



IMPACT REPORT

2025-2026

Improving the lives of Mitcham's Community



Charity No. 1210866

Sherwood Park Hall CIO



Word from our Founder

"This past year has demonstrated just how essential Sherwood Park Hall is to our community"

SPH in Numbers



7

Regular sports sessions per week



30+

Community Collaborations



20+

Summer Outreach Activities



16

Volunteers



8

Trustees



Serving local residents from 0-100+

Addressing Local Needs Highlights

100%

Over 60's club of users feel less isolated since attending the group

200

Families were Supported during the holidays with Free meals and Childcare

10,000

Unique visitors to Sherwood Park Hall taking part in classes events and workshops

96%

Our toddler group users feel their child is now more school ready since using our services

Thank you so much for everything, it was a great day and Nareah had a lovely day! We will spread the word for sure. Xx

10:04



Ieva "Time to Bee" Bee

Local Guide · 18 reviews · 11 photos

★★★★★ 2 months ago

Great community space for workshops and events.

Hover to react

Innes Gardens
6 reviews · 1 photo
★★★★★ 3 years ago

Brilliant venue with lovely staff! Recently hosted my child's 5th birthday here, staff were very welcoming and happy to help me make it the fun day it was. They accommodated every request and wish no matter how big and couldn't have done more for us. Everyone commented on how great the day was. Set in a great location, with a car park I will definitely use again. Thank you Sherwood

We loved it thank you so much for given up your summer and putting on a fun packed few weeks! The kids all had an amazing time and they always would come out smiling!!

Look forward to attending more sessions soon 😊



Naz B

1 review

Our local club booked a party here last week and it was brilliant! The team assisted with setting up and were so kind and generous with their time. The hall is well maintained and the perfect setting for any party. Thank you again to Shermette and her wonderful team. We look forward to booking here again soon! Highly recommend!

Rev Powell
8 reviews
★★★★★ 1 year ago

I attended a dance class on Tuesday 1st - 4 o'clock exactly. Brilliant class, all ages were welcome. Fabulous family fun. A thank you for your wonderful highly recommended.

Little Learners

supporting children under 5 & their families free & low-cost places

Supporting **31** local families
45+ sessions delivered
300+ Little Learner visits
4 external trips
12 Referrals and signposting
90 Books Given
25 Vouchers Given



Extracts from survey results

28 responses from parents/carers
attending Little Learners

99% said that coming to the sessions has
helped their child to play more
independently

100% said that they felt supported by
Elina the session coordinator

96% said their child's school readiness had
improved thanks to Little Learners sessions

83% said that attending enabled
them to access more information on
local services

94% said attending had helped them
discover new ways to learn as they play



Sherwood Cubs

Out of School and Food Support For Low income Families

Supporting **200** local families
35+ sessions delivered
500+ Sherwood Cub visits
10+ external trips
300+ Certificates Given
100+ Hours of outdoor activities
500+ FREE nutritious Meals Given



Extracts from survey results 63 responses from parents/carers attending Sherwood Cubs Out of School Activities

75% of parents/carers surveyed said they were saving an average of £70 per week which helped reduce stress on their household budget during holiday periods

100% of working or studying parents reported that the service enabled them to maintain employment or education without childcare stress

96% Reported their child tried new healthy foods, learned a new skill, or made a new friend through Sherwood Cubs

93% of parents reported noticeable improvements in their child's social skills and confidence when interacting with peers

100% said they will recommend us to others



Sherwood Buttons Craft and Social Club for over 50's

Fostering friendship, creativity, and peer support for older adults and carers.

30 Active Regular Members
2 New members
90+ Hours of Crafting
2,500+ Cups of tea and chats
3 Special Community Outings
9 Referrals and signposting
24+ Unique Crafting Techniques



Extracts from survey results 28 Responses from Buttons Over 50's group

100% of members reported feeling less lonely and more connected to their local community through Sherwood Buttons.

93% of carers and members living with long-term conditions stated the group acts as a vital weekly release, improving their overall mental health.

