



ONE
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Annual Report

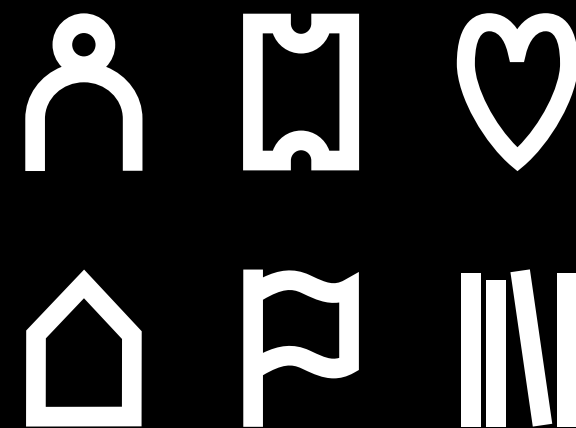
2023/2024

oneren.org



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Chairperson's Introduction

Across OneRen we provide much-valued services that change lives for the better. Our over-riding vision is to ensure that everyone living locally can enjoy lives that are healthy, happy and fulfilled. At a time when so many continue to feel the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, the work of our teams has never been more important, providing comfort, support and joy to individuals and communities across Renfrewshire and beyond.

We support children and families, from the earliest years, through our ever-popular Bookbug sessions across all 12 Renfrewshire libraries, with song and rhyme forging bonds between wee ones and friendship within parenting groups. Meanwhile, older and more vulnerable adults are supported, through gentle movement and easy walking programmes, to get out of the house and be more physically active and connected to others.

At the heart of everything we do is our incredible staff and fantastic volunteers; they are the common thread, weaving together a range of services which deliver for the communities we serve.

And the numbers speak for themselves. We recorded more than 1.84 million in-person attendances across our venues, up 18% on the previous year. Indeed, across almost every venue and service, numbers are up

and none of it could happen without the dedication of our OneRen family – and I want to thank everyone involved.

Of course, none of this could be achieved without the support of our key partners at Renfrewshire Council and other stakeholders. This is no more evident than in the once-in-a-generation investment made by the Council in the revitalisation of four of Renfrewshire's most iconic cultural venues.

We've already raised the curtain on Paisley's Big Stage, with the refurbished Paisley Town Hall wowing audiences and performers alike. It is now, undeniably one of Scotland's premier performance destinations. We also lifted the cover on Paisley's stunning new Central Library. Repurposing what was an empty shop unit on the High Street, the new library is a huge statement of intent, creating an exciting new chapter in the development of one of Scotland's finest library facilities. We also welcomed back Paisley Arts Centre, with audiences getting up close to the performances, in what has been an incredible transformation of a much-loved creative and social space.

As anyone can observe from the High Street, work continues apace on the refurbishment of Paisley Museum – Scotland's biggest cultural heritage project – as a world-class attraction,

with community at its heart. Together, the investment adds to the rich cultural vibrancy of Renfrewshire, creating destinations that are a must-see and must-visit for audiences across Scotland and beyond – and this has been evidenced by the huge increase in visitors enjoying our venues over the last year.

Across Renfrewshire, OneRen is affecting real change, reaching every community, improving lives and bringing joy and light to people when they need it most. That remains our mission and I want to thank everyone joining us on our journey.

Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes
Chairperson of the Board



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Culture. Leisure. Sport.

#WeAreOneRen

Year at a Glance

1.8M

We recorded more than 1.84 million in-person attendances across our venues, up 18% on the previous year, with libraries seeing a 55% increase in visits with 340,000 attendances.

3

New venues. After significant investment from Renfrewshire Council, we welcomed back to great public and critical acclaim the magnificently refurbished Paisley Town Hall and Paisley Arts Centre and the new High Street home for the multi-award winning Paisley Central Library – all adding to Renfrewshire's incredible cultural strength. The refurbishment of Paisley Museum also recorded an international award for cultural regeneration, beating off competition from Madrid and Shanghai, among others.

9,015

Vitality Classes – which help people living with medical conditions to get more active – saw 9,015 attendances – up from 4,332 the previous year.

1,112

There were 1,112 referrals to our Live Active team and 3,642 consultations were delivered – all improving the health and wellbeing of patients referred to us by our NHS partners.

3,529

A record 3,529 people attended 82 events at the Paisley Book Festival. Some 99 authors and creatives took part with more than 1,396 school pupils attending our schools' programme.

410,000

Thanks to continued investment from Renfrewshire Council, investment in synthetic pitches saw a number of clubs increase their membership and participation. We supported 408,789 attendances – representing a 23% increase on the previous year.

150

Our Active Schools team supported 150 senior pupils to gain leadership awards from sports governing bodies and supported care-experienced young people to become more fit and physically active.

3,179

We hosted 235 free activities for the Summer Reading Challenge, which saw 2,128 children and 1,051 adults taking part. For the challenge itself, 1,668 children signed up. Our volunteer Digital Champions delivered 106 one-to-one sessions to help people to learn how to access the online world.

143,274

Our school libraries team welcomed 143,274 visits from pupils and led a summer activity programme to support the smooth transition from primary to secondary schools.

4,598

Our army of incredible volunteers gave 4,598 hours of their time to support Renfrewshire communities, supporting a range of services, including Active Schools, Paisley Book Festival, Digital Champions, Gentle Movement, Sporting Memories and Health Walks, among others.

73,000

Colleagues across all 12 Renfrewshire Libraries recorded 73,000 general information enquiries – almost double from the previous period. We recorded 25,998 uses of our free public computers – up 50% – and almost 50,000 uses of our free Wi-Fi. We also distributed free data SIMs to people living in data poverty.



