



**PROJECTS  
4 CHANGE**



**Annual Report 2020**

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When you see the mural is makes you think, that’s what community is all about. (Gemma - mam and P4C beneficiary, aged 21)

# Charity Details

**Name:** Projects4Change  
**Registered Charity Number:** 1181162  
**Registered Address:** The Cowgate Centre, Houghton Avenue, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3UT

**Management Committee:**

**Simon Pinkney** - Chairperson (Appointed March 2019)  
**Anisa Ahmed** - Vice Chairperson (Appointed March 2019)  
**Amy Coates** - Secretary (Appointed January 2018)  
**Jo Nicholson** - Treasurer (Appointed October 2019)  
**Amanda Hall** - Trustee (Appointed October 2019)  
**Tristan Dunlavy** - Trustee (Appointed October 2019)  
**Helen Hall** - Trustee (Appointed January 2018)

**Changes to Management Committee:**

None

**P4C Team:**

**Kelly Coates** - CEO  
**Chesley Conlin** - Student Youth Worker

**Structure, Governance and Management:**

Projects4Change is a registered CIO within the UK Charity Commission. The organisation is managed by Kelly Coates, CEO and governed by the Management Committee through regular Committee meetings. We have a strong pool of youth workers within the region who work on our projects and funding bids under supervision and management of the CEO.

All major decisions are made via committee vote and approval and documented in committee meeting minutes which are signed off by the Chair of the Management Committee.

Recruitment of new Trustees takes place through local advertising, word of mouth and advertising on Charity forums. Trustees are appointed in quorate Committee meetings and documented in meeting minutes.

**Public Benefit Statement:**

Charity Trustees have complied with their duties to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising their powers and duties.

# Introduction & CEO's report

Projects4Change is **3 years old!** and **haven't we come so far! and endured so much together with you all.** The period this report has spanned has been **the most difficult of times**, but we have **created safe spaces and friendships and we have taken opportunities to enrich local people's lives.** We have fed people, created art, story making, songs, skated, made seating, done needlework, murals, residencies, a doodling workshop, boxing, designed our own fabric, written poetry, body boarded, grown gooseberries to sunflowers, walked the wall, got a question about youth mental health asked in parliament and **sent a young person to Scotland for a year together with our partners.**

**We are forever changed by the Covid years**, we have lost beloved people and we have grieved also for the loss of connection we have all felt. **Therefore we are so grateful for our strong local ties and partner organisations who offer so much in the way of friendship and support.** After 3 years **we can confidently say we have found our people.** It has been **this bringing together of people that has put us firmly here in heart of the community and it helps us get stronger every year.**

**Speaking of great supporters I would just like to take a moment to appreciate them**, you will see their **influence and talents spread across these pages along with the work of local people.** (highlighted on the final page of the report). **Thank you for your contribution to our work without you all Projects4Change would not be possible.**



Kelly Coates, CEO

# A Note from our Trustees



Amy Coates,  
Trustee and Secretary  
of Projects4Change

**What a challenging year this has been!** With the **whole world rocked by the pandemic**, there were **so many challenges to overcome in the North East** and in the youth work sector **at a time when young people needed our services more than ever.** How do you provide **support to people from a social distance?**

**I'm so proud of our workers and particularly our CEO, Kelly for their endless effort and enthusiasm** to find creative ways **to engage with those who needed us.** As our Blakelaw mural (and the cover of this report) states, **'People are strong, communities are stronger'** and this was so apparent during lockdown.

Through detached work, online working, craft packs and Covid-safe face-to-face working, **we have formed strong local ties with the community and with the continued efforts to bring back Betty's Hut** we've placed ourselves **in the heart of the community where we can share people's passions** and **show our dedication to their wellbeing.**

**Well done to Kelly and the team.** I'm humbled by your hard work **and excited to see what the future holds.**

Amy Coates, Trustee and Secretary of Projects4Change

# Objectives

## To relieve the needs of young people for the public benefit through:

- The provision of support and activities which develop young people’s skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as responsible individuals.
- The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve young people’s conditions of life.
- Providing more youth work places for young people through developing projects in partnership and providing direct delivery support to youth organisations.

