

**Annual Report
& Financial
Statements
31st January 2026**



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1. From our trustees

Every year it gets harder and harder to write the introduction to our annual report. The charity achieves so much and makes such a difference, not only to our members and volunteers but also to the wider community.

This past year has seen the charity make real impact to a wide range of organisations within the city of Hull. From making and supplying equipment such as benches and mud kitchens to play equipment for local schools.

As can be seen in this annual report, there are many examples of hard work by our members and volunteers, and we would like to thank them wholeheartedly.

We would also like to thank our valuable funders and supporters including The National Lottery, Matthew Good Foundation, the Sir James Reckitt Charity, FR Scott, LMS Wood and Timber, Cross Keys Public House and KCOM.

We would especially like to thank a small local business, Saving Thyme Buffet Catering Hull who donated our members Christmas buffet free of charge.

This next year presents challenges and opportunities. The exciting opportunity to finalise the community asset transfer, giving the charity more sustainability. The challenge of our National Lottery funding coming to an end and securing additional funding in order to continue our vital services.

We would like to thank our new trustee who joined us in the last year and has implemented many evaluation techniques across a framework that provides us with vital data and insights from our members, volunteers and stakeholders across the city. Some of the quotes captured in this report are not only heartwarming but also testament to the hard work that goes on behind the scenes.

As a board we look forward to the future and everything it holds.

2. Our story this year

In year 3 of our Reaching Communities funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, we have greatly increased our contribution to improving the education and wellbeing of the children in our local community by engagement with schools and colleges in the Hull & East Riding area.

Due to a directive from Ofsted, schools have been tasked to increase their outdoor play and learning opportunities (OPAL) for their pupils by providing imaginative play opportunities for children of all abilities as a crucial part of their personal development. Primary, Nursery and Special Education Needs schools have been the focus of the support we have been able to provide in terms of equipment and activities we can make in our workshop.

One project we completed for a college was around designing and building a judge's bench and witness stand that could be used by their law students to practice court room procedures. The students have since competed in the regional Mock Bar Trials for Yorkshire where they were crowned Yorkshire Champions. This has now led them on to compete in the national finals in London, against the best schools in the country. Law teacher Deborah West has said that this equipment has been vital in the development of the students competing and without Men in Sheds Hull they would not have had the funds sufficient to purchase nor be able to have the flexibility of a bespoke unit that could be folded away. Deborah has provided the feedback below during recent stakeholder feedback.

"They have provided at cost educational furniture for our college. Without Men in Sheds, we would not have been able to purchase this. The furniture has allowed our students to develop essential skills towards their future careers." (Deborah West, Wyke Sixth Form College)

We also continue to support other charities, local organisations, and the local community via neighbourhood coordinators from Hull City Council to assist in creating better outdoor spaces by providing items such as benches, planters, bird boxes and hedgehog houses amongst other things. Funding from Reaching Communities has allowed us to either do this work for free where no funding has been available or at a hugely reduced cost.

Below are some comments from our community partners.

"The items made have helped our service users be able to work at their own height from wheelchairs in the greenhouse. One has grown his own vegetables in the planters they provided ... The sensory garden now has lots seating and a table for service users and their families to sit around in the summer months."

"Men in Sheds have used their amazing craftsmanship to elevate our community space. Volunteers can more efficiently navigate the space thanks to the lovely signposts provided. They can also enjoy a seat in our herb garden to rest with a cuppa, maybe have a conversation with a fellow volunteer, take in the incredible nature on the plot, amongst other individual benefits, as a result of the gorgeous bench Men in Sheds very generously donated."

"The items crafted by Men in Sheds Hull have been hugely beneficial to our community. Handcrafted pieces carry a special meaning that manufactured items simply cannot match."

"They have donated and created lots of items for the local area including benches for the nearby shops on Beverley Road, trellis' for community planters, bird and hedgehog boxes and signs for the local pocket park and more."

3. Community asset transfer

This year has also seen us commence the process of a Community Asset Transfer of the building we currently occupy on a rolling lease from Hull City Council.

