



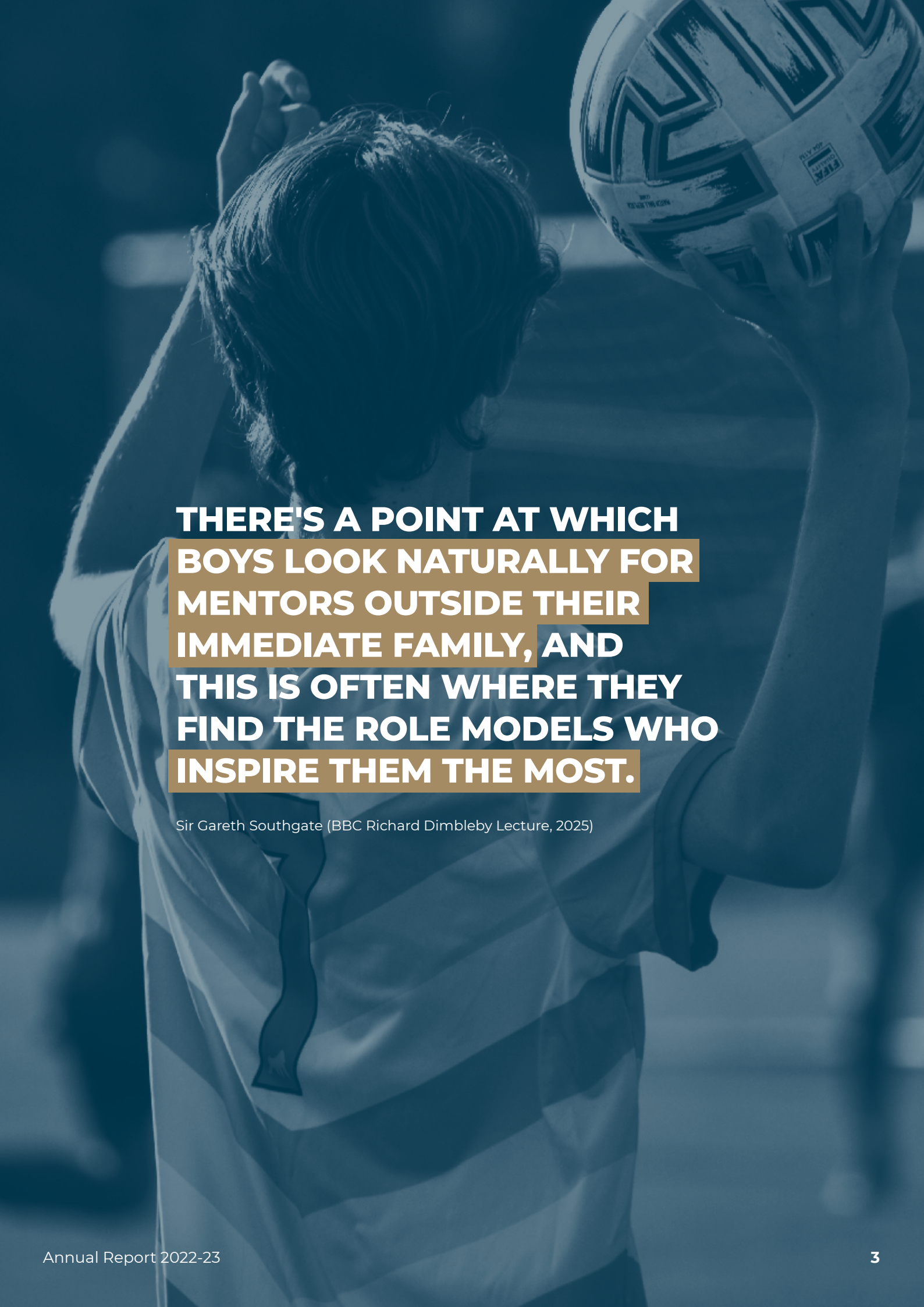
CHAPTER2

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24

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**THERE'S A POINT AT WHICH
BOYS LOOK NATURALLY FOR
MENTORS OUTSIDE THEIR
IMMEDIATE FAMILY, AND
THIS IS OFTEN WHERE THEY
FIND THE ROLE MODELS WHO
INSPIRE THEM THE MOST.**

Sir Gareth Southgate (BBC Richard Dimbleby Lecture, 2025)

01

MISSION, FAITH POSITION AND ABOUT CHAPTER2

MISSION

Over the past year, we have seen that our mentors can be a beacon of hope within the complex and vulnerable lives of fatherless boys. Rooted in the belief that God cares for the fatherless, Chapter2 provides fatherless boys with a male mentor who wants the best for them and accepts them for who they are.

Research shows that fatherless children are at higher risk of becoming NEET (not in education, employment, or training), gang involvement, prison time and suicidal thoughts.¹

It has also been widely recognised that “...there will be times when young males don’t have anyone positive to look up to, and that is when schools, parents and friends need to step in to actively seek out healthy, positive role models, to ensure that all young men have the chance to experience and witness positive and healthy masculinity and behaviours.”²

This is precisely what the Chapter2 mentoring programmes provide. Working with local churches and through our Centralised Programme, Chapter2 aims to provide a long-term male mentor and a community of men for fatherless boys. Chapter2 is a Christian charity working to pro-actively address the growing number of fatherless boys in the Reading area.

1 The Centre for Social Justice, LOST BOYS: State of the Nation, 2025

2 Worcester University, The Importance of Male Role Models, 2025

MENTORING PHILOSOPHY

Chapter2 has developed a mentoring philosophy tailored to the unique demographic we support and unlike most mentoring programmes, which are typically shorter, less relational and deploy both male and female mentors. In contrast, at the heart of Chapter2's approach is trust. We provide long-term, dedicated male mentors for fatherless boys and require a minimum commitment of at least two years (note that the vast majority of our mentoring pairs continue significantly beyond two years). Our mentoring approach is active and fun, meeting the more practical needs of men and boys and with the intent of forming an enduring friendship between mentor and mentee.

The boys we work with have often experienced trauma, disadvantage and broken relationships in early childhood. Our aim is to provide a trustable positive male role model, who is consistent, non-judgemental and empathetic to help guide them to adulthood. In doing so, we are responding to the underlying trauma in a therapeutic manner, which can heal some of the damage done by early life trauma.³ It is a philosophy that focuses on underlying causes rather than behavioural symptoms.