# A Year in Projects

## Achievements, Activities and Progress

### Lockdown Life

We have not stopped face to face working except in the very first lockdown. This was because very few of our young people were able to access online working, we managed a small amount of remote support and project work with home growing and craft packs. These were reasonably well received but no substitute for in person working. Our work has built up well since Covid hit and the first lockdown passed, we were able to act in person as soon as we received critical worker status.

During this time we engaged with young parents and families, using doorstep stories with the Unfolding Theatre and at home growing and activity kits, we facilitated a large family group of sisters and their children to access a two-night stay at a holiday park.

During the worst of covid we kept in touch with young people isolated within their own bedrooms, we started mentoring young people online and sending craft packs home. We did referrals for mental health and referrals for food parcels.

In the community we witnessed schools losing track of young people and young people losing their way becoming more visible on the streets and attracting attention,

generally upsetting people, and getting fined. It was clear we needed to focus on those young people who were visibly struggling and already known to us. We provided regular session for the duration until school returned funded by Newcastle Community Asset Trust. We engaged weekly for 8 months using boxing, skate park and outdoor education as well as work at Betty’s Garden. It was right that we did this, we worked flexibly and responded to the needs of these young people during this period, the work proved rewarding and challenging.

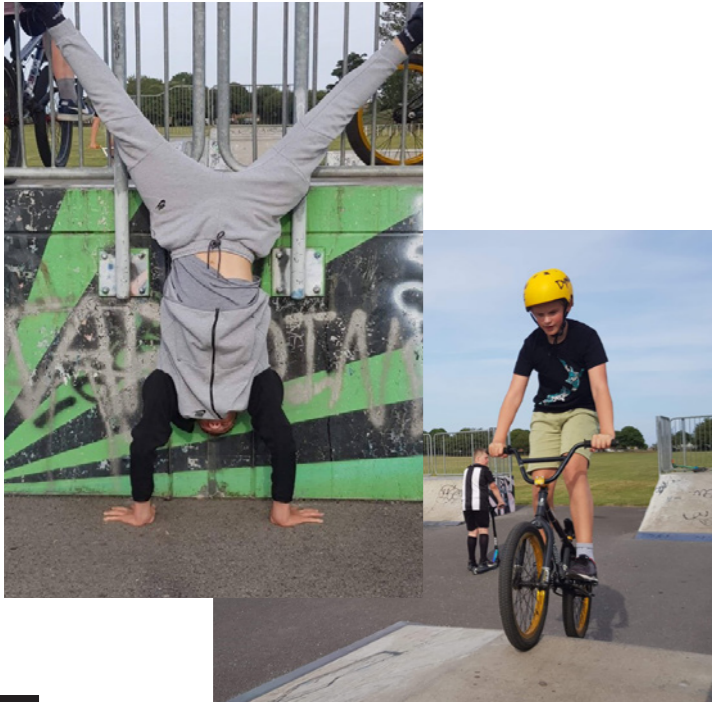
### Detached

We offered detached youth work in Newbiggin Hall during lockdown, this was very challenging as young people were hiding from the police, the area is densely populated centrally with surrounding countryside. It was hard to find young people as they moved around in large groups to various hidden spaces locality. We spent time checking in on young people we knew and making sure they had everything they and their families needed.

Detached in Blakelaw and North Fenham led workers to support young people to try to keep their local Skatepark as it was being taken away as part of a larger transformation of Blakelaw Park. In the skateparks place there will be football pitches and facilities as well as a park for smaller children. We are sad to say that despite our best efforts we could not help and the young people make a change on this occasion. We continue to put pressure on those in power locally to consult and consider the needs of young people when making decisions to avoid this happening.