After consultation with our members, volunteers, and the wider local community it was apparent of the benefits of taking ownership of the building. Liaising with the local ward councillors, police, and neighbourhood groups we identified an additional piece of land which forms part of the current car park as an extra space for the shed to occupy. This space has been problematic in terms of anti-social behaviour and has now been approved to be added as part of the shed's current footprint, along with additional space for a storage container at the rear.

The Community Asset Transfer will give us the following benefits –

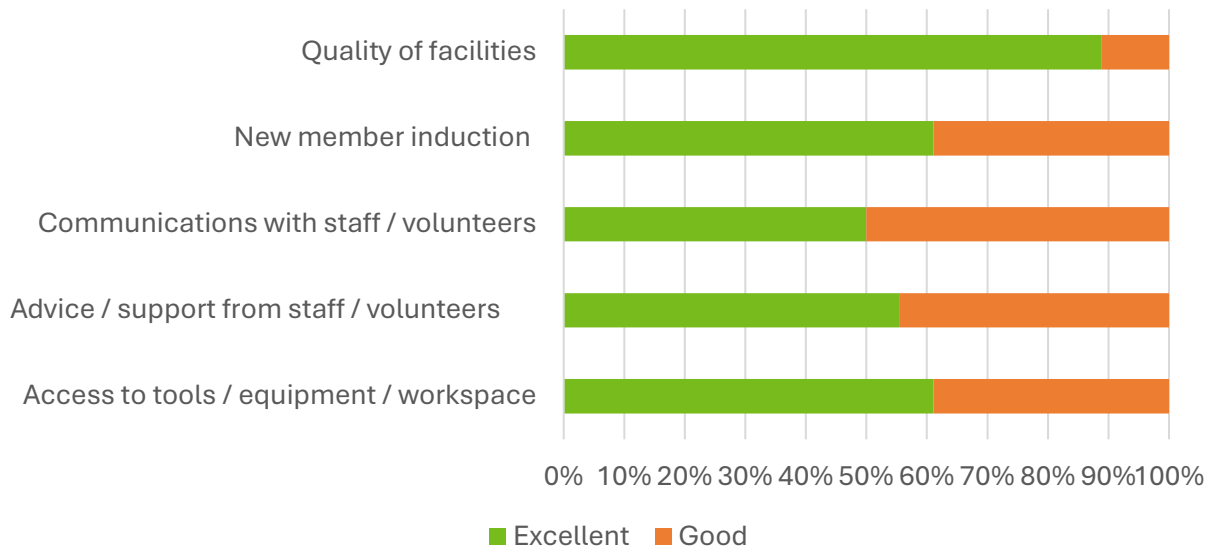
- The stability of having a permanent facility with zero rent.
- The flexibility to change and adapt the building to suit or charitable aims.
- The ability to offer space to other community groups and organisations when the shed is not in use.
- Ability to create a designated area for selling and promoting our outdoor products to generate income.
- The space to add an external gift shop outside to allow members crafts to be displayed and sold in a safe environment.
- The addition of a selling area and gift shop would also create new volunteering opportunities in marketing and sales.
- Potential to add a café that can be accessed by our members and the wider community, again generating income for the charity.
- The relocation of the container to the rear of the building (adjacent to the workshop rear doors) will greatly benefit our members in terms of acquiring materials much easier.

From our members feedback, we also recognised that some wanted more outdoor space or a garden area to use. When the above changes are made this will also link up nicely with the community garden which has recently been added to the park with direct access from the rear of the shed. Working with our local neighbourhood group who championed the parks creation, we have already assisted in attracting wildlife by producing items such as bird boxes, etc. Members who use the park will also have the opportunity to get involved in planting, maintenance, and the general upkeep of the park.

4. Our members

We continue to improve the facilities and equipment for our members and volunteers to enhance their experience of the shed. As a small charity predominantly supporting older men, we have seen an increase in members who are seeking social contact, a friendly, safe, warm space, somewhere to come along, meet new people and have a chat over a cup of coffee and a few biscuits. To some, this is the only social contact they have in their lives, and we aim to make this as comfortable as possible for them. We conducted some surveys with our members about their experiences at the shed and the results are shown below.

How would you rate the following in relation to your experience as a member of the Shed?



