

# HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

England & Wales · Charity number 1055498

## Details

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**Other names** OPEN SIGHT

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [03178631](#)

**Registered** 1996-05-21

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Website** [www.opensight.org.uk](http://www.opensight.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE RELIEF OF BLIND, PARTIALLY SIGHTED, SIGHT IMPAIRED AND OTHER PEOPLE, WHOSE SIGHT IS AT RISK, LIVING IN ENGLAND, WITH PARTICULAR REGARD TO THOSE IN HAMPSHIRE

**Activities:** Wellbeing and emotional support, independent living aids and magnification equipment, grants, information advice and guidance, activities and services to sight impaired people in Hampshire.

## Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH OF ENGLAND, PRIMARILY HAMPSHIRE
- Hampshire
- Portsmouth City
- Southampton City

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£658,385	£640,995	£2,436,144	14
2024-03-31	£164,529	£451,842	-	-
2023-03-31	£273,414	£469,347	-	-
2022-03-31	£253,562	£428,755	-	-
2021-03-31	£136,608	£382,488	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Daniel Collins		2026-01-26
Dr Vivien Mary Robins		2023-06-19
Lynn Simpson		2021-08-12
Mark Oliphant		2024-11-11
Steven Foster		2026-03-23
William Baker		2026-01-26

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1055498

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial  
Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025.**

**Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind  
(trading as OpenSight)**

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# About OpenSight (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind)

## Objectives and Activities

OpenSight (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a small, independent charity that makes a difference to the lives of hundreds of people with vision impairments in Hampshire every year.

Our Mission is to provide a lifetime of support to people with vision impairments of all ages.

Our vision is to provide a comprehensive and accessible range of practical and emotional support across the county that meets our service users' individual needs and wishes.

During the 2024/2025 financial year, OpenSight continued to deliver a wide range of interventions to those we support. Our staff and volunteers supported service users in a variety of ways, including:

- Independent living advice.
- An equipment service.
- Information hubs.
- Information days.
- Social clubs and activities.
- Benefit support.
- Child, young people, and family service.
- Active age groups and activities.
- Educational talks and interactive sessions.
- Bus travel awareness training.
- Education and employment mentoring.

Access to our services is open to everyone through self-referral or via referrals from sensory services, adult social care, local Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLOs), and other local sight loss charities. We work closely together to ensure the referral process is straightforward, supportive, and centred on each person's individual needs, choices, and circumstances.

## Introduction from Dr Jane Brooks, Chair of Trustees

As detailed in this report, this has been another challenging year financially, but we remain committed to providing much-needed services for those living with a vision impairment across Hampshire.

The Board of Trustees would like to acknowledge and thank all our exceptional staff for their hard work and dedication. We are proud of each member of our staff team, the excellent services they provide, and the impressive outcomes they achieve, which help make a significant difference to our service users.

Additionally, on behalf of the staff and the Trustees, I would like to express our huge thanks to our wonderful volunteers. OpenSight continues to benefit from their hard work and unstinting support, and we are grateful to them for all that they do in support of the Charity.

Amongst our valued volunteers are the Trustees of OpenSight, with whom it is my pleasure to work alongside. My thanks go to each of our Trustees for all their work, dedication, and commitment to supporting the Charity.

We have seen the following changes to the Trustee Board this year:

- Appointed: Mark Oliphant
- Co-opted: Mohamed Oshallah

We warmly welcome Mark and Mohamed to the OpenSight team.

We would also like to thank all the organisations with whom we work in partnership, as well as our funders, for their very welcome support.

As a Team, we are very much looking forward to the coming year and to further improving how we help and support those who need and use our services. We are always keen to receive feedback on our service provision and delivery. If you would like to share your views with us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **Chief Executive Officer's Review, Chris Dixon**

It's been quite a year for OpenSight – a year of change, challenge, renewal and reinvigoration. As I reflect on 2024/2025, I feel incredibly proud of how far we've come, and more determined than ever to build on the strong foundation we've laid together.

At our heart, OpenSight is a community – one comprised of passionate staff, dedicated volunteers, and inspiring service users. This year, that community has come together to start looking forward to how OpenSight can become even more innovative in the support it provides.

### **Growing Our Team, Shaping Our Future**

This year, we welcomed new team members who've brought fresh energy, ideas, and drive to our work. Their contributions are already helping us reach more people and think more strategically about where we're heading.

One of the most significant developments has been a focus on Income Generation. For too long, we have been reliant on legacy income. This approach is unsustainable, and to safeguard the organisation's future, we have been focusing on generating revenue from multiple sources. This is not a quick solution, but by investing in our team and developing a fundraising and income generation strategy, we are becoming more focused on long-term growth and sustainability. We recognise the increasing demand for our services and must find ways to meet as much of that demand as possible.

### **A New Look, A Clearer Voice**

Our rebrand has been a big moment for the organisation. We knew it was time to refresh how we present ourselves to the world – not just to look different, but to sound more confident, more inclusive, and more like the vibrant, modern organisation we are today. The response from our community has been overwhelmingly positive. People are proud to be part of OpenSight – and so are we.

Alongside our rebrand, we launched a new website that's not only more accessible but also more welcoming. It's easier to navigate, more informative, and much better at showing who we are and what we do. For many people, it's their first contact with us – and now it truly reflects the warmth, clarity, and respect we offer in all our work.

### **Reconnecting With Our Roots**

Rebuilding stronger connections with our club network has been an absolute joy. These clubs are such a vital part of what makes OpenSight special – places where people come together to share, support one another, and feel truly seen. We've spent time listening, visiting, and rebuilding trust, and we're seeing those relationships flourish again.

Partnership has also been a big theme for us. Whether working with local councils, health services, other charities, or corporate supporters, we've seen what's possible when we collaborate. It's clear that we're stronger – and more effective – when we work together.

## Recognition That Matters

Being nominated for a National Visionary Award in partnership with Southampton Sight was a real highlight. National recognition like this doesn't happen by accident – it's a result of the passion, innovation and dedication of our whole team and wider partnerships. Whilst we didn't win, the nomination alone was a powerful reminder that we're moving in the right direction – and that others are noticing the difference we're making.

## Looking Ahead

There's still so much more we want and need to do, and head into the new year with confidence, clarity, and a renewed focus. Our priority is to develop and deliver our next three-year strategy – to achieve financial sustainability and realise our vision: to provide a comprehensive and accessible range of practical and emotional support across the county that meets each person's individual needs and wishes.

We've made great strides this year, and I'm grateful to everyone who's helped us get here. To our staff, volunteers, trustees, funders, service users, and friends – thank you. This year has been a team effort, in the truest sense and together, I know we'll continue to make a real and lasting difference.

## **The year in numbers – and what they tell us**

The 2024/2025 financial year continued to bring challenges for people living with sight loss across Hampshire. The ongoing cost-of-living crisis and reductions in public funding have placed additional pressure on many households, and demand for OpenSight's services remained high.

### Who we supported

2,630 people were registered in total with OpenSight, including 1,627 new referrals – evidence that more people are seeking our help at key moments of need.

Of the people we support:

- 77% are aged 66+, highlighting the prevalence of age-related conditions such as macular degeneration, which remains the leading cause of sight loss in our community.
- 18% are of working age, reinforcing the importance of supporting independence and confidence for all, and – where appropriate – enabling people to enter, remain in, or return to employment.
- 5% are children and young people, and our focus is on providing early intervention and supporting them – and their families – to navigate the challenges they may face with their vision impairment.

Our reach remains strongest in South Hampshire (61%), which could be attributed to a mix of factors including population distribution, access to ophthalmic services, and local demographic characteristics.

Among those we support:

- 44% live with Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
- 8% live with Glaucoma

- 4% live with Diabetic Retinopathy, and
- 3% live with Retinitis Pigmentosa

## What difference we made

Behind every referral is an individual story of adjustment, learning and resilience. Of the 1,627 who were referred to our services in 2024/2025:

- 647 people reported improved wellbeing, showing the emotional impact of being understood and supported.
- 416 reported increased independence, often linked to practical advice and assistive technology.
- Among service users who involve family members in their support, 260 families told us they felt supported by OpenSight.

These outcomes are based on self-reported feedback, with individuals able to select more than one area of impact. Some accessed only one service, while others engaged with several – meaning the figures reflect the breadth of outcomes, rather than exclusive categories.

## Our People

Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers are at the heart of OpenSight’s success. Their knowledge, skills, and experience help people living with sight loss to feel understood, supported, and empowered to live as independently and confidently as possible.

We are deeply grateful for their tireless commitment – without them, OpenSight would not be the organisation it is today.

Our staff team for 2024/2025:



Row 1: Chris Dixon, Sharon Flury, Jemma Brown, Gemma McKnight  
Row 2: Jane Beesley, Lindsey Payne, Stacey Halford, Joanna Fielder  
Row 3: John Macmillan, Steve Geary (left June 2024), Millsey, Magda Wolanowska  
Row 4: Debbie Ross, Pippa Butler, Sarah Evans, Ian Morris

## **Service Summary**

### **Child, Young Person, and Family Support Service**

Our early years group in Hilsa continues to grow from strength to strength, serving as a lifeline to many families. A second group in the north of the county is in development and is starting slowly. Our Moo Music sessions continue to grow steadily. We have also been able to deliver activity days, family outings and Christmas parties thanks to the generosity of our funders.

The support these sessions and activities provide to children and their families is invaluable, fostering peer connection and emotional reassurance. Feedback highlights how much families value being understood and supported. Our one-to-one service complements this by offering personalised information, advice and advocacy, and received 82 referrals over the year.

### **Growing Together – T's Story**

T (name changed) is a bright and curious toddler living in Hampshire, diagnosed at just 21 months old with Oculocutaneous Albinism, a rare genetic condition that affects both skin pigmentation and vision. In May 2023, the Specialist Teacher Advisory Service (part of the Sensory Team at Hampshire County Council) referred T's family to OpenSight's Early Years group in Portsmouth. The Qualified Teacher of the Vision Impaired (QTVI) had recognised the emotional strain the recent diagnosis was having on the family and believed our group could offer much-needed support.

Later that same day, we connected with T's mum over the phone. She spoke candidly about feeling overwhelmed, isolated and disheartened after trying several mainstream early years groups, where she felt out of place and constantly compelled to explain why her child was "different." She agreed to attend the upcoming Early Years session just two days later, but unfortunately, the family had to cancel due to illness.

The family first attended a group session in June 2023. Both parents and T arrived looking unsure but quickly engaged with the themed activities based on The Very Hungry Caterpillar. From creating salt dough creatures to connecting with others, they approached the session with warmth and openness—dad even turned it into a friendly competition! That moment marked the beginning of a heartfelt and enduring relationship with OpenSight.

Fast forward 12 months and T's family have become one of our most engaged and supportive. They've attended nine Early Years sessions, our Family Fun and Information Day, and even joined our virtual Christmas party. On one occasion, when both parents couldn't attend, Mum made the journey alone, crossing the Gosport Ferry to reach us in Southsea—her commitment speaking volumes about how much the group now means to them.

What started as a tentative step into an unfamiliar space has evolved into wholehearted participation. Today, this family are the first to greet new parents, sharing their journey and

offering reassurance. They have moved from feeling isolated to becoming champions of inclusion, kindness, and peer support within the group.

It hasn't been without challenges. Ongoing genetic testing and new diagnoses have brought moments of uncertainty and emotion. But there have also been many joyful moments and visible progress. The presence of QTVIs at group sessions has strengthened that sense of wraparound support, helping the family feel truly seen and understood.

T's mum said it best in April 2024:

"The group is a breath of fresh air for us. It helps us and my kids understand so much more about sight loss and eyesight in a positive light. The support from other parents is lovely. I privately message about five other parents – it's lovely. The support from you guys is massive and goes a long way too."

This is what our Early Years service is all about—offering reassurance, creating connections, and helping families grow in confidence, together.

## **Social Clubs**

Our focus this year has been to reconnect fully with our 13 social clubs throughout Hampshire. Each group has had a minimum of 2 visits from OpenSight staff. The aim is to provide stronger support for volunteers across the club network, including club leaders, while enhancing our connection with the service users who attend the clubs.

These clubs meet regularly (every fortnight or month) and bring people with a vision impairment together for social and peer support. The clubs provide a safe environment, a program of activities, and a world where a vision impairment isn't a barrier to friendships and companionship.

Work began in 2024/2025 to rebuild engagement with our 118 social club volunteers, with a focus on renewed communication, recognition, and support to strengthen their connection with OpenSight's work.

Throughout the year, our volunteers have delivered 130 sessions across our 13 clubs, with an average of 15 people attending per club.

## **Active Age Groups – (formerly Working Age Groups)**

During 2024/2025, we ran six groups across the county, welcoming between 40–50 participants each month and across these, 10 new members joined. Our focus continued to be on building self-leading, self-managing groups. The Basingstoke group is on track to achieve this, while Havant, Fareham and Portsmouth are being supported to become more self-sustaining. Looking ahead, a key priority for 2025 will be developing the new Farnborough group and helping it establish a strong foundation.

## **Resilience and a New Vision for life – Neale's Story**

When COVID-19 hit, I faced unexpected challenges. I had lived with diabetes for years, often managing it with the thought that it might "come back to bite me one day." When the pandemic struck, that day arrived sooner than I'd ever imagined. I was furloughed, and my

body seemed to shut down. A series of health issues followed, leading to a significant loss of vision. Losing my driving licence after 35 years on the road was a hard blow, but it was only the beginning of my new journey.

Life turned upside down. Tasks that once felt second nature—like commuting to work or driving—became overwhelming. I began experiencing anxiety, something I'd never dealt with before. Even going on holiday presented obstacles I hadn't anticipated, with narrow streets and bustling crowds triggering a deep sense of isolation.

Yet in the face of these challenges, I found strength through the support of my family and community. One of the turning points in my journey was discovering the power of technology to keep me connected. I was introduced to tools that allowed me to enjoy football matches in a way I hadn't been able to for years. Watching my beloved sport again brought me a sense of normality and joy.

Adapting to life with vision loss hasn't been easy, and the changes have impacted my entire family. My wife learned to drive, and both my daughters have stepped up to help me get around. It's been a journey of resilience, adaptation, and learning to accept help. Through OpenSight, I have found a way to give back and stay engaged and I've also become a committed advocate for eye health. I'm particularly dedicated to raising awareness among young people, emphasising the importance of eye care and helping children understand the real impact of vision loss.

My story is one of courage and the power of community support. OpenSight's work in helping people like me is more important than ever.

## **Information Days**

Each year, we deliver two Equipment and Information exhibitions at venues within Hampshire. These days bring people with vision impairment, existing and new service users, together with resource and support providers within the community.

Together, this year's events were attended by 15 organisations and 203 people. Both events received excellent feedback from those service users who attended, demonstrating the positive impact of these events.

Thank you to those organisations that supported the days.

## **Eye Contact**

In September 2024, our biennial conference returned. This year, we held the event at St Mary's Stadium and collaborated with Southampton Sight to deliver the day. The conference was attended by over 40 organisations and 362 individuals.

With exhibitors showcasing equipment and community support, talks by Professor Andrew Lotery from the University of Southampton, Thomas Pocklington Trust, Southampton Sight, and the OpenSight team, the day was a complete success.

## Information Hubs

We delivered free drop-in sessions at locations across Hampshire for anyone with a vision impairment. The sessions offered practical advice on all matters related to sight loss, including information on local services and support, equipment, and everyday items that can help maintain people's independence. They also provided details of local social clubs and active age groups.

During the year, we delivered 90 sessions, welcoming 219 unique visitors, of whom 160 were living with a vision impairment. Notably, 31% of attendees were new to OpenSight, reflecting the continued reach of our community engagement. Among those with a vision impairment, 24% were referred for additional support, most commonly for Independent Living advice, followed by equipment guidance.

This project has now come to an end following the successful completion of its National Lottery funding period.

## Low Vision Assessments

We deliver low-vision assessments to individuals with vision impairments in their own homes. These sessions assess their use of magnification and offer a range of practical tools to support them in improving this and going about their daily life to the best of their ability.

This year, we improved the management and delivery of our LVA visits. A change to scheduling and planning has allowed us to deliver a more cost-effective service whilst increasing delivery by 35% to 463 sessions.

### **Seeing Possibility – Phil's Story**

Phil (name changed), a resident of Basingstoke, was referred to OpenSight for a Low Vision Assessment following significant vision loss caused by both dry and wet Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD). When we first met Phil at home, his frustration was evident. He struggled to recognise faces, read, or carry out many of the daily tasks he once took for granted. His son was present during the visit and expressed concern at how dependent Phil had become.

Phil no longer received treatment for his wet AMD and had not been given a clear explanation as to why. He did not own any prescription spectacles and had no magnifiers to help him read, although we discovered he had several unused pairs of ready-reader glasses. Fortunately, one pair matched the +3.50 prescription found on a recent optician's note, which his son located during our visit.

With the correct lenses now in hand, we began a low vision reading assessment under his regular living room lighting. Phil managed to read to a level that indicated he would benefit from a 5x magnifier. When we trialled a daylight lamp over the text, there was some slight improvement, but his ability to read remained limited due to macular distortion.

We explored both handheld and illuminated stand magnifiers. The latter proved easier for Phil to use, though reading standard newspaper print remained a challenge. Upon further assessment using an Amsler chart, we found significant distortion in both eyes; however, a

clearer area remained on the right side of his right eye. I explained that Phil's eyes were no longer working together effectively, and suggested he try closing his left eye while reading.

With some coaching in eccentric viewing, I encouraged Phil to use the edge of the magnifier lens and guide his clearer area of vision onto the page. To Phil's surprise and delight, he was able to read part of a sentence—something he hadn't managed for a long time. I introduced the "steady eye" technique, using large print, to build confidence and progress back towards standard print over time.

Phil's mood had completely transformed. The time, patience and tailored guidance we provided helped him rediscover a small but significant pocket of vision that could make a big difference in his daily life.

Before concluding the visit, we discussed options for obtaining a magnifier, how to adapt his existing walking stick to a symbol cane, and practical suggestions for watching television. We also explored how wearing an eye patch might help reduce visual confusion. Although an electronic magnifier was demonstrated, this did not suit Phil's level of macular distortion. The best solution for him was the combined use of optical magnification, eccentric viewing, steady-eye techniques, and closing his left eye.

This single visit helped Phil regain a sense of control and purpose. His confidence lifted, and with the proper support in place, he left the experience with the belief that he could regain some of his lost independence.

### **Smart Tech Tutorials**

Our Smart Tech Tutorials teach vision impaired service users of all ages how to maximise the functionality of their smart devices, including iPhones, iPads, Android devices, Echo devices, and their built-in accessibility features.

This service receives referrals from several referring partners, including ECLO, Sensory Teams, Opticians, Self-Referrals, and other sight loss charities, both nationally and locally.

During the year, we have delivered over 191 sessions (a mix of one to one and small groups), either in people's homes, or at head office.

This year also saw the introduction of tech sessions at Apple Southampton. Following conversations between Apple and OpenSight, a monthly session is held at the Apple Store in Southampton for individuals with a vision impairment. Support is available to help them maximise the use of their devices. We are pleased to be able to signpost people to this service.

### **Awareness and training sessions**

OpenSight provides sight awareness/sighted guiding training courses that increase participants' knowledge of the different sight conditions, enhance their understanding of the barriers facing vision impaired people, give them the knowledge of the practical techniques to support vision impaired people in their daily lives and increase their confidence in how and when to guide a blind or partially sighted person.

Alongside this, we deliver talks and presentations that highlight the importance of good eye health and showcase the wider work of OpenSight. Each is tailored to the audience and delivered in organisations, schools, and community settings.

In 2024/2025, we delivered 45 sight awareness and sighted guiding training courses, engaging over 1,500 individuals through talks, assemblies, and community events where we presented or hosted a stand. Attendance figures are partly estimated for larger public events where precise counts were not possible.

## **Benefits**

Our Benefits Officer supports people with a vision impairment to apply for Personal Independence Payments or Attendance Allowance once certified as partially or severely sight impaired.

We have supported 137 individuals in receiving a total of £339,856 in benefits during the 2024/2025 financial year.

The impact of this support is that individuals are better able to meet the additional costs associated with illness or disability, including sight loss.

## **University Hospital Southampton Eye Unit Sight Loss Support Service**

We continue to work in partnership with the NHS, local sight loss charities, and social services to deliver this vital support.

In 2024/2025, referrals came from adults aged 30–92, with 74% holding or awaiting a Certificate of Visual Impairment. Most sought help with daily living (39%), while others needed information (26%), equipment advice (23%), financial guidance (8%), or insight into their diagnosis (4%).

Tailored support was provided, with key outcomes including information and advice (26%), daily living tips and equipment guidance (29%), and assistance with magnification, benefits, and technology (32%).

## **Thank You**

Thank you to all the wonderful individuals and organisations from the public, private, voluntary, and community sectors who support our work, helping us make a difference to people living with a vision impairment across Hampshire.

## Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Company number	03178631	
Registered Charity number	1055498	
Registered office	25 Church Road Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 6BL	
Trustees	Dr J Brooks M. Hildyard T G Howell Dr R Drabu H Hamblen Dr V Robins Dr C.B.V. Schulz L Simpson M Oliphant M Oshallah	Chair Vice Chair Treasurer  Resigned on 1 June 2024  Appointed 11 Nov 2024 Co-opted 25 Nov 2024
Company Secretary	T G Howell	
Chief Executive Officer	C Dixon	
Independent Examiner	Morris Crocker Ltd Station House North Street Havant PO9 1QU	
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	
Bankers (investment)	Featherstone HQ Old Brewhouse Yattendon RG18 0UE	
Solicitors	Blake Morgan New Kings Court Chandler's Ford SO53 3LG	

# Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

## Structure, Governance and Management

### **Legal and Organisational Structure**

OpenSight (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 27 March 1996, succeeding an earlier charity founded in 1922. The organisation is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Membership of the charitable company is open to individuals admitted by the Board in accordance with these governing documents.

### **Governance**

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, who are also the company's directors for the purposes of company law. Trustees serve voluntarily and bring a diverse mix of professional experience, including ophthalmology, HR, finance, safeguarding, lived experience of sight loss, fundraising, charity management, service user engagement, and project management.

The Board meets regularly throughout the year to set the strategic direction, oversee performance, and ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements. It delegates day-to-day management to the Chief Executive Officer, who is supported by a Senior Leadership Team responsible for service delivery, operations, fundraising, and communications.

### **Trustee Recruitment and Induction**

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the governing document. The charity follows an open and transparent recruitment process based on the skills and experience needed at the Board level.

We continue to seek new Trustees who share our vision and who can bring a range of different skills and experiences to enhance the existing Board of Trustees in supporting the charity's operations.

New trustees receive a comprehensive induction covering the charity's work, governance responsibilities, key policies, and the regulatory framework for charities. Ongoing development opportunities, briefings, and annual skills reviews support trustees in fulfilling their duties effectively.

### **Board Committees**

The Board has a finance sub-committee, which oversees financial management, budgeting, reserves, investments, and risk. The committee reports formally to the Board, with clear terms of reference and delegated authority.

### **Management and Delegation**

The Chief Executive is responsible for implementing Board decisions and leading the staff and volunteer teams to deliver the charity's objectives. Delegated authority levels are clearly defined within the Financial Procedures Manual and Scheme of Delegation, ensuring appropriate checks, controls, and segregation of duties.

Operational decisions are managed through structured leadership and team meetings, with clear escalation routes to trustees for matters of strategic or reputational significance.

## **Risk Management**

The Board recognises that effective risk management is central to good governance. A comprehensive Risk Register is maintained and regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees. Strategic risks are assessed against likelihood and impact, with clear mitigating actions identified and monitored. The Board maintains oversight of financial sustainability, data protection, safeguarding, and regulatory compliance as key areas of assurance.

## **System of Internal Controls**

The system of internal control is designed to provide reasonable assurance against risk and includes:

- Having a strategic business plan (currently 2017–2024) and an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- Undertaking regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, including variances from budget, and relevant non-financial performance indicators.
- Maintaining clear delegation of authority and segregation of duties, reviewed annually.
- Trustees undertake a review of the organisation's finances and budget performance at each board meeting. In addition, there is a Finance Sub-Committee that meets bi-monthly with at least 2 Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), which reviews the organisation's financial policies, processes, and its financial management.
- Having an annual action plan (2024/2025) to guide the work of the CEO and SLT.
- Implementing a comprehensive risk management framework, which includes:
  - o a maintained risk register to identify, assess and mitigate risks across all operations.
  - o a Financial Procedures Manual covering risk assessment and control processes and the charity's reserves policy, regularly reviewed and updated.
  - o regular internal audit of club accounts and oversight of club volunteers and treasurers.
  - o regular review of policies and procedures to ensure they remain current, compliant and effective in managing organisational risk.
  - o ongoing review of risks relating to Data Protection, GDPR compliance, and external financial factors such as investment performance, voluntary income and property values.
  - o Agreeing and reviewing Terms of Reference and parameters for all sub-committees and working groups.

## **Public Benefit**

We review our aims, objectives, and activities annually. This review assesses what has been achieved over the past year, the outcomes of our work, and the impact on the people and communities we exist to support. It also ensures that our aims, objectives, and activities remain aligned with our charitable purposes.

In conducting this review, the Trustees have drawn on the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, considering how each planned activity contributes to our stated aims and objectives. The Trustees are satisfied that all activities undertaken continue to meet the public benefit requirements set out in the Charities Act 2011 and deliver meaningful benefit to the public.

## **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

OpenSight Hampshire is committed to fairness, respect, and inclusion in all that we do. We aim to ensure that no person is treated less favourably because of age, disability, race, sex, religion, or any other protected characteristic.

Our recruitment and service delivery practices are designed to be inclusive and accessible. We value diversity as a source of strength and insight and welcome applications from all sections of the community, including people with lived experience of sight loss.

Trustees, staff, and volunteers are responsible for upholding these principles, and our policies and training ensure that equality and diversity remain integral to our governance, culture, and daily operations.

## **Financial Review**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 24 and shows a profit of £17k (2024: deficit of £224k). There is a deficit before gains and losses on investments of £106k (2024: £287k). The charity is becoming less reliant on legacies for its income and has been increasing its efforts to secure other income streams, including grants from Trusts and Foundations.

The charity holds fixed assets and investments of £2.4m. As of 31 March 2025, the amount of total funds not designated or restricted was £679k (2024: £567k).

## **Investment Policy**

During the year ended 31 March 2025, the charity withdrew a net amount of £150k from capital invested, and the value of remaining capital invested grew by £123k, net of portfolio management costs. The Board takes a long-term view of investments but continues to regularly review the investments managed by its fund manager, Featherstone. Featherstone monitors two investment accounts for the charity on behalf of the Trustees.

The Trustees maintain a focus on maximising returns in line with our investment policy while ensuring good governance and ethical consideration. A periodic review of our portfolio is undertaken to confirm that investments remain appropriate and do not conflict with our organisational values – for example, avoiding products such as tobacco, which are known to cause sight loss conditions.

## **Reserves policy**

Free reserves are funds that are readily realisable and exclude funds whose use is restricted or designated for a particular purpose. It also excludes funds invested in fixed assets used in the day-to-day running of the charity.

In line with the prior year, Trustees reviewed the appropriate level of free reserves required by the charity. They agreed a level of £679k (2024: £567k), representing approximately 12 months of the charity's running costs. Additionally, the Trustees set aside a further £1.3m (2024: £ 1.4 m) from unrestricted funds as designated reserves to ensure the charity would be able to cover its indirect costs for the next two and a half years (£ 1.25 m). This was deemed necessary due to the volatile nature of legacy income and the inconsistent nature of other income streams, thereby securing its medium-term existence. Additionally, it will set aside £100k (2024: £104k) to ensure the charity can expand its core services and improve its reach within the communities it

supports. This will be achieved by investing in its people, IT, and capital infrastructure, as well as online and in-person delivery of services.

The Trustees are confident that the charity has a sound financial footing for the future.

## **Fundraising**

OpenSight's fundraising policy operates in line with the professional and ethical standards set by the Fundraising Regulator and the Code of Fundraising Practice. The accompanying fundraising strategy is regularly reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees to ensure it continues to raise the charity's profile, broaden its donor base, and increase income from a diverse range of sources. The strategy underpins the ongoing financial sustainability of the organisation and includes applications to grant-making bodies and trusts, as well as community, corporate, and individual giving.

During the year, the charity experienced a decline in legacy donations, which have historically represented a significant part of its income. In response, OpenSight is implementing a multi-strand approach to reduce reliance on any single funding stream. Local clubs and branches continue to fundraise to support their operational costs, provided these activities align with the charity's overarching strategic objectives. No complaints were received regarding fundraising activity during the year.

## **Our Plans for the Future**

The work on the new strategy was delayed as we focused on the organisation's structure. During the year we have worked with trustees, staff, volunteers, service users and professionals to support and inform the development of our next 3 year strategy. This strategy and the associated business plan will be in place from April 2026.

Our main challenge over the next three years is balancing our expenditure with the income we can generate. Income generation is a challenge for the sector, and we must find creative ways to fund the organisation's work. As a trustee and leadership team, we are fully aware of the difficult decisions we will have to make to ensure the organisation is financially viable for the long term. We will ensure that our service users remain at the heart of every decision we make.

In addition, Hampshire will be going through Local Government reorganisation as it navigates its devolution from the Central Government. As a charity, we are staying informed of these changes and taking part in sector-wide conversations to ensure we understand their potential impact.

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which provide an accurate and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that accurately disclose the financial position of the charitable company at any given time, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and, therefore, for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

and signed on its behalf by:



Dr J Brooks – Chair of Trustees

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination: or
4. The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

P Underwood. FCCA: *P J Underwood*

Date: 21 November 2025

Morris Crocker – Chartered Accountants, Station House, North Street, Havant PO9 1QU

## Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

		<b>Unrestricted fund</b>	<b>Restricted fund</b>	<b>Endowment fund</b>	<b>31.03.25 Total funds</b>	<b>31.03.24 Total funds</b>
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies		371,635	27,758	-	399,393	112,152
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Charitable		28,308	12,000	-	40,308	24,351
Other trading activities	2	83,888	11,361	-	95,249	27,881
Investment income	3	107	-	-	107	145
<b>Total</b>		<b>483,938</b>	<b>51,119</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>535,057</b>	<b>164,529</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	4	63,067	-	-	63,067	26,247
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Charitable		505,955	60,062	11,911	577,928	425,595
<b>Total</b>		<b>569,022</b>	<b>60,062</b>	<b>11,911</b>	<b>640,995</b>	<b>451,842</b>
Net gain/ (loss) on investments		123,328	-	-	123,328	63,322
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)/ INCOME</b>		<b>38,244</b>	<b>(8,943)</b>	<b>(11,911)</b>	<b>17,390</b>	<b>(223,991)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>1,982,723</b>	<b>31,343</b>	<b>404,688</b>	<b>2,418,754</b>	<b>2,642,745</b>
<b>Transfer</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>2,020,967</b>	<b>22,400</b>	<b>392,777</b>	<b>2,436,144</b>	<b>2,418,754</b>

## BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.03.25 Total funds £	31.03.24 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Tangible assets	9	-	-	427,144	427,144	404,688
Investments	10	1,941,304	-	-	1,941,304	1,977,434
		194,1304	-	427,144	2,368,448	2,382,122
<b>Current assets</b>						
Stocks	11	2,413	-	-	2,413	2,153
Debtors	12	1,166	-	-	1,166	858
Cash at the bank		92,216	-	-	92,216	72,253
		95,795	-	-	95,795	75,264
<b>Creditors</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(28,099)	-	-	(29,099)	(8,632)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		67,696	-	-	67,696	66,632
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		2,009,300	-	427,144	2,436,444	2,448,754
<b>Pension liability</b>	16	-	-	-	-	(30,000)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		2,009,300	-	427,144	2,436,144	2,418,754
<b>FUNDS</b>						
Unrestricted funds	15				678,909	567,000
Unrestricted- designated funds					1,342,058	1,415,723
Restricted funds					22,400	31,343
Endowment funds					392,777	404,688
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					2,436,144	2,418,754

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025, in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

- (b) preparing financial statements which give an accurate and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the Small Companies Regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
T G Howell - Trustee

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### 1. Accounting policies

#### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for investments, which are reported at market value, adjusted for the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared based on a going concern. The financial statements are presented in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

#### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies, grants and trust fund income are accounted for as incoming resources once the receipt of the income becomes reasonably specific and quantifiable.

Income from charitable activities includes the sale of goods and income from shows.

Other trading income refers to revenue generated from fundraising events organised by the charity's branches.

Investment income is earned by holding assets for investment purposes, such as listed investments and cash.

#### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure. A transfer of economic benefits will probably be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. It has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category, where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Raising funds**

Raising funds encompasses all expenditures incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes, including the costs of all fundraising activities, events, and non-charitable trading activities.

### **Governance costs**

These represent costs incurred in connection with the administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

### **Support costs**

Support costs represent the costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. The cost includes expenses directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £100 are capitalised and included at cost.

### **Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

The cost includes all costs of purchase, conversion costs, and other expenses incurred in bringing the stock to its current location and condition.

### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a specific, restricted purpose.

Expendable endowment funds are capital funds retained for the benefit of the charity but can be converted to income at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

## Financial instruments

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price, including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

## Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## Pensions

The Trustees operate a defined benefit and a defined contribution scheme for charitable purposes. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charitable company.

For the defined benefit scheme, a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value, and the defined benefit obligation is calculated on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet. The defined benefit scheme ended in June 2024 when its only member retired.

For the defined contribution scheme, the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represents the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

## Investments

Investments are stated at their market value as of the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising from revaluations and disposals during the year.

## 2. Other trading activities

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Fundraising events - branches	51,175	27,881

### 3. Investment income

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Other fixed assets invest - FII	107	145

### 4. Raising funds

Investment management costs:

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Portfolio management	9,457	7,710

### 5. Support costs

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
<u>Management costs</u>		
Staff cost	118,513	70,554
Office equipment cost	4,501	3,810
Insurance	9,803	4,721
Light and heat	11,509	6,504
Telephone	4,260	2,660
Postage and stationery	2,280	3,761
Sundries	952	-
Computer expenses	13,398	5,032
Premises expenses	4,584	11,362
Subscriptions	3,026	692
Cleaning	3,483	3,675
Depreciation	11,911	11,957
	<u>188,220</u>	<u>124,728</u>
<u>Governance costs</u>		
Trustees' expenses	50	83
Accountancy fees	1,298	3,540
Professional fees	8,316	2,310
	<u>9,664</u>	<u>5,933</u>
	<u>197,884</u>	<u>130,661</u>

Support costs have been apportioned against the activities of the charity in a manner consistent with the use of those resources. The allocation of support costs by activity is outlined above.

## 6. Net income/ (expenditure)

Net income/ (expenditure) is stated after charging:

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	11,911	11,957
Other operating leases	4,501	3,810
Amounts payable to the independent examiner	1,250	1,200
	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,200</u>

## 7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025, nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

	31.03.25	31.03.24
Trustees' expenses	<u>50</u>	<u>83</u>

This relates to reimbursement of costs to Trustees incurred in the course of their duties.

## 8. Staff costs

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	374,037	263,822
Social security	30,826	23,001
Pension contributions	21,692	31,292
	<u>426,555</u>	<u>318,115</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.03.25	31.03.24
Service delivery and outreach	9	8
Administration	5	5
	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>

No employees received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

No trustee received any remuneration in either year.

Included in the Insurance is the cost of trustee insurance

## 9. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 April 2024	581,083	30,895	51,415	663,393
Additions	23,469	2,598	8,300	34,367
Disposals	-	(30,895)	-	(30,895)
At 31 March 2025	<u>604,552</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>59,715</u>	<u>666,865</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 April 2024	179,695	30,895	48,115	258,705
Charge for year	10,628	16	1,267	11,911
Disposals	-	(30,895)	-	(30,985)
At 31 March 2025	<u>190,323</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>49,382</u>	<u>239,631</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u>414,229</u>	<u>2,582</u>	<u>10,333</u>	<u>427,144</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>401,383</u>	-	<u>3,300</u>	<u>404,688</u>

Freehold land and buildings include an amount of £58,333, being the attributed cost of land at the Association's head office. This valuation was determined by the Trustees in 2000. Land is not depreciated.

## 10. Fixed asset investments

	31.03.25 £	31.03.24 £
Shares	1,941,304	1,977,434
Market value	Listed investments £	
At 1 April 2024	1,977,434	
Disposals	(450,000)	
Additions	300,000	
Revaluations	113,870	
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,941,304</u>	

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Fixed assets at historic cost as at 31st March 2025 were £1,371,088 (2024: £1,521,088)

## 11. Stocks

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Stocks	2,413	2,153

## 12. Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,166	858

## 13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	22,798	2,827
Accruals and deferred income	5,301	5,805
	<u>28,099</u>	<u>8,632</u>

## 14. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.03.25	31.03.24
	£	£
Within one year - 3,937	3,634	-
Between one and five years	8,413	2,387
In more than five years	-	-
	<u>12,350</u>	<u>6,021</u>

## 15. Movement in funds

	<b>At 01.04.24</b>	<b>Movement in funds</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>At 31.03.25</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	567,000	38,244	73,665	678,909
Designated funds	1,415,723	-	-73,665	1,342,058
<b>Restricted funds</b>	31,343	(8,943)	-	22,400
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	404,688	(11,911)	-	392,777
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,418,754</u>	<u>17,390</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,436,144</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above, is as follows:

	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Gains and losses £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	483,938	(569,022)	123,328	38,244
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	51,119	(60,062)	-	(8,943)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	-	(11,911)	-	(11,911)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>535,057</b>	<b>(640,995)</b>	<b>123,328</b>	<b>17,390</b>

Comparatives for movement in funds:

	<b>At 01.04.23 £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>	<b>Transfer £</b>	<b>At 31.03.24 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	407,000	(239,819)	399,819	567,000
Designated funds	1,816,488	-	(400,765)	1,415,723
<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>27,785</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,343</b>
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	415,699	(11,957)	946	404,688
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>2,642,745</b>	<b>(223,991)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,418,754</b>

Net movement in funds, included in the above, is as follows:

	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Gains and losses £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	108,371	(41,512)	63,322	(239,819)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	56,158	(28,373)	-	27,785
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	-	(11,957)	-	(11,957)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>164,529</b>	<b>(451,842)</b>	<b>63,322</b>	<b>(223,991)</b>

## 16. Employee benefit obligations

The charity operates a non-contributory defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new employees in October 2005. The last remaining employee of this scheme retired in June 2024 and there is no outstanding liability for the Charity as at 31 March 2025.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2024. The results have been projected to 31st March 2024 and then recalculated using a number of assumptions detailed below.

During the year, the scheme was formally closed and wound up in June 2024. The surplus at termination was retained by the fund due to the subsumption commitment with Hampshire County Council, and the scheme was terminated. As a result:

- The defined benefit liability recognised at the beginning of the year was £30,000.
- A settlement gain of £29,000 has been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- The pension liability has been derecognised in full.

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

- Service cost (up to date of closure): £2,000
- Net interest cost: £Nil
- Contributions by employer: £1,000
- Actuarial gain recognised in other recognised gains: £48,000
- Closing position as of 30 June 2024 was £17,000 which was retained by the fund.

The principal actuarial assumptions used for the valuation on 30 June 2024 (prior to closure) were:

- Discount rate: 5.15%
- Future pension increases 2.8%
- Future salary increases: 3.8%
- Life expectancy at retirement age:
  - Male: 22.1 years
  - Female: 24.7 years

Following the settlement and closure of the scheme in 30 June 2024, the charity no longer has any obligation in respect of defined benefit pensions."

## 17. Related party disclosures

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

## 18. Restricted funds

	01.04.24	Incoming resources	Resource expenditure	Transfers	31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
Smart Device Workshop	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Portchester Club	355	-	(355)	-	-
WAG's National Lottery Grant	19,984	-	(9,911)	-	10,073
Early Years Funding	4,850	12,500	(5,023)	-	12,327
Easy Access Projects	-	12,261	(12,261)	-	-
HUB Funding	1,154	26,358	(27,512)	-	-
	<u>31,343</u>	<u>51,119</u>	<u>(60,062)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,400</u>

Smart Device Workshop funding to teach visually impaired adults to effectively utilise apps on their smart devices within their home and everyday life.

The Portchester Club donation is a contribution towards the running costs of eye health awareness in schools for a period of twelve months.

Easy Access Projects is funded by Portsmouth City Council and Hampshire County Council to support people with a visual impairment in accessing the local bus network.

Early Years Funding supports visually impaired children aged 0-4 years and their families.

WAG Group is a 12-month funded project by the National Lottery, allowing six peer support working-age groups to meet once a month at different locations across the County.

HUB Funding is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery to allow Information Sight Loss Hubs to be available once a month at 11 different locations across the County of Hampshire.

## 19. Share capital

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the Charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charity, in the event of the same being wound up such amount as may be required not exceeding one pound. The accounts, therefore, do not include a reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1055498

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03178631 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1055498

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024  
FOR  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND

# HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

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## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **About OpenSight (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind)**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

OpenSight Hampshire (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a small independent charity that is making a difference to the lives of thousands of visually impaired people in Hampshire every year.

Our Mission is to provide a lifetime of support to visually impaired people of all ages.

Our Vision is to be able to offer a full range of practical and emotional support throughout the County, including a personalised and accessible service, giving our service users the confidence to be independent and maintain this throughout their life.

#### **What We Do**

During 2023/24 OpenSight Hampshire continued to operate a hybrid service, with our staff and volunteers supporting service users by phone, email, video call, group sessions and 1 2 1 home visits. We use 23 venues across the county to provide direct support to those with a visual impairment that need us.

We deliver a range of services including:

- Independent living advice.
- An equipment service.
- Information hubs.
- Information days.
- Leisure and social clubs and activities.
- Benefit support.
- Child, young people, and family service.
- Working age groups and activities.
- Educational talks and interactive sessions.

Our support is delivered at different levels, depending on client need. From one of brief interventions providing information, to a series of interventions, through to ongoing support through our groups and activities.