# Summer Programme Summer 2020

Our summer programme of detached youth work followed a strict lockdown period and helped young people get outside. It led us to working in Blakelaw, Newbiggin and Cowgate offering BMX biking, acrobatics and circus skills with Rico from Dynamix Skatepark.



# Community Work

Halloween Pirate Treasure Hunt went really well, we had to hold the event outdoors due to lockdown restrictions, it was great for local children and young people to do something fun and sociable.



We took to the streets of Blakelaw and followed clues and spooky skeletons to find the pirate’s treasure. Then back to Mrs T’s café for hotdogs after.

# Lockdown and Boys Work

I’m Shannon, a youth worker at Projects4Change I thought I would write a piece about the struggles I faced as a young youth worker within this crazy period. Where to even begin? for starters we faced a lockdown and no face-to-face engagement. I felt like I had lost all contact with our young people overnight, online was a struggle for most of us, I was so relieved when we got essential worker status.

It was such a challenging time, we had been working with this group of boys before the pandemic, but I was finding it difficult to connect with them and build relationships. It was clear they had a lot of needs so we decided to focused on working with them in a small group. We had lovely sessions, including attending the Dynamic’s skatepark, we booked it just for us and used it for scooters, BMX and acrobatics, we also did boxing sessions, built the fire pit at Betty’s Hut, planted flowers and vegetables, walked the Northumberland Coast and enjoyed a forest wilderness day. We worked solidly each week for 8 months until we started to come out of lockdown. It was great fun to spend this time with them, I started to see the young people at their best, they were just enjoying the whole experience. There were times when this group would challenge us as workers, their behavior sometimes made me feel we were going in the wrong direction.



When I reflected on this, I realised that we were the only project engaging with them at the time and the only professionals they had regular contact with throughout lockdown. This was positive. During the focused time I spent with the boys I was able to build a strong relationship with them, whereas before I had previously struggled, I felt these young people needed us. I feel we really did make a difference to these boys’ lives whilst going through a very confusing time and I would not have changed it for the world. written by Shannon Devine.



Projects4Change identified the need for this work supported financially by local Charity Newcastle Community Asset Trust. We both felt that it was an important that we stayed the course with these young people, working in this way with young people with high needs can get bumpy, there is often a lot going on in the background that impacts what happens within sessions. First and foremost we needed to be there for them regularly with a smile whatever happened the week before or locally, we offered a conversation and a chance to unpick events put we never turned them away, we only ever remove a young person if it comes down to safety, even then we always offer a route back into our sessions through one-to-one work. We know the importance of keeping young people included and engaged in their community.

## Bringing Back Bettys Hut and Garden

During covid we were working hard behind the scenes to bring back Betty's Hut and garden, as anyone will know progressing works, leases and permissions during this uncertain time has proven difficult. We are on track to deliver the Hut in the first half of 2021. Betty's Hut will support the running of young people's group work sessions, intergenerational work, volunteering, training, and enterprise. As well as be a base for trips and fun activities for local young people. The new space will help to build upon the potential of local people by letting them lead the way in creating solutions for their own community.



## Young Parents Residential Northside Farm

Thanks to the support of Adventure Holidays, we managed to help our "We Are Family" young parents' group to get away to Northside Farm creating some lovely memories and helping to relieve stress of lockdown in the countryside. As they were all in a support network, we were able to support them to have valuable respite.



## Journey with P4C: Change Maker Volunteer to Youth Worker

"Starting from a young person to now youth worker has been an enlightening and (at times) overwhelming experience. I wouldn't have done it any other way though - it has taught me so much about the world in which we live in, some of the challenges our young people face today and how our work supports them through it. This journey has helped me grow so much from the young person I was and

**I'm still learning so many new things but I am the person I am today because of P4C. I can't wait to see what our future holds. :)**

Elisha aged 20



## Change Maker Volunteers

### Blakelaw Community Mural

Our Change Maker Volunteers worked with artist Nicola Lynch again on a Mural for Blakelaw Community Centre, the young people felt that they wanted to send a strong message to the Local Community as they were in the middle of Covid at a time when restrictions were less strict, the final piece is on our front cover and reads