Our shared ambition

OneRen is the local charitable trust established by Renfrewshire Council to provide culture, leisure and sporting opportunities to help people enjoy active and healthy lives. We are passionate about the part we play in improving life-long physical and mental health in every one of our communities.

Our charity provides a range of affordable, accessible and ambitious services that are open to all and designed to improve personal, social and economic outcomes.

We are committed to our vision to ensure that everyone locally can live that are healthy, happy and fulfilled. Our mission is to improve our community's health and wellbeing by working in partnership to design and deliver a range of life-enhancing and accessible cultural, leisure and sporting opportunities that meet local needs and improve life chances across the population, and is framed around our four strategic objectives.

Our objectives are closely aligned to those of Renfrewshire Council. Our progress is reported to the OneRen Board of Directors and the Council's Leadership Board. Quarterly performance reports to the Council's chief executive office are made through the Council's monitoring officer for OneRen. We measure and report on progress through performance indicators. We also align with the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework, in particular on outcomes relating to children and young people, communities, culture, health, poverty, human rights and fair work.

As a charity, we have been able to achieve significant savings, such as relief on non-domestic rate charges, and allowing us to secure external grants and funding.

OneRen Strategic Objectives

1. A Healthy Community
2. A Sustainable Local Economy
3. A Great Place to Live, Play and Visit
4. A Sustainable, High-Performing Charity

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Start to heal.

A Healthy Community

Our aim is to help everyone lead healthier, happier and more fulfilled lives. We play an active role in improving health and well-being outcomes, addressing inequalities and improving life chances for the people of Renfrewshire. We work collaboratively to deploy a range of interventions to tackle poor mental and physical health in our community.

The Live Active Referral Scheme is a well-established, and a well-utilised service, part funded by NHSGGC. The programme is ideal for those who are keen to make better lifestyle choices and who would benefit from being physically active but need help to do so. Through the support of specialist Live Active Advisors, those referred receive bespoke advice and encouragement to set realistic goals on how to make changes to their activity levels. In the last financial year, there were 1,112 referrals, which led to bespoke advice and encouragement to take part in Vitality classes, supervised gym sessions, swimming and health walks.

Vitality is a series of physical activity classes which have been specifically designed for people living with medical conditions such as Parkinson's disease, MS, Stroke, Cardiac Conditions, Cancer, Osteoporosis, Cognitive Impairments and COPD. They are also ideal for those who have a fear of falling or find their strength and balance is starting to impact on their daily lives. In 2023-24, there were 433 Vitality classes, resulting in 9,015 attendances, a 58% increase in the previous year.

Our teams also provide free weekly walks led by volunteers and staff, including First Steps sessions for those not quite able to physically manage a health walk. By building strength and ability, participants can enjoy our outdoor walks and explore Renfrewshire's rich heritage – and make new friends along the way.

OneRen's Prehabilitation partnership with the Colorectal Department at Royal Alexandra Hospital provides prehabilitation and rehabilitation for patients before and after surgery, reducing hospital stay and enhancing recovery. Our Community Rehabilitation partnership with NHSGGC works with physiotherapists who refer patients with pulmonary issues and fibromyalgia to secure ongoing gentle physical activity to aid in their recovery. OneRen has been piloting a Health & Wellbeing Hub at the Lagoon, which hosted two sessions to screen 14-35 year-olds for cardiac risks they may not have been aware of, with 188 people assessed.

Our partnership with Sporting Memories delivers a free, weekly class in Renfrew, which uses the power of sport, along with physical activity, to tackle loneliness, depression and dementia. With quizzes, games and boccia, those who come along have fun, friendship and a new lease of life.

Attendances on these programmes for 2023-24 were:

- Health walk and themed walks = 1,722
- Prehabilitation = 756
- Sporting Memories attendances = 716
- Social Prescribing Living Well group attendances = 135
- Gentle Movement classes = 400
- Cancer Info & Support Session attendances at libraries = 60



Case Study:

James had two heart attacks, along with heart failure, and he started his recovery by joining cardiac rehabilitation, before being referred to the Live Active team at the Lagoon Leisure Centre. James said:

"I now go along to a supervised gym session twice a week, where I use the treadmill for 15 minutes and various other machines. This helps me get out the house and gets me exercising in a safe environment. Since joining these sessions my confidence has gone up as well as feeling fitter and more sociable, I have had the opportunity to meet people who have experienced the same as me."

Our Active Schools team continues to provide opportunities for children and young people to become more physically fit and active both in school and outwith school hours. The last financial year saw an impressive 42% of Renfrewshire's pupils engaging in extra-curricular Active Schools activities, split almost evenly between boys and girls.

The Active Schools team continues to pioneer with an in-depth survey across all Renfrewshire Schools, which assesses the physical activity of children and flags those who require further support. Our team is the only one in Scotland to produce a regional pupil survey, which provides invaluable insight and data to allow OneRen staff to target their work with children, their families, carers and schools to improve community health and wellbeing.

We remain committed to The Promise and have worked to ensure that care-experienced young people can access – and shape – their physical activity journey. Working with the Kirklandneuk Primary School Sports Club, 12 young people were given the opportunity to participate in mountain biking, gorge walking and kayaking and they were empowered to decide which activity would happen each week. Within secondary schools, care experienced young people joined others on a three-day course at the National Sports Centre in Inverclyde, focussing on improving confidence, relationships, communication skills and conflict resolution.

The Active Schools team also worked with vulnerable families, providing a holistic approach to support pathways to physical activity and sport. More than 100 families from across Paisley, Renfrew, Johnstone, Glenburn, Foxbar, Gallowhill and other areas have benefited from the project.

