme as a leading example of cross-sector collaboration supporting young people's futures.

Bringing together more than 120 leaders from education, business, public services and the voluntary sector, the event focused on the need for long-term, joined-up approaches to address challenges facing young people across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

The Think Big programme was showcased as a pioneering model, combining digital skills development with real-world exposure to careers in areas such as AI, marketing and technology. Delivered in partnership with Ideagen, the programme connects students with professionals, workplace experiences and matchday opportunities at Nottingham Forest, helping to raise aspirations and build confidence.

Now in its fifth year, Think Big continues to support thousands of students, with schools reporting increased digital skills, confidence and career awareness.



PARTICIPANTS TAKE FIRST STEPS INTO OFFICIATING WITH FA REFEREE COURSE



Nottingham Forest Community Trust partnered with Nottinghamshire FA to deliver The FA Referees' Course for young people on the Forest Futures programme, offering a first step into football officiating.

Delivered at the Forest Sports Zone and led by FA tutors, the fully funded course gave participants the opportunity to explore refereeing over two days, combining classroom learning with practical on-pitch scenarios.

Participants developed an understanding of the Laws of the Game and key officiating skills, including communication, positioning, managing game situations, decision-making and player management across different formats of the game.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At the heart of our work is the belief that our programmes can unite and bring people together.

Community engagement is the golden thread running through our programmes and initiatives, designed to promote inclusion, break down social and economic barriers, and develop a sense of belonging for everyone in Nottinghamshire.

We strive to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have access to opportunities that support their growth and wellbeing.

We are dedicated to being a catalyst for positive change, creating initiatives that not only benefit individuals but also leave a lasting impact on the wider community.

NEW AND IMPROVED CONFIDENCE IN EZRA

Ezra's journey through our Premier League Kicks programme in 2025 highlights the impact of consistent support and positive environments for young people.

When he first joined, Ezra was quiet and reserved, taking time to feel comfortable within the group. Over the past two years, regular attendance and encouragement from coaches have helped him grow in confidence, build friendships and develop stronger communication skills.

He is now a confident and supportive member of the sessions, known for encouraging others and helping new participants feel welcome. Community Trust coaches reflected on his development as a shift from being shy to becoming a key positive influence within the group.

Ezra's progress was recognised when he was selected as a mascot for the Nottingham Forest home fixture against Liverpool, a proud moment that reflects both his personal growth and the impact he now has on those around him.





A NIGHT OF UNITY AT THE CITY GROUND

Nottingham Forest Community Trust hosted its third Open Iftar at the City Ground and the second in partnership with local charity, Himmah, bringing together people from across Nottingham to share a meal, reflect, and support those experiencing food poverty.

The evening welcomed individuals of all faiths and backgrounds, creating a shared space of unity, reflection and community connection during Ramadan.

Guests broke fast together in the Peter Taylor Stand, highlighting the role of football in bringing people together beyond the game itself. The event formed part of an ongoing partnership with

Himmah, supporting wider efforts to tackle food insecurity and strengthen community cohesion.

The evening demonstrated the power of collaboration between sport and local organisations in creating inclusive spaces and meaningful social impact across Nottingham.

BRINGING BATTLEFIELD HISTORY TO FOREST FORCES VETERANS



Over five weeks, Forest Forces veterans took part in the Finds Programme, hosted at the City Ground in partnership with Waterloo Uncovered.

The workshops gave veterans access to Battle of Waterloo artefacts while introducing archaeological skills through hands-on sessions led by specialists. Participants explored post-excavation work, handled real historical finds and engaged with local heritage in a meaningful and practical way.

The programme created opportunities for learning, connection and shared experience, supporting wellbeing while building camaraderie among participants.

Alongside developing new skills, veterans were able to reflect on history in a collaborative environment that encouraged discussion and discovery.

The initiative concluded with a public showcase at Thoresby Park, where veterans shared their work with family and friends, highlighting both their achievements and the wider value of heritage-based engagement within the Forest Forces programme.

TAIWO HOSTS COMMUNITY GATHERING

Nottingham Forest striker Taiwo Awoniyi supported a community Iftar in Nottingham during Ramadan, personally funding meals to bring people together in partnership with Nottingham Forest Community Trust and local charity Himmah.