**“People Are Strong, Communities Are Stronger” Slogan By Aiden Aged 15.**

#### Betty’s Hut shipping container Mural

Our Change Maker Volunteer Anna wanted to get local young people involved in painting of our storage shipping container onsite, she engaged with the Betty’s Hut Steering group and asked them to lead on the design to reflect what they wanted to promote about Cowgate and the space. Artist Nicola Lynch came on board to help us, and the result was very striking. Funded by Newcastle Arts Development Team.



#### Podcast

The Change Maker Volunteers had to abandon their plans for a mental health event due to covid, they instead created a podcast around mental health, covid and the A-level results scandal that affected them personally, as well as their prospects, wellbeing and mental health.



## Grow from Home

The “We are Family” young mams group applied to The Key to get young families growing from their homes during lockdown, the funds also paid for our raised beds within Bettys Hut and Garden which were then used by others. Kits were given out to local families to grow and enjoy growing fruit and vegetables, for most it was their first time they had ever tried.



## Art at Projects4Change

We have great partnerships that enrich the lives of the local community, they have brought art, song, stories, textiles, poetry, and imagination to our work with young people

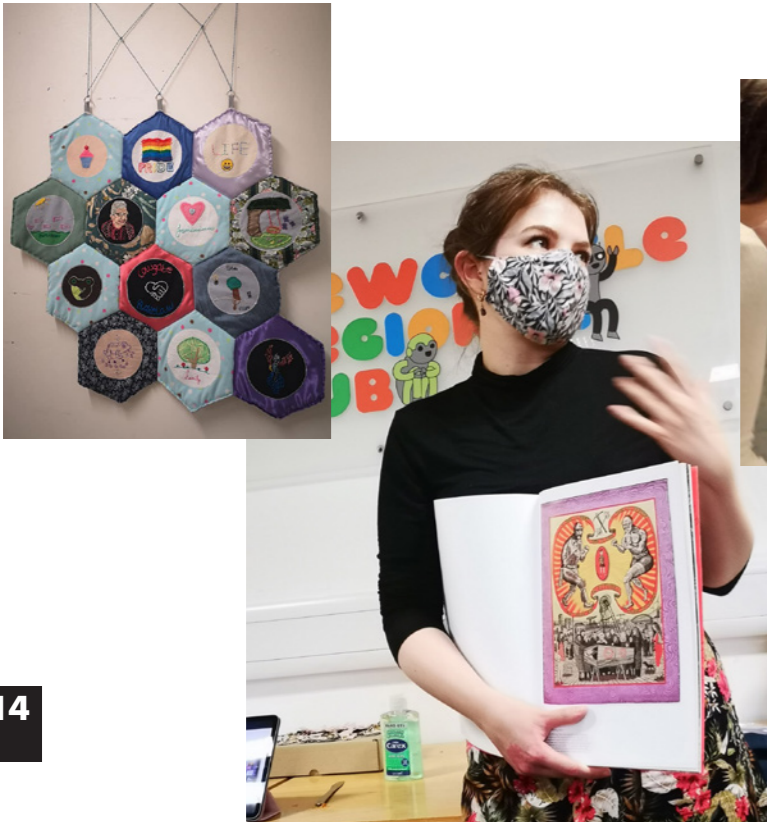
## The Unfolding Theatre

The doorstep stories were a source of entertainment and fun during the time of lockdown, in a time when there was little for families and children to look forward to, it was great to see children’s confidence grow through storytelling, children received food and activity packs to prolong the fun.



# Monkfish Productions

A Little Bit of Good in the World is a creative arts programme the asks each of us: how can creativity help us to do a little bit of good where we are and with what we have? The young people worked with textile artist Melanie Kyles to create a banner made up of smaller ‘little bits of good’ hexagonal pieces inspired by the good in their local area and their hopes for the future and coming out of COVID-19 lockdown.