Across primary and secondary schools, our Health and Wellbeing Assistants have worked with education colleagues to provide targeted intervention and support for young people highlighted as needing

a helping hand to break down barriers of inequality – and move toward better physical and mental health.

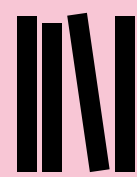
Our outdoor sport team supported the No Substitute for Life tournament, which is held annually at Ferguslie Sports Centre. The tournament supports better mental health for men and remembers those we have lost to death by suicide. 14 teams took part in the football, cheered on by more than 200 spectators, all celebrating sport and its power to have a positive impact on all taking part.

We also expanded our P6 learn to swim programme, to provide this life-skill to as many pupils as possible. In 2023-24 we welcomed 1,986 children from all 51 Renfrewshire primary schools, with a focus on non-swimmers. With the support of Renfrewshire Council, we launched the Under-5 Swim Initiative, providing a parent or carer with a free swim, when accompanied by a child under the age of 5 and removing cost as a barrier to participation. We welcomed 1,608 attendances and, with the success of the programme, expanded the times when people can participate across all of our pools.

More widely, our group-based exercise classes recorded at 24% increase in participation levels in 2023-24, with the delivery of over 7,000 classes across our facilities. This included the expansion of entry-level fitness and wellbeing classes to support those taking up exercise for the first time.



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Learn life skills.

A Sustainable Local Economy

We aim to provide a positive role in developing the local Renfrewshire economy. We want to create opportunities for high quality and sustainable jobs as well as build wider local employability through providing positive development pathways. We will continue to contribute to the local partnership effort to build inclusive economic growth that benefits everyone.

Growing our economy, means growing our community wealth. Our library teams are central to that growth and in 2023-24, visits increased by 55% with 339,751 attendances. Our libraries are about more than just books – they are a safe space, where people can access information, digital services, support and a place where they are not judged – a place they can make their own. During the year, our teams handled over 73,000 general information enquiries – almost double from the previous period. We recorded 25,998 uses of our free public computers – up 50% – and almost 50,000 uses of our free Wi-Fi, allowing visitors to reduce costs and increase digital inclusion.

Our Digital Champions project, funded by Renfrewshire Council, was launched in May 2023, with the aim of helping those who may feel left behind by our online world. Our committed team of Digital Champions, all volunteers, help people to learn how to safely navigate the internet, use their smartphone or tablet and learn basic digital skills. For some, this has been life-changing, opening up a whole new world which was previously denied to them. Over the period, the team delivered 106 one-to-one sessions, with more 125 hours of support. Most recently, the volunteers reached a milestone of delivering more than 1,000 hours of much-needed support.

Click to hear
about Grace's
move to the
online world.

In a further attempt to reduce digital exclusion, we worked with the Good Things Foundation to deliver free data SIMs to people living in data poverty. Supported by our Digital Champions to install the SIMs and get online, the free data allows people to stay connected to friends and family and access welfare or other government services which require to be completed online.

One user said:

"I think it's amazing – it takes one bill off my mind which helps so much. This will help more than you will ever know."



Our home delivery service saw 1,238 visits to households to support elderly residents, as well as those who find it difficult to leave the house, and families with children, delivering more than 10,000 library packs. And for the younger kids, there were 1,290 Bookbug sessions, incorporating 27,286 attendees – up 30% and this year we gifted 1,604 Baby Bags, 1,517 Toddler Bags, 2,176 Explorer Bags, 1,912 P1 bags and 63 Gaelic Bags, all designed to put a huge smile on wee ones' faces.

As part of our community wealth-building, our teams facilitated 248 group visits to our 12 public libraries, up 25% on the previous year. This included breast-feeding groups at Johnstone Library, a domestic abuse support group at Paisley Central Library, as well as hearing aid clinics, job clubs and wellbeing cafes at many of our other venues. Our partnership with schools also increased, with 833 primary school class visits, up 20%, meaning that every primary school class in Renfrewshire visited a local library at least once in 2023-24 – with total attendances of 17,473. Nursery school visits increased by 79% – with 425 visits and 4,828 attendees.

As more people access information in different ways, we have seen e-book loans increase 7% to 68,733 issues and e-newspaper loans increase by 23% to 163,850.

We hosted 235 free activities for the Summer Reading Challenge, which saw 2,128 children and 1,051 adults taking part. For the challenge itself, 1,668 children signed up.

One participant said:

"I never read, but I'm starting to, and I would never turn back!"

The Skoobmobile Team provided an intensive programme of support for schools and communities. The mobile service saw 362 school sessions, attended by 7,840

children and 157 nursery sessions attended by 1,316 children. There were 182 community outreach visits attended by 4,590 children and 1,728 adults.

One participant said:

"Sometimes, I just don't have enough time to get to the library as much as I'd like. The staff were really welcoming, helpful and knowledgeable. Colouring activities were great for the kids too!"

Our school library team has been supporting pupils in ever greater numbers, with individual visits to school libraries totalling 143,274 in 2023-24. Our teams worked with schools to encourage reading, with Gryffe High receiving the Scottish Book Trust Silver Award and Castlehead High winning a Gold Award. The team also worked hard to ensure smooth transitions for pupils moving from primary to secondary education, with a programme of summer activity to help with the journey.

The team also supported author events and residencies to support literacy and curriculum outcomes. Castlehead High school library won funding from the Scottish Book Trust for a residency with Neil Slorance. This allowed 51 pupils to create their very own comic book, with a party to celebrate their achievements. Other author visits, including one with award-winning author, Graeme Armstrong, helped senior pupils to tackle issues such as harm reduction and gang culture.

One teacher said:

"I can't overstate the impact felt in that room today."



