Clinks 27th Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 10 December at 12pm-1pm
Online via Zoom

Attendees

Alliance for Youth Justice, Bthechange, Change Grow Live, Clean Sheet, CUBE, Own Merit CIC, Eagle Rehabilitation Services, JUSTICE, National Literacy Trust, Out There Supporting Families of Prisoners, Phoenix Futures, POPS, Prisoners Abroad, Prisoner's Education Trust, RECOOP, RIFT Social Enterprise CIC, The Kittiwake Trust, University of Greenwich, Unlock, Working Chance.

Minutes

1. **Welcome and Chair's address – Mandy Mahil**
   - **1.1** Mandy welcomed everyone to Clinks' 27th AGM and thanked everyone for joining us.
   - **1.2** Mandy reflected on the previous year in criminal justice, highlighting changes in Government, the Independent Sentencing Review, and the ongoing prison capacity crisis as key areas of focus for us and our sector.
   - **1.3** Special mention was given to two outgoing trustees, Donna Everett and Olivia Patten, thanking them for their dedication to Clinks and wished them the best.

2. **Apologies from members**
   - **2.1** Apologies from INQUEST, Kaleidoscope and Women in Prison who have provided a proxy.

3. **Approval of minutes of the 26th AGM held on 3rd December 2024**

   Ordinary Resolution 1:
   That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3rd December 2024 be adopted as a true record of the meeting.

   The previous minutes are accepted as a true record. Proposed by Chris Stacey, Prisoners Abroad. Seconded by Oliver Goodwin, RIFT Social Enterprise CIC and passed with 9 additional votes.

4. **Presentation of the Annual Report and plans for the future – Anne Fox and the Clinks Team**
   - **4.1** Anne thanked everyone for being here and particularly wanted to thank the members who contributed impactful snapshots into this year's Annual Report. She thanked the Clinks staff team for their work this last year, and to those staff who were central to delivery but have since moved on. Along with a special thanks to our trustees.
   - **4.2** Anne encouraged everyone to read the full Annual Report to gather a true sense of all that Clinks has achieved in this last year, and encouraged everyone to share it with staff, volunteers and trustees so they can understand the support on offer to them.
   - **4.3** This is our final report under our previous strategy – we do not want to stop having a broad focus so we must work in different ways; in doing so we will be a better ally and partner to others. As well as making it easier for the voluntary sector to get what it needs in terms of infrastructure support.
   - **4.4** Understanding
     - 4.4.1 Sam Julius, Director of National Influencing and Networks provided a summary of 'Understanding', outlining ways in which we communicated the role, value and impact of the voluntary sector. Including a spotlight on our website visits, e-

bulletins and subscribers, our social media following and our publications and blogs.

4.5 Connecting

4.5.1 Angela Lucas, Director of Area Engagement and Partnerships provided a summary of 'Connecting', this embodies our area engagement, member support and thematic networks. Ang highlighted that our area engagement and development officers based in the North of England, London and Wales, bought the sector together via regional forums, networks and learning opportunities. Ang outlined how the team has worked in partnership with both national and place-based organisations and agencies, building relationships with regional and statutory structures to raise awareness of cross-sector working.

4.5.2 Bryn Hall, Area Engagement and Partnerships Manager (Wales), summarised some highlights of our work in Wales, The North of England, and London. Including 1:1 support provided, and attendance at our Area Criminal Justice Forums. He highlighted impact in London whereby we had 230 attendees attend our SDS40 early-release event for London organisations, held in partnership with Homeless Link.

4.5.3 Sam followed with an overview of our thriving Women's Network of over 340 individual members from 167 specialist organisations providing gender-responsive services for women.

4.5.4 Louise Clark, National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance Manager, followed with detail about the work of the alliance in this last year. Outlining 1:1 support provided, and the legacy of the Inspiring Futures Research.

4.5.5 Angela summarised Clinks' events and training over the 24-25 year: 52 events hosted, bringing together over 2 and a half thousand people from across the sector.

4.6 Voicing

4.6.1 Lisa Strelnikova, Specialist Policy Officer, provided a summary of 'Voicing'; Clinks has managed to solidify its respected policy voice across numerous government departments by expanding our network of relationships with key decision makers. We used this strengthen voice to advocate for the sector and enable our members' own voices to be represented in key forums, contributing to the continued development of policy and practice. Lisa highlighted our major areas of focus for the year, particularly the Independent Sentencing Review, and Dame Anne Owers' review of prison capacity.

4.6.2 Sam spoke to the work of the Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Gorup (RR3) who engaged with officials on issues such as the Probation Reset Programme, and the SDS40 policy. They also met with Lord Timpson following his appointment, and with David Gauke in his role chairing he ISR. He also detailed our work as part of the Health and Wellbeing Alliance, where we focused our efforts on social prescribing.