96% enjoyed learning new artistic techniques and valued the opportunity to share their own crafting skills with others.

100% felt supported by fellow members both inside the hall and through the group's digital WhatsApp community.

94% said attending had helped them discover new ways to learn as they play



Health and Well-being

- **1,100+** Participant Hours of Wellbeing
- **120+** Structured Sessions Annually
- **9+** Distinct activities
- **6–15** Participants Per Class

Classes include: Adult Roller Skating-
Jiu Jitsu - Zumba - Box Fit - Belly Dancing
- Salsa - Street dancing - tap dancing
and Art class



Extracts from survey results 35 Responses from participants across all activities

91% of attendees reported feeling significantly more physically active since joining the wellbeing sessions.

94% stated that attending classes reduced their stress and anxiety levels.

97% valued the small-group size (6–15 people), reporting it made them feel comfortable and less self-conscious compared to large leisure centers.

88% formed new friendships within their classes, encouraging regular attendance and mutual accountability.



"I hadn't exercised in over ten years because I felt too self-conscious to join a commercial gym. Coming to the small dancing sessions at Sherwood Park Hall completely changed that. The atmosphere is so welcoming, nobody judges you, and my mobility and mood have improved immensely."

— Anne

Bringing the Community Together at Events

- **10,000+** Annual Community Footfall: Welcoming residents across all backgrounds under one roof.
- **20+** Community & Cultural Events Delivered: Including Summer Fairs, Dominoes Nights, Black History Celebrations, and Cancer Awareness Days.
- **100%** Inclusive Space: Providing affordable hall hires for local family celebrations, birthdays, and cultural gatherings.



Extracts from survey results

128 responses from Responses from
Community Event Attendees

- **94%** of attendees reported feeling a stronger sense of local community belonging, pride and cultural inclusion
- **82%** of event attendees learned about essential hall services (such as Sherwood Cubs, advice desks, over 50' club or food support) for the first time.
- **89%** valued the opportunity to meet and connect with neighbors from different cultural backgrounds making Cross-Cultural Connections
- **91%** stated that attending hall events helped them feel less isolated in their neighborhood and therefore Reducing Isolation



Volunteers Community-Led Impact

Empowering local people to lead, support, and shape the future of Sherwood Park Hall CIO.

- **12** Dedicated Community Volunteers
- **1,200+** Volunteer Hours Contributed
- **£18,000+** Operational Value Added
- **100%** Retained & Supported



Extracts from survey results 12 responses from volunteers

- **100%** of volunteers reported feeling valued by the hall and stated that volunteering has given them a meaningful sense of community purpose
- **92%** noted improvements in their mental wellbeing, self-confidence, and social connections through their volunteer roles.
- **83%** gained new practical skills or certificates (e.g., safeguarding, first aid, event management) through hall-sponsored opportunities.
- **100%** felt well-supported by the Trustee Board and felt confident in the hall's leadership and vision.

"Before volunteering here, my anxiety was so bad that I completely isolated myself at home. I still struggle with big crowds, but pushing myself to support Sherwood Park Hall has given me my confidence back. Feeling useful and part of a team has given me a real sense of pride—it's given me a reason to get out of the house again."
— Andy, Sherwood Park Hall Volunteer



Working in Partnership

- **30+** Community Partners Collaborating with local council services, schools, grassroots charities, and sports organisations.
- **4** Core joint initiatives across youth play, health & physical activity, food security, and literacy.
- **100%** Free Venue Provision for Strategic Partners: Donating hall space to essential public initiatives like Merton Library's summer activity program.



Extracts from Partner & Enterprise Survey Results (18 Responses)

100% of strategic partners reported that using Sherwood Park Hall enabled them to reach vulnerable local residents who do not normally access centralized council services.

95% stated that the hall's central location and welcoming environment were vital to the success of their outreach projects.

91% valued being part of a connected network, actively cross-referring families between food support, youth sports, and library programs.