The Renfrewshire Aspiring Athlete Support Programme helped talented local athletes with access to OneRen training facilities, partner benefits and potential funding. In the last financial year 30 athletes were successful with their application for support, with £20,650 in grants awarded across 21 sports.

OneRen venues play a pivotal role in supporting local clubs to thrive and in 2023-24, with capital investment from Renfrewshire Council, we were able to invest in upgraded synthetic pitches and provide first class facilities for a number of clubs to increase their membership and participation. We supported 408,789 attendances – representing a 23% increase on the previous year.

Across OneRen our army of volunteers have given thousands of hours of service to their local communities – for which all of our OneRen family and communities are incredibly grateful. Our volunteers support a range of services, including Active Schools, Paisley Book Festival, Digital Champions, Gentle Movement, Sporting Memories, Volunteer Walks and our Board of Directors, among others.

We are also developing our placement offer, supporting local education providers and employability support agencies to offer hands-on experience across OneRen services. OneRen also re-established its work experience programme for S5 and S6 pupils – all designed to help develop skills and confidence needed for positive pathways in education and employment and building community wealth.

One of our Digital Champion volunteers, Rory, said:

"It feels really nice to be able to help others, even if it's just a small thing for me, it can be a huge thing for them."

"I've learned new skills and it's been great to be part of such a good team – and when you're helping others, you feel gratified, you feel like you've done something worthwhile."



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Stand centre stage.

A Great Place to Live, Play and Visit

We aim to keep building a positive reputation for Renfrewshire as a place for a wide range of exceptional leisure and cultural experiences. We're growing our regional leisure opportunities, rich local history and diverse heritage, and we provide a high-profile platform for local economic and civic opportunities.

Our teams worked hard to prepare for the 2024 edition of the Paisley Book Festival, which enjoyed another record-breaking year, with 82 unique events, including 38 in its biggest every schools' programme. Some 99 authors and creatives from across the UK took part in the festival with a total audience of 3,529 literary fans, including 1,396 pupils attending the schools' programme. Big names on the programme included Judy Murray, Aasmah Mir, Andrew McMillan, Pat Nevin and Graeme Armstrong – with everyone invited to Imagine Something Different.

“

One pupil said:

“It was so amazing I will definitely look into writing a book of my own.”

”

“

Poet and Makar of the Scottish Women's National Football Team, Donna Matthew, said:

“Thank you for a brilliant Paisley Book Festival. I loved the previous years I have been involved in, but this year's venue and organisation increased the production value considerably. Fancy!”

”

82 unique events

44 events in the main programme

38 events in the schools' programme

99 authors + creatives from across the UK took part in the festival

3,515 audience members

2,133 tickets sold for the main programme

35 participating schools

1,396 pupils took part in the schools' programme



The curtain came up on the refurbished Paisley Town Hall, marking a triumphant return to what is now established as Paisley's big stage, thanks to a once-in-a-generation investment in cultural infrastructure by Renfrewshire Council. The 'new' town hall re-opened to universal acclaim from performers, audiences and partners – as well as rave reviews from local and national media. Many planned performances from acts like Belle and Sebastian and Optimo sold out within hours of going on sale. The Royal National Mod ran from 13–21 October, with 19 events and 4,832 tickets sold across the week. Paisley Opera then graced the stage with their version of Macbeth, allowing local performers and audiences to once again gather for sold-out shows.

Chimes was a project funded by HES and NLHF, to mark the restoration of the Paisley Town Hall clock tower chime. OneRen commissioned a musician to create a series of new compositions for the clock tower chimes with local groups and a local historian, delivering creative engagement sessions with a wide range of community organisations. The restoration of the clock chime and the creation of a new repertoire of tunes, creates a shared experience in the centre of the town, fostering civic pride and restoring a link to the past. The project resulted in the creation of 8 new tunes, co-written with local groups, that marked significant moments in the life of the town and a showcase event that took place for those involved to celebrate their achievements.



The opening of the multi-award winning Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub, better known as Paisley Central Library, in November 2023, massively increased our ability to host cultural events, including a sold-out Book Week Scotland event with Tam Cowan and a night celebrating Paisley's best-selling author, Evelyn Hood, among others. The library also participated in showcasing both Black History Month and the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival.



In March 2024, we celebrated the 9th year of the Will Elsner Comic Festival with 14 events taking place over 7 days. These events were aimed at younger audiences, and we also welcomed the first engagement for Bobby Joseph, the UK's Comic Laureate.

Across our libraries, we stimulated local creativity with 314 book and writers' group sessions, with 2,169 attendances. We more than doubled the number of events across our libraries across a range of clubs, author visits, quizzes, knitting groups and even Dungeons and Dragons groups for teenagers.

OneRen's commitment to supporting the development of artists across the arts and culture sector and meaningful engagement for local audiences with a broad range of cultural activity can be demonstrated through our longer-term projects.

Common is as Common Does, a co-production between 21 Common and OneRen, funded by Future Paisley, began in 2020, with the production being developed throughout 2022 in Johnstone Town Hall





and Tweedie Hall. The final production was performed to sell out audiences in Johnstone Town Hall.

The Other Side of the River, funded by Future Paisley and supported by OneRen, premiered at the Tannahill Centre on 14 April 2023, followed by a Scotland wide tour. This production was the culmination of a longer-term project that engaged the community of Ferguslie.

OneRen in partnership with Circle Recovery Hub, celebrated the official opening of Turner's Bothy (a room of her own), an exciting multi-purpose space for arts and crafts activities, as a breakout space for people in recovery at Circle. The project, from conception to completion was co-designed by Circle clients and volunteers in conjunction with artists, Meadhbh Corrigan and Rosa Gally. The aim for the project, funded by Renfrewshire HSCP and Future Paisley was to create an outdoor space for recovery.

teams from different age groups and saw 5,000 spectators enjoy each day of the fiercely fought finals.