**THE MORE HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS A CHILD HAS,
THE MORE LIKELY HE WILL BE
TO RECOVER FROM TRAUMA
AND THRIVE. RELATIONSHIPS
ARE THE AGENTS OF CHANGE
AND THE MOST POWERFUL
THERAPY IS HUMAN LOVE.**

Bruce Perry

3 Sheffield Morris, A and Hays-Gurdo, J. 2023

Short case study

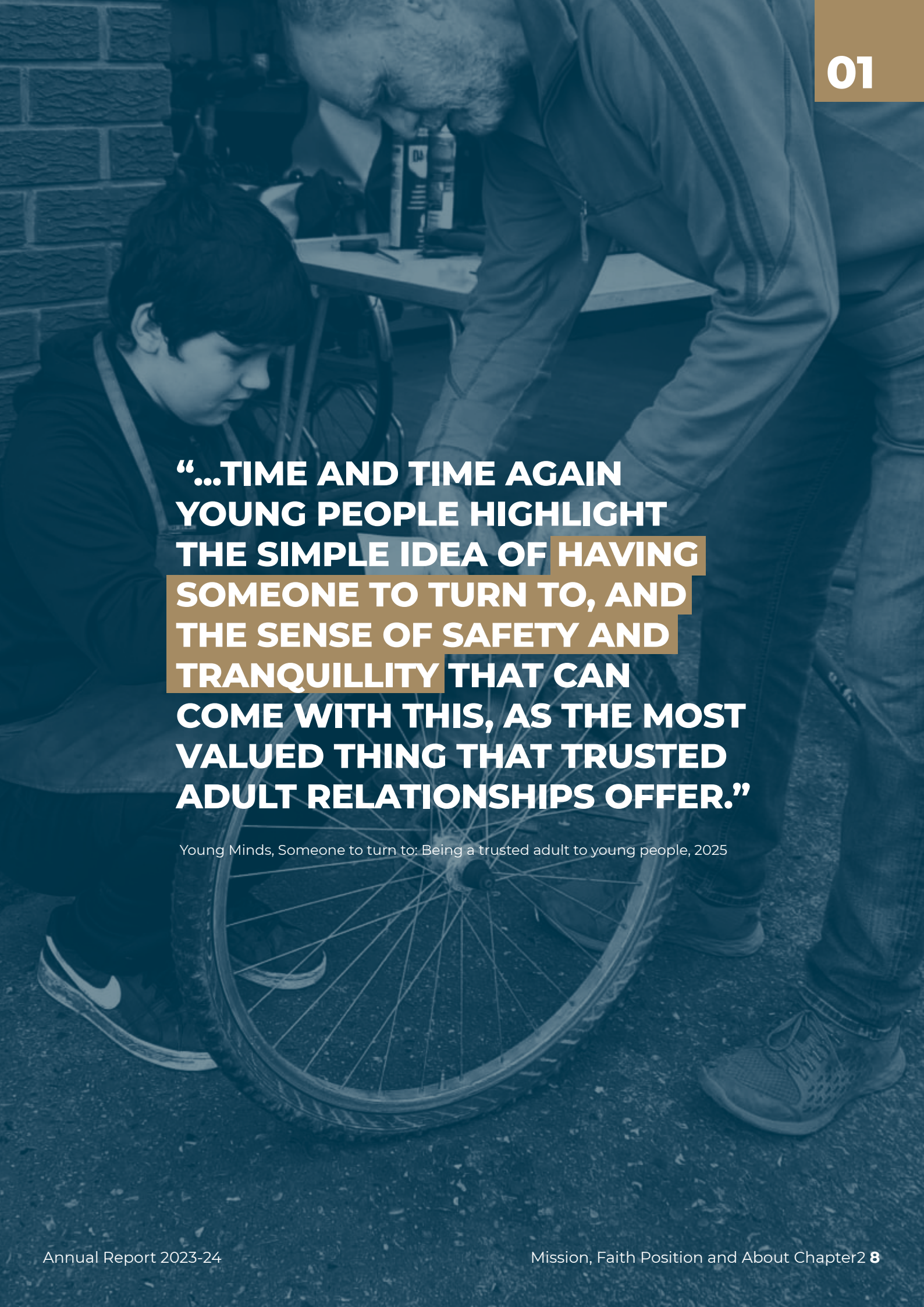
When we first matched George and Mikey, Mikey sat quietly staring into the glare of the ever-present television in the family's lounge. One of five children, Mikey was used to fading into the background. It was at that first meeting that George received a glimpse of what would be his biggest challenge with Mikey ... silence. At the beginning, Mikey was reluctant to attend the sessions with George and told his mum he thought George was "posh." But some gentle persuasion from mum resulted in George and Mikey meeting up weekly mostly for walking George's dog and a kick about at the local park.



It turned out Mikey was pretty good at football but never before felt able to commit to joining a local team. Six months later, to everyone's surprise, Mikey agreed to George's help in finding a team. Joining a team for many families wouldn't be seen as anything special, in fact George would have done this for his own children when they were younger. But for Mikey, he was communicating to George that he wanted and was

willing to accept help, that he trusted George's opinion that his football skills were good enough and that he believed George would follow through on what he offered.

George and Mikey have been meeting for nearly two years, and Mikey still prefers silence. But when asked he will also tell you he feels George has helped to build his confidence and he has enjoyed helping George work around the garden. Mikey played for the team for a year and a half and decided he didn't want to play any longer. Mikey and George talked about it and George accepted Mikey's decision, reinforcing for Mikey that there is someone who will listen when he is able to communicate.

A young person with dark hair, wearing a dark jacket and a backpack, is seated in a wheelchair. An older man with a grey beard, wearing a grey jacket, is leaning over the wheelchair, possibly adjusting it or talking to the young person. The background shows a brick wall and some outdoor equipment. The entire image has a blue tint.

**“...TIME AND TIME AGAIN
YOUNG PEOPLE HIGHLIGHT
THE SIMPLE IDEA OF HAVING
SOMEONE TO TURN TO, AND
THE SENSE OF SAFETY AND
TRANQUILLITY THAT CAN
COME WITH THIS, AS THE MOST
VALUED THING THAT TRUSTED
ADULT RELATIONSHIPS OFFER.”**

Young Minds, Someone to turn to: Being a trusted adult to young people, 2025

SAFEGUARDING

What sets Chapter2 mentoring apart from many other mentoring initiatives is that it is long-term and therefore deeply relational. We are able to get to know our mentors, mentees and guardians very well through consistent communication and contact. This relational approach is also at the heart of our safeguarding, which means from the initial recruitment of a potential mentor all the way through assessment and the 2+ years of the mentoring journey we keep safeguarding at the forefront of interactions with mentees.

More information about how we embed safeguarding into all aspects of the charity's culture can be found at:

chapter2.org.uk/safeguarding.

FAITH POSITION

The Christian faith is at the heart of Chapter2's mission, in that Chapter2 believes God has a deep concern for the most marginalised in society and most notably the fatherless. Chapter2 provides practical support to the fatherless as a response to the nature of God and how He wishes those that believe in Him reflect His nature. Chapter2's primary aim is to build trust with those it serves by acting with kindness, perseverance, and a commitment to building enduring relationships. Chapter2 does not seek to proselytize.

To accomplish Chapter2's aim, it works in partnership with churches that share its core beliefs and that wish to support the fatherless within our local communities. In addition to Chapter2's Partnership Programmes it also operates a Centralised Programme, in which all mentoring activities are managed solely by Chapter2.

Chapter2 also believes that God wishes His believers to demonstrate love without judgement to everyone that they interact with regardless of their religious beliefs. Therefore, Chapter2 does not expect nor require all young persons and Mentors to share its beliefs.

ABOUT CHAPTER2

“If young men cannot see personal examples of older men fitting into and thriving in society, how can they begin to imagine where they will end up themselves?”