The event, held at Himmah's Hub in Hyson Green, welcomed around 70 community members from different backgrounds to share food, reflect and celebrate togetherness.

The gathering highlighted the role of football players in connecting communities and supporting social cohesion, particularly through collaborative work between players, charities and local organisations.

It also forms part of a wider commitment from both Taiwo and community partners to support initiatives that tackle inequality and strengthen relationships across Nottingham's diverse communities.



FOREST HOST PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS CUP REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

Nottingham Forest Community Trust hosted the Premier League Kicks East Midlands regional qualifiers at Gresham Sports Park, bringing together teams from Leicester City, Derby County, Notts County, Mansfield Town, Chesterfield and Lincoln City.

The annual tournament forms part of the Premier League Kicks Cup, a national competition for under-16s taking part in weekly Kicks sessions funded by the Premier League Foundation. It provides young people with the opportunity to represent their club and compete against peers from across the region, with places in the national finals at stake.

On the pitch, both the mixed and girls' competitions showcased strong performances, teamwork and competitive

spirit, with Lincoln City winning the mixed tournament and Nottingham Forest securing victory in the girls' event to progress to the national finals.

Alongside football, players took part in a first aid workshop delivered by StreetDoctors and experienced an up-close viewing of the Premier League trophy, adding further inspiration to a day focused on opportunity, development and positive engagement.



INVICTUS GAMES MEDALLIST JOINS FOREST FORCES



Former Royal Marine Ben Lukowski from Nottinghamshire began attending Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Forest Forces programme, marking an important step in his recovery and transition into civilian life.

After sustaining a serious brain injury in 2022, Ben was medically discharged following 16 years of service. Through rehabilitation and sport, he rebuilt confidence and purpose, going on to achieve international success at the 2025 Invictus Games in Canada, where he won two gold medals in indoor rowing and competed across multiple disciplines.

A lifelong Nottingham Forest supporter, Ben was introduced to Forest Forces through his father and quickly found value in the programme's supportive environment. The initiative provides opportunities for veterans to connect, take part in shared activities and build a sense of community.

VETERANS CONNECT WITH SERVING ARMED FORCES

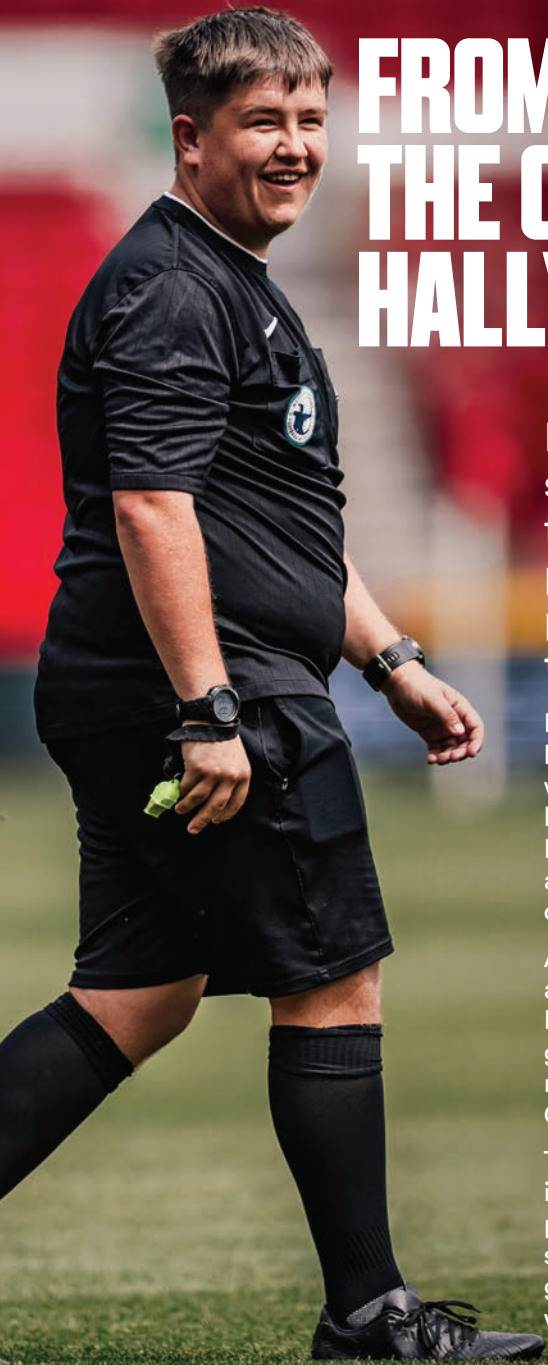
Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Forest Forces programme held its quarterly breakfast club at the Sergeants' Mess in Chetwynd Barracks, Chilwell, bringing together veterans from across Nottinghamshire for a morning of connection, reflection and shared experience.