They also worked with illustrator Josie Brookes on creating online digital content for the project, working with Monkfish Social Media Associate Amy Lord in bringing this work to life online.

Our talented artist Melanie Kyles held some sessions about the importance of ethical fashion and the devastating impact of fast fashion on textile workers and the planet. This spurred the young people on to make their processes better for the environment, like sourcing nontoxic dying processes.



# Crafting with Care

The young people together with our partners Monkfish Productions and artist Melanie Kyles sought to make Lockdown better for others in the community during Covid. This difficult time was especially isolating for the older people, our young people worked with a supported housing association called The Dales to let them know we were thinking of them at this difficult time.



The young people asked what the residents wanted and then made:

- cushions with hand sewing and machine sewn elements
- Handmade pin cushions and bowl covers
- Handmade embroidered initials of residents were used as garment tags
- Each cushion was made using their own individually designed non-toxic ethically printed fabric

# Blakelaw Community Allotment

Our Monday evening Allotment club proved popular with young people in Blakelaw in the spring and summer months. Donations from Hall’s of Heddon and other allotment holders kept us busy growing tomatoes, strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, flowers and more. Young people did all sorts of jobs, even spreading muck and building planter with the help of Kids Cabin.



## Training and Staffing

As the demand from the local community increased, we had to move to employ more part-time youth workers. We looked to our young people from our original Change Maker Volunteer Programme who were affected by the A level fiasco and missed their university places.



3 of the Change Maker Volunteers completed their level 2 youth work qualification online with the National Youth Agency. We also moved to employ a local man Stuart Dodzo who has a particular interest and specialism in social policy and mental health.

Shannon Devine (far right in 2nd photo) our student from Sunderland University stayed on to become our part time youth worker.

## Supporting local young people

While doing detached in the early days in 2019 in Cowgate we met a young homeless man (23 year old Les). He was one of the first young people we met, we tried to help him get a housing and change his situation, but he refused refuges because he mistrusted strangers. He instead slept of couches and floors locally until he ran out of options and started sleeping in stairwells after walking the streets until the early hours.

In Sep 2020 we sent Les to the school of Adventure Leadership in Abernethy Scotland for a year, we applied for walking boots and socks from the Princes Trust, and he was given £1,000 scholarship and the remainder was raised together with our partners. While there he gained a water sports qualifications and John Muir leadership experience. We hope he will return and share his love for outdoor education with local young people.



# Financial Review

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. An audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and an Independent Examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners.

Receipts & Payments Account 14 December 2019 to 31 March 2021					
	Notes	Unrestricted	2019 - 21 Restricted	Total £	2018-19
<b>Receipts</b>					
Transfer from Unincorporated Association				0	2577
Grants & Donations	4	17500	77978	95478	38388
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>17500</b>	<b>77978</b>	<b>95478</b>	<b>40965</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Salary Costs			33388	33388	10275
Capital Project			17014	17014	0
Youth Training			4750	4750	0
Activities, Materials and Resources			7210	7210	2220
Sweatshirts		370		370	157
Subsistance and Refreshments			2234	2234	988
Accommodation and Room hire				0	834
Motor and Travelling Expenses			1329	1329	2128
Media Expenses			677	677	133
Insurances			165	165	165
Postage and Stationery			156	156	111
Accountancy		250		250	0
Consultancy				0	200
Subscriptions			198	198	0
Sundries		130	261	391	0
Mosiac Artist				0	675
Depreciation		495		495	495
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>1245</b>	<b>67382</b>	<b>68627</b>	<b>18381</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit for the period</b>		16255	10596	26851	22584
<b>Transfer Between Funds</b>		0	0	0	0
<b>Funds at 14 December 2019</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>22490</b>	<b>22584</b>	<b>22584</b>
<b>Total Funds at 31 March 2021</b>		<b>16349</b>	<b>33086</b>	<b>49435</b>	<b>45168</b>