LOST BOYS: State of the Nation, 2025

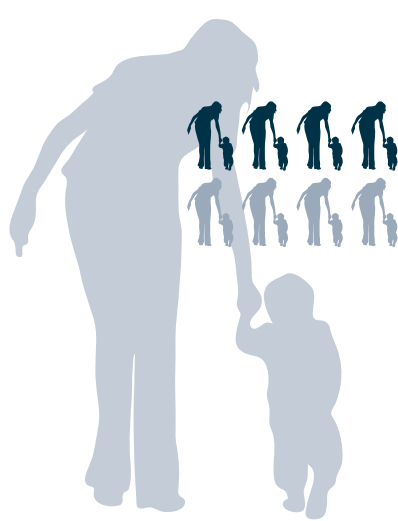
The Need for Mentoring

Family breakdown is the route by which many boys lose all meaningful contact with their fathers. The recent study from the Centre of Social Justice, LOST BOYS: State of the Nation, provides an overview of the impact of fatherlessness:

- Across the UK, 25 million children have no father figure at home, representing almost 1 in 5 of all dependent children.
- The UK is a major outlier compared to other OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries in terms of family breakdown. In 2023, 46 per cent of first-born children aged 14-years-old did not live with both natural parents.
- 60% of boys with fathers in custody go on to offend.
- 81% of CAPVA (Child & Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse) perpetrators are male; 69% of victims are female, mostly single mothers.
- Regions with high fatherlessness have higher childhood obesity rates.

Furthermore, there are a number of challenges faced by broken families. For example, lone parent families are more

likely to be experiencing financial difficulties. Lone parents are less likely to be employed with around 50% of lone mothers of a child aged 0 to 4 employed, rising to 75% when children are aged 5 to 16.

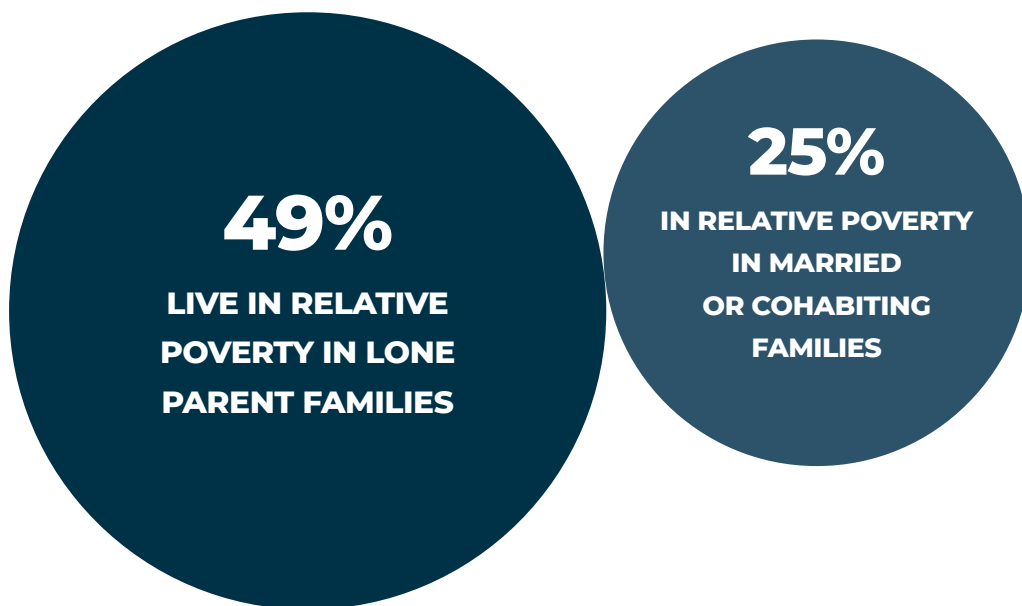


MOTHERS OF 0-4s IN WORK 50%



MOTHERS OF 5-16s IN WORK 75%

In 2020, 49% of children living in lone parent families were in relative poverty after housing costs compared to 25% of children living in married or cohabiting families.⁴



⁴ Children's Commissioner, Family and Its Protective Effect, 2022

1:1 Mentoring

Chapter2 has developed a trauma-informed approach which allows us to support our mentors and mentees with a deep understanding of the impact of early life trauma. Some of our mentees will have experienced significant trauma such as: domestic violence, parental drug and alcohol abuse, financial challenges and a parent or family member in prison, as well as parental separation. Studies have looked at the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and demonstrated that the impact of a range of ACEs is long-term and can manifest as both physical and mental health issues later in life. However, research like the 2023 study on protective and compensatory childhood experiences (PACEs),⁵ has also revealed that protective factors, like supportive relationships, can mitigate the behaviour and health outcomes of ACEs.⁶

Mentors serve as a protective factor by being a trustable adult building a supportive relationship. Chapter2's mentoring philosophy is primarily about showing up and remaining present in the life of a fatherless boy. A mentor is not a coach or a counsellor, but a trustable friend. At Chapter2 we believe in one-to-one, activity-based mentoring and encourage our mentors to seek out activities that they and our mentees can enjoy together. They focus on building trusting relationships and outwardly this may look different for each mentoring pair. The common thread is a trustable adult who is consistent, non-judgemental, and empathetic. Mentors are trained, assessed, supported, and celebrated by the Chapter2 team at every step of their mentoring journey.

Part of building that trust requires our mentors to be and remain curious throughout the mentoring journey.

5 Sheffield Morris, A and Hays-Gurdo, J. 2023

6 Kimberg, L and Wheeler, M. 2019

By choosing to enter the mentee's story they strive to truly understand their experiences and how those experiences may now be expressing themselves in certain behaviours. Instead of focusing on changing or "fixing" a boy, the mentor instead focuses on accepting the boy for who they are. While the focus remains on building the relationship with the boy, being able to extend trust and empathy to the mum/guardian allows the potential for mentoring to have a broader impact on the wider family.



**“ONE OF THE BEST MEASURES
OF AN ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN
BE HEALING FOR A CHILD, IS
WHEN NOTHING IS HAPPENING.
PEOPLE ARE JUST BEING.
LIFE IS TICKING ALONG AND
THERE’S NOT MUCH TO REPORT
- IT’S SAFE, WE’RE HERE
TOGETHER AND WE’RE OK.
PASSIVE, NORMAL, UNEVENTFUL
SAFETY IS A LOVELY THING.
IT’S ALSO A HEALING THING.”**

Punishment doesn't work, 2024

ABOUT CHAPTER2



EMBRACING HEALTHY, PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND PROMOTING GOOD MENTAL HEALTH FOR BOYS AND MEN THEREFORE REQUIRES A NEW APPROACH TO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE MASCULINE, FOCUSING ON POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS, AND ROLE MODELS WHO CAN PROVIDE A POSITIVE, HEALTHY EXAMPLE.

The Importance of Positive Role Models, 2024

Community

Chapter2 believes that positive masculine behaviours need to be demonstrated rather than taught or commanded. Boys need a path to follow, and we believe that path can be powerfully shown through practical and challenging activities. Learning new practical skills can also be of tremendous value for a boy struggling with low self-esteem. We deliver an ongoing programme of 10-12 group activities per year, which are not only fun, but challenge our mentors and mentees to stretch themselves and build confidence. By overcoming challenges together, relationships and trust are strengthened. Throughout the year, we also encourage our mentors to get to know and support each other through additional training, socials and doing activities with another mentoring pair.

