



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month July	Year 2024		Day 30	Month June	Year 2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Sandbach United Football Club (CIO)

Other names charity is known by None

Registered charity number (if any) 1197338

Charity's principal address

Sandbach United Football Club
Hind Heath Road
Sandbach Cheshire
Postcode CW11 3LZ

Names of the charity trustees and officials who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Peter Colclough	Chairman (Trustee)	From 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024	Executive Committee & Membership
2	Simon Tillott	Chairman (Trustee)	From 1 January 2025 to present	Executive Committee & Membership
3	Ian Dolman	Club Treasurer (Trustee)		Executive Committee & Membership
4	Chris Hall	Business Manager (Trustee)		Executive Committee & Membership
5	Liz Clark	Disability & Inclusion Officer (Non-Trustee)	To 31 March 2025 - Post now vacant	Executive Committee & Membership
6	Bob Burns	Club Welfare Officer (Trustee)		Executive Committee & Membership
7	Janine Byron	CIO Secretary (Trustee)	From 16 October 2024	Executive Member & Membership
8	Oliver Byron	Head of Football (Non-Trustee)		Executive Member & Membership
9	Geraint Price Jones	Project Manager (Trustee)	From 16 October 2024	Executive Member & Membership
10	David Morgan	Club Secretary (Trustee)	From 19 March 2025	Executive Member & Membership

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Oliver Byron – Operations Manager

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity’s trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Associated Model Governing Document
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Recruitment and formal appointment

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Trustee Recruitment/Training/Induction

- All trustees apply by way of a formal application form and by providing a biography of their skills, experience and knowledge which deems them suitable for the post.
- Once successful via the SUFC recruitment process, Trustees are then provided with FA committee training together with any relevant training required such as Welfare Officers training. All Committee members are required to complete additional Safeguarding for Children, First Aid and Concussion Training through the FA Training Portal.
- They receive other training through mentorship, peer support and the reading of existing policies and procedures.

Committee Roles

The Executive Committee comprises of:

- Chairman
- CIO Secretary
- Treasurer
- Club Secretary
- Club Welfare Officer
- Head of Football
- Business Manager
- Project Manager x 2
- Club Operational Manager.

Partners and Stakeholders

The charity is connected to:

- Local County, Regional and National FA.
- Other charitable organisations such as:
 - The Connor Ruscoe Memorial Fund

- Cheshire Buddies
- McMillan
- Cerebral Palsy United
- Sandbach and Middlewich Foodbank
- Dementia UK
- Breast Cancer Now

Risks and Mitigations

The major risks currently are the lack of training facilities and car parking space for the number of members wishing to join the club.

We are currently working with the Football Foundation, Sports England and the Local Authority to explore additional funding to develop the site. Systems are in place to manage the increased demand for training facilities with other off-site facilities being explored.

Car parking is being managed through use of an additional overflow car park and ongoing maintenance of the existing car park to mitigate any health and safety risks associated with the current site.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The SUFC Charitable Objects are: *For the public benefit, the advancement of amateur sport, namely all aspects of football to promote physical and mental health and wellbeing by involving exertion, mental skill and social interaction in the town of Sandbach and surrounding neighbourhoods to all members of the community regardless of their age, gender, race, religion, ability and any other characteristics by the provision of a sports venue and facility and associated activities.*

Please see below a summary of how the Club is meeting the required public benefits of the CIO objects/purposes:

- ***Providing public participation in amateur sport***
- ***Providing opportunities for physical activity for young people and adults***

At SUFC we are consistently seeing an increase in demand for members to join the Club. As of 30 June 2025, there are 66 football teams of varying abilities for both boys and girls between the ages of 4 years to open age (18+).

These consist of:

- Male Teams – 43 separate teams containing 762 players
- Female Teams – 19 separate teams containing 249 players
- Disability Teams – 4 teams containing 50 players
- Total Players - 1061
- Total Junior Players - 937
- Total Adult Players - 124

We operate a waiting list at most ages and are consistently looking at how we can increase the offer at the Club to cater for all people who express an interest in joining the organisation.