Grants Received	£
<b>Unrestricted</b>	
Ballinger Trust	£15000
High Sheriff's Awards	£2000
Other donations	£500
	<b>£17,500</b>
<b>Restricted</b>	
Key Fund – Change Maker Volunteers	£1448
NCC – Wards Committee	£6515
Newcastle Community Asset Trust	£3467
North Fenham and Blakelaw Parish Council	£3828
The National Lottery Community Fund	£22,423
Street Games Grants	£4195
Rise North East	£3200
North – North East	£1250
Student Support Fees	£1486
Other Grants (under £1000)	£1050
LGA Foundation	£5000
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland (includes as listed below)	£24,116
Bowey Grass roots Fund (£13,700 Betty's Hut)	
Bowey Grass Roots Fund (£7,386 Utilities)	
David Dockray West End Young People's Fund (£3,030 Gate)	
<b>Total Grants and Donations Received</b>	<b>£77,978</b>
 Total Salary and NI costs for the year were £33,388	
 Total cost for the independent examination for the year will be £275	

	Balance 12/14/19	Income	Expenditure	Balance 3/31/21
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
<b>Young Peoples Projects</b>				
Nothumbria Police- Commissioners Fund	1740		1740	0
Key Fund-Change Makers Volunteers	250	1448	1698	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1448</b>	<b>3438</b>	<b>0</b>
 Ballinger Trust	10000		10000	0
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear -				
Change Makers Volunteers	5000		5000	0
Sir James Knott Trust	5000		5000	0
Local Giving- Sports Donation	500		500	0
NCC - Wards Committee		6515	6515	0
Newcastle Community Asset Trust		3467	3467	0
North Fenham and Blakelaw Parish Council		3828	3828	0
The National Lottery Community Fund		22423	10084	12339
Street Games Grants		4195		4195
Rise North East		3200		3200
North - North East		1250		1250
Student Support Fees		1486	1486	0
Other Grants (under £1,000)		1050	1050	0
<b>Capitla Projects - Betty's Hut</b>				
LGA Foundation		5000		5000
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear				
and Northumberland Grants		24116	17014	7102
<b>Total</b>	<b>22490</b>	<b>77978</b>	<b>67382</b>	<b>33086</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>17500</b>	<b>1245</b>	<b>16349</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>22584</b>	<b>95478</b>	<b>68627</b>	<b>49435</b>

<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
 Cost	
As at 14 December 2019	0
Additions	990
Disposals	
As at 31 March 2021	990
 Depreciation	
As at 14 December 2019	495
Charge for the year	495
Disposals	
As at 31 March 2021	990
 <b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2021</b>	<b>0</b>

## Delivery Partners 2020



## Funders



## Thank you

Lastly, a special thank you to the following people for their guidance, support and assistance during our this difficult year. Your help is hugely appreciated.

Andy Ditchburn and the team at Perro  
 David Coates - Accountant  
 Wayne Dobson - High Tide Adventure Company  
 Emma Thompson - Robson Laidler Accountants  
 Rick Bowler - Professor Sunderland University Youth Work  
 Rico - Dynamix State Park  
 Chi Onwurah - Newcastle Upon Tyne MP  
 Glenn Pendleton - NCAT  
 Alison Flannagan Wood - NCC Arts Team  
 Will Benson - Kids Cabin  
 Annie and the team at The Unfolding Theatre  
 Una and the Team at the Key Fund  
 Irene Teasdale - Mrs T Café  
 Michael Bell - Patchwork Project  
 Linda Hobson - Blakelaw Councillor  
 Karen Colley - Community Champion at Tesco  
 Alison Ni Charraighe - Professor Childhood Studies Northumbria University  
 Alan Wear - NCC  
 Nicola Lynch - Artist  
 Melanie Kyles - Artist  
 Claire and the team at Monkfish Productions

## **PROJECTS 4 CHANGE**

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