02

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document Constitution: Foundation Structure
(whose only voting members are its Trustees)

How the Charity is Constituted: Charitable Incorporated
Organisation

Date of Constitution 6th February 2018

TRUSTEE SELECTION METHODS

Apart from the first term of the founding trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The current trustees were appointed in accordance with these arrangements and were selected on the basis of our charity and business leadership skills and experience. In the next year Chapter2 expects to recruit an additional trustee or trustees to support the ongoing growth and development of the charity.

MANAGEMENT OF CHARITY

The trustees for Chapter2 are responsible for its governance. The trustees meet quarterly and therefore met on four occasions during the period under review.

Chapter2 currently operates Partnership and Centralised Programmes.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

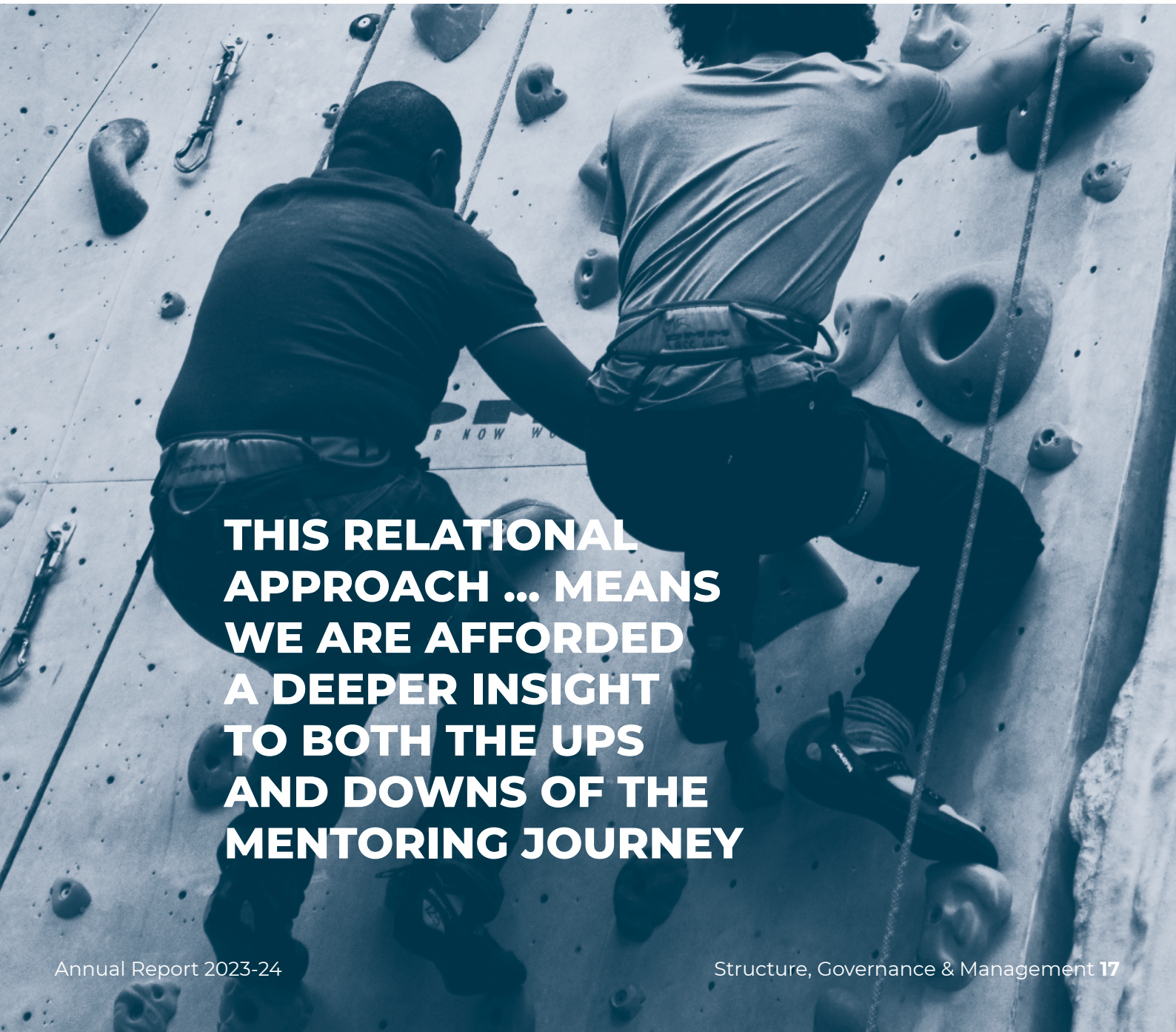
The Partnership Programme remains at the heart of Chapter2, with our church partners providing a wealth of good men able to support a mentee. Through the Partnership Programme the provision of trained and assessed mentors for boys and young men is achieved in partnership with a local church. Chapter2 supports partners:

- (i) to connect with young persons within our community through a network of referral agencies managed by Chapter2 (e.g. Schools & Children's Services);
- (ii) to establish and maintain a team of trained and assessed mentors;
- (iii) to access activities provided / facilitated / funded by Chapter2 for Mentors and Mentees on the Chapter2 programme;
- (iv) and by providing support, advice, and opportunities to share best practice. Partners are able to access support through the Project Manager, quarterly reviews and access to Chapter2 policy and procedure templates. During this period Chapter2 worked with 4 Partners. The Partnership Programme added 9 new mentoring pairs and supported a total of 17 pairs during 23-24.

CENTRALISED PROGRAMME

Over the past two years the Centralised Programme has grown and established a route for men who are not part of one of our church partners to mentor. The Centralised Programme welcomes men from diverse backgrounds, ages, and experiences. Additionally, the Chapter2 team is able to directly supervise the mentoring pairs which has allowed us to trial and hone our support for our unique style of mentoring.

This relational approach to both the mentoring but also the support for mentors, means we are afforded a deeper insight to both the ups and downs of the mentoring journey. Our learning over the past two years has helped us to develop additional mentoring specific policies, and generally deepen the quality of our mentoring offer. The Centralised Programme added 6 new mentoring pairs and supported a total of 15 mentoring pairs during 23-24.

A black and white photograph of two people climbing a rock wall. The person on the left is seen from the back, wearing a dark t-shirt and a climbing harness. The person on the right is also seen from the back, wearing a light-colored t-shirt and a climbing harness. They are both reaching up to grab holds on the wall. Ropes are attached to their harnesses. The wall is made of large, light-colored panels with various climbing holds. The text 'THIS RELATIONAL APPROACH ... MEANS WE ARE AFFORDED A DEEPER INSIGHT TO BOTH THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE MENTORING JOURNEY' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font on the lower half of the image.

**THIS RELATIONAL
APPROACH ... MEANS
WE ARE AFFORDED
A DEEPER INSIGHT
TO BOTH THE UPS
AND DOWNS OF THE
MENTORING JOURNEY**

03

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES

OBJECTS OF CHAPTER2

To advance in life and relieve needs of young people, in particular, but not exclusively through:

- a. The provision of mentoring and support;
- b. The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life and to develop their capabilities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society; and
- c. The provision of education and training for persons that mentor and support such young persons.