The event provided an opportunity for veterans to meet and engage with serving armed forces personnel, strengthening intergenerational links and building a sense of continued belonging. Attendees also toured the Barracks and visited the Chilwell Filling Factory Memorial, deepening their understanding of the site's historical significance.

A highlight of the morning was a talk from Forest Forces participant Gary Crosby, who shared insights into the memorial's history and his own experiences of service.

The session reflects the wider Forest Forces programme, which uses regular social and wellbeing activities to reduce isolation, support mental wellbeing and help veterans build lasting connections within a supportive community.





FROM KICKS TO THE CITY GROUND: HALLY'S JOURNEY

Hally's journey shows how sustained engagement through football can create real progression, from community participation to officiating at the City Ground.

He first became involved through school-based programme, Premier League Inspires, where he developed confidence, resilience and key life skills. He later progressed into Premier League Kicks, building positive relationships and gaining experience through weekly community football sessions.

Alongside volunteering at Soccer Schools and gaining refereeing qualifications through Nottinghamshire FA, Hally began officiating grassroots matches before being selected to referee a Play on the Pitch fixture at the City Ground.

The experience marked a significant milestone in his development, reflecting how structured pathways through Trust programmes can support young people to grow in confidence, gain qualifications and take on leadership roles within football.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERVE UP SUPPORT FOR NOTTINGHAM'S HOMELESS

Premier League Kicks participants supported a community social action project by preparing and cooking meals for people experiencing homelessness in Nottingham.



Working alongside Working Man's Kitchen in Sneinton Market, the group helped to prepare nutritious dishes including chicken curry and vegetable chilli, which were later distributed through local support organisations.

The young people chose to dedicate their time after finishing school to give back

to their community while developing practical skills.

Alongside cooking, participants built teamwork, confidence and a stronger sense of social responsibility, gaining hands-on experience in a real kitchen environment while contributing to a meaningful local cause.

ALEEZA'S UNFORGETTABLE DAY AT THE PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS CUP

Aleeza experienced a lifetime highlight at George's Park, representing Nottingham Forest in the Premier League Kicks Cup girls' tournament. Playing on the same pitches used by England's national teams, she faced players from across the country and gained a real taste of elite-level football.

Delivered by Nottingham Forest Community Trust, Premier League Kicks provides free sessions across Nottinghamshire, helping young people build confidence, skills and positive pathways through football.

Aleeza said the experience was "unreal" and "inspiring", adding that it made her believe she could one day reach the highest level of the game.



FOREST FEED EVEN MORE NOTTINGHAM CHILDREN

Nottingham Forest Community Trust delivered its Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, providing free holiday clubs with sport, enrichment activities and healthy meals for children and families.

Funded by the UK Government, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council, the programme helps tackle holiday hunger while keeping young people active and engaged during school holidays.

The initiative supports families with childcare pressures and rising costs, ensuring children stay safe, active and well-nourished throughout the holidays.



COMMUNITY TRUST WELCOMES LOCAL FAMILIES TO ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY



Nottingham Forest Community Trust hosted its second annual Family Fun Day at Haydn Road Community Cricket Club, welcoming hundreds of local families to a free summer celebration.

The sold-out event featured football with Community Trust coaches, arts and crafts, live DJ sets, food stalls, and the chance to see the European Cup trophy up close. Nottingham Forest Academy players also joined activities, signing autographs and meeting young fans.

A Health and Wellbeing Zone, supported by local partners including E.ON Next, Nottinghamshire Police and Himmah, provided advice and services for families.