Access to our services is through self-referral, sensory services, adult social care, local eye clinic liaison officers, and other local sight loss charities. Together we work to make the referral path as smooth as possible and delivered in a person-centred way.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### **Introduction from Jane Brooks, Chair of Trustees**

I am delighted to have been elected the new Chair of Trustees as Sue Walker, our former Chair, had served her maximum term of office and resigned from the Board. On behalf of the Trustees and the OpenSight Team, I would like to express our grateful thanks to Sue, for her many years of tireless service and dedication to our Charity. *Sue's contribution of ideas, energy, enthusiasm and thoughtful guidance have been invaluable and helped us accomplish so much, and we wish her well for the future.*

We have also said farewell this year to David McKeigue, our former Chief Executive Officer, as he stepped down from the post he had held since 2016. David's commitment to the Charity is greatly appreciated, particularly as, under his leadership, we sought and implemented innovative ways to continue supporting those who needed our help throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, despite the innumerable challenges those difficult times brought to us all. David was also instrumental in leading the many wonderful events through which we celebrated OpenSight's Centenary. We thank David for all his hard work and send our best wishes to him for a happy retirement.

In David's wake, the OpenSight Team warmly welcome our new Chief Executive Officer, Chris Dixon, and we very much look forward to working alongside Chris as he settles into his new role and starts to introduce further improvements to the services that we offer to those with visual impairment.

The Board of Trustees would like to acknowledge, and thank, all our exceptional staff for their hard work and dedication. We are so proud of each member of our staff team, of the excellent services they provide for our service users and of the impressive outcomes that they are achieving that help so much to make a difference to the lives of those with visual impairment.

And on behalf of the staff and the Trustees, I would like to express our huge thanks to our remarkable volunteers. OpenSight continues to benefit from their hard work and unstinting support and we are grateful to them for all that they do in support of the Charity.

Amongst our valued Volunteers are the Trustees of OpenSight, with whom it is my pleasure to work alongside. My thanks go to each of our Trustees for all their work, their dedication and their commitment to supporting the Charity.

In addition to Sue Walker stepping down as Chair of Trustees, we have seen the following changes to the Trustee Board this year:

Appointed: Dr Vivien Robins (appointed 19 June 2023)

Resignation: Penny Melville-Brown (resigned 8 November 2023)

Resignation: Chris Schultz (resigned 1 June 2024)

We warmly welcome Vivien to the OpenSight team and we thank Penny and Chris for their support and wish them both well for the future.

We would also like to thank all the organisations with whom we work in partnership, and our funders, for their hugely appreciated support.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

As a Team, we are very much looking forward to the coming year and to implementing changes that will enable us to further improve how we help and support our service users. We are always keen to receive feedback on our service provision and delivery so please do get in touch with us at OpenSight if you would like to share your views with us.

### **Chief Executive Officers Review – Chris Dixon**

Firstly, I would like to thank the OpenSight team for welcoming me to the organisation in February 2024. I recognise change is a challenge, but everyone has enabled me to bed in and start moving the organisation forward.

I would like to recognise the huge contribution of my predecessor David McKeigue who left in August 2023 and who had guided the organisation for 8 years with the challenges of covid during that time. Also, Debbie Ross, who took on the interim post of CEO whilst the organisation was recruiting for its next CEO. Debbie worked hard to support the trustees and the team to keep moving the organisation forwards. This report reflects 2023/24 and the work of them both.

The work that Open Sight does continues to be wide a varied and meeting the needs of people across the age spectrum. The basis of our work is to raise awareness of eye health, whilst promoting independence and self-management. Our services include Early years sessions to activity days and Christmas parties, working age group support and access to employment, our ambassadors supporting organisations to improve community access for the visually impaired. We have our benefits and independent services, to our social clubs for our senior members.

In addition to the above we have our joint project with Southampton Sight and Southampton University Hospital, and the training of eye clinic nurses, who are that first line of support to people of all ages who receive that initial diagnosis. A project that we would like to roll out across the county.

Although the organisation continues to deliver services that have significant impact on the visual impaired community, it does so in a time of change and challenge. The cost-of-living crisis is still there to be seen, the impact on those providing a statutory service, and their inability to meet demand, increases the burden on the charitable sector. Reducing access to services, isn't mirrored by a reducing number of people needing those services. As an organisation we need to be able to provide the right support for our service users, but not fill the statutory void that is being created. In 2023/24 we have seen our income drop dramatically, and 24/25 may see a similar situation. This will lead to services being reviewed and amended, but it will not see us reduce our ambitions to support more people and to deliver new services. In fact, in March of this year the trustees committed to increasing our staffing resource. This has seen our Child, Young People and Family Support service move to a full-time service. In addition, our Community Engagement and Volunteer Support Service is also moving to full time. Both changes are a sign of our commitment to do more for those we support.

Our work cannot be delivered without our staff team and volunteers. We have a small team of 14 who are supported by over 100 volunteers. Together we ensure that those with a visual impairment have access to support, to live their best life. I cannot speak loud enough about the OpenSight team. They all have my admiration and thanks.

As we move forward 2024/25 will be a challenging time for the organisation as we develop

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

a team and services that enable us to meet the financial requirements of the organisation together with meeting the needs of the increasing number of people living with a visual impairment. The trustees are committed to investing into the infrastructure of the organisation, its staff team and where appropriate its service delivery. It will be an exciting year for OpenSight Hampshire as we aim to develop the work we do across Hampshire.

### **2023 – 2024 Impact**

With the continued impact of the cost-of-living crisis, the reduction of the public purse and its impact on local services, we saw the demand for our service increase. This included:

- **9%** increase on the number of people registered with OpenSight – **3,307**.
- **2%** increase on the number of people referred to the service – **1,702**
- **63%** increase in the number of people attending our hubs – **387**
- **7%** increase in the number of people attending our events - **230**
- **11%** increase in the number of people registered with our social clubs - **503**.

### **Those attending our services:**

- **16%** increase in people aged 66 to 80 years of age
- **62%** of our service users are female.
- **36%** increase in service users accessing our services in Meon Valley, Hythe, and Hamble Valley
- **63%** of those attending our services are blind, or partially sighted (22% sighted, 25% waiting diagnosis)
- **40%** of those we support have AMD (Age related macular degeneration)
- **7.3%** of those we support have Glaucoma.
- **3.9%** of those we support have Diabetic Retinopathy.
- **3.5%** of those we support have Retinitis Pigmentosa.
- **2.3%** of those we support have Cataracts.
- **29%** of those we support have another condition (including Nystagmus, stroke)
- **14%** unknown.

### **The outcome of this support includes:**

- **34%** increase in the number of benefits received by the people we have supported up to **£422,032**.
- **388** people we supported told us they were better integrated into society.
- **834** people we supported told us they had increased independence.
- **1,106** people we supported told us they had improved wellbeing.
- **330** of our service users' families told they felt supported.
- **310** of those we supported told us they had improved levels of activity.

# HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

## **Our People**

Our team is paramount to the success of the organisation and without them we would not be the organisation we are.

Their knowledge, skills, experience enriches our services and ensure that those with a visual impairment get the support they need to live their best lives.

### **Below is our staff team during 2023/24**

Debbie Ross, Zoe Hanscombe, Steve Geary, Sharon Flurry, Pippa Butler, Chris Dixon, Stacey Halford, Sarah Evans, Lindsey Payne, Magda Wolanowska, Jane Beesley, Terry Smith



## **Service Summary**

### **Child, Young Person, and Family Support Service**

The service provides practical, emotional, social, financial and educational support to young people with a visual impairment up to the age of 25. This includes their families and circles

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

of support.

During the year we have delivered 37 sessions to over 107 individuals.

These sessions include Early years sessions, benefit support, activity days, school visits, Xmas parties and outings, family fund days and an information session.

### **Smart Tec Tutorials**

Our smart tec tutorials teach visually impaired service users of all ages, how to get the most out of their smart devices such as iPhone, iPad, Android, Echo, and the built-in accessibility features. In addition, we can recommend and demonstrate how to use useful apps for everyday living.

The service enables people to access everything they need for social life and work, making everything accessible with assistive technology, increases independence, self-confidence, and personal.

This service receives referrals from several avenues including: ECLO, Sensory Teams, Opticians, Self-Referrals and from other sight loss charities National and smaller.

During the year we have delivered over 208 sessions, either in people's homes, in small groups or at head office.

### **Working Age Services.**

The service, delivers, through a mix of face to face and online sessions, a range of monthly support and social groups to people with a visual impairment aged 18 – 65. The sessions, delivered across the county, support people to build confidence, meet new people, learn smart tec skills, share ideas, tips and hints to break down barriers to accessing the community.

During the year we have delivered 96 sessions attended by approximately 100 people.

These sessions are delivered by OpenSight staff and volunteers.

### **Resource Service**

Our resource service, delivered through our resource centre at Head Office, our online shop or through our hubs and information days, provides access to specialist equipment to support visually impaired people to live their best life.

Our service includes demonstrating new resources and supporting people to learn to use the equipment they purchase.

Our resource centre has supported over 297 people to get the equipment they need to go about their life.

### **Information Days.**

Each year we deliver two Equipment and Information exhibitions at venues within Hampshire. These days, bring people with a visual Impairment, existing and new service users, together with resource and support providers within the community.

The events were attended by over 20 organisations and attracted over 200 people. They received wonderful feedback that demonstrated the impact of the services.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

Thank you to those organisations that support the day.

### **Social Clubs**

We have 13 clubs throughout Hampshire that meet regularly (fortnightly or monthly) that bring people with a visual impairment together for social and peer support. The clubs are *delivered through a network of over 100 volunteers, without whom, this service would not be able to run.*

All volunteers are inducted, DBS checked and supported by the team to provide a safe environment, a program of activities and a world where a visual impairment isn't a barrier to friends and companions.

During the year our volunteer team have delivered over 150 club sessions which have been attended by over 250 people.

### **Information Hubs**

We deliver 11 free drop-in sessions a month at locations across Hampshire for anyone with a visual impairment. The sessions offer practical advice on all matters related to sight loss, including advice on local services and support, equipment and everyday items that can help keep your independence as well as details of local social clubs and working age groups.

During the year we have delivered 125 sessions to 387 visitors. 291 of them had a visual impairment.

The feedback included:

- 86% of attendees at one of our hubs reported feeling happier as a result.
- 53% felt they could maintain their independence better because of the input from our staff
- 35% reported that their families felt better able to support them following a visit.

### **LVA**

We deliver low vision assessments to people with a visual impairment within their homes. These sessions assess their vision and offer a range of practical tools to support them to go about their daily life to the best of their ability.

This includes:

- Carry out low vision assessments in the home.
- Give a lot of information, advice and guidance on daily living.
- Give information on audio books and how to listen.
- Give advice on accessing computers and other tech.
- Give benefits advice on entitlements.
- Give people emotional support and inform what is happening to their eyes and how to cope with it and make use of the best part of their sight.

During the year we have delivered 233 sessions to 233 individuals and their families.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **Ambassadors**

OpenSight Hampshire receives requests for support to improve accessibility for venues, activities, services and awareness of the barriers people with sight loss face in their everyday life.

We aim to empower and enable our volunteer Ambassadors to make a difference by representing the voice of severely sight impaired and sight impaired people and give them the opportunity to support OpenSight Hampshire to influence positive change and improve services at a local level in the key areas of health, employment, education, transport, technology, and sport.

Examples:

- UK Government research into new way to access your tax services
- National Campaign to stop the closure of railway station ticket offices
- Southampton Airport's accessibility for their building and assistive travel service
- New Forest District Council venues, activities and experiences
- Places Leisure and The Point – Accessibility for fitness and wellbeing

### **Training**

OpenSight Hampshire provides sight awareness/sighted guiding training courses that will increase the individual's knowledge on the different sight conditions, enhance their understanding of the barriers facing visually impaired people (VIP), it gives them the knowledge of the practical techniques to support VIP's in their daily living tasks and it increases their confidence in how and when to guide a VI person. The courses are adapted to meet the group's needs and are offered to a variety of organisations; professionals; schools and colleges.

- OSH new volunteers
- Health and Social Care Students
- Southampton Airport staff

### **Quotes**

*"I found the update on some eye conditions, the simulation glasses and the sighted guiding very helpful. These will help a lot for day to day to empathise with people more on a practical level."*

*"I really enjoyed the course, especially the practical exercises which gave me a real insight into the issues faced by people with sight loss."*

### **Benefits**

Our benefits officer supports people with a visual impairment aged 16 to 100 apply for PIP and Attendance Allowance once they have been certified partially or severely sight impaired.

We have supported 120 individuals receive a total of £422,032 of benefits during 2023/24.

The impact of this enables people to live their life through accessing transport to get to clubs, going to the gym and dance classes, meeting friends, and improving health and wellbeing.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### **Southampton Hospital Eye Unit Sight Loss Support Service**

Over 300 adult patients a year are registered as either sight impaired (SI) or severely sight impaired (SSI) at this busy eye unit. Following loss of the dedicated support for these patients in 2019 a joint initiative between the NHS, local sight loss charities and local authority social services, has re-imagined the support, rehabilitation and empowerment of patients living with visual impairments. Initial study of patients and staff to understand barriers to supporting patients led to the design of a sight loss advisor (SLA) course and sight loss awareness training for all staff with all the above stakeholders contributing to the content of the course. There are now over 5 embedded sight loss advisors including, satellite eye clinics, paediatric ophthalmology and neurology.

OpenSight Hampshire is a key partner within the stakeholder group which meets on a quarterly basis to review the service delivery.

The Outcomes for the referrals coming from the SLA service:

- 91 Referrals received
- Of which 62% were new to OpenSight
- The age range for these referrals were 22yrs to 96yrs
- 56% were female and 44% were male

### **Behind the numbers are the people we help**

#### **Early Years Groups – Together life is brighter.**



I contacted the mother of T, chatted generally and told her more about the Early Years group. Mum was feeling overwhelmed and isolated from the recent diagnosis. She told me about how she had tried a few 'mainstreams' early years group but she had felt it wasn't very inclusive and had the impression that she was constantly having to explain why their child was 'different'. Mum agreed to come to the next Early Years group which was only 2 days later. Unfortunately, due to illness they couldn't attend on the day. The first jan group this family attended was in June 2023. Mum, dad and T arrived at the group. They came looking very unsure but to their credit they threw themselves into all the activities which were based around 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'; dad was particularly competitive when it came to modelling a salt dough caterpillar!

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

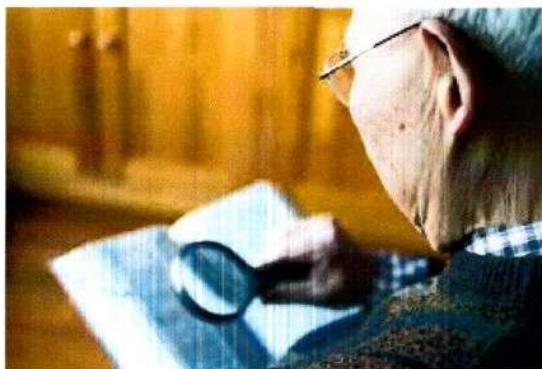
Roll on 12 months and where are we now? This family has become one of the biggest advocates of OpenSight Hampshire's Family Service. They have attended 9 Early Years group, attended our Family Fun and Information Day as well as the virtual Christmas party. There has only been one session when both parents couldn't attend, and mum still made the effort to get to us on the Gosport Ferry and walk to the venue in Southsea. Without fail, they always send a lovely message to thank me for the session they have attended. From the overwhelmed parents at the beginning, they are now the first to welcome new families and to make sure that everyone feels included.

It hasn't been an easy journey as genetic testing; ongoing diagnoses are discovered but they have always made the effort to be with us and shared the highs and the lows. There have been tears but also so many smiles. Accessing help from the QTVIs, who have also attended groups, has had the impact that the family have felt even more supported.

***"The group is a breath of fresh air for us. It helps us and my kiddies understand so much more about sight loss and eyesight in a positive way too. And the support from other parents is lovely. I privately message about five other parents it's lovely 🤗 The support from you guys is massive and goes a long way too."*** – T's mum  
***April 2024.***

### **Low Vision Assessment – You only know what you know.**

We met Jim (name changed) at Andover Library. He came along with his wife. Jim has wet Macular Degeneration and has had many injections. He said that the Low Vision Clinic had issued him with a couple of magnifiers, which he did not have with him. Jim was also wearing bifocal glasses. Jim said that the magnifiers were no good and he could not read anything really. Jim was very frustrated, and he got his wife to read things to him.



We advised Jim of the services we provide and referred him to our benefits team to apply for Attendance Allowance.

We arranged a home visit to support Jim with his reading. At the home visit we made sure that Jim had reading glasses which would enable him to look through the center of the glasses and not a small section at the bottom.

We then explained what was going on within his macular and that there would be an area of distortion. The shape and position of this would be unique to him. We were able to explain to Jim that if he was moving his eyes to try and read or was moving a magnifier around, he would be moving that distortion. We assured him that this was making it so hard for him to read.

With this knowledge and using a daylight lamp and reading glasses he managed to get a lot further in his book than he thought he could.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

We then proceeded to discuss the magnifier and showed Jim the technique of having the magnifier close to his eye while wearing reading glasses and then bringing the text towards it until it came into focus. He then needed to move what he was reading and keep his eye and the magnifier still.

Jim could read well with the x3 Eschenbach LED illuminated handheld magnifier he had been issued with from a low vision clinic. Jim wondered why the low vision clinic had not shown him and told him all this as it had led to his feelings of isolation??

Jim shared that he had received over 80 injections in his eyes and shared that he was getting a bit fed up with them as it isn't a pleasant experience.

We advised Jim to continue with them as they were doing what they were supposed to do and doing it very well. They had kept his sight stable, and it was remarkable how good his sight was after the amount of time and injections.

Following this we also supported Jim with his laptop and demonstrated the keystrokes required to use the Windows Magnifier. He was amazed that it existed.

On a separate visit Jim helped with his application for Attendance Allowance. Together with additional health issues, Jim received a higher level of benefit.

### **The Impact of Smart Tec – Tools to independence**

Simon (name changed) was signposted to OpenSight Hampshire by Blind Veterans UK in June 2022. Simon is a retired IT professional and enjoyed holidays abroad, walks and time with family and friends. It was about 8 years ago when Simon started to notice his eyesight was not right and since my first visit to Simon until now, he has now lost a substantial amount of his eyesight due to a blood clot in the eye possibly due to high pressure caused by Glaucoma and other complications. He is still receiving treatment from his local ophthalmology clinic, however, there is no certainty whether any sight useful sight can be saved.



On my first initial home visit to Simon in August 2022, it was evident that Simon felt he had lost all his independence, no longer able to drive, read, see the TV or see his family smile anymore. His supporting wife sat with us as we chatted, I could see that Simon was finding it hard to come to terms with his sight loss and he was very dependent on his wife to be with us on my visit.

Simon had an iPhone, iPad and iMac of which he used completely independently before his sight loss, now, he feels very dependent on his wife to do all the things he used to do and felt isolated.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

Gradually over time, I was able to show Simon how he could use the tech he already had just by using voice commands, he was surprised at this as he thought he would have to buy expensive specialist equipment to enable him to read and do all the things he used to be able to do with technology, such as reading important emails, his post and seeing colors of clothing. By the end of my first visit, Simon was able to use his voice to make calls, text message friends and family and find out what the weather was like outside.

My second home visit took place in October 2022, Simon had been finding the personal assistant on his smartphone incredibly useful and had impressed his family and friends by replying to text messages independently just by voice control. Now Simon was ready to find out more about what other accessibility features are available, so we dived into the Voiceover text to speech Accessibility features on his Apple devices.

With Simons permission, I installed some free apps onto his iPhone that would enable him to scan text and the device was able to read this text out to him immediately including handwriting. Simon was overwhelmed with this and was looking forward to getting his independence back again in time.

Simon's wife has been quite emotional seeing her husband now able to be more independent, using technology for communication as well as using it to hear his *surroundings*.

I have now been visiting Simon on a 6-to-8-week basis over the last year and 8 months, each visit, Simon is becoming more and more confident with his accessible technology. His wife no longer needs to sit in on his tutorials with me and Simon is now able to explore photos on his iPhone that were taken many years ago when on holiday, with the AI technology describing each captured moment in photos on his device.

Simon has since upgraded his iPhone and can use it independently using voiceover, Siri and useful AI apps. He is enjoying being able to get back to being connected with people and having the ability to access information independently.

Simon's wife has also seen an increase in his wellbeing and has been quite emotional seeing her husband now able to be more independent, using technology for communication as well using it to hear his surroundings. Simon has thrived in learning how accessibility on his smartphone, increasing his wellbeing and helping with his mental health.

He is looking forward to enjoying holidays away again, capturing scenes on his iPhone that he can then explore using AI technology, and hearing his surroundings in unfamiliar places.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### What our service users tell us

The Early Years Group at Open Sight is run by the lovely welcoming Sarah and her colleagues who put on fabulous for little ones with vision impairment and their families. It's a great place to meet other families and have some fun in a totally inclusive environment.

I was so relieved to get in touch with Open Sight. What a difference it has made! Before I talked to you, I felt cast to sea in a boat with no support in place and now I feel so much more positive.