PROVISION OF MENTORING

In 23-24 Chapter2 increased our provision from 17 mentoring pairs to 29. Chapter2 continues to support partnerships and encourages them to grow their mentoring programme, alongside delivering an in-house mentoring programme. One new Partner was added this year. Opportunities to create partnerships outside of the Reading area will be considered but only in situations where the potential partner has dedicated resources to support a partnership, and a good strategic fit exists.

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Chapter2 also provides free-of-charge group activities for the mentor and mentee with the approval of the guardian of the young person. We offer a wide range of activities to try to suit the interests of the mentors and mentees but also provide new experiences for them. Such activities are intended, firstly, to provide a fun and natural environment for relationship between mentor and mentee to develop; and secondly, to provide an environment for mentees to be mentored within a broader community of mentors. In 23-24, Chapter2 was able to provide:

- Laser Tag and Archery (Nov 2023)
- Hi Score Arcade (Jan 2024)
- VR Experience (Feb 2024)
- Bike Workshop (March 2024)
- Ninja Warrior (April 2024)
- Paintball (May 2024)
- Mini Golf and Driving Range (June 2024)
- Rock Climbing (July 2024)
- Foot Golf (Aug 2024)
- Go Karting (Sept 2024)
- Bushcraft (Oct 2024)
- Ice Skating (Oct 2024)

TRAINING

For all potential mentors whether they are part of the Partnership or the Centralised Programme, Chapter2 offers an initial mandatory training day. This day provides the potential mentor with insight into our unique mentoring philosophy and provides a deeper understanding of the impact of fatherlessness, early life trauma, what it takes to be a mentor and basic safeguarding training. In 23-24 we held two training days in March and September.

Number of people attending training: 24

Number of people successfully assessed for mentoring: 8

Surveys from the two trainings revealed 100% of the trainees rated their training experience as “good” or “excellent.”

Participants particularly were very positive about the variety and depth of topics covered, the interactivity of the sessions and the knowledge of the trainers.



**THE TRAINING ENHANCED
MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE
KIND OF SUPPORT REQUIRED.
REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES TRULY
BROUGHT CLARITY TO THE
DISCUSSIONS.**

Training participant

In addition, Chapter 2 provides both group and one-to-one training for mentors in specialist areas to help support their mentee (i.e., neurodiversity, trauma, attachment). This year we trialled an 'Ask the Expert' session which was a more informal setting for mentors to share situations they have experienced with their mentees with professionals in trauma and youth offending.

**VERY HIGH STANDARD OF MATERIALS,
EXCELLENT CONTENT, VERY THOROUGH,
VERY MOVED BY WHAT I HEARD OVERALL.**

Training participant



04

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

In addition to the above, Chapter2 has also achieved the following:

- Raising awareness by continuing to increase the number of long-term mentors.
- Deepening both trauma-informed practice and safeguarding within the culture of the organisation through professional development of team members.
- Developing policies and procedures based on best practice, for use within the Centralised Programme and shared with partner organisations.
- Building relationships with local schools and other voluntary organisations.
- Supporting mentors and Partnership Mentor Co-ordinators through supervision, training and providing opportunities to be part of a community.
- Providing mums and guardians with opportunities to meet and socialise.
- Executing its fundraising strategy to support the development of the organisation (see Financial Review).
- Growing and developing the capabilities and infrastructure of the organisation.

MENTOR PAIRINGS

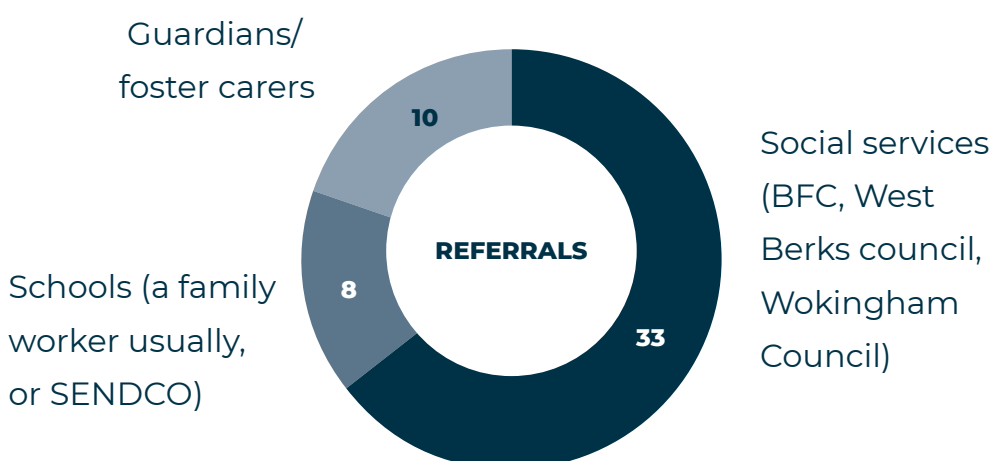
Number of mentor pairings at start of the year	17
Number of new mentor pairings started in the year	15
Number of mentor pairings closed in the year	3 ⁷
Number of mentor pairings at end of the year	29
Total number of boys mentored	32

There are 10 boys that have been mentored for over 2 years with an average duration of 42m.

Mentoring pairs in 23-24	Number of mentoring pairs	Average duration
<12m	15 (47%)	6m
12-23m	7 (22%)	17m
24+	10 (31%)	42m