Other activities at the Club include:

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- Walking football
- Walking cricket
- Soccer Sixes
- Private hire of 3G
- Soccer camps
- Girls Wildcats
- Soccer School
- Sport birthday parties
- Football Festivals/Tournaments
- Coaches and Family Tournament
- Walking group
- University of the 3rd Age
- Walking Football and Cricket
- BTEC Education and Semi-Professional Football Academy (ESPFA)

The Club also funds young people who wish to take up refereeing to take the appropriate qualifications and training courses. In 2024/2025 we funded 6 young people through the Cheshire FA Referee Programme.

- ***Providing opportunities to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people and adults***
- ***Providing opportunities to increase social interaction and tackle social isolation***

There is much evidence to suggest that taking part in sporting activity can have a profound and positive impact on people's mental health and mood. Being physically active can increase mood, reduce the chances of depression and anxiety and can lead to a more balanced and healthier lifestyle. By providing the range of activities (detailed above) we feel that we are supporting children, young people, adults and older people to help to manage their own mental health by being involved in sporting activity at the Club.

SUFC has two fully trained Youth Mental Health FA England First Aiders and one Open University "Supporting Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing" qualified people on site and available at any time.

In terms of tackling social isolation and increasing social interaction we have a range of activities to support this. We continue to offer an "Over 65 coffee morning" which takes place monthly offering a book club, sharing of knitting patterns, reminiscent sessions, concerts and quizzes to encourage local socially isolated people to make friends and socialise.

We also hold regular Open Mic sessions, Bingo, Quizzes etc and have expanded our food offer to encourage more people, both members and non-members, to come along to the club and socialise. We also have social teams at SUFC such as Walking Football; Walking Cricket; VETS team and Women's Social Football Team.

- ***Providing volunteering opportunities for all ages:***

SUFC have approx. 6 FTE paid staff which are made up of:

- Operations Manager
- Football Administrator
- Bar and Kitchen staff
- Caretakers
- Groundsman

However, the Club is run mainly by part time staff and volunteers who willingly give up their time to help to run the community facility. We have a range of opportunities and positions such as: Match day stewards; team managers; coaches; parent helpers; admin workers; Executive Committee members/Trustees and Over 65 Group volunteers.

We also offer a range of opportunities for young people to complete work experience.

- ***Providing opportunities for protected characteristic groups to enjoy football and social engagement.***

Disability Football -

Pan Disability sessions – We facilitate Biweekly Pan Disability sessions and regularly receive positive feedback from the children and parents on the value of attending the sessions.

For the 24/25 season we now have an U16 team in the league which are doing well.

We pride ourselves on being a Club that provides “Football for all!”

We continue to work with 5 volunteers from our u15's Girls team and other coaches from the club which regularly volunteer their time to help.

Cerebral Palsy United

These are weekly sessions that take place at the Sandbach United Facility. This group continues to train weekly with members, all with differing levels of mobility - wheelchair, sticks and free walking.

Cheshire Buddies - Term time and holiday sessions at Sandbach United

The term time sessions are run for children from Oaklands and Springfields SEN schools, we did a school term for each school every Thursday evening.

At holiday times we run weekly sessions for children from the Buddies charity, they can be from any school where the children have additional needs.

With the above groups we do lots of other activities in addition to football - Christmas parties with Santa, Bingo, Bowling, Tubing etc. It is so much more than just football!

Over 65's coffee morning

As stated earlier, we run monthly, free coffee and cake mornings. Drinks are provided by the club and cakes are provided by volunteers from the group and certain teams.

Numbers are still growing, and we can sometimes host up to 30 people, which is great. They are quite a lively bunch, and volunteers report that they enjoy hearing their stories.

We also held a Christmas dinner for all members with entertainment,

bingo, raffles etc which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

They also like to give back, so each month they choose a charity to which they can donate.