The Scottish Athletics Celtic Nations Cross Country Championships at KGV Renfrew saw approximately 750 athletes from across the UK and Europe take part, with some 3,500 spectators in attendance.

Our Spring and Summer Activity Camps recorded more than 6,000 attendances, as children and young people enjoyed a range of physical activities from dodgeball to dance, kayaking and football, as well as ASN sessions at both locations in Linwood and the On-X.

OneRen's leisure venues welcomed at 15% increase in large-scale one-off events bookings including dance competitions, mixed martial arts and boxing programmes. Spectators travelled from all over the UK to participate at the events.



Across Paisley Town Hall, Johnstone Town Hall, Renfrew Town Hall and Tweedie Town Hall 78,287 attendees, took part in 1,228 events including performances, weddings, meetings and conferences, corporate and serial lets.

Almost 3,500 people took part in the 2023 Paisley 10k and Fun Run, a new record for the popular event. The races are organised by OneRen and supported by Renfrewshire Council and Kilbarchan Amateur Athletics Club.

The Paisley 10k is Scotland's third largest road race. The 10k attracted 2,143 participants with 1,032 signed up for the fun run: a total of 3,445 runners, representing an increase of 1,000 on the previous year's number.

As part of the Royal National Mod, we hosted hugely successful shinty and football tournaments at KGV Renfrew. The Paisley and District Youth Football League Divisional Cup Finals played host to 36



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A Sustainable, High-Performing Charity

We aim to build a sustainable business founded on fairness, providing flexible services which enable everyone locally to live lives which are healthy, happy and fulfilled. We want to build on our charitable credentials, allowing diverse funding streams to be used to challenge inequality. We will provide modern services based on deep rooted values.

We continue to roll out our Pay What You Can pricing model across programmes, not least Paisley Book Festival, breaking down financial barriers to participation. Our Winter and Summer Connections programmes, provide programmed activities as well as allowing us to supply tea, coffee and soup to patrons, as well as providing a warm place to relax, study and work – all free of charge. Thanks to National Lottery and Future Paisley funding, our Living Well @ the Library programme provided spaces for creativity through arts programming that worked with individuals disproportionately impacted by the cost-of-living crisis.

Through CILIPS funding our Green Pages library programme of workshops promoted environmental sustainability through the principles of the circular economy to reduce, reuse, repair and recycle. Sessions included bicycle maintenance workshops, sewing and textiles and even crafting seed bombs to enhance biodiversity.

Our Active Schools co-ordinators have been supporting high schools to deliver sports leadership programmes, with 150 pupils gaining leadership awards from sport national governing bodies. Our RSSE programme develops these skills further, with each pupil completing 60 hours of

volunteering within local primary schools or at local clubs. Also, in partnership with West College Scotland, 25 students completed placements with the Active Schools team, gaining valuable experience in schools and at local competitions.

Our Bikeability and Community Cycling Programme has helped young people to become more active and safer on our roads. In 2023-24, a total of 43 primary schools completed a block of Level 2 on road training. This represents the highest delivery figure in terms of total schools of any local authority in the West of Scotland, with 50 teaching staff, parent volunteers and Active Schools staff trained as Bikeability instructors by OneRen.

Our Active Schools team has been working on gaining the LGBTQ Youth Scotland Charter. This included 70 members of the team completing LGBTQ+ awareness training to help in delivering real equality for all across our school programmes. The Active Schools team also worked with employability partners to build pathways and skills for both volunteers and students. Partners include Barnardo's Works, Invest in Renfrewshire, University of West of Scotland, West College Scotland and Employability Hubs in local schools.