It is a supportive, fun environment where you meet up and form relationships with other parents who are going through some similar things as well as with the help of professionals who are knowledgeable and non-judgmental. The sessions are important to me. I often felt isolated and misunderstood. The group allowed me to gain confidence.

Very positive and helpful. Gave me lots of information and gave me a boost.

So informative. The visit has relieved lots of my worries, and I am more confident about moving forward with my sight loss. The best 2 hours we have spent in a long time.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### **Our funders**

Big Lottery	Information Hubs
Hampshire County Council	Home Visiting
Powell Family Foundation	Early Years
Ulvercroft Foundation	Smart Tec Workshops
National lottery	Working Age Groups
Mackay and Brewer Trust Fund	Unrestricted Funding
de Brye Charitable Trust	EY Art and Music Therapy
Hendy Foundation	CYP sensory equipment/toys
de Vere Hunt Charitable Trust	Smart Tech Workshop New Milton
William Allen Young Charitable Trust	Early Years Basingstoke
Powell Family Foundation	EY Group Grant
Powell Family Foundation	1 x Activity Day Grant
Broyst Foundation -	EY Group Grant
Ladbroke's Coral Trust	EY Group Grant
Martineau Trust	Unrestricted Funding
Christopher HR Reeves Trust	EY Group Grant
Basingstoke Rotary	Basingstoke WAG Grant
Rushmoor Rotary	Aldershot WAG Grant
Coopervision	Family Fun Day Donation
Beacon Church Havant - Waterlooville	WAG Grant
Rotary Club Portsmouth & Southsea	EY Group Grant
Basingstoke Lions	Basingstoke WAG Grant
Havant Lions	Waterlooville WAG Grant
Eastleigh Rotary	Eastleigh WAG Grant
Fareham Lions	Fareham WAG Grant
Eastleigh Lions	Eastleigh WAG Grant
Slimming World	Xmas Appeal
William Allen Young Charitable Trust	Basingstoke Early Years
Hampshire County Council	Grant for Tech Workshop in New Milton
Hampshire County Council	Grant for Tech Workshop in Eastleigh
Hampshire County Council	Grant for Tech Workshop in Totton
Hampshire County Council	Grant for Tech Workshop in HO

### **Acknowledgements**

- Our fantastic volunteer club leaders and their teams
- All our wonderful funders and supporters including those in public services and across the voluntary and community sector.

Our sincere thanks for being part of OpenSight Hampshire.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

<b>Registered Company number</b>	03178631
<b>Registered Charity number</b>	1055498
<b>Registered office</b>	25 Church Road Bishopstoke, Eastleigh SO50 6BL
<b>Trustees:</b>	S Walker                      Chair - resigned 28 Mar 24 T G Howell                    Treasurer Dr J Brooks                   Chair – appointed 28 Mar 24 Dr R Drabu H Hamblen M. Hildyard P Melville-Brown            appointed 6 Mar 23 resigned 8 Nov 23 Dr V Robins                   appointed 19 Jun 23 Dr C.B.V Schulz              resigned 1 June 24 L Simpson
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Ms T G Howell
<b>Chief Executive:</b>	Mr David McKeigue resigned Jul 23 Mrs Debbie Ross            interim Aug 23 to Jan 24 Mr Chris Dixon              Feb 24
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Morris Crocker Ltd Station House North Street Havant PO9 1QU
<b>Bankers</b>	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
<b>Bankers (investment)</b>	Featherstone HQ Old Brewhouse, Yattendon, West Berkshire. RG18 0UE
<b>Solicitors</b>	Blake Morgan New Kings Court Tollgate Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 3LG

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

"OpenSight" (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 27 March 1996, replacing a previous charity that had been established in 1922. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The members of the charitable company are those members of the public who have been admitted to membership by the Board of the charitable company.

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The system of internal control is designed to provide reasonable assurance against risk and includes:

- A strategic business plan for the period 2017-2024 and an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- Regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, including variance from budgets, and non-financial performance indicators.
- Formal delegation of authority and segregation of duties which are reviewed annually. Identification and management of risks with a risk management process and the keeping of a risk register used as an integral part of all development and management strategies to seek and identify, prioritise, and reduce risk.
- A Financial Procedures Manual, which covers risk assessment and control procedures and the charity's reserve policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated.
- Regular internal audit of branch accounts and supervision of local volunteer staff and treasurers.
- Agreeing Terms of Reference and parameters for all sub committees and groups, keeping them under constant review.
- Regularly reviewing all policies and procedures as part of risk assessment and strategic plan processes.
- Regular review and consideration given to Data Protection and GDPR compliance.
- Regular consideration of the risks associated with fluctuation market values for reserve investment portfolios and monitoring levels of voluntary giving, share values and property prices, as these impact upon income levels.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **Public Benefit**

In reviewing and undertaking assessment of activities and services the Trustees continue to ensure that these meet the public benefit requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and consider that the activities detailed above are for the benefit of the public.

*Equality and Diversity continues to be at the heart of the charity and is taken into account in all that we do.*

### **Recruitment and Appointment of New Trustees**

The Trustees actively look to recruit new Trustees with specialist skills to support the running of the charity. The search committee continue to seek new Trustees with the required skill set and diversity to enhance the existing Board of Trustees.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 10 and shows a deficit of £223,911 (2023 a deficit of £284,077). There is a deficit before gains and losses on investments of £287,313 (deficit of £195,934 in 2023). The charity is becoming less reliant on legacies for its income and has been increasing its efforts to secure other income streams including grants from Trusts and Foundations.

The charity holds fixed assets and investments of £2.4m but also has a provision for its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme liability. Although it is uncertain of timing and amount, the actuaries estimate the liability to be £30k. The Trustees are mindful of this liability and maximise the use of the charity assets to generate investment income. At 31 March 2024 the amount of total funds not designated or restricted was £407k (2023 £407k).

### **Investment Policy**

During the year ended 31 March 2024 the charity withdrew £225k from capital invested and the value of remaining capital invested grew £64k. The Board takes a long-term view on investments but continues to review the investments managed by its second fund manager Featherstone regularly, who monitor two investment accounts for the charity on behalf of the Trustees.

The Trustees apply a strong ethical perspective and do not invest in products or services that may impinge upon sight loss. This includes tobacco products which are specifically proven to cause sight loss conditions.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. We maintain a Risk Register, which is reviewed regularly at Board meetings. Mitigation plans are in place to reduce risks identified as far as possible.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **Reserves policy**

Free reserves are funds that are readily realisable and exclude funds whose use is restricted or designated for a particular purpose. It also excludes funds invested in fixed assets utilised in the day to day running of the charity.

In line with the prior year Trustees reviewed the appropriate level of free reserves needed by the charity and agreed a level of £567,000 (2023 - £407,000), representing approximately 12 months of running costs for the charity. Additionally, the Trustees set aside a further £1,415,723 (2023- £1,816,488) from unrestricted funds as designated reserves to ensure the charity would be able to cover its indirect costs for the next three years (£1,311,000). This was felt necessary due to the volatile nature of legacy income and inconsistent nature of other income streams, thus securing its medium-term existence. Additionally, it will set aside £104,434 (2023 - £588,488) to be used to ensure the charity can expand its core services and improve its reach within the communities it supports. This will be achieved by investing in its people, its IT and capital infrastructure, on-line and in-person delivery of services.

At 31st March 2024 the charity had free reserves of £567,000 (2023: £407,000). The Trustees are confident that the charity has a sound financial footing for the future.

### **Fundraising**

OpenSight Hampshire's fundraising policy works within professional and ethical standards set by the Fundraising Regulator and Code of Fundraising Practice with whom OpenSight Hampshire are registered. The fundraising strategy is reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees on a regular basis, and it aims to continue to raise the profile of the charity and extend our donor base and income from this source. The fundraising strategy is a strategic priority, to ensure the ongoing financial viability of the organisation. A rounded approach to fundraising, including making applications to grant-making organisations and trusts, community, corporate and individual giving. The charity adheres to the Fundraising Promise as well as to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

The charity has seen a reduction in legacies and in-memoriam donations which have in the past formed a key part of its income. In response to this the charity is moving towards a multi-strand approach to reduce the risk of reliance on single funding streams. Our local clubs and branches continue to raise funds to cover their running costs where this matches *the charity's strategic plan and aims*. *There were no complaints received by the charity about our fundraising activity over the year.*

### **Our Plans for the Future**

Having appointed a new CEO in February 2024, the coming year will see a focus on putting the structures in place to enable the organisation to develop an ambitious 3-year plan to begin April 25.

The trustees and senior leadership team will work together to develop a new identity for the organisation with a rebrand, followed quickly by a new website. We will be joined by a new head of income generation and communications and a head of service. Together, and with the input of the staff and our service users work will begin on the co-production of the new

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **strategy. Our Plans for the Future (continued)**

A strategy that raises our profile with the community and stakeholders, and together creating services that provide a “lifetime of support and pathways to independence for our service users. We want to enable people with a visual impairment in Hampshire to “live their best life”.

Further investment into our staff team, IT and telephony will provide the organisation with the tools to achieve.

This investment and our strategy over the next few years needs to be monitored robustly and we need to remain agile to opportunity and manage our risks proportionately. The outcomes of this next 3 years will have significant bearing on the long-term future of the organisation and its financial viability.

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr Jane Brooks – Chair of Trustees

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCA which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which *is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination*; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Morris Crocker Ltd  
Station House  
North Street  
Havant PO9 1QU



Date: ..... 4 November 2024

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies		61,687	50,465	-	112,152	224,687
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		18,658	5,693	-	24,351	20,143
Other trading activities	2	27,881	-	-	27,881	27,238
Investment income	3	145	-	-	145	1,346
<b>Total</b>		<b>108,371</b>	<b>56,158</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>164,529</b>	<b>273,414</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	4	26,247	-	-	26,247	41,920
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		385,265	28,373	11,957	425,595	427,427
<b>Total</b>		<b>411,512</b>	<b>28,373</b>	<b>11,957</b>	<b>451,842</b>	<b>469,347</b>
Net gain/ (loss) on investments		63,322	-	-	63,322	(88,143)
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)/ INCOME</b>		<b>(239,819)</b>	<b>27,785</b>	<b>(11,957)</b>	<b>(223,991)</b>	<b>(284,077)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		2,223,488	3,557	415,699	2,642,745	2,926,822
Transfer		(946)	-	946	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>1,982,723</b>	<b>31,343</b>	<b>404,688</b>	<b>2,418,754</b>	<b>2,642,745</b>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	9			<b>404,688</b>	<b>404,688</b>	415,699
Investments	10	<b>1,977,434</b>			<b>1,977,434</b>	2,145,822
		<u>1,977,434</u>		<u>404,688</u>	<u>2,382,122</u>	2,561,520
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stocks	11	<b>2,153</b>	-	-	<b>2,153</b>	2,685
Debtors	12	<b>858</b>	-	-	<b>858</b>	1,617
Cash at bank		<b>40,910</b>	<b>31,343</b>	-	<b>72,253</b>	119,059
		<u>43,921</u>	<u>31,343</u>	-	<u>75,264</u>	123,362
<b>CREDITORS</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<b>(8,632)</b>	-	-	<b>(8,632)</b>	(9,137)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>35,289</u>	<u>31,343</u>	-	<u>66,632</u>	114,225
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,012,723</b>	<b>31,343</b>	<b>404,688</b>	<b>2,448,754</b>	2,676,745
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>	16	<b>(30,000)</b>	-	-	<b>(30,000)</b>	(33,000)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,982,723</u>	<u>31,343</u>	<u>404,688</u>	<u>2,418,754</u>	<u>2,642,745</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	15					
Unrestricted funds					<b>567,000</b>	407,000
Unrestricted-designated funds					<b>1,415,723</b>	1,816,489
Restricted funds					<b>31,343</b>	3,557
Endowment funds					<b>404,688</b>	415,699
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<u>2,418,754</u>	<u>2,642,745</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T G Howell', written over a horizontal line.

T G Howell - Treasurer

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees believe the charity has sufficient cash reserves to utilise during the current Covid-19 situation. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

##### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies, grants and trust fund income are accounted for as incoming resources once the receipt of the income becomes reasonably certain and quantifiable.

Income from charitable activities includes sale of goods and income from shows.

Other trading income is income from fundraising events held by the branches of the charity.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes in the form of listed investments and cash.

##### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

##### **Governance costs**

These represent costs incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

##### **Support costs**

Support costs represent the costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £100 are capitalised and included at cost.

##### **Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

# **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Expendable endowment funds are capital funds retained for the benefit of the charity but can be converted to income at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to *the financial statements*.

#### **Financial instruments**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

#### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

#### **Pensions**

The Trustees operate a defined benefit and a defined charitable company contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charitable company.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Pensions (continued)**

For the defined benefit scheme a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

For the defined contribution scheme the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represent the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

##### **Investments**

Investments are stated at the market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year.

#### **2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Fundraising events - branches	<b><u>27,881</u></b>	<u>27,238</u>

#### **3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	<b><u>145</u></b>	<u>1,346</u>
	<b><u>145</u></b>	<u>1,346</u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 4. RAISING FUNDS

##### Investment management costs

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>7,710</u>	<u>11,682</u>

#### 5. SUPPORT COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Staff cost	70,554	79,003
Office equipment cost	3,810	3,231
Insurance	4,721	4,234
Light and heat	6,504	6,199
Telephone	2,660	2,772
Postage and stationery	3,761	3,207
Sundries	-	264
Computer expenses	5,032	4,094
Premises expenses	11,362	3,119
Subscriptions	692	63
Cleaning	3,675	4,625
Depreciation	11,957	11,023
Trustees expenses	83	-
Accountancy fees	3,540	2,038
Legal fees	2,310	1,673
	<u>130,661</u>	<u>125,545</u>

Support costs have been apportioned against the activities of the charity in a manner consistent with the use of those resources. The split of support costs by activity has been set out above.

#### 6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	11,957	11,023
Other operating leases	3,810	3,231
Amounts payable to independent examiner	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

##### Trustees' expenses

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>83</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 8. STAFF COSTS

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<b>263,822</b>	263,129
Social security	<b>23,001</b>	23,461
Pension contributions	<b>31,292</b>	29,480
	<u>318,115</u>	<u>316,070</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
Service delivery and outreach	<b>8</b>	8
Administration	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

No trustee received any remuneration in either year.

Included in the Insurance is the cost of trustee insurance.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

#### **9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £	Fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2023	<b>581,083</b>	<b>30,895</b>	<b>50,469</b>	<b>662,447</b>
Additions	-	-	946	946
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<b><u>581,083</u></b>	<b><u>30,895</u></b>	<b><u>51,415</u></b>	<b><u>663,393</u></b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2023	<b>169,240</b>	<b>30,895</b>	<b>46,613</b>	<b>246,748</b>
Charge for year	<b>10,455</b>	-	<b>1,502</b>	<b>11,957</b>
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<b><u>79,695</u></b>	<b><u>30,895</u></b>	<b><u>48,115</u></b>	<b><u>258,705</u></b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2024	<b><u>401,388</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>	<b><u>404,688</u></b>
At 31 March 2023	<b><u>411,843</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>3,856</u></b>	<b><u>415,699</u></b>

Freehold land and buildings includes an amount of £58,333 being the attributed cost of land at the Association's head office. This valuation was determined by the Trustees in 2000. Land is not depreciated.

#### **10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Shares	<b><u>1,977,434</u></b>	<b><u>2,145,822</u></b>
: Additional information as follows		Listed investments
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>		£
At 1 April 2023		<b>2,145,822</b>
Disposals		<b>(225,000)</b>
Fees		<b>(7,710)</b>
Revaluations		<b><u>64,322</u></b>
At 31 March 2024		<b><u>1,977,434</u></b>
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>		
At 31 March 2023		<b><u>2,145,822</u></b>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### **10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

There were no investment assets outside the UK.  
Fixed assets at historic cost as at 31st March 2024 were £1,521,088 (2023: £1,730,000)

#### **11. STOCKS**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Stocks	<u>2,153</u>	<u>2,685</u>

#### **12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Other debtors	-	690
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>858</u>	<u>927</u>
	<u>858</u>	<u>1,617</u>

#### **13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Trade creditors	<u>2,827</u>	2,616
Accruals and deferred income	<u>5,805</u>	<u>6,521</u>
	<u>8,632</u>	<u>9,137</u>

#### **14. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	£	£
Within one year	<u>3,634</u>	3,634
Between one and five years	<u>2,387</u>	5,864
In more than five years	-	-
	<u>6,021</u>	<u>9,498</u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Movement in funds £	Transfer £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	407,000	(239,819)	399,819	567,000
Designated funds	1,816,488	-	(400,765)	1,415,723
<b>Restricted funds</b>	3,557	27,785	-	31,343
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	415,699	(11,957)	946	404,688
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,642,745</u>	<u>(223,991)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,418,754</u>

The transfer in the year relates to the pension fund liability as at the beginning of the year.

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	108,371	(411,512)	63,322	(239,819)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	56,158	(28,373)	-	27,785
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	-	(11,957)	-	(11,957)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>164,529</u>	<u>(451,842)</u>	<u>63,322</u>	<u>(223,991)</u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### 15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

#### Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Movement in funds £	Transfer £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	2,589,240	(194,751)	(1,987,488)	407,000
Designated funds	-	-	1,816,488	1,816,488
<b>Restricted funds</b>	23,428	(19,871)	-	3,557
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	314,154	(69,455)	171,000	415,699
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,926,822</u>	<u>(284,077)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,642,745</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources Movement expended £	losses £	Gains and in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	246,906	(356,614)	(85,043)	(194,751)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	25,335	(45,206)	-	(19,871)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	1,173	(67,527)	(3,100)	(69,455)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>273,414</u>	<u>(469,347)</u>	<u>(88,143)</u>	<u>(284,077)</u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### 16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The charity operates a non-contributory defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new employees in October 2005.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2023. The results have been projected to 31st March 2024 and then recalculated using a number of assumptions detailed below.

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.24</b>	<b>31.3.23</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Present value of funded obligations	<b>(1,463)</b>	<b>(1,434)</b>
Fair value of plan assets	<b><u>1,433</u></b>	<b><u>1,401</u></b>
	<b>(30)</b>	<b>(33)</b>
Present value of unfunded obligations	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
Deficit	<b><u>(30)</u></b>	<b><u>(33)</u></b>
Net liability	<b><u>(30)</u></b>	<b><u>(33)</u></b>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.24</b>	<b>31.3.23</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Current service cost	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>48</u></b>
	<b><u>8</u></b>	<b><u>56</u></b>
Actuarial loss/(gain)	<b><u>50</u></b>	<b><u>(381)</u></b>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	1,434	1,758
Current service cost	6	8
Contributions by participants	1	1
Interest cost	67	48
Actuarial losses/(gains)	50	(306)
Benefits paid	<u>(95)</u>	<u>(75)</u>
	<u><u>1,463</u></u>	<u><u>1,434</u></u>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	1,401	1,587
Interest income on assets	65	43
Remeasurement gains/(losses) on assets	57	(159)
Contributions by employer	4	4
Contributions by employee	1	-
Contributions by scheme participants		1
Benefits paid	<u>(95)</u>	<u>(75)</u>
	<u><u>1,433</u></u>	<u><u>1,401</u></u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
Equities	61%	75%
Government bonds	31%	17%
Property	7%	7%
Cash	1%	1%
	<u><u>100.00%</u></u>	<u><u>100.00%</u></u>

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### 16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	<b>31.3.24</b>	31.3.23
Discount rate	<b>4.80%</b>	4.80%
Future salary increases	<b>3.80%</b>	3.70%
Future pension increases	<b>2.80%</b>	2.70%

### 17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### 18. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1.04.23	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	31.03.24
	£	£	£	£	£
Smart Device Workshop	-	5,000		-	5,000
Portchester Club	355	-	-	-	355
WAG's National Lottery Grant		19,984	-	-	19,984
Early Years Funding	1,124	5,693	(1,967)	-	4,850
WAG Group	977		(977)	-	-
HUB Funding	1,101	25,481	(25,428)	-	1,154
	<u>3,557</u>	<u>56,158</u>	<u>(28,372)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,343</u>

Smart Device Workshop funding to teach visually impaired adults to effectively utilise apps on their smart devices within their home and everyday life.

Portchester Club donation is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health awareness in schools for twelve months.

WAG's National Lottery Grant is a 12-month funded project by the National Lottery to allow six peer support working-age groups to meet once a month at different locations across the County.

Early Years Funding supports visually impaired children aged 0-4 years and their families.

WAG Group is a 12-month funded project by the National Lottery to allow six peer support working-age groups to meet once a month at different locations across the County.

HUB Funding is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery to allow Information Sight Loss Hubs to be available once a month at ten different locations across the County of Hampshire.

## **HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

### **19. SHARE CAPITAL**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The accounts do not therefore include a reconciliation of movements in shareholders funds.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1055498

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03178631 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1055498

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023  
FOR  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Open Sight Hampshire (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a small independent charity that is making a difference to the lives of thousands of visually impaired people in Hampshire every year.

Our Mission is to provide a lifetime of support to visually impaired people of all ages and deliver expertise in every aspect of sight loss.

Our Vision is to be able to offer a full range of practical and emotional support throughout the County, including a unique home-based tailored service, giving our clients the confidence to be independent and maintain this throughout their life.

