Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC
Community Interest Company Governance and Public Benefit Statement

1. Director and Governance

Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC is governed by a single director. **Indy Thandi** was appointed as Director on **10 September 2025** and is responsible for the overall governance, strategic oversight, and statutory compliance of the company.

The Director ensures that the company operates fully in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, Community Interest Company Regulations, and the company's stated community and heritage objectives. The governance structure provides clear accountability, effective decision-making, and long-term stewardship of the Castle Hill Visitor Centre.

The company is overseen by the CIC Regulator, an independent statutory body, which has the power to intervene if the company fails to operate in the community interest.

2. Registered Office

The registered office of Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC is:

C/O Connelly Chartered Accountants
Permanent House
1 Dundas Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2EX

The registered office is used for statutory correspondence and regulatory filings and reflects the company's professional governance and financial oversight arrangements.

3. Community Interest Company (CIC) – Overview

Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC is incorporated as a Community Interest Company (CIC). A CIC is a specific form of limited company established to operate for the benefit of the community rather than for private profit and is subject to additional regulatory oversight.

CICs are required to demonstrate on an ongoing basis how their activities deliver public benefit and are commonly used for heritage, cultural, and educational assets where long-term protection and community value are central objectives.

The CIC model is particularly appropriate for heritage assets such as Castle Hill, where ongoing maintenance, conservation, and public access must be balanced with the need for financial sustainability. It allows income to be generated to support the site, while legally preventing private profiteering.

4. Use of Profits and Reinvestment

As a Community Interest Company, Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC is subject to statutory restrictions on the distribution of profits. Under CIC legislation, a minimum of 65% of any distributable surplus is legally required to be reinvested directly into the company's community and heritage purposes, with any remaining distribution subject to strict statutory caps and regulatory control.

In practice, the operational model for the Visitor Centre is based on the retention and reinvestment of surplus income to support the long-term conservation, operation, and public benefit of the site.

5. Asset Lock and Long-Term Protection

The assets associated with the Castle Hill Visitor Centre are protected by an asset lock held by the English Heritage Foundation. This provides a further layer of legal and institutional protection, ensuring that assets cannot be transferred, disposed of, or used for private gain.

This arrangement secures the long-term safeguarding of the heritage asset and ensures that all value generated by the project remains aligned with conservation, education, and public access objectives.

6. Application to the Castle Hill Visitor Centre

For the Castle Hill Visitor Centre, the CIC governance and asset-lock arrangements ensure that the long-term protection, conservation, and responsible management of Castle

Hill are prioritised; that income generated supports maintenance, heritage conservation, education, and public access; and that the Visitor Centre is operated in the interests of the local community, schools, and visitors.

Although the company is legally incorporated as a private limited company, as required under CIC legislation, it is subject to enhanced regulatory controls that do not apply to standard commercial entities.

7. Assurance

The combined use of a Community Interest Company governance model, oversight by the CIC Regulator, and an asset lock held by the English Heritage Foundation provides clear assurance that the Castle Hill Visitor Centre is mission-led, transparent, and publicly accountable.

This framework is intended to safeguard Castle Hill as a heritage asset for current and future generations while enabling its sustainable operation for public benefit.

Kind regards,

Indy Thandi

Managing Director

Castle Hill Visitor Centre CIC