



**Partnership with RMBC**

**Collaborative Framework:** Rotherham Federation aligns with RMBC's Thriving Neighbourhood Strategy to enhance community quality of life. Our approach includes:

- Direct collaboration with council coordinators and local services.
- Development of community groups
- Activities that ensure all tenants can be heard.
- Informing ward plans through community insights.
- Coordinating efforts to avoid duplication and enhance communication.

**Tenant Scrutiny**

**Empowerment through Accountability:** Tenant scrutiny enables residents to hold landlords accountable, fostering transparency and responsiveness in housing services. Recent reports have been positively received by Rotherham Council, with ongoing reviews to further enhance tenant engagement.



**Engaging Underrepresented Tenant Groups**

Rotherham Federation is committed to increasing engagement with diverse communities. This involves:

- Supporting Tenants and Residents Associations (TARAs) with practical advice and funding assistance.
- Actively recruiting tenant representatives to participate in formal and informal housing discussions.



**New Federation Member Groups:** The past year has seen a significant increase in community-led groups joining the Federation, with ongoing applications for membership.

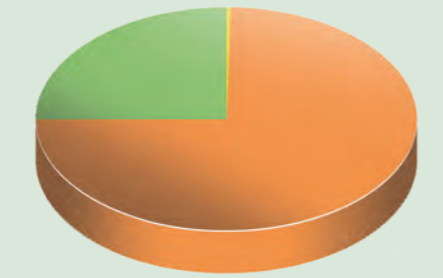
- The groups are:
- Danes View
  - Rotherham Peer Support for all
  - Thurcroft Youth Group
  - Thurcroft Events Group

**Conclusion**

Rotherham Federation remains dedicated to building community capacity and resilience, navigating challenges such as the cost-of-living crisis, and fostering inclusive participation across diverse tenant groups. Our ongoing initiatives aim to empower individuals, enhance community spirit, and create sustainable solutions for local issues.

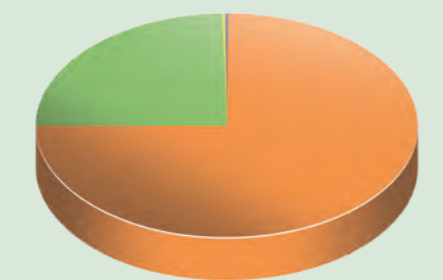
**Rotherham Federation of Communities Ltd.**  
Income and expenditure for the year ending 31st January 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
<b>INCOME from:</b>	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations	35,246	0	547,480	582,727
Charitable activities	189,972	0	0	189,972
Investments	1,010	0	0	1,010
Other				0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>226,228</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>547,480</b>	<b>773,708</b>



- Grants and donations 582,727
- Charitable activities 189,972
- Investments 1,010
- Other 0

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
<b>EXPENDITURE on:</b>	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	1,183	0	3,378	4,561
Charitable activities - direct	122,225	0	423,240	545,465
Charitable activities - support	44,744	0	124,295	169,039
Governance	142	0	1,898	2,040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>168,294</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>552,811</b>	<b>721,105</b>



- Charitable activities - direct costs 545,465
- Charitable activities - support costs 169,039
- Raising funds 4,561
- Governance 2,040

**Rotherham Federation**



Strengthening Communities

**Contact Details**

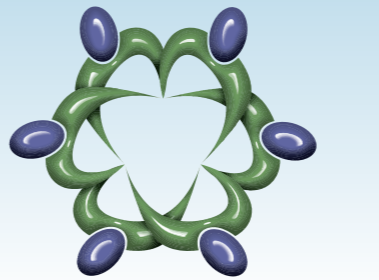
Rotherham Federation of Communities  
Springwell Gardens Community Centre  
Eastwood View  
Rotherham  
S65 1NH

Tel: 01709 368515  
email: info@rotherfed.org  
www.rotherfed.org.uk  
https://twitter@OfRotherham  
https://en-gb.facebook.com/rother.fed

Charity no: 1158600  
Company no: 5913521



**Rotherham Federation**



Strengthening Communities

**2024/25 REVIEW**

**Community Capacity Building Overview**

Rotherham Federation aims to strengthen communities, enabling residents to devise their own solutions while supporting a robust network of community groups. Our goal is to enhance community pride, belonging, and spirit across Rotherham.