96% rated hall management as highly supportive, responsive, and easy to work with.



Pathways for Young People

From Provision to Profession

- **10** Young People supported into full-time education, training, or employment through work experience placements this year.
- **4 Years** of continuous volunteer mentorship provided to local youth transitioning into early careers.
- **100%** progression rate for long-term youth volunteers into specialised health, education, and early-years pathways.



Case Study: The "Full-Circle" Journey of Sara & Kymora Lee

"Sherwood Park Hall didn't just give us a place to go after school—it gave us a direction for our future."

The Journey

Sara and Kymora Lee friends from Harris primary first walked through the doors of Sherwood Park Hall as children attending our Sherwood Cubs out-of-school sessions. As they grew older, they sought opportunities to give back, becoming volunteer youth supporters alongside our session leaders—a role they have dedicatedly fulfilled for the past four years.

The Outcome

Through structured work experience, leadership mentoring, and formal references provided by Sherwood Park Hall management: Sara developed a passion for early years education and successfully secured employment in a local nursery.

Kymora Lee discovered a natural aptitude for supporting children with complex needs, leading her to enroll in college to study Child Psychology.

Both young women demonstrate the profound ripple effect of community provision: primary beneficiaries evolving into active community leaders.



Case Study: Healing Through Art — Susan's Story

The Journey: From Personal Tragedy to Community Healing

At just 16 years old, Susan suffered the tragic loss of her best friend. Plunged into a deep depression, it was the discovery of art and creative expression that ultimately pulled her through her darkest hours, becoming a lifelong source of strength and emotional resilience.

After a fulfilling career as an art teacher, retirement—combined with the painful loss of her husband—left a void in Susan's life. While rich in family with children and grandchildren, she felt a strong inner calling to return to teaching, community service, and creative practice as a way to navigate life's ongoing stresses.

Finding Sherwood Park Hall CIO, Susan volunteered to lead our weekly Wellbeing Art Sessions, donating her time, expertise, and empathy to support local residents.

The Local Impact: Restoring Hope, Joy & Purpose

Susan's sessions go far beyond basic art instruction—they serve as a non-clinical, therapeutic space where participants find solace, dignity, and renewed self-worth. Through her gentle leadership, Susan has transformed dozens of lives:

Restoring Joy During Critical Illness:

Susan's classes provide a vital sanctuary for participants like Bridgette, who attends during her ongoing chemotherapy treatment for cancer, finding comfort and creative focus amidst heavy medical stress.

Combating Isolation at the End of Life:

For Chris, a participant with severe mobility challenges who sadly passed away recently, Sherwood Park Hall was the only place he attended outside his home in his final years.

Susan gave him a renewed sense of joy, friendship, and artistic purpose during his last chapter.

Building Confidence & Local Recognition:

For Gary, an attendee who struggled with confidence, Susan's mentorship unlocked a latent talent. His artistic ability and self-esteem improved so dramatically that his artwork was recently selected for display in a local gallery at Canons.



Case Study Creating a Welcoming Space for an Underrepresented Family

A local resident recently contacted Sherwood Park Hall looking for somewhere to hold a cultural ceremony.

She explained that she had approached other community buildings within Pollards Hill ward and surrounding areas but had been unable to use these venues for her cultural activities because they would not accommodate her requirements.

However, when she contacted Sherwood Park Hall, she found a welcoming and inclusive environment where she was able to hold her Nikah ceremony.

As a local parent with several children, her experience extended beyond simply hiring a venue. Through her initial engagement with Sherwood Park Hall, she became aware of the wider range of activities, events and opportunities available to her family, including:

- Little Learners, English and Maths sessions
- Black History, Month celebrations
- Family roller-skating activities
- Other community events, educational opportunities and family activities

Why This Matters

This example demonstrates something particularly important about Sherwood Park Hall's role within the community.

The Hall is not simply providing a building for hire. It is creating an accessible, culturally inclusive and welcoming space that enables residents who may not otherwise engage with local community provision to feel that they belong.