4.7 Supporting

4.7.1 Angela summarised 'Supporting': whereby we remained the sector's representative on a range of national, regional and local boards, advisory groups and forums. Platforming the sector's expertise as a crucial component in the development of policy and practice.

4.8 Developing

4.8.1 Joni Emery, Director of Business Operations, concluded by highlighting Clinks' development work. She detailed that we introduced our new strategy 'Leading for Change to 2030' and new 'Income and Impact Strategy'.

4.8.2 Angela highlighted our membership numbers for the year: 570 members by the year end, with 57% of those receiving bursary membership.

4.9 Anne concluded the presentation by thanking the staff team, and those in the sector who take part in opportunities we provide. Anne also thanked our funders, trustees, members, and supporters for the work they have done in helping us to understand what we need to do in the future.

5. Presentation of the Annual Accounts – Simon Alsop, Treasurer

5.1 Simon Alsop presented Clinks' 24-25 annual audited accounts, noting that within this financial year Clinks took a focused and positive approach to a number of challenges presented to us. We navigated a period of change and made the decision to adjust our financial practices, with reliance on a reduced Business Team, and through utilising outsourced financial support.

5.2 The 24-25 year was commenced with a deficit budget of £107,065, following a confirmation review of our free reserves. We were pleased, considering the challenge at the start of the year, that we concluded the year with an unrestricted deficit of -£16,927.

5.3 Clinks' reserves balance concluded in March 2025 at £279,341 making up the majority of our free reserves. Our reserves levels ensure we hold appropriate levels to remain financially stable. Our Board and Senior Leadership team completed a review of our reserves in April 2024, confirming our required level for the 24/25 financial year to be £265,000. We have built-in an annual review of our policy and levels.

5.4 Simon explained that Clinks has successfully met all funder deliverables this year and highlighted the receipt of two extension years from our Health and Wellbeing Alliance project, and City Bridge Foundation.

5.5 Simon took the opportunity to thank our funders for their ongoing support and recognised the value of our long-standing relationships. He also acknowledged and thanked our auditor Jonathon Orchard, Sayer Vincent, for his 10 years of service supporting Clinks with our Annual Audit. We are very much looking forward to working with our new auditor, Farrah Katabi, going forward.

Ordinary Resolution 2: (5mins)
That the audited Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 for Clinks be received and adopted.

The audited Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 for Clinks to be received and adopted. Proposed by Jon Collins, Prisoners' Education Trust. Seconded by Richard Rowley, Working Chance, and passed with 12 additional votes.

6. Resignation, re-election, and election of trustees

That it be noted that the following Trustees have tendered resignation in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- Olivia Patten
- Donna Everett

Ordinary Resolution 3:
That the following individual is re-elected as a Trustee of Clinks in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- *Simon Alsop, Treasurer*

Simon Alsop - Proposed by Josh Stunell, BtheChange. Seconded by Jon Collins, Prisoners Education Trust, and passed with 13 additional votes.

Ordinary Resolution 4:
That the following individual is re-elected as a Trustee of Clinks in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- *Amina Ditta*

Amina Ditta - Proposed by on Collins, Prisoners Education Trust. Seconded by Carly Wright, Phoenix Futures, and passed with 13 additional votes.

Ordinary Resolution 5:
That the following individual is re-elected as a Trustee of Clinks in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- *Salim Baba*

Salim Baba - Proposed by Paula Harriott, Unlock. Seconded by Samantha Graham, Clean Sheet and passed with 14 additional votes.

Ordinary Resolution 6:
That the following individual is elected as a Trustee of Clinks in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- *Michaela-Clare Addison*

Michaela - Clare Addison - Proposed by Paul Grainge, RECOOP. Seconded by Darryn Frost, Own Merit CIC and passed with 13 additional votes.

Ordinary Resolution 7:
That the following individual is elected as a Trustee of Clinks in accordance with Article 37 of the Articles of Association:

- *Oliver Goodwin*

Oliver Goodwin - Proposed by Samantha Graham, Clean Sheet. Seconded by Jon Collins, Prisoners Education Trust, and passed with 10 additional votes.

7. **Close**
   - **7.1** Mandy thanked the Governance team, including all our trustees, for their continued support in this last year. She recognised that this was Anne Fox's final AGM as Clinks' Chief Executive Officer. Mandy thanked Anne for a decade of service at the helm of Clinks supporting voluntary organisations working within the criminal justice system.
   - **7.2** Members were thanked for taking the time to join us and for supporting us with our compliance. A reminder was provided for our Annual Conference 'Stronger Together: Celebrating Community, Championing Change' in January 2026.

With formal business concluded, the meeting closed at 12:26pm.