In this our Centenary year, Open Sight Hampshire has provided 100 years of uninterrupted support to the blind and partially sighted community of Hampshire (including the Cities of Southampton and Portsmouth) and has a reputation for making a difference through the delivery of high-quality services and social support for people of all ages.

"Thank you so much. You really listened to me and gave me the support that I needed!"  
(A client of Open Sight Hampshire)

**OUR SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

Last year was an especially important year for Open Sight as it marked our Centenary, and during the year we organised a series of events to celebrate this great milestone which was shared with our clients, volunteers, staff, and supporters. The kick-off event was on the charity's birthday, 3rd February 2022, and a virtual "Raise a Glass" session was held and attended by over 100 people along with the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire and the Mayor of Eastleigh. In June a larger outdoor event was held at Marwell Hall & Zoo attended by over 150 people. In parallel with these events, Open Sight sponsored a series of 1920's-themed Tea Parties at 17 of our Social Clubs and Working Age Groups with over 350 clients and volunteers attending.

The Centenary celebration grand finale was the charity's much-enjoyed exhibition normally held every two years, but which had been postponed due to COVID-19 lockdowns - Eye Contact 2022. In this Centenary year it was held at the prestigious venue of St. Mary's Stadium Southampton (home to Southampton Football Club) on the 28th of September. Some 400 visitors attended this fabulous Expo, and it was a fantastic way to round off 6 months of Centenary celebrations.

However, the best was yet to come, a much hoped for but still unexpected "Royal Visitor" to the charity took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 when the Countess of Wessex (now Countess of Edinburgh) took time out to recognise the great work of the charity and visited our head office in Bishopstoke. It was a truly lovely day and such a great way to acknowledge the charity's Centenary Year and the hard work and passion of the staff.

"Thank you for hosting Her Royal Highness on the day and for giving her an insight into the ways you support people in the community. What you do is inspiring, and you should be so proud".

(APS to HRH Countess of Wessex)

The Board reviewed the charity's strategy in autumn of 2021 and considered the charity's learnings from the various COVID-19 lockdowns and reassessed what services were now required by our clients and, very importantly, how clients wanted them delivered. The time was right to consider these learnings and "Build Back Better" and make some appropriate adjustments to the charity's strategy. The key decisions were to extend the implementation of our strategy out to 2024 and to amend it so that the adaptations and innovations in services made during lockdown would continue using a hybrid model of both face-to-face and virtual services.

The way Open Sight Hampshire delivers its services continues to adapt and change exceptionally well largely as a direct result of the COVID-19 lockdowns. Over this strange time the use of technology became very prominent for us all and it drove the use of such technology, somewhat out of necessity, if we wanted to talk to friends and family, or indeed access services or virtual groups and clubs. Despite this technology being already available for some time, video calling has become part of our daily lives along with remote working.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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Such assistive technology and how we use it is something that Open Sight Hampshire has embraced going forward and we have harnessed it to deliver some of our existing and planned new services.

To that end the charity continues to deliver a series of successful and wellbeing-focused virtual services such as, Blind Baking sessions, a virtual monthly Book Club, a series of "Quizzy Quizzes" and virtual individual and group-based Smart Tech sessions. These wellbeing activities are having positive outcomes on our clients in terms of improved participation and engagement, reduced isolation, and increased resilience, culminating in improved mental health and wellbeing.

The development and enhancement of the charity's online shop, which was underway pre-pandemic, continues to see increases in online sales particularly for the charity's in-house developed social distancing lanyards as well as items such as bump-ons (small, coloured plastic dots), liquid level indicators and other independent living aids.

The Early Years Children (0-4 years) project which started last financial year has grown in momentum and numbers since January 2022 and is delivering significant benefit to these young children and their parents. Two new projects commenced in April 2022; the first being pop-up Sight Hubs at 10 locations per month across the County supporting the charity's aims to be present in the community – this is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery Reaching Communities fund; the second is funded by the National Lottery's Awards for All Fund and supports our six Working Age Groups to meet monthly again across the County.

The Board of Open Sight are enormously proud of all the staff and the great services they continue to deliver along with the great outcomes that are being achieved for our visually impaired clients and that the charity is still making a difference to their lives.

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for all the wonderful work you do and bringing lots of fun and laughter into our lives"  
(User of our Working Age Group service)

**Key Facts about Sight Loss in Hampshire**

In Hampshire there are an estimated 55,100 people (50,600 in 2019) affected by some form of sight loss and 83% of these are over the age of 64 (RNIB 2022). The estimated prevalence of sight loss is higher in Hampshire compared to the average for England, with 3.9% of the population living with sight loss, compared to 3.3% nationally. Of the 55,100 figure, some 47,600 people are living with partial sight and some 7,520 are living with severe sight loss; 7,565 people are registered as blind or partially sighted and have a Certificate of Vision Impairment.

A Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) certifies a person as either sight impaired (partially sighted) or severely sight impaired (blind). The purpose of the CVI is to provide a formal referral route for someone with sight loss to social care services. Some 449 new Certificates of Vision Impairment were recorded in Hampshire during 2020/21 (RNIB 2022).

There are an estimated 570 children and young people aged 0-17 living with sight loss in Hampshire and some 304 pupils with a statement of special educational needs (SEN) or education, health and care (EHC) plans where vision impairment is their primary support need, with some 60% being of primary school age.

It is believed that sadly less than 50% of local authorities in England commission a fully compliant vision screening service for children, even though the UK national screening committee recommends that all local authorities should provide vision screening in schools at age four to five. Many children and parents will be unaware of their visual problems, and some conditions such as squint and lazy eye can be corrected up to the age of eight if diagnosed early enough.

In terms of working-age people, there are some 9,110 people in Hampshire living with sight loss. Nationally, some 75% of working age visually impaired people do not work (RNIB 2022).

Age is also a significant factor in sight loss and of Hampshire's population of 1,389,206, some 22% of the population are over 65 (higher than the national average) and with the numbers of older aged people in the County set to rise, Open Sight expect the number of people using our services to increase accordingly (RNIB 2022)

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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Many causes of sight loss continue to affect the population of Hampshire including congenital sight loss, hereditary conditions like Leber's Syndrome and diseases such as glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetes, retinopathy, cataracts, retinal detachment, cortical visual impairment as well as infection and trauma. Typically, one in three people who have sight loss also have another disability which broadly speaking is either a physical disability or hearing impairment. Sight loss can be linked to poor health and other health conditions, so for example, smoking can double the risk of AMD and obesity increases the risk of developing diabetes which can cause sight loss.

By 2030 the number of people in Hampshire living with some form of sight loss is estimated to rise to 68,000, an increase of 23% from 2022 (RNIB 2022). National statistics also indicate that one in every five people will start to live with sight loss in their lifetime, and, every day some 250 people start to lose their sight.

Annually, Open Sight Hampshire helps over 3,500 people with information, advice and guidance and via the interventions of our services; this fiscal year Open Sight Hampshire handled some 1658 referrals to our services of which a large proportion accessed our Independent Living Service and Equipment Service. Our CRM system indicated that in terms of outcomes achieved for those clients who accessed our services, over 50% had increased wellbeing as a result, 20% felt better integrated into their local community, 20% made better use of their residual sight and 20% of cases indicated that their families were also supported.

"Thank you so much for your expertise and time. I am so very grateful."  
(Independent Living Team client)

With the numbers of visually impaired set to rise significantly, the growing magnitude of the charity's challenge going forward is clear to see.

**The Needs of Our Clients**

Our clients have a visual impairment which is a significant functional loss of vision. Losing your sight is a life-changing event for many. Those with mild sight loss can read larger characters, identify shapes, colours, and brightness contrasts. Those with moderate sight loss can tell shapes and colours of objects and distinguish between brightness and darkness but can only read characters of larger size and broader strokes. Those with severe sight loss can only distinguish more obvious changes in brightness and darkness and may not see anything.

Adults who become visually impaired often go through a grieving process, they may have lost their driving licence or job, become dependent on others, and will need to learn new ways of performing everyday activities. Older people with sight loss are almost three times more likely to experience depression.

A visual impairment can potentially impact on a child's social, motor, language, and cognitive development (estimated 550 children affected aged 0-16 in Hampshire). They may be socially isolated and have low self-esteem and need to be taught new skills and adaptive techniques to be able to move around safely, to become independent, to learn, to play and socialise.

People that have lost their sight need specialist help to access the right support and learn new ways of performing everyday activities with what vision they now have. They need information about assistive technology, services and other organisations that can help them. They need assistance with applying for disability benefits, for DWP schemes to help to return to work or stay employed and assistance to apply for equipment grants. Equally as important, they need emotional support to rebuild their lives from people who understand their "lived" experience and situation.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
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**Fundraising**

Open Sight Hampshire's fundraising policy works within professional and ethical standards set by the Fundraising Regulator and Code of Fundraising Practice with whom Open Sight Hampshire are registered. The fundraising strategy is reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees on a regular basis, and it aims to continue to raise the profile of the charity and extend our donor base and income from this source. The fundraising strategy includes making applications to grant-making organisations and Trusts upon which the charity now puts greater reliance because of recruiting a very experienced fundraiser. The charity adheres to the Fundraising Promise as well as to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

The charity continues to benefit from legacies and in-memoriam donations which form a key part of its income. In response to this the charity is moving towards a multi-strand approach to reduce the risk of reliance on single funding streams. Our local clubs and branches continue to raise funds to cover their running costs where this matches the charity's strategic plan and aims. There were no complaints received by the charity about our fundraising activity over the year.

**Environmental Factors**

Open Sight continues to minimise its impact on the environment by actively considering the effect of the charity's activities, events, services and work including an office recycling programme and efficient business travel.

**Staffing**

Wherever it is necessary staff and volunteers receive or attend training events and conferences in line with the organisation's work and professional service. Open Sight Hampshire ensures that our volunteers are included in the overall learning organisation processes through induction and vision awareness courses. Staff support forms a key part in maintaining the skills and professional development of all staff and volunteers.

**Volunteer Management**

Open Sight Hampshire continues to attract new volunteers to support the local club networks maintaining around 250+ volunteers which the Direct Services staff team manages and supports daily throughout the year. These volunteers are crucial to the success for the local club network and provide support to Head Office in a number of roles. Where appropriate, volunteers are required to undergo basic DBS vetting in accordance with current legislative requirements.

**The difference Open Sight Hampshire makes to people's lives**

The charity worked extremely hard over the last year to continue to reach out and make a difference across the County despite the various challenges of the new "normal" as the nation exited lockdown. Many of the examples of this magnificent work and the difference the charity made over the last year can be found on our "Making a Difference Board" on our web site: [www.opensight.org.uk/makingadifference](http://www.opensight.org.uk/makingadifference).

"Cheered me up a great deal, no longer lonely though living alone, restored my confidence"  
(User of the Independent Living Advisor service)

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Plans for the Future**

Open Sight Hampshire's 5-year strategy, which after the Board's review in the Autumn of 2021 has been extended to cover the period to 2024, is to continue to raise the profile of the charity and increase our reach and impact across the County. The charity plans to continue creating a seamless service pathway for people of all ages expanding our services to reach a greater number of people with a visual impairment as well as their families and carers.

Open Sight Hampshire will remain focused on eye health and awareness, delivering education through sight awareness talks to schools and external groups underpinning the 'eat healthy' and 'exercise regularly' to prevent sight loss and reduce the numbers of those at risk of sight loss. The strategy will be achieved through collaboration with other service providers for service delivery, signposting, and referral.

Open Sight Hampshire will provide a "lifetime of support and pathways to independence" to visually impaired people of all ages and achieve high impact outcomes around greater independence, greater confidence, and self-management of their visual impairment, reduced social isolation, increased self-esteem and community engagement and improved mental, physical and emotional wellbeing leading to a better quality of life.

The charity is very keen to continue to innovate and be creative with our services, and to learn and adapt our services from client feedback and how we deliver them. The delivery of our services has already changed to be more blended face-to-face and remote in nature and this is largely because of the environment we found ourselves in during the COVID-19 lockdown period and more recent client feedback.

David McKeigue has decided to step down as CEO in June 2023. Over the past 7 years David has been an instrumental part of Open Sight and has led the charity with passion and dedication, particularly around the challenges we experienced during the pandemic. With drive and commitment, he led the realisation of the Loperwood legacy, ensuring the charities financial stability and continued service well beyond its centenary year. The impact of David's leadership will leave the charity in a strong position to create a sustainable long-term future.

On behalf of the board, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for everything David has done during his tenure to support the visually impaired across the county.

The board of trustees are actively recruiting and are confident that they will secure a suitable successor who can build on the strategy, uphold the values and lead on the changes to further support the VI community across Hampshire.

The Trustees thank the charity's team of resolute and hardworking staff and the loyal and enthusiastic volunteers for making last year a successful one and for helping the charity celebrate its Centenary milestone in such a wonderful way and share this momentous occasion with our clients.

"You haven't made my day coming today, you have made my year!"  
(User of our Independent Living Service)

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 10 and shows a deficit of £283,577 (2022 a surplus of £148,687). There is a deficit before gains and losses on investments of £195,435 (deficit of £175,193 in 2022). The charity however is still reliant on legacies for its income but is working towards increasing its income streams including grants from Trusts and Foundations.

The charity holds fixed assets and investments of £2.6m but also has a provision for its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme liability. Although it is uncertain of timing and amount, the actuaries estimate the liability to be £33k. The Trustees are mindful of this liability and maximise the use of the charity assets to generate investment income. At 31 March 2023 the amount of total funds not held in restricted funds was £2,637,429.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Investment policy and returns**

During the year ended 31 March 2023 the value of investments fell £226k. In August 2022 the Fiske Investments account was closed and funds returned to the unrestricted fund. The Board takes a long-term view on investments but continues to review the investments managed by its second fund manager Featherstone regularly, who monitor two investment accounts for the charity on behalf of the Trustees.

The Trustees apply a strong ethical perspective and do not invest in products or services that may impinge upon sight loss. This includes tobacco products which are specifically proven to cause sight loss conditions.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. We maintain a Risk Register, which is reviewed regularly at Board meetings. Mitigation plans are in place to reduce risks identified as far as possible.

**Reserves policy**

Free reserves are funds that are readily realisable and exclude funds whose use is restricted or designated for a particular purpose. It also excludes funds invested in fixed assets utilised in the day to day running of the charity.

During 2023 the Trustees reviewed the appropriate level of free reserves needed by the charity and agreed a level of £407,000, representing approximately 12 months of running costs for the charity. Additionally, the Trustees set aside a further £1,816,488 from unrestricted funds as designated reserves to ensure the charity would be able to cover its indirect costs for the next four years (£1,228,000). This was felt necessary due to the volatile nature of legacy income and inconsistent nature of other income streams, thus securing its medium term existence. Additionally it will set aside £588,488 to be used to ensure the charity can expand its core services and improve its reach within the communities it supports. This will be achieved by investing in its people, its IT and capital infrastructure, on-line and in-person delivery of services.

At 31st March 2023 the charity had free reserves of £407,000 (2022: £2,650,131). The Trustees are confident that the charity has a sound financial footing for the future.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

"Open Sight" (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 27 March 1996, replacing a previous charity that had been established in 1922. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The members of the charitable company are those members of the public who have been admitted to membership by the Board of the charitable company.

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)**

The system of internal control is designed to provide reasonable assurance against risk and includes:

- A strategic business plan for the period 2017-2024 and an annual budget approved by the Trustees;
- Regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, including variance from budgets, and non-financial performance indicators;
- Formal delegation of authority and segregation of duties which are reviewed annually;
- Identification and management of risks with a risk management process and the keeping of a risk register used as an integral part of all development and management strategies to seek and identify, prioritise and reduce risk;
- A Financial Procedures Manual, which covers risk assessment and control procedures and the charity's reserve policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated;
- Regular internal audit of branch accounts and supervision of local volunteer staff and treasurers;
- Agreeing Terms of Reference and parameters for all sub committees and groups, keeping them under constant review
- Regularly reviewing all policies and procedures as part of risk assessment and strategic plan processes;
- Regular review and consideration given to Data Protection and GDPR compliance;
- Regular consideration of the risks associated with fluctuation market values for reserve investment portfolios and monitoring levels of voluntary giving, share values and property prices, as these impact upon income levels.

**Public Benefit**

In reviewing and undertaking assessment of activities and services the Trustees continue to ensure that these meet the public benefit requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and consider that the activities detailed above are for the benefit of the public.

Equality and Diversity continues to be at the heart of the charity and is taken into account in all that we do.

**RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES**

The Trustees actively look to recruit new Trustees with specialist skills to support the running of the charity. The search committee continue to seek new Trustees with the required skill set and diversity to enhance the existing Board of Trustees.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**  
03178631 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**  
1055498

**Registered office**  
25 Church Road  
Bishopstoke, Eastleigh  
Hampshire, SO50 6BL

**Trustees**

S Walker      Chairman  
T G Howell    Treasurer and Company Secretary  
Dr J Brooks – appointed 30 November 2022  
Dr R Drabu  
H Hamblen  
M. Hildyard  
P Melville-Brown – appointed 6 March 2023; resigned 8 November 2023  
Dr V Robins – appointed 19 June 2023  
Dr C.B.V Schulz  
L.Simpson

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

Morris Crocker Ltd  
Station House  
North Street  
Havant PO9 1QU

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

**Solicitors**

Blake Morgan  
New Kings Court  
Tollgate  
Chandler's Ford  
Eastleigh, SO53 3LG

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

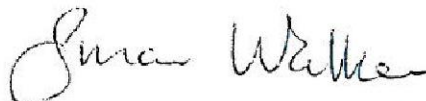
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 1/12/23..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Mrs S Walker - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind ('the Company')**  
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCA which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Morris Crocker Ltd  
Station House  
North Street  
Havant PO9 1QU  
Date: .....

11 December 2023

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies		199,352	25,335	-	224,687	207,364
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		20,143	-	-	20,143	19,056
Other trading activities	2	27,238	-	-	27,238	21,536
Investment income	3	173	-	1,173	1,346	5,606
<b>Total</b>		<b>246,906</b>	<b>25,335</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>273,414</b>	<b>253,562</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	4	41,770	-	150	41,920	23,029
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		314,844	45,206	67,377	427,427	405,726
<b>Total</b>		<b>356,614</b>	<b>45,206</b>	<b>67,527</b>	<b>469,347</b>	<b>428,755</b>
Net (loss)/gains on investments		(85,043)	-	(3,100)	(88,143)	323,880
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE)/ INCOME</b>		<b>(194,751)</b>	<b>(19,871)</b>	<b>(69,455)</b>	<b>(284,077)</b>	<b>148,687</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		2,589,240	23,428	314,154	2,926,822	2,778,135
Transfer		(171,000)	-	171,000	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>2,223,489</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>415,699</b>	<b>2,642,745</b>	<b>2,926,822</b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	9	-	-	415,699	415,699	424,263
Investments	10	<u>2,145,822</u>	-	-	<u>2,145,822</u>	<u>2,608,806</u>
		<u>2,145,822</u>	-	<u>415,699</u>	<u>2,561,520</u>	<u>3,033,069</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stocks	11	2,685	-	-	2,685	5,345
Debtors	12	1,617	-	-	1,617	18,886
Cash at bank		<u>115,501</u>	<u>3,557</u>	-	<u>119,059</u>	<u>50,157</u>
		<u>119,804</u>	<u>3,557</u>	-	<u>123,362</u>	<u>74,388</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(9,137)</u>	-	-	<u>(9,137)</u>	<u>(9,635)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>110,667</u>	<u>3,557</u>	-	<u>114,225</u>	<u>64,753</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>2,256,489</u>	<u>3,557</u>	<u>415,699</u>	<u>2,676,745</u>	<u>3,097,822</u>
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>	16	<u>(33,000)</u>	-	-	<u>(33,000)</u>	<u>(171,000)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>2,223,489</u>	<u>3,557</u>	<u>415,699</u>	<u>2,642,745</u>	<u>2,926,822</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>						
Unrestricted funds	15				407,000	2,589,240
Unrestricted -Designated funds					1,816,489	-
Restricted funds			3,557		3,557	23,428
Endowment funds				415,699	415,699	314,154
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<u>2,642,745</u>	<u>2,926,822</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

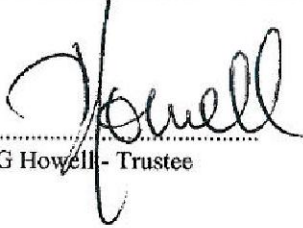
**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued**  
**31 MARCH 2023**

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These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... 1/12/23 .....  
and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
T G Howell - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees believe the charity has sufficient cash reserves to utilise during the current Covid-19 situation. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies, grants and trust fund income are accounted for as incoming resources once the receipt of the income becomes reasonably certain and quantifiable.

Income from charitable activities includes sale of goods and income from shows.

Other trading income is income from fundraising events held by the branches of the charity.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes in the form of listed investments and cash.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

**Governance costs**

These represent costs incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**Support costs**

Support costs represent the costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Tangible fixed assets**

Computer equipment - 25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £100 are capitalised and included at cost.