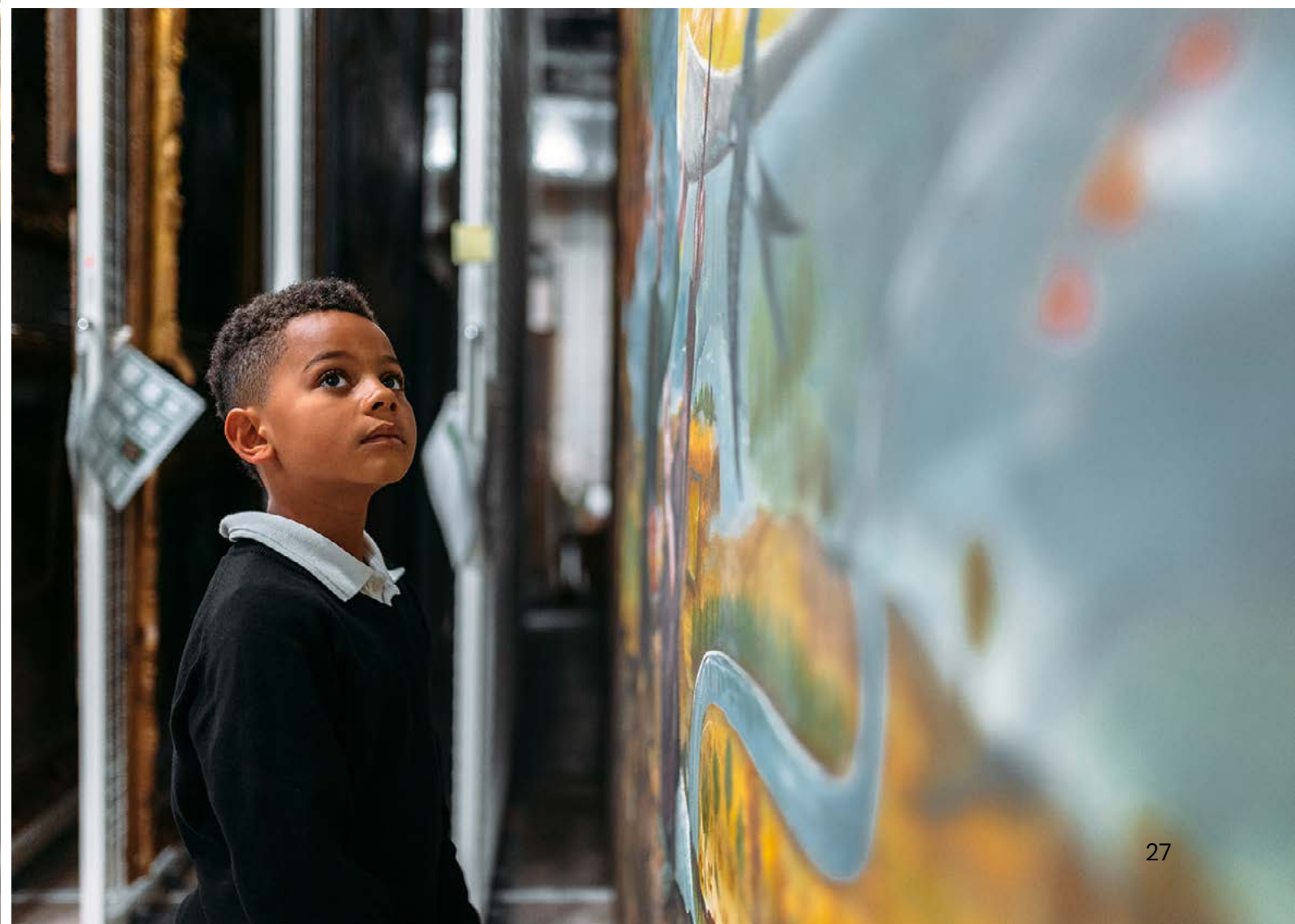
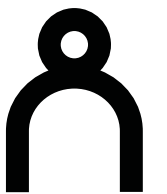
OneRen's Employee Forum – Our Voice – continues to be a platform where all employees are invited to attend, allowing them a safe space to discuss topics of interest and influencing the future shape of the charity. The forum developed new ways of recognising staff loyalty and excellence in service delivery. As a result, long-service cards were developed and implemented, and the team worked on a new event



to celebrate excellence of the OneRen staff who go above and beyond. The first recognition event took place in May 2024.

Our marketing and communications teams have been building on our digital offer, with our leisure app and website improving access to our services.

In 2023-24 we welcomed 1.5 million website visits from almost 400,000 unique users. Our leisure app has been downloaded 13,500 times with more than 20,000 people following our social channels.



Creating a new Paisley through culture



Renfrewshire Council is investing around £100 million in the culture-led regeneration of Paisley town centre – and already we are seeing the fruits of that once-in-a-generation investment with the re-opening of Paisley Town Hall, a new home for Paisley Central Library and the refurbished Paisley Arts Centre all opening to great acclaim.

Paisley Museum Re-Imagined

The team celebrated the beginning of 2024 in style by winning a major international award – and we're not even open yet! In March, the project won the prestigious Architecture Review's Cultural Regeneration category at the Future Awards 2024. There was an impressive shortlist including cultural giants such as the Prado Museum in Madrid, the Shanghai Opera House, the Bilbao Fine Arts Museum and a new maritime museum in Karamursel, Turkey. The award recognises the significant role the project is playing in the town and wider region's cultural regeneration.

This was not our only award. In the same month and in partnership with Kairos Women+ Group we won Bronze in the People's Choice category at the Smiley Charity Film Awards in London for a stop-motion animation which will feature in the new displays.

While construction work continued throughout the year, our content, design, collections and interpretation teams have been working hard behind the scenes to develop a high-quality visitor experience



and major milestones have been met. The ambition and expertise demonstrated in our ambitious plans has been recognised with invitations to present our work at major national conferences, while other cultural project teams have visited Paisley to learn from the best practice we are pioneering.

More than 900 objects have had conservation treatment ready for display. This has included Syrian glass, scientific objects, paintings, looms, armour, and natural history. Even Buddy has had a bit of a spruce up. The work has involved 18 conservation studios across the country and taken hundreds of hours to complete. The conservation programme has also allowed us to provide skills development opportunities in the summer for trainee conservators from Glasgow University Centre for Textile Conservation, which in return provides help to prepare objects for our display on the Paisley Pattern.

The project is creating a world-class museum with community at its core. We believe that in working with people and communities, we are bringing fresh perspectives to the public collections, creating real and vibrant connections that allows Paisley museum to reflect on Renfrewshire's past, and look forward to the future. In November we hosted 50 community partners at Paisley Town Hall, to celebrate their input on developing story displays for the museum. As a centre for co-production, we ensure communities can bring their own, unique perspectives to our collections, bringing new life to our displays

Recognition for our approach enabled the Museums service to secure a grant of £100,000 from the Esmée Fairbairn Collection Fund in February to continue to develop its community ties as part of a broader learning and engagement programme. Two organisations Paisley Museum has been working with provide a voice and support for Scotland's African diaspora: Jambo Radio – Scotland's only radio station for people of African and Caribbean heritage – and Pachedu, a charity which promotes diversity and dignity for diverse communities. The Esmée Fairbairn funding will allow us to further strengthen our partnership so communities are truly shaping every aspect of the museum service, from the objects we collect and display, to the programmes and spaces we provide.