Helping others and Community

We continue to hold an annual foodbank collection which is split between Sandbach and Middlewich Foodbank and we get a great response each year from everyone at the club.

We have again worked with the CRMF charity to help raise funds for sick children by hosting quiz nights and a football match in aid of the charity.

- **Opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Award**

We provide a range of voluntary and physical activity opportunities for young people to complete this award. In 2024/2025 we supported 5 of our members to achieve the Bronze award.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

Grant Making

SUFC is not a grant making charity and therefore the policy does not apply.

Club Strategy

We have a Club Strategy document which details our plans for investment in the future. Our key investment priorities are improvements to the car park and improved LED lighting.

The Strategy is reviewed annually and a more comprehensive review is due to take place during 2025/2026.

Social Value

In terms of the contribution made by volunteers to the club, we invest in approx 200 volunteers to ensure that all volunteers are qualified and skilled to and have the right skills, attributes and capabilities to deliver high quality training to our members. (*See Summary of key Achievements for further detail*).

It is estimated that the total number of hours per year can be calculated as follows:

No of volunteers = 200 (this is a conservative estimate)
200 x 10 hours per week (average) = 2000 x 45 weeks = 90,000 hours per annum.

ONS data suggests the value of 1 hour volunteering is the equivalent of a paid role of £14.43 per hour. This equates to a total of £1,298,700 in social value to the local economy.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Football related achievements 2024/2025

Replacement of the 3G Surface

Probably the biggest achievement and investment this year has been the replacement of the facilities 3G surface. This is a major project for the Club at a cost of £220,000.

The project required the current training programme to be amended with alternative training facilities provided.

The project took 6 weeks to complete in its entirety and is now fully functional and taking pride of place at the Club. Feedback has been fantastic from members and this should now, other than regular maintenance, not need any further substantial investment for the next 10 years.

Team Achievements for the Season 2024/2025

2024/2025 has yet again been an incredibly successful year for SUFC with a range of awards, trophies, cups etc. being won together with a whole host of other achievements gained throughout the year. A summary is provided below:

- **League Title Winners**
 - Under 12 Eagles
 - Under 13 Eagles
 - Under 15 United
 - Under 16 United
 - Under 18 United
- **League Cup Winners**
 - Under 13 United
 - Under 15 United
 - Under 16 United
- **District Cup Cup Winners**
 - Men's Reserve Team
- **NWCFL League Play Off Finals**
 - SUFC 1st team - Achieved play off finals for the 3rd year in succession.
- **Girls Achievements**
 - U10 Mid-Cheshire Cup Winners
 - U10 Inter-locality Cup Winners
 - U11 Newcastle Town Tournament Winners
 - U11 Eagles Bollington Tournament Winners
 - U12 Tytherington Football Festival Winners

The Sandbach United FC Football Festival

Our annual Sandbach United FC Football Festival returned in 2025, with a series of tournaments from Under 8's to Under 17's boys and girls. Over

time, our FA affiliated tournaments have a growing reputation with numbers increasing and teams travelling from Carlisle, Newcastle Upon Tyne and Blackpool to take part.

This is, in no small part, due to the excellent organisation by the team, the quality of the football and of course our fantastic facility.

This season's Festival resulted in:

- 7 full days of tournaments
- Nearly 3500 players visiting our facility
- 608 matches played
- Over 35 hours of football

The feedback has been fantastic with teams already looking forward to our 2026 Festival.

New recruits and Mandatory Training

The Club has recruited 8 new managers and coaches over the course of 2024/2025 with 99% of them having completed all the mandatory training.

The Training Offer at the Club consists of:

- PlayMaker
- Children's Safeguarding
- Emergency Aid
- Introduction to Coaching Football
- Safeguarding for Committee members
- Concussion Guidelines
- UEFA B
- UEFA C
- Enhanced DBS certificate.