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Expendable endowment funds are capital funds retained for the benefit of the charity, but can be converted to income at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Financial instruments**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pensions**

The Trustees operate a defined benefit and a defined charitable company contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charitable company.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Pensions**

For the defined benefit scheme a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

For the defined contribution scheme the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represent the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at the market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fundraising events - branches	<u>27,238</u>	<u>21,536</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	<u>1,346</u>	<u>5,606</u>
	<u>1,346</u>	<u>5,606</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

Investment management costs	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>11,682</u>	<u>468</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Staff cost	79,003	71,916
Office equipment cost	3,231	5,026
Insurance	4,234	4,378
Light and heat	6,199	5,742
Telephone	2,772	2,428
Postage and stationery	3,207	4,158
Sundries	264	792
Computer expenses	4,094	5,419
Premises expenses	3,119	4,614
Subscriptions	63	633
Cleaning	4,625	4,655
Depreciation	11,023	11,110
Trustees expenses	-	45
Accountancy fees	2,038	4,920
Legal fees	1,673	2,855
	<u>125,545</u>	<u>128,691</u>

Support costs have been apportioned against the activities of the charity in a manner consistent with the use of those resources. The split of support costs by activity has been set out above.

**6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	11,023	11,110
Other operating leases	3,231	5,026
Amounts payable to independent examiner	<u>1,200</u>	<u>4,920</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Pensions**

For the defined benefit scheme a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

For the defined contribution scheme the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represent the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at the market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fundraising events - branches	<u>27,238</u>	<u>21,536</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	<u>1,346</u>	<u>5,606</u>
	<u>1,346</u>	<u>5,606</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>45</u>

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	263,129	253,740
Social security	23,461	20,602
Pension contributions	29,480	17,116
	<u>316,070</u>	<u>291,458</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Service delivery and outreach	8	8
Administration	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

No trustee received any remuneration in either year.

Included in the Insurance is the cost of trustee insurance.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2022	581,083	30,895	55,825	667,803
Additions	-	-	2,459	2,459
Disposals	-	-	(7,815)	(7,815)
At 31 March 2023	<u>581,083</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>50,469</u>	<u>662,447</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2022	158,785	30,895	53,860	243,540
Charge for year	10,455	-	568	11,023
Disposals	-	-	(7,815)	(7,815)
At 31 March 2023	<u>169,240</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>46,613</u>	<u>246,748</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2023	<u>411,843</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,856</u>	<u>415,699</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>422,298</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,965</u>	<u>424,263</u>

Freehold land and buildings includes an amount of £58,333 being the attributed cost of land at the Association's head office. This valuation was determined by the Trustees in 2000. Land is not depreciated.

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Shares	2,145,822	2,599,857
Cash investments	-	8,949
	<u>2,145,822</u>	<u>2,608,806</u>

Additional information as follows:

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2022	2,599,857
Additions	10,122
Disposals	(238,014)
Revaluations	<u>(226,143)</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>2,145,822</u>
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,599,857</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Fixed assets at historic cost as at 31st March 2023 were £1,730,000 (2022: £2,211,938)

Investments (neither listed nor unlisted) were as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Cash account	<u>-</u>	<u>8,949</u>

**11. STOCKS**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Stocks	<u>2,685</u>	<u>5,345</u>

**12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other debtors	690	1,150
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>927</u>	<u>17,736</u>
	<u>1,617</u>	<u>18,886</u>

**13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,616	4,271
Accruals and deferred income	<u>6,521</u>	<u>5,364</u>
	<u>9,137</u>	<u>9,635</u>

**14. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Within one year	3,634	538
Between one and five years	5,864	2,150
In more than five years	<u>-</u>	<u>403</u>
	<u>9,498</u>	<u>3,091</u>

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Movement in funds £	Transfer £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	2,589,240	(194,751)	(1,987,488)	407,000
Designated funds			1,816,488	1,816,488
<b>Restricted funds</b>	23,428	(19,871)		3,557
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	314,154	(69,455)	171,000	415,699
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,926,822</u>	<u>(284,077)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,642,745</u>

The transfers in the year relate to the pension fund liability as at the beginning of the year and the designated funds per the reserve policy (page 6).

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	246,906	(356,614)	(85,043)	(194,751)
<b>Restricted funds</b>	25,335	(45,206)	-	(19,871)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	1,173	(67,527)	(3,100)	(69,455)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>273,414</u>	<u>(469,347)</u>	<u>(88,143)</u>	<u>(284,077)</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,459,575	129,665	2,589,240
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	5,573	17,855	23,428
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	312,987	1,167	314,154
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,778,135</u>	<u>148,687</u>	<u>2,926,822</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	222,351	(409,427)	316,741	129,665
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	25,605	(7,750)	-	17,855
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	5,606	(11,578)	7,139	1,167
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>253,562</u>	<u>(428,755)</u>	<u>323,880</u>	<u>148,687</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity operates a non-contributory defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new employees in October 2005.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2022. The results have been projected to 31st March 2023 and then recalculated using a number of assumptions detailed below.

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£'000	£'000
Present value of funded obligations	(1,434)	(1,758)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>1,401</u>	<u>1,587</u>
	(33)	(171)
Present value of unfunded obligations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deficit	<u>(33)</u>	<u>(171)</u>
Net liability	<u>(33)</u>	<u>(171)</u>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	8	9
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<u>48</u>	<u>38</u>
	<u>56</u>	<u>47</u>
Actuarial (gain)/loss	<u>(381)</u>	<u>(158)</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.22 £'000	31.3.21 £'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	1,758	1,868
Current service cost	8	9
Contributions by employer	1	1
Interest cost	48	38
Actuarial losses/(gains)	(306)	(81)
Benefits paid	(75)	(77)
	<u>1,434</u>	<u>1,758</u>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.22 £'000	31.3.21 £'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	1,587	1,550
Interest income on assets	43	32
Remeasurement gains/(losses) on assets	(159)	77
Contributions by employer	4	4
Contributions by scheme participants	1	1
Benefits paid	(75)	(77)
	<u>1,401</u>	<u>1,587</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
Equities	<b>57.60%</b>	55.70%
Government bonds	<b>16.50%</b>	18.00%
Multi Asset Credit	-%	9.20%
Property	<b>6.8%</b>	6.90%
Cash	<b>1.1%</b>	0.90%
Other	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>9.30%</b>
	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
Discount rate	<b>4.80%</b>	2.80%
Future salary increases	<b>2.70%</b>	4.10%
Future pension increases	<b>2.70%</b>	3.10%
CPI inflation rate	<b>2.70%</b>	3.10%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	<b>3.70%</b>	3.10%

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	1.04.22 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	31.03.23 £
Eastleigh Mayor	2,159	-	(1,120)	(1,039)	-
Portchester Club	475	-	-	(120)	355
Cycling	380	-	-	(380)	-
Early Years Funding	4,399	-	(1,617)	(1,658)	1,124
This Girl Can	6,140	-	(2,841)	(3,302)	-
WAG Group	9,991	-	(1,526)	(7,488)	977
HUB Funding	(119)	25,335	(7,250)	(16,865)	1,101
	<u>23,428</u>	<u>25,335</u>	<u>(14,354)</u>	<u>(30,852)</u>	<u>3,557</u>

Eastleigh Mayor represents funds received from Eastleigh Mayor which must be used to benefit anywhere in the Eastleigh borough.

Portchester Club donation is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health awareness in schools for twelve months.

Cycling sponsorship is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health in schools for twelve months.

Early Years Funding supports visually impaired children aged 0-4 years and their families.

This Girl Can is a project funded by Sports England for visually impaired women to try different types of exercise with their peers with a view to improving wellbeing and resilience.

WAG Group is a 12-month funded project by the National Lottery to allow six peer support working-age groups to meet once a month at different locations across the County.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS - continued**

HUB Funding is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery to allow Information Sight Loss Hubs to be available once a month at ten different locations across the County of Hampshire.

**19. SHARE CAPITAL**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The accounts do not therefore include a reconciliation of movements in shareholders funds

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1055498

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03178631 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1055498

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022  
FOR  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND

Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Open Sight Hampshire (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a small independent charity that is making a difference to the lives of thousands of visually impaired people in Hampshire every year.

Our Mission is to provide a lifetime of support to visually impaired people of all ages and deliver expertise in every aspect of sight loss.

Our Vision is to be able to offer a full range of practical and emotional support throughout the County, including a unique home-based tailored service, giving our clients the confidence to be independent and maintain this throughout their life.

In this our Centenary year, Open Sight Hampshire has provided 100 years of uninterrupted support to the blind and partially sighted community of Hampshire (including the Cities of Southampton and Portsmouth) and has a reputation for making a difference through the delivery of high-quality services and social support for people of all ages.

"Thank you so much. You really listened to me and gave me the support that I needed!"

(A client of Open Sight Hampshire)

**OUR SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Post COVID-19 lockdown - the "new normal" world**

In last year's annual report, the charity reported on how we were all taken by surprise when an epidemic became a pandemic and lockdown was very quickly imposed in the UK in mid-March 2020. In a reactive response, Open Sight Hampshire had to immediately suspend all our face-to-face services, close our office to routine client appointments and instruct our staff to work from home in line with Government guidance.

In contrast, as the charity entered this new fiscal year, lockdown was pretty much over around July 2021 and the nation entered a "new normal" working environment. The charity re-focused on fully opening up our services, and by the Summer of 2021 the charity had reopened many of our face-to-face services including home visits for Low Vision Assessments and Benefits Support, appointments restarted in our resource centre based in our Bishopstoke office, there were three Information Days planned around the County (Fareham, New Milton and Winchester) for later in the financial year, and, our pop-up Sight Information Advice Hubs at 10 locations across the County had also restarted. The Open Sight Clubs and Working Age Groups started meeting again face-to-face from 1st September 2021 onwards and this we know was welcomed by many of our clients who were desperate to meet up again in-person.

A Board review of the charity's strategy in autumn 2021 considered the charity's learnings from the lockdowns and a reassessment of what services were now required by our clients and, very importantly, how clients wanted them delivered. The time was right to consider these learnings and "Build Back Better" and make some appropriate adjustments to the charity's strategy. The key decisions were to extend the implementation of our strategy out to 2024 and to amend it so that the adaptations and innovations in services made during lockdown would continue using a hybrid model of both face-to-face and virtual services.

The way Open Sight Hampshire delivers its services is changing and this is largely because of the environment we found ourselves in during the COVID-19 lockdown period. Over this strange time the use of technology became very prominent for us all and it drove the use of such technology, somewhat out of necessity, if we wanted to talk to friends and family, or indeed access services or virtual groups and clubs. Despite this technology being already available for some time, video calling has become part of our daily lives along with "working from home". Such assistive technology and how we use it is something that Open Sight Hampshire has embraced going forward and we have harnessed it to deliver some of our existing and planned new services.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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To that end the charity continues to deliver a series of successful and wellbeing-focused virtual services such as, Blind Baking sessions, a virtual monthly Book Club, a series of "Quizzzy Quizzes" and virtual individual and group-based Smart Tech sessions. These wellbeing activities are having positive outcomes on our clients in terms of improved participation and engagement, reduced isolation, and increased resilience, culminating in improved mental health and wellbeing.

The development and enhancement of the charity's online shop, which was underway pre-pandemic, continues to see increases in online sales particularly for the charity's in-house developed social distancing lanyards as well as items such as bump-ons (small coloured plastic dots), liquid level indicators and other independent living aids. The social distancing lanyards gained fame through various radio and local TV broadcasts, and we still sell these online today albeit slightly adapted to reflect the current Government guidance and recommendations on safe spacing.

In terms of new projects, this financial year saw the charity start a new service for Early Years Children (0-4 years) and their Families which has grown in momentum and numbers from January 2022; the charity would dearly like to find continuation funding for this project. This externally funded project is delivering significant benefit to these young children and their parents. Another new and pioneering project for Open Sight involved supporting visually impaired women to get back into exercise post pandemic - this Sports England funded project called "This VI Girl Can" involves visually impaired women coming together in a safe environment and trying out new activities from dance, self-defence, and swimming to Pilates and enjoying the benefit of improved wellbeing, reduced isolation and peer support.

This year, 2022, is an especially important year for Open Sight as it marks our Centenary, and we organised a series of events to celebrate this great occasion which has been shared with our clients, volunteers, and supporters. The kick-off event was on the charity's birthday, 3rd February 2022, and a virtual "Raise a Glass" session was held and attended by over 100 people along with the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire and the Mayor of Eastleigh. In June a larger outdoor event was held at Marwell Hall & Zoo attended by over 150 people. In parallel with these events, Open Sight sponsored a series of 1920's-themed Tea Parties at 17 of our Social Clubs and Working Age Groups with over 350 clients and volunteers attending.

The Centenary celebration grand finale will be the much-enjoyed exhibition normally held every two years, but which had been postponed due to COVID-19 lockdowns - Eye Contact 2022. This Centenary year it will be held at the prestigious venue of St. Mary's Stadium Southampton (home to Southampton Football Club) on the 28th of September. It is expected that some 400 visitors will attend this fabulous Expo and it will be a fantastic way to round off some 6 months of Centenary celebrations.

The Board of Open Sight are enormously proud of all the staff and in what they achieved during this extraordinary post lockdown new world and despite various challenges they have continued to support our visually impaired clients and still be able to make a difference to their lives.

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for all the wonderful work you do and bringing lots of fun and laughter into our lives"  
(User of our Working Age Group service)

**Key Facts about Sight Loss in Hampshire**

In Hampshire there are an estimated 53,700 people (50,600 in 2019) affected by some form of sight loss and 83% of these are over the age of 64 (RNIB 2021). The estimated prevalence of sight loss is higher in Hampshire compared to the average for England, with 3.9% of the population living with sight loss, compared to 3.2% nationally. Of the 53,700 figure, some 46,400 people are living with partial sight and some 7,300 are living with blindness; 7,565 people are registered as blind or partially sighted and have a Certificate of Vision Impairment.

A Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) certifies a person as either sight impaired (partially sighted) or severely sight impaired (blind). The purpose of the CVI is to provide a formal referral route for someone with sight loss to social care services. Some 611 new Certificates of Vision Impairment were recorded in Hampshire during 2019/20 (RNIB 2021).

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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There are an estimated 790 children and young people aged 0-25 living with sight loss in Hampshire of which 70% are aged 16 and under. There are some 304 pupils with a statement of special educational needs (SEN) or education, health and care (EHC) plans where vision impairment is their primary support need, with some 60% being of primary school age.

In terms of working-age people, there are some 9,000 people in Hampshire living with sight loss. Nationally, some 75% of working age visually impaired people do not work (RNIB 2021).

Age is also a significant factor in sight loss with 20% of people over 75 living with this condition. Of Hampshire's population of 1,382,542, some 22% of the population is over 65 (higher than the national average) and with the numbers of older aged people in the County set to rise, Open Sight expect the number of people using our services to increase accordingly (RNIB 2021).

Many causes of sight loss continue to affect the population of Hampshire including congenital sight loss, hereditary conditions like Leber's Syndrome and diseases such as glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetes, retinopathy, cataracts, retinal detachment, cortical visual impairment as well as infection and trauma. Typically, one in three people who have sight loss also have another disability which broadly speaking is either a physical disability or hearing impairment.

By 2030 the number of people in Hampshire living with some form of sight loss is estimated to rise to 67,040, an increase of 25% from 2021 (RNIB 2021). National statistics also indicate that one in every five people will start to live with sight loss in their lifetime, and, every day some 250 people start to lose their sight.

Annually, Open Sight Hampshire helps over 3,000 people with information, advice and guidance and via the interventions of our services; this fiscal year Open Sight Hampshire handled some 1481 referrals to our services of which a large proportion accessed our Independent Living Service and Equipment Service. Our recently implemented CRM system indicated that in terms of outcomes achieved, over 50% of our clients had better use of their residual sight after our intervention and that the client, and or their family, left our intervention feeling better supported.

"Thank you so much for your expertise and time. I am so very grateful."

(Independent Living Team client)

With the numbers of visually impaired set to rise significantly, the growing size of our challenge going forward is clear to see.

### **The Needs of Our Clients**

Our clients have a visual impairment which is a significant functional loss of vision. Losing your sight is a life-changing event for many. Those with mild sight loss can read larger characters, identify shapes, colours and brightness contrasts. Those with moderate sight loss can tell shapes and colours of objects and distinguish between brightness and darkness but can only read characters of larger size and broader strokes. Those with severe sight loss can only distinguish more obvious changes in brightness and darkness and may not see anything.

Adults who become visually impaired often go through a grieving process, they may have lost their driving licence or job, become dependent on others, and will need to learn new ways of performing everyday activities. Older people with sight loss are almost three times more likely to experience depression.

A visual impairment can potentially impact on a child's social, motor, language and cognitive development (estimated 550 children affected aged 0-16 in Hampshire). They may be socially isolated and have low self-esteem and need to be taught new skills and adaptive techniques to be able to move around safely, to become independent, to learn, to play and socialise.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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People that have lost their sight need specialist help to access the right support and learn new ways of performing everyday activities with what vision they now have. They need information about assistive technology, services and other organisations that can help them. They need assistance with applying for disability benefits, for DWP schemes to help to return to work or stay employed and assistance to apply for equipment grants. Equally as important, they need emotional support to rebuild their lives from people who understand their "lived" experience and situation.

**Fundraising**

Open Sight Hampshire's fundraising policy works within professional and ethical standards set by the Fundraising Regulator and Code of Fundraising Practice with whom Open Sight Hampshire are registered. The fundraising strategy is reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees on a regular basis and is set within the strategic business plan. It aims to continue to raise the profile of the charity and extend our donor base; the strategy also includes making applications to grant-making organisations and Trusts. The charity adheres to the Fundraising Promise as well as to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

The charity continues to benefit from legacies and in-memoriam donations which form a key part of its income. In response to this the charity is moving towards a multi-strand approach to reduce the risk of reliance on single funding streams. Our local clubs and branches continue to raise funds to cover their running costs where this matches the charity's strategic plan and aims. There were no complaints received by the charity about our fundraising activity over the year.

**Environmental Factors**

Open Sight continues to minimise its impact on the environment by actively considering the effect of the charity's activities, events, services and work including an office recycling programme and efficient business travel.

**Staffing**

Wherever it is necessary staff and volunteers receive or attend training events and conferences in line with the organisation's work and professional service. Open Sight Hampshire ensures that our volunteers are included in the overall learning organisation processes through induction and vision awareness courses. Staff support forms a key part in maintaining the skills and professional development of all staff and volunteers.

**Volunteer Management**

Open Sight Hampshire continues to attract new volunteers to support the local club networks maintaining around 250+ volunteers which the Direct Services staff team manages and supports daily throughout the year. These volunteers are crucial to the success for the local club network and provide support to Head Office in a number of roles. Where appropriate, volunteers are required to undergo basic DBS vetting in accordance with current legislative requirements.

**The difference Open Sight Hampshire makes to people's lives**

The charity worked extremely hard over the last year to continue to reach out and make a difference across the County despite the various challenges of the new "normal" as the nation exited lockdown. Many of the examples of this magnificent work and the difference the charity made over the last year can be found on our "Making a Difference Board" on our web site: [www.opensight.org.uk/makingadifference](http://www.opensight.org.uk/makingadifference).

"Cheered me up a great deal, no longer lonely though living alone, restored my confidence"

(User of the Independent Living Advisor service)

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**Plans for the Future**

Open Sight Hampshire's 5-year strategy, which after the Board's review in the Autumn of 2021 has been extended to cover the period to 2024, is to continue to raise the profile of the charity and increase our reach and impact across the County. The charity plans to continue creating a seamless service pathway for people of all ages expanding our services to reach a greater number of people with a visual impairment as well as their families and carers.

Open Sight Hampshire will remain focused on eye health and awareness, delivering education through sight awareness talks to schools and external groups underpinning the 'eat healthy' and 'exercise regularly' to prevent sight loss and reduce the numbers of those at risk of sight loss. The strategy will be achieved through collaboration with other service providers for service delivery, signposting, and referral.

Open Sight Hampshire will provide a "lifetime of support and pathways to independence" to visually impaired people of all ages and achieve high impact outcomes around greater independence, greater confidence, and self-management of their visual impairment, reduced social isolation, increased self-esteem and community engagement and improved mental, physical and emotional wellbeing leading to a better quality of life.

The charity is very keen to continue to innovate and be creative with our services, and to learn and adapt our services from client feedback and how we deliver them. The delivery of our services has already changed to be more blended face-to-face and remote in nature and this is largely because of the environment we found ourselves in during the COVID-19 lockdown period and more recent client feedback.

The need to be out in the community, amongst our clients, will continue and our pop-up Sight and information Hubs have proved an enormous success; these will continue for the next 3 years thanks to the funding from the National Lottery. Each month, our Independent Living advisors are at 10 locations around the County, available to provide important advice and guidance and talk about independent living aids, assistive technology and smart phone apps.

Similarly, the charity is grateful to Awards for All (National Lottery) for their 12-months of funding of our Working Age Groups who meet at 6 separate locations around the County each month and allow for peer-support and wellbeing activities to take place.

The Trustees thank the charity's team of resolute and hardworking staff and the loyal and enthusiastic volunteers for making last year a successful one and for helping the charity celebrate its Centenary milestone in such a wonderful way and share this momentous occasion with our clients.