COMMUNITY TRUST HELPS PREPARE 3,000 GOODY BAGS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

Nottingham Forest Community Trust supported Ideagen and Himmah in packing 3,000 goody bags for children across Nottinghamshire. Nearly 500 Ideagen staff were joined by volunteers from the Community Trust and Nottingham Rugby to help deliver the initiative.

Held at the East Midlands Conference Centre, the large-scale initiative brought organisations together to prepare winter gifts and books for local families, providing support during a challenging time of year.



HUDSON-ODOI AND AINA JOIN PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS SESSION

Participants received a surprise visit from Nottingham Forest players Callum Hudson-Odoi and Ola Aina, creating a memorable experience for young people taking part in the programme.

The pair shared insights from their journeys in football and spoke about the importance of respect, hard work and self-belief. Through a Q&A session, they encouraged participants to pursue their goals and overcome challenges both on and off the pitch.

The visit also supported the Premier League's No Room For Racism campaign, reinforcing messages of inclusion, equality and belonging.



FOREST REMEMBERS



Nottingham Forest paid tribute to the Armed Forces community across both the Men's Premier League and Women's WSL2 fixtures during Remembrance Weekend, highlighting the Club's ongoing commitment to veterans through the Forest Forces programme.

Forest Forces supports former service personnel with social connection, wellbeing activities and a sense of belonging through regular sessions including coffee mornings, walking football and community trips.

At the City Ground, veterans and serving personnel took part in the Act of Remembrance before the Leeds United fixture, with wreath-laying and The Last Post performed as part of a moving ceremony led by members of the Forest Forces community.

ONGOING PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES ESSENTIAL HELP TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

Nottingham Forest Community Trust staff volunteered once again to support Himmah, continuing a long-standing partnership delivering weekly food parcels and festive goody bags to vulnerable families across Nottingham.

Working alongside Ideagen volunteers, the initiative ensured essential supplies were packed and distributed during the busy winter period, when demand for support is at its highest.

The collaboration reflects a wider commitment across Nottingham organisations to tackle food insecurity and support local communities through practical, hands-on action.

This ongoing work highlights the impact of partnership in providing vital help for families in need across the city.



PLAYER ENGAGEMENTS

The involvement of Nottingham Forest men's, women's academy and former players continues to be one of the most valued aspects of our community programmes, creating memorable experiences for participants across Nottinghamshire.



PLAYER ENGAGEMENTS



From attending Premier League Kicks sessions and visiting schools through Premier League Primary Stars, to supporting holiday clubs and community events, player appearances bring energy, inspiration and excitement to young people taking part. For many participants, the opportunity to meet their Forest heroes is a moment they will never forget.

These visits also create meaningful connections between players and the communities they represent. By spending time in schools, community settings and grassroots environments, players gain a greater understanding of the experiences, challenges and aspirations of people across the city and county.



PLAYER ENGAGEMENTS

Player engagement is a powerful way of strengthening the relationship between Nottingham Forest and its communities. It helps young people believe in their potential, creates lasting memories and demonstrates the club's commitment to making a positive difference both on and off the pitch.



CITY GROUND FESTIVITIES REWARD PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS PUPILS

Pupils from some of our partner schools enjoyed a festive celebration at the City Ground as part of Nottingham Forest Community Trust's Premier League Primary Stars programme.

The event recognised their engagement and achievement, with festive activities, food, and entertainment, plus a surprise visit from Santa who gave every child a gift.

Forest players and staff, including Omari Hutchinson, joined the celebrations, creating memorable moments for pupils.

The event formed part of the Club's wider Home for Christmas campaign, using football to reward participation, inspire young people and support local communities.



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

2025 has been another strong and strategically important year for Nottingham Forest Community Trust, with total revenue of £2.124 million. This remains one of the Trust's highest-ever income years and reflects continued demand for our programmes, the strength of our partnerships, and the success of our diversified funding approach.