REFERRALS

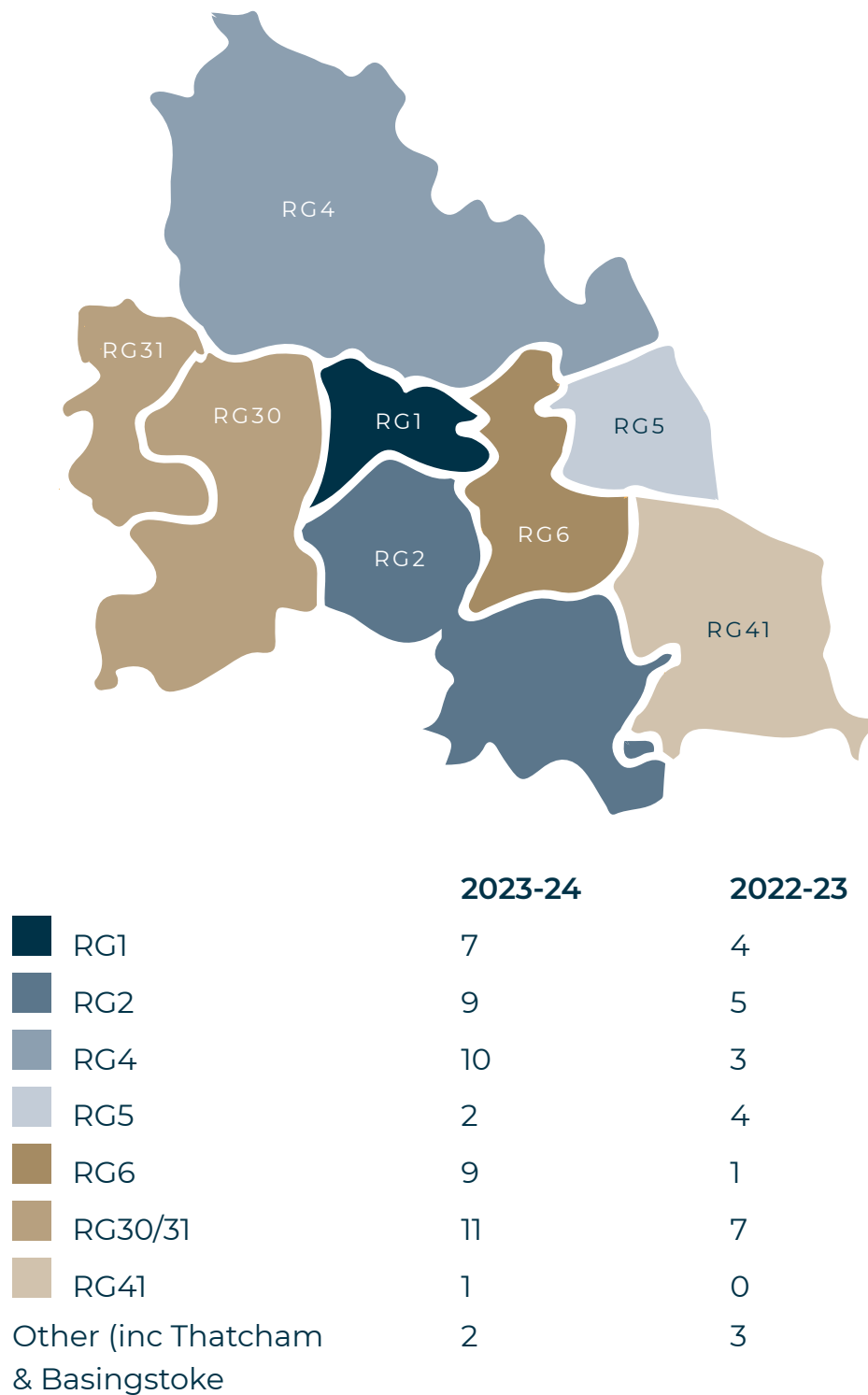
Number of referrals received = 51, an 89% increase on the previous year.



⁷ This includes one mentoring pairing that closed within first 6 months due to mentee's engagement.

The increase in referrals received year on year was due to an increase in referrals from social services (from 8 to 33) and accounted for 65% of all referrals.

Demographics of referrals



There was a change in demographics of referrals in 23-24. Whilst West Reading and Tilehurst area continue to make up the largest concentration of referrals, it is closely followed by Caversham, Whitley, and Earley.

Referrals with additional needs

Chapter2 continues to see a high percentage of mentees who have additional needs. The proportion of referrals with additional needs diagnosed or suspected increased significantly from 52% to 82%. The proportion of referrals mentioning a mental health condition decreased slightly to 18%.

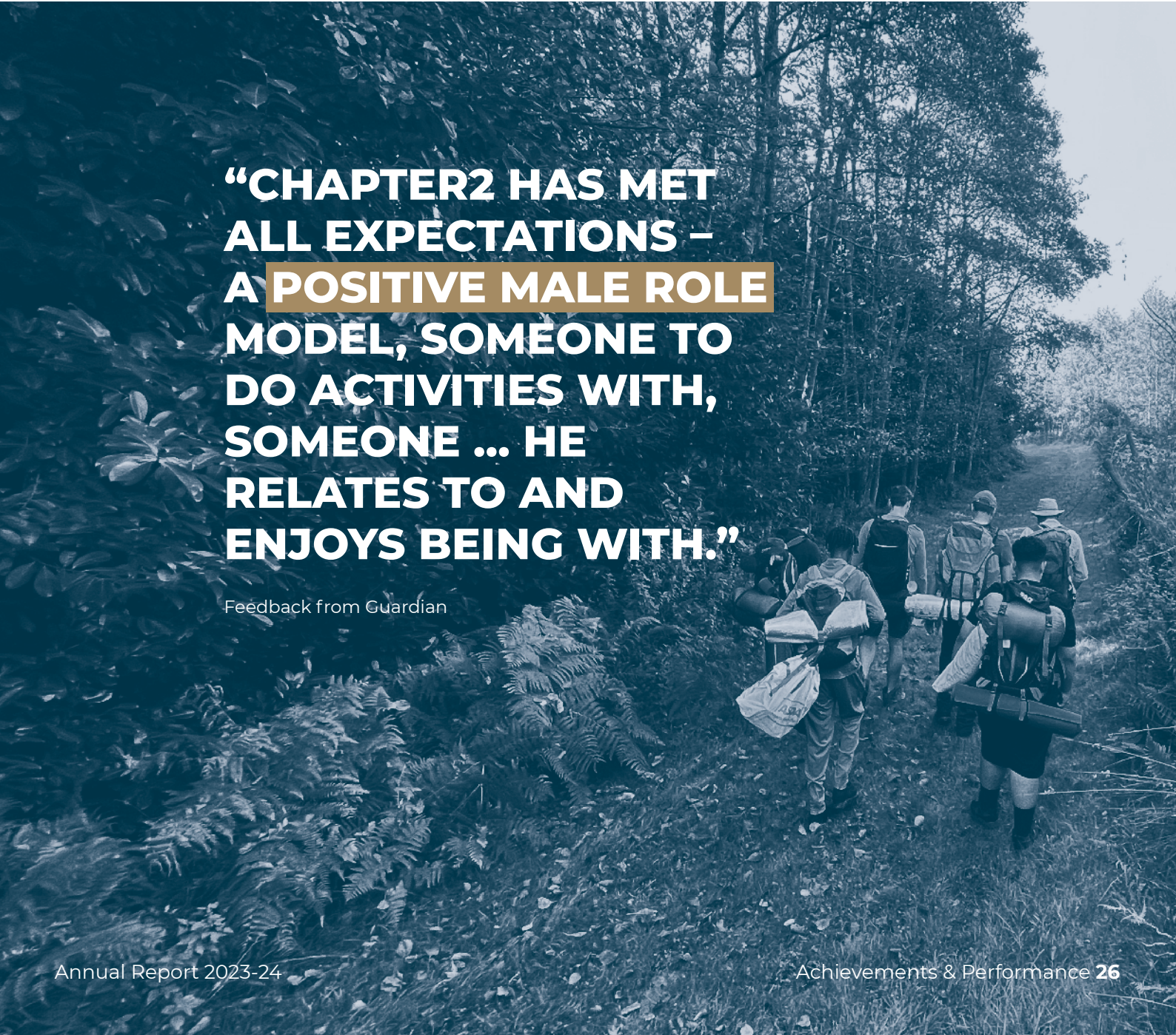
	2023-24	2022-23
EHCP10	10 (20%)	5 (19%)
Diagnosed or awaiting assessment for Autism or ADHD	42 (82%)	14 (52%)
Mental Health condition	9 (18%)	6 (22%)

While these needs may result in different behaviours depending on the individual, there are a number of strategies that can be used to help support those with additional needs and promote understanding for those working with neurodivergent young people. Each year Chapter2 provides additional training for mentors in this area.