This high level of satisfaction was further reflected in members' likelihood to recommend the Shed to others. Nearly all members who participated in the research awarded a score of *10 out of 10* for recommending the Shed to a friend or family member, with the remaining respondents giving a score of 8. This resulted in an overall Net Promoter Score (NPS) of **86**, a score regarded as exceptional and indicative of high loyalty and a strong base of promoters. They also rated the personal importance of the Shed very highly. The majority gave a score of 10 out of 10.

Our membership has remained static throughout the year as the building's capacity, combined with high member retention, limits our ability to grow our membership without increasing our opening days or expanding the facility. The safety and overall experience of our members guide us with caution. The current member and volunteer numbers are shown below, with an average attendance of 20 – 25 men visiting each day.

- Shed Members 62
- Volunteers (including trustees) 14
- Walkers 65
- DIY Skills Courses 45
- Total 186**

5. Activities

Although activities at the shed still focus on the traditional woodworking, over the last few years, we have seen a significant increase in members embracing innovative technologies and becoming more tuned in to using online systems and services.

More and more of our members are learning how to use 3D printers and CAD design software, laser engraving and vinyl print/cutting. The shed has provided access to these technologies and, thanks to our well-established culture of peer mentoring, members have supported each other's learning every step of the way.

This year, we have also continued to invite NHS services to visit the shed to talk to the men informally about awareness, treatments, and signposting for a variety of serious illnesses. The members engage positively with the way this is delivered to them - it provokes conversations which they otherwise may not have had and allows them to open up about their own experiences and feelings with other likeminded men.



6. The difference we are making

Men in Sheds Hull has become an integral part of its local community over the years, not only by supporting its members and volunteers to combat their loneliness and isolation, but by providing meaningful activities, a safe social space, and opportunities to engage with the wider community through workshop projects, including creating essential play equipment for local children.

Through Reaching Communities funding and the support of local businesses, Men in Sheds have been able to support many charities, organisations and local people with projects that support education and positive impacts on health and wellbeing.

Through member surveys and consultation with stakeholders and the wider community we are able to measure our successes and use feedback to help us improve our offer.

This year alone, these are some of the things we have achieved -

- A positive impact on our members health and mental wellbeing.
- Many members report a reduction in loneliness and isolation and/or having made a new circle of friends through the shed.
- New skills learnt and a strong desire give back to the community.
- Savings to schools and colleges of over £15,000 in respect of outdoor play equipment.
- Donated around £5,000 in outdoor furniture and planters.
- Improved our local area through maintenance and litter picking locally.

All the work we undertake is designed to have a positive impact, not only on our members and volunteers, but for the wider community. Considering the number of schools, charities and community groups, and public spaces that have benefited from our projects it's reasonable to estimate that the reach of our work extends to several thousand.

Here are some quotes from our community partners -

"They often go beyond their activities in the Shed by maintaining the car park and top of the field with regular litter picking"

"They have donated and created lots of items for the local area including benches for the nearby shops on Beverley Road, trellis' for community planters, bird and hedgehog boxes and signs for the local pocket park and more."

"They have helped with keeping their area of the park clean and tidy, which they don't need to do. They have also been very generous, supplying items like benches for local initiatives or helping maintain some of the local infrastructure."

7. What we have learned

We have learned a lot over the last 3 years of receiving Reaching Communities funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and through feedback from our members, volunteers, and stakeholders.

Here are some of the things we have learned from our day-to-day operations—

- Reaching Communities funding allowed us to do so much more for the community in terms of at cost or free projects to benefit others. Previously there had been a focus on trying to generate income to help us survive. It has been so rewarding for everyone involved in the shed to be able to put something back into our beautiful city and hugely increase our social return on investment.
- The Community Asset Transfer of the building will provide greater stability and support the charity's long-term sustainability, with expansion of the site being much needed if we are to flourish further.
- Feedback from our members and community partners is extremely valuable and helps us plan better for the future.
- Some roles carry too much responsibility for volunteers. For example, our walking group became a source of stress due to the age and health conditions of some participants. Once this became clear we immediately suspended the activity, reviewed the situation, and concluded that leading the walking group should be a paid, trained staff role rather than a voluntary one. Although the organised group has now been disbanded, ten former members still meet each Wednesday to walk together. They have formed a close-knit group, with nine new friendships, a WhatsApp group, and a reliable support network they can rely on, also socialising in other ways.
- Social Prescribing referrals are very problematic, not enough information about a charities services or facilities is known by the prescriber nor on the individuals' needs or barriers to access those services.
- Recruitment of new Trustees is currently extremely difficult, especially for the specific skills gaps we need to fill. Although some organisations have attempted to assist, there is no effective process for matching skills or experience, and candidates are often sent without any background information. Discussions with other local charities suggests this is a common issue.