Our Creative Learning team have been partnering with teachers from across the area to develop new learning experiences and workshops for school groups. By drawing on the expertise of Children Services and local educators and the interests of local children, we are creating a programme that will meet the needs of our learners, and embed visits to the Museum in their school curriculum from an early age. To date, 38 primary schools have been involved in the development and testing of our new programme, which will be delivered when the museum re-opens. We are committed to working with all 50 primary schools across Renfrewshire.





Chief Executive's Statement

It's been an exceptional year for the team at OneRen and I'm incredibly proud of the difference we make to individuals and communities across Renfrewshire. We provide services which are both life-affirming and life-changing, in venues which are part of a common fabric of support, providing stability and inspiration when times are tough.

Thanks to the huge investment made by Renfrewshire Council and partners, we've welcomed back the refurbished Paisley Town Hall and Paisley Arts Centre and the multi-award winning Paisley Central Library to its new home on the High Street. All are iconic in their own right and the response of audiences, artists, promoters and visitors has been universally positive. Our teams worked closely with Council partners to get the venues ready and opened – and since then, our operational and programming teams have truly delivered, showcasing Paisley and Renfrewshire's incredible cultural strengths. Delivering on that undertaking cannot be understated and I want to thank everyone who has helped to make it happen.

While the re-opening of these venues continues to showcase our ambition, the work we do across our communities is no less important. Indeed, we provide lifeline services which make a huge difference to people in every town and village across Renfrewshire. Whether we are supporting people to learn new skills to help them into education or employment, or helping someone to be part of the digital world for the first time, OneRen provides a foundation for growth.

Our teams are dedicated to improving

the health and wellbeing of everyone who accesses our services, particularly the most vulnerable and excluded. We work with our partners to innovate and meet local needs. Our Live Active and Vitality programmes help people to get back to better health, often after an extended stay in hospital or when their physical health has deteriorated. Our walking programmes, literally, help get people back on their feet – and we should never forget the life-changing impact of simply being able to get out of the house and meet new friends.

Children and young people across Renfrewshire benefit from our Active Schools programmes, with Renfrewshire remaining a leader in Scotland with our pupil survey informing how we target resources. Our teams are also working hard to do more for care experienced young people, giving them a voice in programmes which improve their health and wellbeing as we deliver on our promise to unlock their potential. Equality is at the heart of everything we do, and I'm delighted that our work in supporting LGBTQ+ young people has been recognised through national accreditation.

OneRen also has a mission to lift-up our communities, providing both inspiration and joy. We are hosting sell-out shows, world-premiere theatre performances and record-breaking events like the Paisley Book Festival and Paisley 10k – all adding to the local economy and vibrancy of our area. None of this could be done without our incredible staff, volunteers, our Board, partners and stakeholders – thank you for all of your support.

It's been a tough year for many of us and

I'm pleased that through a huge range of free services, our Pay What You Can model for cultural performances, and low and no-cost leisure initiatives, such as free swims for under-5s, we are helping to reduce financial barriers to access.

While 2024 has been another exceptional year, we continue to look forward at what promises to be a truly transformative period for Paisley and Renfrewshire, as we create the new Paisley Museum. We are building a truly world-class attraction which is undeniably rooted in its people – and it will be a cultural beacon for visitors from near and far. The promise of unlocking our passionate, cultural stories and strengths, and showcasing them to the world is huge – and I hope everyone looks forward to being part of these incredible next steps for the whole of Renfrewshire.

Victoria Hollows
Chief Executive



Performance Reporting

OneRen reports on a range of performance indicators across all service areas and monitors trends in attendance and service usage. The statutory performance indicators for cultural and leisure services are collated annually for each Council area and are published by the Improvement Service.

The statutory performance indicator data for the cultural and leisure services delivered by OneRen is provided below, with comparisons to the previous year. During 2023/24, despite significant challenges in the operating environment, OneRen has continued to recover income and attendance numbers:

Performance Indicator	2022/23	2023/24
The attendance at swimming pools	355,222	442,557
The attendance at indoor sport and leisure facilities, excluding pools	668,571	681,013
The attendance at Outdoor sport and leisure facilities	161,744	359,768
Number of physical visits to libraries	216,801	339,751
Number of virtual visits to libraries	1,926,932	1,867,758
Total number of visits to libraries	2,143,733	2,207,509



Financial Overview

The charity is funded through a service payment from Renfrewshire Council, external grants and donations, memberships, admission fees and ticket sales generated at its leisure and sports facilities and cultural venues. The charity does not trade for profit and any surplus generated by the charity is applied solely to the continuation and development of the charity for the benefit of the local community to help people enjoy healthy and active lives.