By welcoming this resident and accommodating her cultural needs, Sherwood Park Hall created an opportunity to introduce an entire family to wider educational, social and recreational activities.

This is particularly significant in an area experiencing high levels of deprivation, where barriers to participation can prevent families from accessing valuable community resources.

The Wider Community Impact

This case study demonstrates how Sherwood Park Hall:

- Reaches residents and communities who may not be engaging with other local services.
- Provides culturally inclusive spaces that reflect the diversity of the surrounding community.
- Builds trust and relationships through positive first experiences.
- Creates pathways into educational, social and family activities.
- Encourages wider community participation and strengthens social connections.
- Supports families who might otherwise remain disconnected from local opportunities.

Sherwood Park Hall – The Hall with a Heart

I think this is a particularly powerful example of what makes Sherwood Park Hall different. Its value is not simply measured by the number of activities delivered or the number of people using the building, but by its ability to reach people who may otherwise be excluded or overlooked.

One resident contacting the Hall for a cultural ceremony can become the starting point for an entire family's ongoing engagement with the community.

Strategic Vision 2027

Growing Our Reach & Deepening Impact

Driven by community voice, expanding essential services, and building sustainable regional partnerships.

Community-Led Growth: Building directly on 2026 participant feedback to expand our core timetable and reach 15,000+ annual visits.

Regional Collaboration: Partnering across South London boroughs to launch the Care Leavers Launchpad life-skills program.

Expanded Capacity & Infrastructure: Securing corporate partnerships to grow our hall footprint and install a new Community Garden.

Increased Volunteer Footprint: Scaling our volunteer team to 20+ local residents, expanding peer mentoring, and increasing external trips.

Strategic Funder Positioning (What We Are Delivering in 2027) "In 2027, we are not changing direction—we are scaling what works, removing local barriers, and creating sustainable pathways for our most vulnerable residents."

1. Sustaining & Expanding Core Delivery

Based on survey responses across our programs, our immediate priority is protecting and growing the services our community relies on:

More External Trips & Outings: Expanding subsidised trips for our Sherwood Buttons older adults and Sherwood Cubs families to tackle isolation and holiday pressure.

Growing Volunteer Pathways: Recruiting and training more local volunteers and trustees, offering structured CV-building opportunities and peer leadership.

Collaborative Events: Hosting more multi-agency community days, cross-cultural celebrations, and health awareness events with our 30+ network partners.

2. Launchpad for Vulnerable Youth & Active Living

Care Leavers Launchpad: Expanding beyond Merton to partner with neighboring South London boroughs, delivering a dedicated life-skills and employability course for young people transitioning out of local authority care.

Sherwood Strikers Netball & PlayZone: Fully launching our intergenerational netball club in tandem with the newly developed local PlayZone, encouraging lifelong physical activity for girls and women.

3. Capital Growth, Corporate Partnerships & Community Garden

Space Expansion: Engaging corporate partners and local businesses to unlock funding and expertise to expand our physical building, increasing venue capacity for high-demand sessions.

The Sherwood Community Garden: Transforming our outdoor space into a therapeutic green hub—providing outdoor crafting for Sherwood Buttons, environmental learning for Sherwood Cubs, and a peaceful green sanctuary for all hall users.

Community Voice: What Our Residents Told Us

98% of surveyed participants asked for our existing weekly groups to continue without interruption.

87% expressed a desire for more community outings, day trips, and social excursions.

92% highlighted a need for accessible outdoor green space for mental relaxation and family activities.

85% supported introducing targeted life-skills support for local young people at risk.

Thank you to our Funders For 2026



Sherwood Park Hall CIO's mission is to
Empower Every Generation from 0–100+
Providing an inclusive welcoming place for all
backgrounds and abilities
create experiences, Improve Wellbeing, support
opportunities in education, employability, sustainability
and connection across every stage of life.

Join us in our Mission

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Partner

Volunteer

Shout about us!

www.sherwoodparkhall.org.uk