8. Our evaluation

We also undertake regular evaluation on engagement, experiences, impacts and the future direction of the shed. These reviews help us identify key learning and guide evidence-based decision-making. Our most recent evaluation, involving members, volunteers and community partners showed that the Shed is a highly valued, well-used and widely trusted community asset with significant personal and community benefits.

The research supported the following conclusions:

1. Strong engagement and sustained involvement

Members and volunteers engage with the Shed frequently and over long periods, reflecting its central role in participants' daily routines and wellbeing. Community partners also show sustained engagement and meaningful collaboration, though generally at a lower frequency

2. High satisfaction and deep personal value

Satisfaction across all stakeholder groups is exceptionally high. Net Promoter Scores of **86** (members) and **100** (volunteers) reflect strong loyalty and advocacy. Members, volunteers, and partners consistently view the Shed as safe, supportive, and transformative.

3. Significant personal impact

Involvement in the Shed clearly contributes to improved mental health, reduced social isolation, increased confidence and self-esteem, and the development of practical skills. Many members indicated that the Shed has been life-changing – and, in some cases, life-saving.

4. Meaningful community impact

Community partners identify wide-ranging benefits: improved community spaces, strengthened partnerships, reduced isolation, increased social cohesion, and environmental enhancements. The Shed is seen as a visible, active, and positive force in the local area.

5. Strong support for the CAT application

Awareness varies between groups, but support is extremely high. Respondents believe CAT approval would secure long-term stability, reduce costs, enable growth, and preserve a valued community asset that already demonstrates strong social return.

6. Clear opportunities for future development

Members, volunteers, and partners identify practical ways to strengthen the Shed's offer, including additional outdoor space, a café or gift shop, new training opportunities, and expanding opening hours (should resources allow). Partners and volunteers also express interest in expanded collaboration.

Significantly, it also highlighted that several members anticipated significant emotional and psychological consequences if the shed were to close, such as increased, deterioration in mental health, heightened distress, and in some cases explicit reference to crisis or suicide risk.

- ✓ *"I would have nowhere else to go and be back to square one stuck at home with nothing to do."* (Member)
- ✓ *"I would be at a loss. There is nowhere else like this around here that would fill the void."* (Member)
- ✓ *"It would be detrimental to my health."* (Member)
- ✓ *"I would probably not be here without the Shed."* (Member)
- ✓ *"I think I would fall back into depression and feel useless again."* (Member)
- ✓ *"I don't think I would still be here. It would have a massive impact on my mental health."* (Volunteer)

9. Our Year in Pictures





MEN IN SHEDS
ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31st JANUARY 2026

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MEN IN SHEDS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st January, 2026

The Association was established under a trust deed dated 7th April, 2015 to provide and promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing men socially excluded Under charity number 1161177. The principal office is The Pavillion, Oak Road Playing Field, HU6 7EY

The trustees who administer the charity and meet at least four times each year were -

Governor Trustees - Ian Watson - Interim Chairperson

Trustees -	Richard Andrew Bayford	Treasurer
	Elinor Chamberlain	
	Donna Jackson	

Bankers	CAF Bank
Accountants	Accounting Solution (Hull) Unlimited, 15 The Square, Anlaby, HU10 7AY

Overview

There is a surplus of receipts over payments of £6036

The above report and information was approved by the trustees on 14th April, 2026 and signed on their behalf by -

Richard Bayford (Treasurer)

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF MEN IN SHEDS

In accordance with instructions given to us we have compiled the annual accounts of Men In Sheds which comprise Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Notes, from the records and information and explanations provided to us.

Our work has been undertaken so that we may compile the accounts, report that we have done so, and report any matters to you which we consider necessary. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the trustees for our work or this report.

You have approved the accounts for the year ended 31st January, 2025 and have acknowledged your responsibility for them and for providing all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the accounts or other information.