In 23-24, 10 referrals had an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) from the local authority, this doubled from 5 the previous year. This increase is in line with the increase in referrals received year on year.

Chapter2 has also invested in training for staff to understand areas around attachment and trauma through courses and attendance at partnership meetings where best practice is shared. This knowledge is then passed on to mentors at the mandatory training, subsequent supervision, and targeted training.

School continues to be a challenge for some of the referrals with 37% on reduced timetables or attending alternative provision.

A group of people, likely hikers or students, are walking away from the camera on a dirt path through a dense forest. They are carrying large backpacks and some have walking sticks. The path is surrounded by lush green ferns and trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting a shaded forest environment.

**“CHAPTER2 HAS MET
ALL EXPECTATIONS –
A POSITIVE MALE ROLE
MODEL, SOMEONE TO
DO ACTIVITIES WITH,
SOMEONE ... HE
RELATES TO AND
ENJOYS BEING WITH.”**

Feedback from Guardian

05

FEEDBACK FROM THE GUARDIANS OF MENTEES

In 23-24 from the feedback Chapter2 gathered from guardians and care providers (24 responses):

- 96%** SAID MENTORING HAD A **POSITIVE EFFECT** ON THEIR SON
- 92%** WERE HAPPY WITH THE **FREQUENCY** OF THE MENTORING
- 100%** SAID THEY WERE HAPPY WITH THE **COMMUNICATIONS** BETWEEN CHAPTER2, GUARDIAN AND MENTEE
- 100%** SAID THE MENTOR WAS SOMEONE BOTH THEY (GUARDIAN) CAN **TRUST**, AND MENTEE CAN TRUST
- 71%** SAID THE MENTORING HAD IMPROVED THEIR SON'S **CONFIDENCE**, WITH 25% BEING UNSURE
- 42%** 42% SAID MENTORING HAD IMPROVED THEIR SON'S **RESILIENCE**, WITH 50% BEING UNSURE
- 83%** SAID IT HAD HELPED THEIR SON TRY **NEW THINGS**

- 100%** SAID MENTORING PROVIDED A POSITIVE MALE **ROLE MODEL** FOR THEIR SON
- 79%** SAID MENTORING HELPED THEIR SON'S MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL **WELLBEING**
- 96%** SAID THE MENTOR WAS **CONSISTENT**

QUOTES FROM GUARDIAN OF MENTEES

"It sticks with my son that his mentor isn't going to leave. Catching those little smiles now; that wouldn't have happened before."

"It is so amazing, just what I wanted for my son."

"Chapter2 has met all expectations – a positive male role model, someone to do activities with, someone he can talk to who he relates to and enjoys being with."

"Mentoring has helped build my son's confidence – in particular he now goes to school on his own and doesn't need a family member to take him."

"Chapter2 is a brilliant model involving amazing people and I'm privileged to be a part of it. I've even made some new friends through the fundraising challenge."

"They have an excellent relationship."

"I can have peace of mind knowing he is with someone I trust and I know he is somewhere safe."

"Increased his confidence, brought calmness instead of anxiety, helping him learn to trust someone else."

06

FEEDBACK FROM MENTEES

In 23-24, mentees gave the following feedback on the mentoring:

95%

RATED THEIR 1:1 MENTORING SESSIONS AS EXCELLENT OR GOOD

85%

RATED THE GROUP ACTIVITIES AS EXCELLENT OR GOOD

100%

RATED THEIR MENTOR AS EXCELLENT OR GOOD, FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR

85%

RATED TALKING WITH THEIR MENTOR AS EXCELLENT OR GOOD

95%

RATED THE ACTIVITIES THEY DID 1:1 WITH THEIR MENTOR AS EXCELLENT OR GOOD

WHEN ASKED WHAT THREE WORDS THEY WOULD USE TO DESCRIBE THE MENTORING TO A FRIEND, THE MOST FREQUENT WORDS WERE “FUN, HELPFUL, WORTHWHILE AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING”.

QUOTES FROM MENTEES

"My mentor has helped me with confidence and opening up about my feelings."

"I'd describe my mentor as kind, caring and fun."

"Most of all I've enjoyed spending time together."

"I've tried new things like talking more about myself and learning how to push myself more."

"My mentor has helped me be happier and confident."

A black and white photograph of two people practicing archery in a grassy field. In the foreground, a man in a light-colored t-shirt and dark shorts is drawing a bow, aiming at a target. To his right, another person wearing a dark jersey with the number 18 is also drawing a bow. There are several targets on stands in the background, and a line of trees and hills is visible in the distance.