**Core Objectives:**

1. Ensure that every individual has a voice in their community.
2. Create happier, more cohesive living and working environments.
3. Facilitate the development of local solutions to address community-specific challenges.
4. Influence strategic stakeholders to better grasp local needs.
5. Foster collaboration to tackle wider borough issues.



Our capacity-building initiatives focus on:

- Energizing individuals and groups to be proactive in local matters.
- Promoting collaborative dialogue about community visions and activities.
- Providing training to equip individuals and community groups with essential skills for neighbourhood improvement.
- Enhancing understanding of group dynamics, conflict resolution, fundraising, and financial management.

Support Services Provided:

- Assistance with constitutional and structural group formation.
- Community accountancy and legal advice.
- Insurance and collective service support.
- Guidance on funding applications and marketing, including resources for creating promotional materials.







### Cost of Living Crisis Initiatives

#### Money Management

**Making Our Money Go Further Project:** After four successful years, this project has supported individuals in managing their finances effectively. It will continue for another year, focusing on six specific areas in Rotherham with a mission to change community perceptions regarding money management. At the end of year 4 we have now supported over 3400 people at community sessions, 1300 of which have received support from Citizens Advice. Those involved have passed on their knowledge to a further 2000 people and 5000 who were previously unaware, now know where to go for help.



### Heart of the Community Project

The Heart of the Community initiative has concluded (December 2024) but was instrumental in engaging six Rotherham communities to foster pride and connectedness post-pandemic. Key achievements include:

- Encouraging small acts of kindness to enhance community spirit.
- Supporting mutual recovery from pandemic effects.
- Restarting local life and instilling confidence and resilience in communities.

#### Engagement Strategies:

- Empowering local groups to take ownership of neighbourhood issues.
- Collaborating with local organizations (libraries, schools) for wider outreach.
- Co-hosting community events to promote engagement.
- Supporting local groups in recognizing their contributions and attracting new members.

We are delighted in the impact this project has had over the past 3 years and also the commitment from our team and the community volunteers who have given so much.



### Home Energy Support

**More Energy Know How:** This ongoing project aims to reduce energy usage and costs for residents through training and support. Our focus is to:

- reduce physical health problems made worse by high fuel costs by enabling people to be warmer at home and releasing income for other household essentials.
- reduce the anxiety/stress/worry experienced by people who are struggling with high fuel bills.
- establish community-led groups to reduce future energy consumption.

Local volunteers are engaged to lead energy-saving initiatives, focusing on health improvement and community empowerment.

We are delighted that this project has been extended for a further two years until Summer 2027



### Open Arms Project

Launched in February 2023, Open Arms provides drop-in sessions for financial and social inclusion support. Over 2,500 individuals have benefited from this program, which focuses on making effective use of community resources. Our focus areas are Dalton, Canklow, East Herringthorpe, East Dene, Ferham, Masborough, Munsbrough, Maltby, Dinnington, Wath Upon Dearne. We are seeing more use of the centres now and our programme of planned community open day events to help raise awareness has been a success.

This project will continue for a further 12 months until March 2026.

### Money Skills for Life

Beginning in September 2023, this program aimed to enhance the financial literacy of residents with low-level maths skills, ultimately enabling

them to pursue further educational opportunities. Our approach is to use money management to show learners how much they do know/understand about maths and ultimately support them to become involved in taking on additional maths learning opportunities and qualifications. Over the two-year period have supported 500 local people through the delivery of taster sessions and full day training sessions delivered on outreach at community venues in the most deprived areas of Rotherham.

We would like to thank our teams working on these great community-based projects, for their energy and commitment in doing all they can to save local people money and support them through some incredibly difficult times. They have made such a difference to so many people and supported everyone in a non-judgemental and compassionate manner