Accounting Solution (Hull) Unlimited
Accountants
14th April, 2026

MEN IN SHEDS (HULL)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31ST JAN 2026

	<u>2026</u>		
	the National Lottery Community Fund'	Men in Sheds (Hull)	Totals
	Restricted Fund <u>£'s</u>	Unrestricted Fund <u>£'s</u>	2026 <u>£'s</u>
INCOME			
Grants and fundraising	46,863	12,902	59,765
Investment Income:			
Interest Income	-	82	82
Deposit Account Interest	-	405	405
Donations	-	7,402	7,402
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	46,863	20,791	67,653
EXPENDITURE			
Rent, Water, Gas and Electricity	3,456	-	3,456
Repairs and Maintenance of buildings	1,206	6,074	7,280
Insurances	761	-	761
Motor and Travel	904	-	904
Accountancy charges	420	-	420
Tools and Workshop Supplies	3,195	629	3,824
Sundry and Office Expenses	3,482	-	3,482
Bank Charges	60	-	60
Wages	31,489	-	31,489
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	44,974	6,703	51,676
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,889	14,088	15,977

MEN IN SHEDS (HULL)

2026

BALANCE SHEET - 31ST JAN 2026

	Note	the National Lottery Community Fund' Restricted Fund <u>£'s</u>	Men in Sheds (Hull) Unrestricted Fund <u>£'s</u>	Totals 2026 <u>£'s</u>
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets	2	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS				
Investments	3	-	-	-
Debtors	4	-	-	-
Cash at Bank		4,475	61,277	65,752
		-----	-----	-----
		4,475	61,277	65,752
		-----	-----	-----
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within 1 year	5	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
		4,475	61,277	65,752
		-----	-----	-----
		4,475	61,277	65,752
PROVISIONS				
Accruals - Accountancy charges		-420	-	-420
Future Costs		-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----
		4,055	61,277	65,332
		-----	-----	-----
RESERVES				
Revaluation reserve - Property	6	-	-	-
Revaluation reserve - Investments	7	-	-	-
Revenue Reserve:				
Brought Forward		2,586	47,189	49,775
Current Year - less Accrual		1,889	14,088	15,977
less Accruals		-420	-	-420
		-----	-----	-----
		4,055	61,277	65,332
		-----	-----	-----

These accounts were approved by the trustees on _____ and signed on their behalf by:

_____ (Trustee) _____

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of Properties and Investments, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at revaluation plus additions at cost, less grants received

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

LAND
and Buildings

Cost or valuation

At 1st February, 2025

0

Additions

0

At 31st January, 2026

0

Depreciation

At 1st February, 2025

0

Charge for the year

0

At 31st January, 2026

0

Net book value

At 31st January, 2026

£ 0

At 31st January, 2025

£ 0

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

	<u>2026</u>
3. INVESTMENTS	
Charities Official Investment Fund - Income Units	0
Charities Official Investment Fund - Accumulation Units	0
Charities Deposit Fund	0
Charities Accumulation Shares	0

	£ 0

Valuation at 1st February 2025	0
Addition	0
Deposit interest	0
Withdrawals	0
Increase/(Decrease) in valuation	0
Conversion Stock and War Loan	0

Valuation at 31st January, 2026	£ 0

4. DEBTORS	
Maintenance contributions	0
Prepayments	0

	£ 0

5. CREDITORS : Amounts due within 1 year	
Maintenance contributions in advance	0
Other creditors and accruals	0

	£ 0

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

		<u>2026</u>
6.	REVALUATION RESERVE - HOUSING PROPERTY At 31st January, 2025 and 31st January, 2026	£ 0 -----
7.	REVALUATION RESERVE - INVESTMENTS At 31st Jan, 2025	0
	Increase/(Decrease) in asset value	0 -----
	At 31st Jan, 2026	£ 0 -----
8.	REVENUE RESERVE Unrestricted Funds	60,843
	Restricted Funds	4,479 -----
	At 31st Jan, 2026	£ 65,322 -----

Restricted funds as at 31st January, 2026 of £4474.79 relate to The National Lottery Community Fund.

Restricted funds relating to the National Lottery Community Fund as at 31st January, 2025 amounts to £2586.00