**FUN,
HELPFUL,
WORTHWHILE,
CONFIDENCE BUILDING**

07

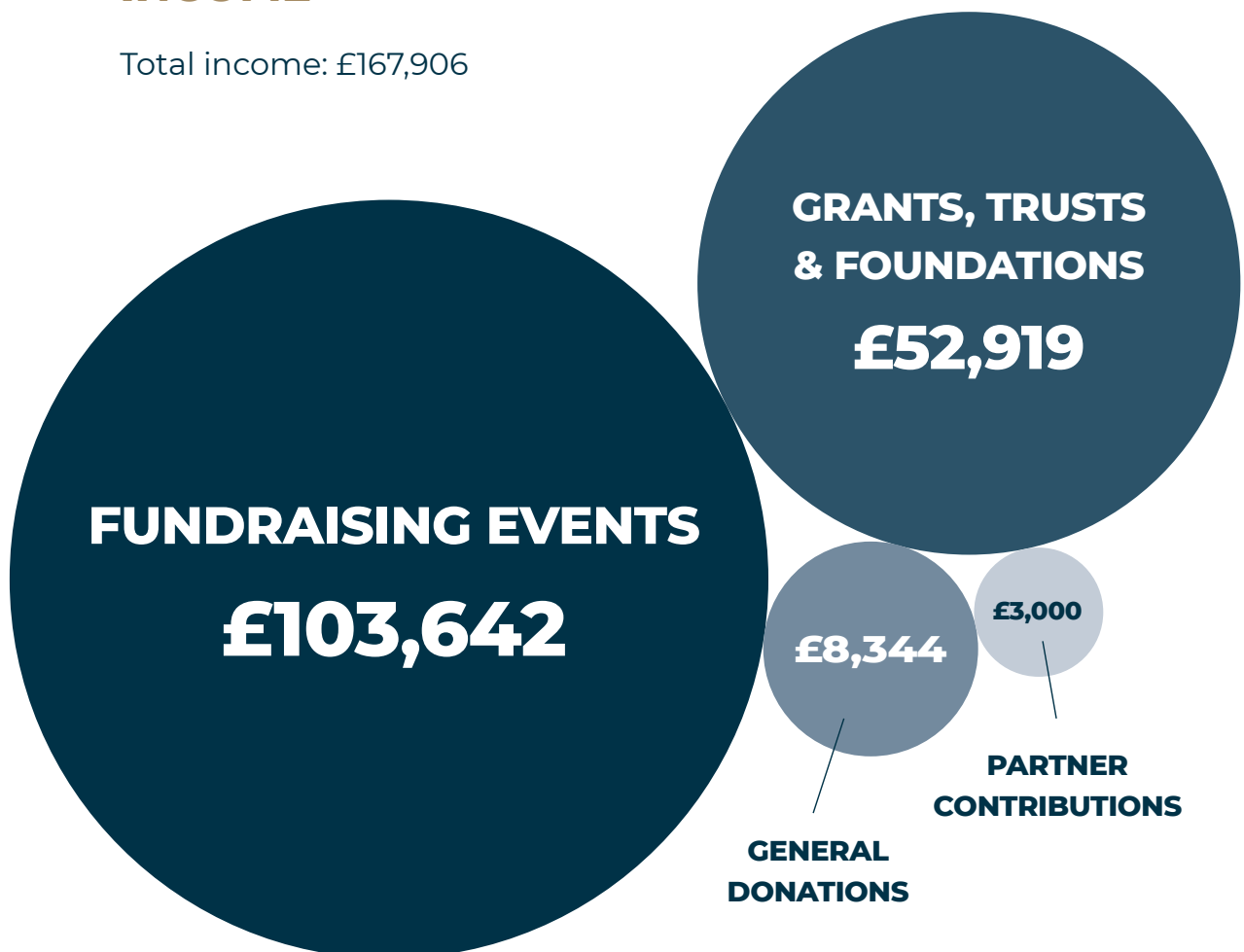
FINANCIAL REVIEW

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST OCTOBER 2024

A summary of the financial accounts for the 23-24 financial year can be found below. All Chapter2 Mentors are volunteers, which is core to our mentoring philosophy and a vital element of how a mentor establishes trust and acceptance.

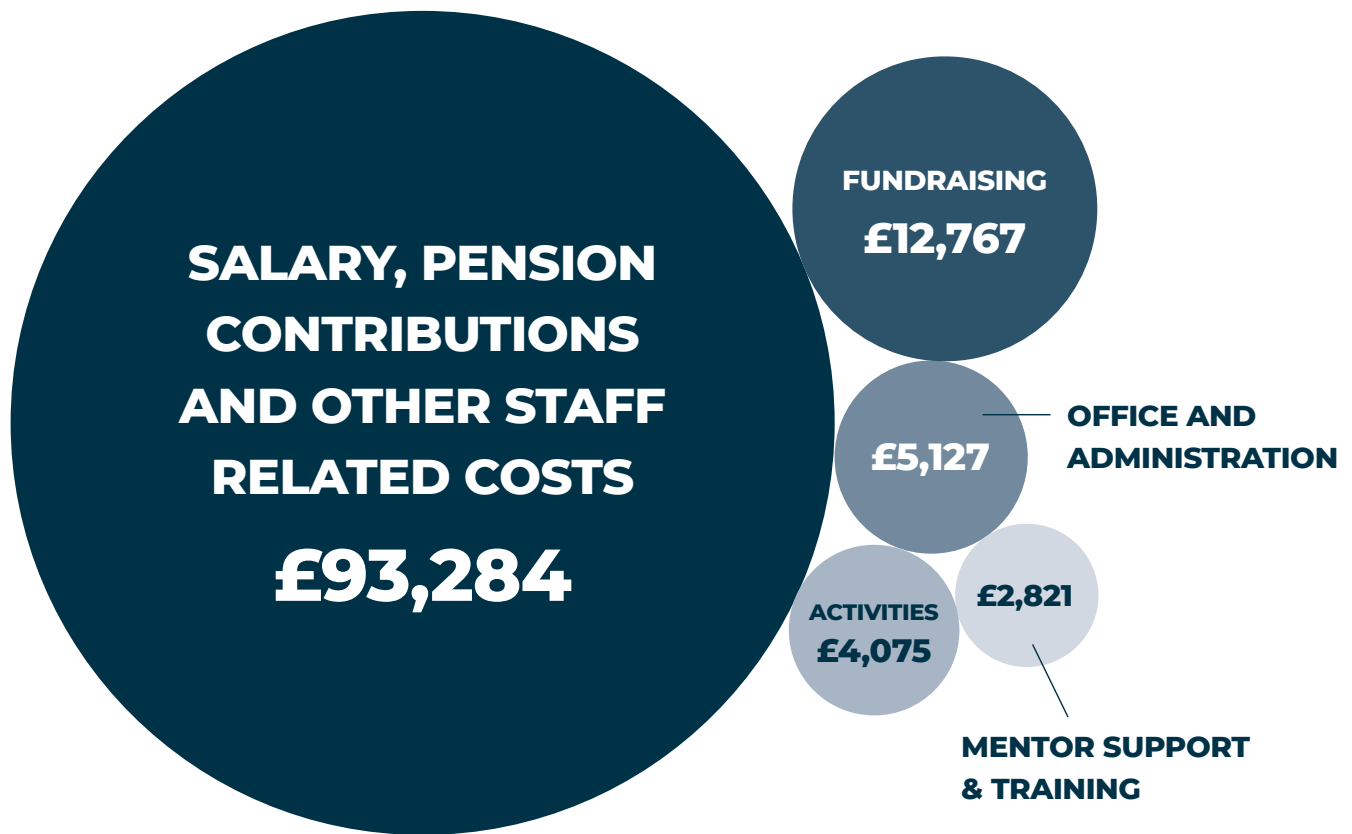
INCOME

Total income: £167,906



EXPENDITURE

Total Expenditure: £118,075



FUNDING SOURCES

This year's fundraising event proved again to be financially successful with funds raised in excess of £103,000 despite there being fewer participants and donors than the previous year. In this year's Everest Challenge there were 28 participants and 914 donors.

Chapter2's freelance Fundraising Consultant continues to develop a Grants, Trusts & Foundations strategy and has had a number of successful applications resulting in our highest total of grants at £52,919. This represents a 131% increase on the previous year and a significant step in our strategy to diversify our sources of income.

UNRESTRICTED CASH RESERVES

The Reserves Policy of Chapter2 is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds of between six- and twelve-months' operating expenditure. Typically, Chapter2 operates close to the top-end of this range for a number of reasons:

- i. Chapter2's financial position is highly unusual as 60-80% of our income comes from one annual fundraising event in June of each year which we then draw down on throughout the rest of the year. Therefore, the vast majority of our income (92%) is unrestricted.
- ii. Chapter2 is a relatively young charity (incorporated in Feb 2018) which has seen a rapid rise in demand for its services. The number of mentoring pairs has again increased in the last year, and we anticipate more significant growth over the next three years. The planned growth in expenditure will be underpinned by the charity's reserves.
- iii. Finally, the core service provided by Chapter2 is the creation and support for long-term mentoring relationships with vulnerable young people. Long-term sustainability of Chapter2 is therefore vital as well as creating provision to find alternative services to support beneficiaries if Chapter2 ceased to operate.

In consideration of the above, the Trustees believe a minimum of 6 months unrestricted cash reserves is prudent.

08

DECLARATION

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

Signed: 

Full Name: Richard Daniel Kay

Position: Chair of Trustees

Date: May 2025

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