"You haven't made my day coming today, you have made my year!"

(User of our Independent Living Service)

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 10 and shows a surplus of £148,687 (2021 a surplus of £489,192). There is a deficit before gains and losses on investments of £175,193 (deficit of £245,880 in 2021). The charity however is still reliant on legacies for its income but is working towards increasing its income streams including grants from Trusts and Foundations.

The charity holds fixed assets and investments of £3,033,069 but also has a provision for its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme liability. Although it is uncertain of timing and amount, the actuaries estimate the liability to be £171,000. The Trustees are mindful of this liability and maximise the use of the charity assets to generate investment income. At 31 March 2022 the amount of total funds not held in restricted funds was £2,903,394.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**Investment policy and returns**

Yields continue to provide a percentage of income and the Investment Manager (Fiske) continues to manage the one investment account for the charity on behalf of the Trustees. The Trustees apply a strong ethical perspective and do not invest in products or services that may impinge upon sight loss. This includes tobacco products which are specifically proven to cause sight loss conditions.

The second Investment Manager is Featherstone, who were selected to manage the bulk of the receipts from a land legacy and investments follow the same policy as detailed above.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**Reserves policy**

It would be desirable to hold free reserves of £250,000 representing at least six months of expenditure. At 31st March 2022 the charity had free reserves of £2,650,131 (2021: £2,657,809). Free reserves being investments in shares plus net assets less restricted funds. The Trustees are confident that the charity has a sound financial footing for the future.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

"Open Sight" (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 27 March 1996, replacing a previous charity that had been established in 1922. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The members of the charitable company are those members of the public who have been admitted to membership by the Board of the charitable company.

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The system of internal control is designed to provide reasonable assurance against risk and includes:

- A strategic business plan for the period 2017-2024 and an annual budget approved by the Trustees;
- Regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, including variance from budgets, and non-financial performance indicators;
- Formal delegation of authority and segregation of duties which are reviewed annually;
- Identification and management of risks with a risk management process and the keeping of a risk register used as an integral part of all development and management strategies to seek and identify, prioritise and reduce risk;
- A Financial Procedures Manual, which covers risk assessment and control procedures and the charity's reserve policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated;
- Regular internal audit of branch accounts and supervision of local volunteer staff and treasurers;
- Agreeing Terms of Reference and parameters for all sub committees and groups, keeping them under constant review.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CONTINUED**

- Regularly reviewing all policies and procedures as part of risk assessment and strategic plan processes;
- Regular review and consideration given to Data Protection and GDPR compliance;
- Regular consideration of the risks associated with fluctuation market values for reserve investment portfolios and monitoring levels of voluntary giving, share values and property prices, as these impact upon income levels.

**Public Benefit**

In reviewing and undertaking assessment of activities and services the Trustees continue to ensure that these meet the public benefit requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and consider that the activities detailed above are for the benefit of the public.

Equality and Diversity continues to be at the heart of the charity and is taken into account in all that we do.

**RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES**

The Trustees actively look to recruit new Trustees with specialist skills to support the running of the charity. The search committee continue to seek new Trustees with the required skill set and diversity to enhance the existing Board of Trustees.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

03178631 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1055498

**Registered office**

25 Church Road  
Bishopstoke  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 6BL

**Trustees**

S Walker	Chairman
T G Howell	Treasurer
H Hamblen	Appointed 17 January 2022
Dr R Drabu	
Dr C.B.V Schulz	
M. Hildyard	
S. Woolford	Resigned 29 May 2022
L Simpson	Appointed 12 August 2021
A Thorburn	Resigned 4 August 2021

**Company Secretary**

Ms T G Howell

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**Solicitors**

Blake Morgan  
New Kings Court  
Tollgate  
Chandler's Ford  
Eastleigh, SO53 3LG

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

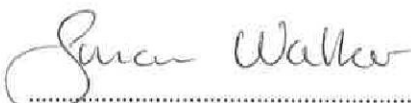
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Mrs S Walker - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCA which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Barr  
FCA  
Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

Date: 28 October 2022

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies		181,759	25,605	-	207,364	105,935
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		19,056	-	-	19,056	5,592
Other trading activities	2	21,536	-	-	21,536	16,348
Investment income	3	-	-	5,606	5,606	8,733
<b>Total</b>		<b>222,351</b>	<b>25,605</b>	<b>5,606</b>	<b>253,562</b>	<b>136,608</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	4	22,561	-	468	23,029	13,603
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
charitable		386,866	7,750	11,110	405,726	368,885
<b>Total</b>		<b>409,427</b>	<b>7,750</b>	<b>11,578</b>	<b>428,755</b>	<b>382,488</b>
Net gains on investments		316,741	-	7,139	323,880	735,072
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>129,665</b>	<b>17,855</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>148,687</b>	<b>489,192</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		2,459,575	5,573	312,987	2,778,135	2,288,943
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>2,589,240</b>	<b>23,428</b>	<b>314,154</b>	<b>2,926,822</b>	<b>2,778,135</b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	9	-	-	424,263	424,263	432,753
Investments	10	<u>2,547,915</u>	-	<u>60,891</u>	<u>2,608,806</u>	<u>2,525,266</u>
		<b>2,547,915</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>485,154</b>	<b>3,033,069</b>	<b>2,958,019</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stocks	11	5,345	-	-	5,345	5,741
Debtors	12	18,886	-	-	18,886	73,024
Cash at bank		<u>26,729</u>	<u>23,428</u>	-	<u>50,157</u>	<u>64,432</u>
		<b>50,960</b>	<b>23,428</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,388</b>	<b>143,197</b>
<b>CREDITORS</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(9,635)	-	-	(9,635)	(5,081)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u><b>41,325</b></u>	<u><b>23,428</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>64,753</b></u>	<u><b>138,116</b></u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,589,240</b>	<b>23,428</b>	<b>485,154</b>	<b>3,097,822</b>	<b>3,096,135</b>
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>	16	-	-	(171,000)	(171,000)	(318,000)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>2,589,240</b></u>	<u><b>23,428</b></u>	<u><b>314,154</b></u>	<u><b>2,926,822</b></u>	<u><b>2,778,135</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>						
Unrestricted funds	15				2,589,240	2,459,575
Restricted funds					23,428	5,573
Endowment funds					<u>314,154</u>	<u>312,987</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<u><b>2,926,822</b></u>	<u><b>2,778,135</b></u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued**  
**31 MARCH 2022**

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These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
T G Howell - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees believe the charity has sufficient cash reserves to utilise during the current Covid-19 situation. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies, grants and trust fund income are accounted for as incoming resources once the receipt of the income becomes reasonably certain and quantifiable.

Income from charitable activities includes sale of goods and income from shows.

Other trading income is income from fundraising events held by the branches of the charity.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes in the form of listed investments and cash.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

**Governance costs**

These represent costs incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**Support costs**

Support costs represent the costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Tangible fixed assets**

Computer equipment - 25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £100 are capitalised and included at cost.

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Expendable endowment funds are capital funds retained for the benefit of the charity, but can be converted to income at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Financial instruments**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pensions**

The Trustees operate a defined benefit and a defined charitable company contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charitable company.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Pensions**

For the defined benefit scheme a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

For the defined contribution scheme the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represent the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at the market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	<b>£</b>	£
Fundraising events - branches	<u><b>21,536</b></u>	<u>16,348</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	<b>£</b>	£
Other Fixed Asset Investment Income	<b>5,606</b>	8,730
Deposit account interest	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u><b>5,606</b></u>	<u>8,733</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>468</u>	<u>1,176</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Staff cost	71,916	70,256
Office equipment cost	5,026	5,659
Insurance	4,378	4,361
Light and heat	5,742	4,424
Telephone	2,428	2,000
Postage and stationery	4,158	3,460
Sundries	792	1,186
Computer expenses	5,419	13,776
Premises expenses	4,614	4,682
Subscriptions	633	856
Cleaning	4,655	3,664
Depreciation	11,110	11,658
Trustees expenses	45	113
Accountancy fees	4,920	4,740
Legal fees	2,855	2,818
	<u>128,691</u>	<u>133,653</u>

Support costs have been apportioned against the activities of the charity in a manner consistent with the use of those resources. The split of support costs by activity has been set out above.

**6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	11,110	11,658
Other operating leases	5,026	5,659
Amounts payable to independent examiner	<u>4,920</u>	<u>4,740</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

<b>Trustees' expenses</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trustees' expenses	<u><b>45</b></u>	<u><b>113</b></u>

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	253,740	244,809
Social security	20,602	19,164
Pension contributions	17,116	18,060
	<u><b>291,458</b></u>	<u><b>282,033</b></u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
Service delivery and outreach	<u><b>8</b></u>	<u><b>8</b></u>
Administration	<u><b>4</b></u>	<u><b>4</b></u>
	<u><b>12</b></u>	<u><b>12</b></u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

No trustee received any remuneration in either year. Trustees indemnity insurance of £1,047 (2021: £1,047) was paid in the year.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2021	581,083	30,895	53,205	665,183
Additions	-	-	2,620	2,620
At 31 March 2022	<u>581,083</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>55,825</u>	<u>667,803</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2021	148,330	30,895	53,205	232,430
Charge for year	10,455	-	655	11,110
At 31 March 2022	<u>158,785</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>53,860</u>	<u>243,540</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2022	<u>422,298</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,965</u>	<u>424,263</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>432,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,753</u>

Freehold land and buildings includes an amount of £58,333 being the attributed cost of land at the Association's head office. This valuation was determined by the Trustees in 2000. Land is not depreciated.

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Shares	2,599,857	2,520,765
Cash investments	8,949	4,501
	<u>2,608,806</u>	<u>2,525,266</u>

Additional information as follows:

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2021	2,520,765
Additions	572
Disposals	(82,420)
Revaluations	160,940
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,599,857</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,599,857</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,520,765</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Fixed assets at historic cost as at 31st March 2022 were £2,211,938 (2021: £2,346,588)

Investments (neither listed nor unlisted) were as follows:

	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	£	£
Cash account	<u>8,949</u>	<u>4,501</u>
<b>11. STOCKS</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	£	£
Stocks	<u>5,345</u>	<u>5,741</u>
<b>12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	£	£
Other debtors	1,150	149
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>17,736</u>	<u>72,875</u>
	<u>18,886</u>	<u>73,024</u>
<b>13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,271	341
Accruals and deferred income	<u>5,364</u>	<u>4,740</u>
	<u>9,635</u>	<u>5,081</u>
<b>14. LEASING AGREEMENTS</b>		
Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:		
	<b>31.3.22</b>	31.3.21
	£	£
Within one year	538	4,687
Between one and five years	2,150	-
In more than five years	<u>403</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,091</u>	<u>4,687</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,459,575	129,665	2,589,240
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	5,573	17,855	23,428
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	312,987	1,167	314,154
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,778,135</u>	<u>148,687</u>	<u>2,926,822</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	222,351	(409,427)	316,741	129,665
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	25,605	(7,750)	-	17,855
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	5,606	(11,578)	7,139	1,167
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>253,562</u>	<u>(428,755)</u>	<u>323,880</u>	<u>148,687</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,969,863	489,712	2,459,575
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12,388	(6,815)	5,573
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	306,692	6,295	312,987
	<u>2,288,943</u>	<u>489,192</u>	<u>2,778,135</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	127,878	(362,839)	724,673	489,712
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	-	(6,815)	-	(6,815)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	8,730	(12,834)	10,399	6,295
	<u>136,608</u>	<u>(382,488)</u>	<u>735,072</u>	<u>489,192</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,969,863	619,377	2,589,240
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12,388	11,040	23,428
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	306,692	7,462	314,154
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,288,943</u>	<u>637,879</u>	<u>2,926,822</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	350,229	(772,266)	1,041,414	619,377
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	25,605	(14,565)	-	11,040
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	14,336	(24,412)	17,538	7,462
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>390,170</u>	<u>(811,243)</u>	<u>1,058,952</u>	<u>637,879</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity operates a non-contributory defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new employees in October 2005.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2019. The results have been projected to 31st March 2022 and then recalculated using a number of assumptions detailed below.

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(1,758,000)	(1,868,000)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>1,587,000</u>	<u>1,550,000</u>
	(171,000)	(318,000)
Present value of unfunded obligations	-	-
Deficit	<u>(171,000)</u>	<u>(318,000)</u>
Net liability	<u>(171,000)</u>	<u>(318,000)</u>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Current service cost	9,000	8,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	38,000	39,000
Past service cost	-	-
	<u>47,000</u>	<u>47,000</u>
Actuarial (gain)/loss	<u>(158,000)</u>	<u>(136,000)</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening defined benefit obligation	<b>1,868,000</b>	<b>1,745,000</b>
Current service cost	<b>9,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>
Contributions by employer	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Interest cost	<b>38,000</b>	<b>39,000</b>
Actuarial losses/(gains)	<b>(81,000)</b>	<b>153,000</b>
Benefits paid	<b>(77,000)</b>	<b>(78,000)</b>
	<b><u>1,758,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,868,000</u></b>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening fair value of scheme assets	<b>1,550,000</b>	<b>1,304,000</b>
Interest income on assets	<b>32,000</b>	<b>29,000</b>
Remeasurement gains/losses on assets	<b>77,000</b>	<b>289,000</b>
Contributions by employer	<b>4,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
Contributions by scheme participants	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Benefits paid	<b>(77,000)</b>	<b>(78,000)</b>
	<b><u>1,587,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,550,000</u></b>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
Equities	<b>55.70%</b>	<b>57.00%</b>
Bonds	<b>18.00%</b>	<b>17.30%</b>
Multi Asset Credit	<b>9.20%</b>	<b>-</b>
Property	<b>6.90%</b>	<b>6.10%</b>
Cash	<b>0.90%</b>	<b>1.40%</b>
Other	<b>9.30%</b>	<b>18.20%</b>
	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>	<b><u>16.</u></b>

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	<b>31.3.22</b>	<b>31.3.21</b>
Discount rate	<b>2.80%</b>	<b>2.10%</b>
Future salary increases	<b>4.10%</b>	<b>3.70%</b>
Future pension increases	<b>3.10%</b>	<b>2.70%</b>
CPI inflation rate	<b>3.10%</b>	<b>2.70%</b>
Pension accounts revaluation rate	<b>3.10%</b>	<b>2.70%</b>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	1.04.21 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	31.03.22 £
Gerald Micklem	739	-	(739)	-	-
ACT Foundation	1,111	-	(1,111)	-	-
HIWCF Family Days	300	-	(300)	-	-
HIWCF Portsmouth Hub	163	-	(163)	-	-
Eastleigh Mayor	2,405	-	(246)	-	2,159
Portchester Club	475	-	-	-	475
Cycling	380	-	-	-	380
Early Years Funding	-	5,213	(814)	-	4,399
This Girl Can	-	9,800	(3,657)	-	6,143
WAG Group	-	9,992	-	-	9,992
HUB Funding	-	600	(719)	-	(119)
	<u>5,573</u>	<u>25,605</u>	<u>(7,749)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,429</u>

Gerald Micklem is funding to have an Open Sight pop-up hub at Petersfield and Havant for 12 months providing information advice and guidance for the local visually impaired community.

ACT Foundation is funding to have an Open Sight pop-up hub at Lymington and Aldershot for 12 months providing information advice and guidance for the local visually impaired community.

HIWCF Family Days is funding for two family fun days to allow visually impaired children and their families to enjoy some fun activities and for families to network with each other.

HIWCF Portsmouth Hub is a grant for the operational costs of The Portsmouth Sight Hub - meeting once a month for 12 months in Portsmouth to provide information, advice and guidance to the visually impaired.

Eastleigh Mayor represents funds received from Eastleigh Mayor which must be used to benefit anywhere in the Eastleigh borough.

Portchester Club donation is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health awareness in schools for twelve months.

Cycling sponsorship is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health in schools for twelve months.

Early Years Funding supports visually impaired children aged 0-4 years and their families.

This Girl Can is a project funded by Sports England for visually impaired women to try different types of exercise with their peers with a view to improving wellbeing and resilience.

WAG Group is a 12-month funded project by the National Lottery to allow six peer support working-age groups to meet once a month at different locations across the County.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS - continued**

HUB Funding is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery to allow Information Sight Loss Hubs to be available once a month at ten different locations across the County of Hampshire.

**19. SHARE CAPITAL**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The accounts do not therefore include a reconciliation of movements in shareholders funds.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	6,136	7,604
Gift aid	25	-
Legacies	163,862	78,832
Grants	30,499	10,886
Trust fund income	<u>6,842</u>	<u>8,613</u>
	<b>207,364</b>	<b>105,935</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising events - branches	21,536	16,348
<b>Investment income</b>		
Other Fixed Asset Investment Income	5,606	8,730
Deposit account interest	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
	<b>5,606</b>	<b>8,733</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Resource centre	12,247	2,797
Outreach income and shows	6,809	2,498
Service contracts	<u>-</u>	<u>297</u>
	<b>19,056</b>	<b>5,592</b>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>253,562</b>	<b>136,608</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Direct fundraising costs	16,237	11,404
Other activities	<u>6,324</u>	<u>1,023</u>
	<b>22,561</b>	<b>12,427</b>
<b>Investment management costs</b>		
Portfolio management	468	1,176
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	210,798	203,316
Resource centre	8,350	1,344
Second sight magazine	5,030	5,699
Carried forward	<u>224,178</u>	<u>210,359</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Brought forward	224,178	210,359
Conferences	799	-
Branch expenditure	13,830	6,426
Other charitable activities	<u>38,228</u>	<u>18,447</u>
	277,035	235,232
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Management</b>		
Wages	71,916	70,256
Office equipment costs	5,026	5,659
Insurance	4,378	4,361
Light and heat	5,742	4,424
Telephone	2,428	2,000
Postage and stationery	4,158	3,460
Sundries	792	1,186
Computer expenses	5,419	13,776
Premises expenses	4,614	4,682
Subscriptions	633	856
Cleaning	4,655	3,664
Freehold property	10,455	10,455
Computer equipment	<u>655</u>	<u>1,203</u>
	120,871	125,982
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Trustees' expenses	45	113
Accountancy fees	4,920	4,740
Legal fees	<u>2,855</u>	<u>2,818</u>
	<u>7,820</u>	<u>7,671</u>
Total resources expended	<u>428,755</u>	<u>382,488</u>
<b>Net expenditure before gains and losses</b>	<b>(175,193)</b>	<b>(245,880)</b>
<b>Realised recognised gains and losses</b>		
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	165,880	599,072
Realised gains/losses on pensions	<u>158,000</u>	<u>136,000</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u><b>148,687</b></u>	<u><b>489,192</b></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1055498

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03178631 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1055498**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**  
**FOR**  
**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF**  
**THE BLIND**

Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

"Open Sight Hampshire" (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a small independent charity that is making a difference to the lives of thousands of visually impaired people in Hampshire every year.

Our Mission is to provide a lifetime of support to visually impaired people of all ages and deliver expertise in every aspect of sight loss.

Our Vision is to be able to offer a full range of practical and emotional support throughout the County, including a unique home-based tailored service, giving our clients the confidence to become independent and maintain this throughout their life.

For 99 years, Open Sight Hampshire has provided uninterrupted support to the blind and partially sighted community of Hampshire (including the Cities of Southampton and Portsmouth) and has a reputation for making a difference through the delivery of high-quality services and social support for people of all ages.

"Thank you so much. You really listened to me and gave me the support that I needed!"  
(A client of Open Sight Hampshire)

**OUR SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**COVID-19 lockdown challenges- the impact on the Charity and our clients during the last financial year**

In last year's annual report, the charity reported on how we were all taken by surprise on how an epidemic became a pandemic and lockdown was very quickly imposed in the UK in mid-March 2020. In a reactive response, Open Sight Hampshire had to immediately suspend all our face-to-face services, close our office to routine client appointments and instruct our staff to work from home in line with Government guidance.

This was a devastating blow for our clients, many of whom are elderly and extremely vulnerable, as well as our staff and volunteers. The Governance guidance was that this initial lockdown would last around 12 weeks - of course we know that "lockdown", of various lengths and tiers, lasted considerably longer.

Shortly after the initial lockdown commenced, the Open Sight Hampshire Board made a very important and brave decision not to "shut the shop" or furlough any of the staff, but instead asked staff to work from home and provide whatever services and advice and information they could from their homes. Rapidly a plan of action was formulated and then implemented to provide some structure around remote activities and tasks and ensure regular communications with all staff was initiated whilst working at home

Despite many of the staff never having worked from home before, and the huge household and technology challenges this presented, the charity is delighted to say that everybody rose to this challenge and did the very best they could in these difficult and uncertain times. In fact, not only did they do this, but the charity collected evidence to demonstrate that the staff also very much made a difference to the lives of the visually impaired in Hampshire whilst they endured lockdown. A skeleton staff was also able to keep the office functioning albeit for a reduced number of days and hours over this period. All of the Open Sight Hampshire staff were heroes during this period of lockdown and the Board, and clients, thank them whole heartedly.