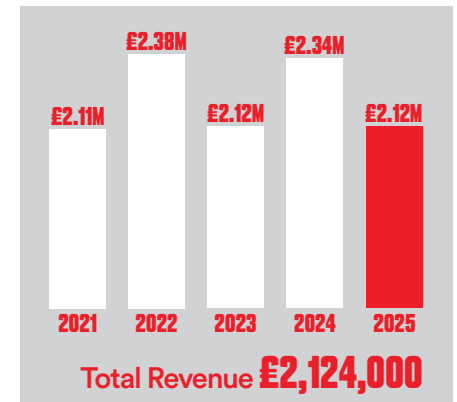
A key highlight this year has been the continued growth and diversification of income streams across the organisation. The Forest Sports Zone has delivered another record year of income, reinforcing its position as a thriving community hub and a central pillar of the Trust's long-term sustainability, particularly as we embark on the £1.9 million redevelopment of the facility.

In addition, donation income reached its highest level to date, supported by successful fundraising activity including our annual golf day, match-worn shirt auctions and a club donation from carrier bag sales.

We have also seen continued growth in participation across Nottingham Forest Official Soccer Schools, reflecting both strong community engagement and increased demand for high-quality football provision.

Alongside this, we have secured additional grant investment to strengthen key delivery areas including Premier League Kicks and Walking Football. This has enabled us to extend our reach and ensure more people across Nottinghamshire can benefit from our programmes.

This year also marks an important period of transition and renewal across our programme portfolio. As Forest Futures concluded its current cycle in summer 2025, we have successfully evolved our offer, including the launch of Healthy Goals in September 2025. In education, our BTEC and Foundation Degree provision has transitioned into a new CIMSPA-aligned pathway, ensuring our delivery remains relevant, high-quality and future-focused.



While these programme transitions have naturally influenced year-on-year income comparisons, they represent positive evolution in how we deliver impact and respond to need, rather than a reduction in activity or ambition.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with confidence and momentum. With a strong financial foundation, growing unrestricted reserves, continued investment in facilities, and an evolving programme offer, we are well positioned to expand our impact and deepen our work across Nottinghamshire.

As ever, our focus remains not simply on financial performance, but on how we use our resources to create opportunity, improve wellbeing, and make a lasting difference in the communities we serve. ”



IQBAL SINGH SANGHERA
TRUSTEE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR,
NOTTINGHAM FOREST COMMUNITY TRUST

“I continue to take great pride in the work and impact of Nottingham Forest Community Trust and the positive difference it is making across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

This annual review reflects another important year for the Trust, shaped by growth, innovation and a continued commitment to supporting local communities. At a time when many individuals and families continue to face significant challenges, the Trust has remained focused on creating opportunities, improving wellbeing and strengthening community connections through the unique reach of Nottingham Forest.

One of the most significant achievements this year has been the continued strengthening of the relationship between the Football Club and the Trust. Seeing Nottingham Forest Community Trust showcased during our UEFA Europa League campaign was a proud moment for everyone connected with the club. Displaying the Trust's name on the European stage highlighted the importance we place on community impact and reinforced the role the Trust plays at the heart of the wider Forest family.

Across the year, the Trust has continued delivering meaningful programmes supporting people of all ages through education, employability, health and wellbeing, sport and community engagement. The impact being achieved through initiatives such as Think Big, Healthy Goals, Premier League Kicks and Primary Stars is helping people build confidence, develop skills and feel more connected within their communities.