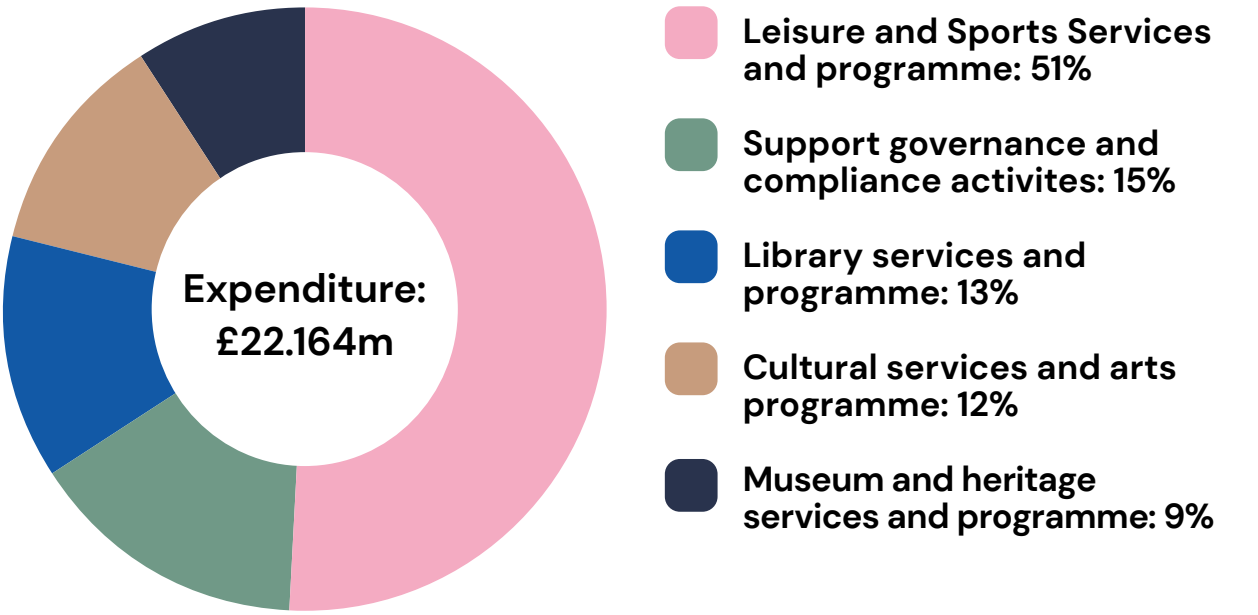
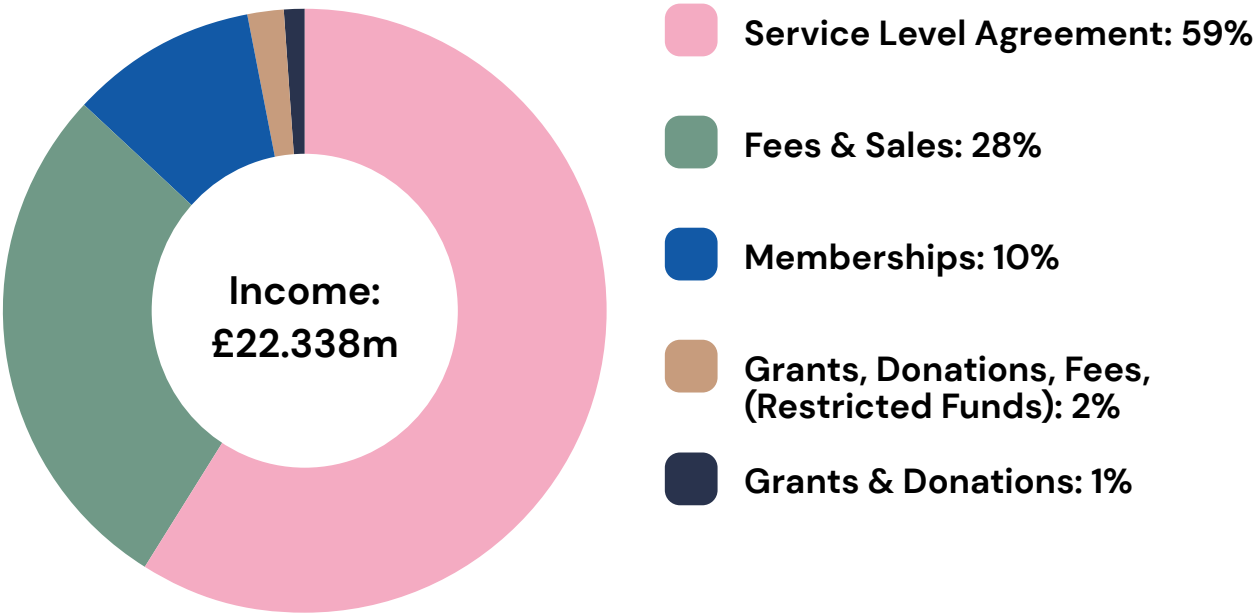
During 2023/24, we generated income of £22.338m and spent £22.164m on our activities. This allowed us to add a small surplus of £26.6k to our useable reserves this year, as well as adding £147.6k of funds to restricted reserves for specific activities and initiatives.

Despite the difficult operating conditions, OneRen has performed well in this period and has continued to adapt services to achieve the priorities in the business strategy (2021- 2026), to address emerging issues and to reflect changes in customer expectations and usage patterns.

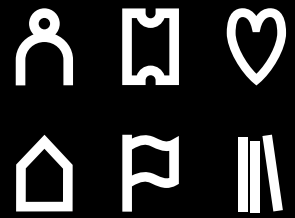
The financial outlook for the sector remains challenging in the short to medium term, in this post pandemic recovery period. OneRen will continue to manage ongoing cost and pay pressures, alongside suppressed income streams, whilst the cost-of-living crisis continues to affect customers, our local communities and our employees.

Over the next year, OneRen will focus on growing the business and performance profile of our iconic cultural venues – Paisley Town Hall and Arts Centre and supporting the major investment proposals in our sports, community and leisure facilities across Renfrewshire. With the ongoing investment in our facilities, and in our arts and cultural programmes, OneRen will play a key role in supporting physical and creative activities and providing exciting arts and cultural events programmes in Renfrewshire which help bring positive health, educational, social and economic benefits to the area.

The financial statements for 2023/24 are available on our website.



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For further information about
OneRen, please visit our
website at: oneren.org

You can contact us:
Lagoon Leisure Centre
11 Christie Street Paisley PA1 1NB
Telephone: 0141 618 6351
OneRen, a trading name of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited
Company limited by guarantee no: 490998
Registered Charity in Scotland: SCO33898

OneRen, a trading name of Renfrewshire Leisure Trading Limited
Company limited by guarantee no: 241310
VAT Registered Company: 210 0336 83

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