Coaches are also encouraged and funded to complete the Introduction to Coaching Football Qualification from the FA. Where necessary the Club will also fund higher level qualifications in order to ensure that coaches deliver the best quality coaching to our members at all times.

Soccer School

It became apparent to the club during the 2024-25 season that our Soccer School offering was not working as well as we thought it could. Our Soccer School is a child's first introduction to the club and often their first introduction to a structured form of football. It is specifically aimed at Reception and Year One children. Following extensive market research and parent/coach consultation, the club have engaged the services of Conor Thomas Academy to assist with the coaching and have brought all administration in house to improve the offering to the players and parents alike.

Non-Football related achievements 2024/2025

The Cross Bar

The Cross Bar is integral to the success of the Club offering an opportunity to socialise, relax and make new friends.

The Cross Bar has seen an annual turnover increase of 20% from 2024 to 2025 for the same period each year.

In addition to this, from a facility point of view the Club has:

- Decorated the Cross bar Area with a new more modern design.
- Refit the Club Office to be more functional
- Refurbished the Hospitality Suite which is used for match games and training purposes.
- Purchased new outdoor furniture for the Cross Bar

Fundraising and Community Social events

The club regularly holds fund raising activities such as: Golden Goal, Pot of Gold Tournament, World Cup/Euro sweepstakes, Football cards etc. Teams are also actively encouraged to take part in these to raise funds for their own Age Group Funds.

In addition to this the Club has facilitated several other appeals for the local community and people in need:

- Foodbank collections
- Charity matches and quiz night for the Connor Ruscoe Memorial Fund

Sponsorships

The club also raises funds through sponsorship deals. The Club has a three-year sponsorship deal in place and the Men's First Team also raise funds through advertisement boards around the main pitch. All teams at all levels and age groups are actively encouraged to arrange sponsorship deals with local businesses, again, to raise money for their individual Age Group Funds.

In total there are over 100 separate sponsorship deals across the Club.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Policy on Reserves

- Following the initial grant allocation in 2011/2012 from the Football Foundation, one of the grant conditions is to ensure that the sink fund amounts to £150K,(to be achieved over a 10 year period). This is to ensure that the 3G can be replaced.

- The 3G was replaced in May 2025 as part of the grant conditions applied to this grant at a cost of £220,000.
- The Club currently has £10K in its reserves.

Budget Management

In addition to this, budgets are in place for both Pre-Planned and unexpected maintenance.

A budget format has been implemented so income and expenditure can be monitored to reflect the different elements of the club. This assists with managing expenditure against objectives and enables us to monitor expenditure more effectively. These are:

- The Cross Bar
- Facility
- Football
- Utilities
- Staffing
- Auditing.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The principal funding sources are:

Source
Membership Fees
The Cross Bar
Sponsorship
Facility Rental
Grants

Section F Other optional information

With the successful recruitment of a new Chairman in January 2025, the Club has revisited the formal structure and governance of the Executive/Management Committee. This has resulted in more effective administration and formal management of the Committee. It has also included the introduction of a number of new committee roles.

These include:

- Community Officer
- Commercial Manager
- Events Co-ordinator
- Communications/Social Media Lead

In addition to this, each area of responsibility has improved management and organisational arrangements for the future. Including a "Plan on a Page" for each area.

With this in mind, the objectives reported in the 2023/2024 TAR, are now being updated.

The plan is to have a refreshed Co-Produced Strategy which will include the following phases:

- Planning
- Listening
- Review
- Action Planning
- Delivery

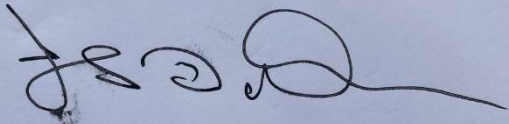

We will be looking to launch the refreshed Strategy during Qtr 2 of 2026.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Simon Tillott

Ian Dolman

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chairman (Trustee)

Treasurer (Trustee)

Date

6 October 2025