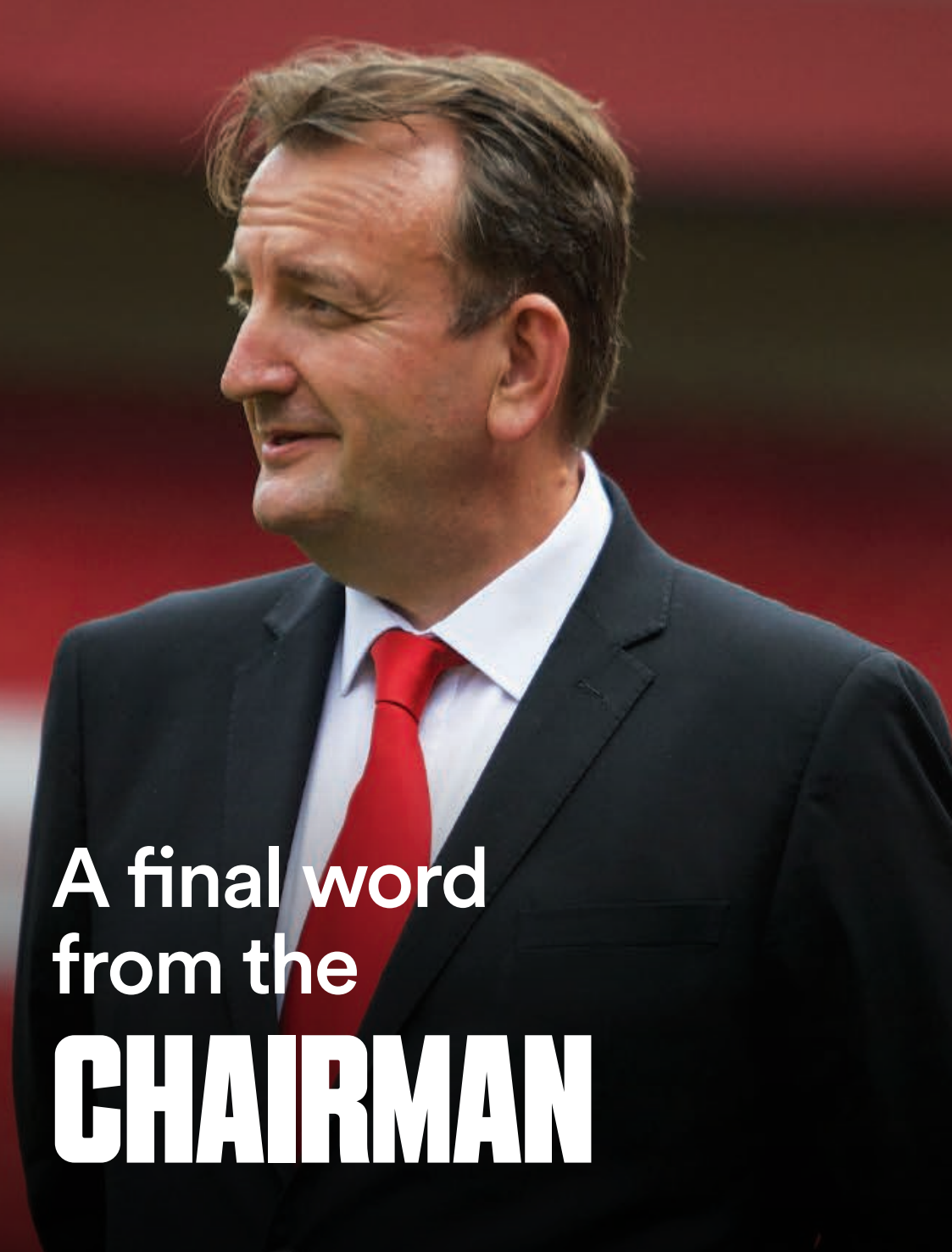
The Trust's latest impact reporting once again demonstrated strong outcomes across physical activity, mental wellbeing and community belonging, while the Social Value Report highlighted an outstanding £52.5 million generated across two seasons. These figures underline the scale of the Trust's contribution and the lasting value it continues creating across Nottinghamshire.

I have also been pleased to see continued investment in facilities and infrastructure, particularly the approved redevelopment of the Forest Sports Zone. This project represents an important step in ensuring local communities continue having access to high-quality spaces for sport, activity, and support for many years ahead.

What continues to stand out most is the dedication of the people behind the work. Staff, volunteers, partners, and funders all play an important role in ensuring the Trust continues reaching communities and delivering meaningful impact every single day.

On behalf of Nottingham Forest Football Club, I would like to thank everyone connected with the Trust for their ongoing commitment and support. Together, we continue strengthening communities, creating opportunities, and ensuring Nottingham Forest remains a club that represents far more than football. ”

NICHOLAS RANDALL KC
CHAIRMAN,
NOTTINGHAM FOREST FOOTBALL CLUB



A final word
from the
CHAIRMAN



**NOTTINGHAM FOREST
COMMUNITY TRUST**

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Nottingham Forest Community Trust
The City Ground
Nottingham
NG2 5FJ

0115 982 4318
community@nottinghamforest.co.uk
nottinghamforestcommunitytrust.co.uk

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