A series of challenges hit the charity in late March - early April 2020 including exposing a weakness in the charity's IT systems and the facilitation of a smooth transition to enable staff to work from home. Of course, our staff had never needed to work from home but rather were office based or out in the community delivering services. Digitalisation became very much a focal point for the charity in these weeks as we scrambled to change and enhance our IT systems. The charity's plans for our bi-annual Expo, Eye Contact 2020 (usually held in September), had to be cancelled as did many of our own fundraising activities and those of our supporters. Time and effort then turned to developing a Risk Assessment that allowed the office to be COVID-19 Secure which would eventually facilitate the safe re-opening of the office in August 2020 and allowed our staff to operate in a new hybrid operational model where they both worked at home some of the time and then the rest of the time attended the office to provide support.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**OUR SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS - continued**

**Adaptation of services - innovation and creativity that delivered new services during lockdown**

Once the initial shock of lockdown had passed and with all of the charity's face-to-face services suspended, the aforementioned plan of action was embraced by our staff who responded brilliantly to looking at being creative and innovative around what services could now be delivered during this lockdown period. Several new services were created including a Telephone Befriending Service where some 3000 clients all received at least one call, if not two, during lockdown, and, additionally the charity created audio description videos to supplement the Government's various advice and guidance articles which were for the most part not accessible for the visually impaired community.

Most creative was a move to deliver some remote video services which in the early days were simply video call "meet-ups" mostly for our Working Age Clients, but which have now over time have been further developed and expanded to be more "Wellbeing" focused such as, Blind Baking sessions, a Book Club, a series of "Quizzzy Quizzes", virtual Smart Tech sessions and supplier product awareness days. These wellbeing activities are having positive outcomes on our clients in terms of improved participation and engagement, reduced isolation, increased resilience, all leading to improved mental health and wellbeing.

During lockdown the charity also managed to produce and send out our very popular Open Sight Magazine (Editions for April 20, Aug 20, Nov 20, and Mar 21) and successfully complete on the implementation of a new CRM system. Social media became an essential way of staying in touch with many of our clients during this period and our data analytics indicated a huge increase in activity across all our social media platforms with most "hits" dropping down on our in-house created audio descriptions of the Government's COVID-19 advice and our easy-to-use online shop.

Other innovative examples of new services included the delivery of a virtual Christmas (2020) and Easter (2021) party via Zoom for our children and young visually impaired clients both of which were hugely successful and great fun; and interestingly, not only did we achieve more engagement from the online participants during each event, but we also got more numbers attending than if we held the same events face-to-face based on previous experiences.

The development and enhancement of the charity's online shop, which was underway pre-pandemic, saw a significant increase in online sales during the lockdown periods particularly for the charity's in-house developed social distancing lanyards as well as items such as bump-ons, liquid level indicators and other independent living aids. The social distancing lanyards gained fame through various radio and local TV broadcasts and we still sell these online today albeit slightly adapted to reflect the current Government guidance and recommendations on safe spacing.

For the first year ever the charity's 2020 AGM in November was held virtually but sadly had to be a "closed" meeting due to the COVID-19 restrictions active at that time. The charity supported the Hampshire Police Constabulary in their exciting Visual Impairment Protocol for blind and partially sighted people to feel safe and follow this protocol should a Police Officer (or someone pretending to be) visit their home. And finally, we were involved in supporting our clients to complete their Census 2021 forms through the recruiting of a group of volunteers that provided doorstep and/or telephone support to our visually impaired clients.

The Board of Open Sight are very proud of all the staff and in what they achieved during these extraordinary conditions and challenging times by continuing to support our visually impaired clients and still be able to make a difference to their lives.

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for all the wonderful work you do and bringing lots of fun and laughter into our lives"  
(User of our Working Age Group service)

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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#### **Key Facts about Sight Loss in Hampshire**

In Hampshire there are an estimated 53,700 people (50,600 in 2018), or 3.9% of the population (3.7% in 2018), affected by some form of sight loss (RNIB 2021). This is higher than the national average of 3.2%. Some 19,200 of that number are registered as blind or partially sighted and 650 new Certificates of Vision Impairment were recorded in Hampshire during 2018/19 (RNIB 2021).

There are an estimated 790 children and young people aged 0-25 living with sight loss in Hampshire of which 275 have a statement of SEN's (Special Educational Needs) and list visual impairment as their primary SEN (RNIB 2021).

In terms of working-age people, there are some 9,000 people in Hampshire living with sight loss. Nationally, some 75% of working age visually impaired people do not work (RNIB 2021).

Age is also a significant factor in sight loss with 20% of people over 70 living with this condition. In Hampshire 20% of the population is over 65 (higher than the national average) and with the numbers of older aged people in the County set to rise, Open Sight expect the number of people using our services to increase accordingly (RNIB 2021).

Many causes of sight loss continue to affect the population of Hampshire including congenital sight loss, hereditary conditions like Leber's Syndrome and diseases such as glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetes, retinopathy, cataracts, retinal detachment, cortical visual impairment as well as infection and trauma. Typically, one in three people who have sight loss also have another disability which broadly speaking is either a physical disability or is hard of hearing. By 2030 the number of people in Hampshire living with some form of sight loss is expected to rise to 66,900, an increase of 25%.

Currently, Open Sight Hampshire helps over 3,000 people a year with information, advice and guidance and every year Open Sight Hampshire are contacted by between 350-400 people newly affected by sight loss looking for our help. National statistics also indicate that one in every five people will start to live with sight loss in their lifetime, and, every day some 250 people start to lose their sight. With the numbers of visually impaired set to rise significantly, the size of our challenge going forward is clear to see.

#### **The Needs of Our Clients**

Our clients have a visual impairment which is a significant functional loss of vision. Losing your sight is a life-changing event for many. Those with mild sight loss can read larger characters, identify shapes, colours and brightness contrasts. Those with moderate sight loss can tell shapes and colours of objects and distinguish between brightness and darkness but can only read characters of larger size and broader strokes. Those with severe sight loss can only distinguish more obvious changes in brightness and darkness and may not see anything.

Adults who become visually impaired often go through a grieving process, they may have lost their driving licence or job, become dependent on others and will need to learn new ways of performing everyday activities. Older people with sight loss are almost three times more likely to experience depression.

A visual impairment can potentially impact on a child's social, motor, language and cognitive development (estimated 533 children affected aged 0-16 in Hampshire). They may be socially isolated and have low self-esteem and need to be taught new skills and adaptive techniques to be able to move around safely, to become independent, to learn, to play and socialise.

People that have lost their sight need specialist help to access the right support and learn new ways of performing everyday activities with what vision they now have. They need information about assistive technology, services and other organisations that can help them. They need assistance with applying for disability benefits, for DWP schemes to help to return to work or stay employed and assistance to apply for equipment grants. Equally as important, they need emotional support to rebuild their lives from people who understand their "lived" experience and situation.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**Fundraising**

Open Sight Hampshire's fundraising policy works within professional and ethical standards set by the Fundraising Regulator and Code of Fundraising Practice with whom Open Sight Hampshire are registered. The fundraising strategy is reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees on a regular basis and is set within the strategic business plan aims to continue to raise the profile of the charity and extend our donor base; the strategy also includes making applications to grant-making organisations and Trusts. The charity adheres to the Fundraising Promise and adherence to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

The charity continues to benefit from legacies and in-memoriam donations which form a key part of its income. In response to this the charity is moving towards a multi-strand approach to reduce the risk of reliance on single funding streams. Our local clubs and branches continue to raise funds to cover local running costs where this matches the charity's strategic plan and aims. There were no complaints received by the charity about our fundraising activity over the year.

**Environmental Factors**

Open Sight continues to minimise its impact on the environment by actively considering the effect of the charity's activities, events, services and work.

**Staffing**

Wherever it is necessary staff and volunteers receive or attend training events and conferences in line with the organisation's work and professional service. Open Sight Hampshire ensures that our volunteers are included in the overall learning organisation processes through induction and vision awareness courses. Staff support forms a key part in maintaining the skills and professional development of all staff and volunteers.

**Volunteer Management**

Open Sight Hampshire continues to attract new volunteers to support the local club networks maintaining around 350+ volunteers which the Direct Services staff team manages and supports daily throughout the year. These volunteers are crucial to the success for the local club network and provide support to Head Office in a number of roles. Where appropriate, volunteers are required to undergo DBS vetting in accordance with current legislative requirements.

**The difference Open Sight Hampshire makes to people's lives**

The charity has worked very hard over the last year to continue to reach out and make a difference across the County in spite of the very challenging times that various lockdowns and home working served up. Many of the examples of this great work and the difference the charity made over the last year can be found on our new "Making a Difference Board" on our web site: [www.opensight.org.uk/makingadiference](http://www.opensight.org.uk/makingadiference)

"Cheered me up a great deal, no longer lonely though living alone, restored my confidence"  
(User of the Independent Living Advisor service)

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

Open Sight Hampshire's 5-year strategy out to 2022 is to continue to raise the profile of the charity and significantly increase our reach and impact across the County. The charity plans to create a seamless service pathway for people of all ages expanding our services to reach a greater number of people with a visual impairment as well as their families and carers.

Open Sight Hampshire plans to also increase its focus on eye health and awareness, delivering education through sight awareness talks to schools and external groups underpinning the 'eat healthy' and 'exercise regularly' to prevent sight loss and reduce the numbers of those at risk of sight loss. The strategy will be achieved through collaboration with other service providers for service delivery, signposting, and referral.

Open Sight Hampshire will provide a "lifetime of support and pathways to independence" to visually impaired people of all ages and achieve high impact outcomes around greater independence, greater confidence, and self-management of their visual impairment, reduced social isolation, increased self-esteem and community engagement and improved mental, physical and emotional wellbeing leading to a better quality of life.

The implementation of the strategy was progressing very well pre-pandemic but will now be reviewed in the coming months by the Board who will consider the charity's learnings from the lockdowns and a reassessment of what services are now required by our clients and how they want them delivered. It would seem appropriate as we have exited lockdown restrictions from the 19th of July 2021 that the time is right to consider these learnings and "Build Back Better" and make some appropriate adjustments to the strategy.

There is no doubt that the way Open Sight will deliver services going forward will change and this is largely because of the environment we found ourselves in during to the COVID-19 lockdown period. Over this strange time the use of technology became very prominent for us all and how it drove the use of such technology, somewhat out of necessity, if we wanted to talk to friends and family, or indeed access services or virtual groups and clubs. Despite always being available, video calling has become part of our daily lives along with "working from home". Such assistive technology and how we use it is something that Open Sight Hampshire is embracing going forward and we plan to harness it to deliver some of our existing and indeed new services.

Already in Mid-Summer 2021, the charity has reopened many of our face-to-face services including home visits for Low Vision Assessments and Benefits Support, appointments have restarted again in our resource centre based in our Bishopstoke office, there are three Information Days planned around the County (Fareham, New Milton and Winchester) for later this financial year, and, our pop-up Sight Information Advice Hubs at 10 locations across the County have also restarted. The Open Sight Clubs and Working Age Groups are planned to restart meeting again face-to-face from 1st September 2021 onwards and I know this will be welcomed by many of our clients who are desperate to meet up again in-person.

Whilst 2020/2021 has been a tough year for everyone, for Open Sight 2022 is a very important year as it marks our Centenary and plans are well underway to applaud this great occasion with a series of celebratory events during 2022 which will be shared with our clients, volunteers, and supporters.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 11 and shows a surplus of £489,192 (a deficit in 2020 of £442,668). There is a deficit before gains and losses on investments of £245,880 (deficit of £76,016 in 2020). The charity however is still reliant on legacies for its income but is working towards increasing its income streams including grants from Trusts and Foundations.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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The charity holds fixed assets and investments of £2,958,019 but also has a provision for its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme liability. Although it is uncertain of timing and amount, the actuaries estimate the liability to be £318,000. The Trustees are mindful of this liability and maximise the use of the charity assets to generate investment income. At 31 March 2021 the amount of total funds not held in restricted funds was £2,772,562.

**Investment policy and returns**

Yields continue to provide a percentage of income and the Investment Manager (Fiske) continues to manage the one investment account for the charity on behalf of the Trustees. The Trustees apply a strong ethical perspective and do not invest in products or services that may impinge upon sight loss. This includes tobacco products which are specifically proven to cause sight loss conditions.

The second Investment Manager is Featherstone, who were selected to manage the bulk of the receipts from a land legacy and investments follow the same policy as detailed above.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**Reserves policy**

It would be desirable to hold free reserves of £250,000 representing at least six months of expenditure. At 31st March 2021 the charity had free reserves of £2,657,809 (2020: £2,273,144). Free reserves being investments in shares plus net assets less restricted funds. The Trustees are confident that the charity has a sound financial footing for the future.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

"Open Sight" (Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 27 March 1996, replacing a previous charity that had been established in 1922. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The members of the charitable company are those members of the public who have been admitted to membership by the Board of the charitable company.

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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The system of internal control is designed to provide reasonable assurance against risk and includes:

- A five-year strategic business plan for the period 2017-2022 and an annual budget approved by the Trustees;
- Regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, including variance from budgets, and non-financial performance indicators;
- Formal delegation of authority and segregation of duties which are reviewed annually;
- Identification and management of risks with a risk management process and the keeping of a risk register used as an integral part of all development and management strategies to seek and identify, prioritise and reduce risk;
- A Financial Procedures Manual, which covers risk assessment and control procedures and the charity's reserve policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated;
- Regular internal audit of branch accounts and supervision of local volunteer staff and treasurers;
- Agreeing Terms of Reference and parameters for all sub committees and groups, keeping them under constant review;
- Regularly reviewing all policies and procedures as part of risk assessment and strategic plan processes;
- Regular review and consideration given to Data Protection and GDPR compliance;
- Regular consideration of the risks associated with fluctuation market values for reserve investment portfolios and monitoring levels of voluntary giving, share values and property prices, as these impact upon income levels.

**Public Benefit**

In reviewing and undertaking assessment of activities and services the Trustees continue to ensure that these meet the public benefit requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and consider that the activities detailed above are for the benefit of the public.

Equality and Diversity continues to be at the heart of the charity and is taken into account in all that we do.

**RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES**

The Trustees actively look to recruit new Trustees with specialist skills to support the running of the charity. The search committee continue to seek new Trustees with the required skill set and diversity to enhance the existing Board of Trustees.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

03178631 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1055498

**Registered office**

25 Church Road  
Bishopstoke  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 6BL

**Trustees**

S Crofts		Chairman
T G Howell	Appointed 12 October 2020	Treasurer
R J Stephens	Resigned 5 December 2020	
A Thorburn	Deceased 4 August 2021	
Dr R Drabu		
Dr C.B.V Schulz		
M. Hildyard		
S. Woolford		
L Simpson	Co-opted 12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	

**Company Secretary**

Ms T G Howell

**Independent Examiner**

Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**Solicitors**

Blake Morgan  
New Kings Court  
Tollgate  
Chandler's Ford  
Eastleigh  
SO53 3LG

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

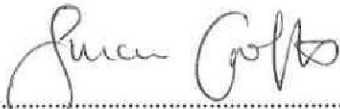
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....*13<sup>th</sup> September 2021*..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Ms S Crofts - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

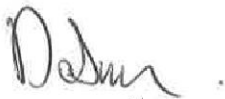
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Barr, FCA  
Martin and Company Audit Limited  
25 St Thomas Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HJ

Date:

*29<sup>th</sup> September 2021*

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies		105,935	-	-	105,935	260,030
Charitable activities charitable		5,592	-	-	5,592	25,033
Other trading activities	2	16,348	-	-	16,348	49,382
Investment income	3	3	-	8,730	8,733	17,314
<b>Total</b>		<b>127,878</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,730</b>	<b>136,608</b>	<b>351,759</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	4	12,753	(326)	1,176	13,603	21,819
Charitable activities charitable		350,086	7,141	11,658	368,885	405,956
<b>Total</b>		<b>362,839</b>	<b>6,815</b>	<b>12,834</b>	<b>382,488</b>	<b>427,775</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		724,673	-	10,399	735,072	(366,652)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>489,712</b>	<b>(6,815)</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>489,192</b>	<b>(442,668)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		1,969,863	12,388	306,692	2,288,943	2,731,611
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>2,459,575</b>	<b>5,573</b>	<b>312,987</b>	<b>2,778,135</b>	<b>2,288,943</b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	9	-	-	432,753	432,753	444,411
Investments	10	2,327,032	-	198,234	2,525,266	2,047,272
		2,327,032	-	630,987	2,958,019	2,491,683
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stocks	11	5,741	-	-	5,741	5,741
Debtors	12	73,024	-	-	73,024	198,540
Cash at bank		58,859	5,573	-	64,432	41,947
		137,624	5,573	-	143,197	246,228
<b>CREDITORS</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(5,081)	-	-	(5,081)	(7,968)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>132,543</u>	<u>5,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>138,116</u>	<u>238,260</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>2,459,575</u>	<u>5,573</u>	<u>630,987</u>	<u>3,096,135</u>	<u>2,729,943</u>
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>	16	-	-	(318,000)	(318,000)	(441,000)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>2,459,575</u>	<u>5,573</u>	<u>312,987</u>	<u>2,778,135</u>	<u>2,288,943</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>						
Unrestricted funds	15				2,459,575	1,969,863
Restricted funds					5,573	12,388
Endowment funds					312,987	306,692
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<u>2,778,135</u>	<u>2,288,943</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued**  
**31 MARCH 2021**

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The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Mrs Terri Howell - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees believe the charity has sufficient cash reserves to utilise during the current Covid-19 situation. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies, grants and trust fund income are accounted for as incoming resources once the receipt of the income becomes reasonably certain and quantifiable.

Income from charitable activities includes sale of goods and income from shows.

Other trading income is income from fundraising events held by the branches of the charity.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes in the form of listed investments and cash.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

**Governance costs**

These represent costs incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**Support costs**

Support costs represent the costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property - 2% straight line

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Tangible fixed assets**

Fixtures and fittings	- 25.00% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25.00% straight line

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £100 are capitalised and included at cost.

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Expendable endowment funds are capital funds retained for the benefit of the charity, but can be converted to income at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Financial instruments**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pensions**

The Trustees operate a defined benefit and a defined charitable company contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held and managed separately from those of the charitable company.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Pensions**

For the defined benefit scheme a liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. Actuarial valuations are due triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

For the defined contribution scheme the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits represent the contributions payable in the period. Differences between contributions payable in the period and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at the market value at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
	£	£
Fundraising events - branches	<u>16,348</u>	<u>49,382</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	<b>8,730</b>	17,314
Deposit account interest	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><b>8,733</b></u>	<u>17,314</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

<b>31.3.21</b>	<b>31.3.20</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>1,176</u></b>	<b><u>1,286</u></b>

Portfolio management

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

<b>31.3.21</b>	<b>31.3.20</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Staff cost	<b>70,256</b>	70,185
Office equipment cost	<b>5,659</b>	6,125
Insurance	<b>4,361</b>	3,860
Light and heat	<b>4,424</b>	5,856
Telephone	<b>2,000</b>	2,735
Postage and stationery	<b>3,460</b>	6,424
Sundries	<b>1,186</b>	51
Computer expenses	<b>13,776</b>	3,479
Premises expenses	<b>4,682</b>	5,745
Subscriptions	<b>856</b>	1,014
Cleaning	<b>3,664</b>	3,486
Depreciation	<b>11,658</b>	12,044
Trustees expenses	<b>113</b>	491
Accountancy fees	<b>4,740</b>	6,000
Legal fees	<b>2,818</b>	3,396
	<b><u>133,653</u></b>	<b><u>130,891</u></b>

Raising donations and legacies	<b>6,683</b>	6,545
Charitable activities	<b><u>126,970</u></b>	<b><u>124,346</u></b>
	<b><u>133,653</u></b>	<b><u>130,891</u></b>

Support costs have been apportioned against the activities of the charity in a manner consistent with the use of those resources. The split of support costs by activity has been set out above.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<b>11,658</b>	12,044
Other operating leases	<b>5,659</b>	6,125
Amounts payable to independent examiner	<b><u>4,740</u></b>	<u>5,520</u>

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<b><u>113</u></b>	<u>491</u>

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<b>244,809</b>	247,989
Social security	<b>19,164</b>	18,997
Pension contributions	<b>18,060</b>	15,474
	<b><u>282,033</u></b>	<u>282,460</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
Service delivery and outreach	<b>8</b>	8
Administration	<b><u>4</u></b>	<u>4</u>
	<b><u>12</u></b>	<u>12</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

No trustee receive any remuneration in either year. Trustees indemnity insurance of £1,047 (2020: £1,047) was paid in the year.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>581,083</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>53,205</u>	<u>665,183</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2020	<u>137,875</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>52,002</u>	<u>220,772</u>
Charge for year	<u>10,455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,203</u>	<u>11,658</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>148,330</u>	<u>30,895</u>	<u>53,205</u>	<u>232,430</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2021	<u>432,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,753</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>443,208</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,203</u>	<u>444,411</u>

Freehold land and buildings includes an amount of £58,333 being the attributed cost of land at the Association's head office. This valuation was determined by the Trustees in 2000. Land is not depreciated.

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Shares	2,520,765	2,000,890
Cash investments	<u>4,501</u>	<u>46,382</u>
	<u>2,525,266</u>	<u>2,047,272</u>

Additional information as follows:

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2020	2,000,890
Additions	5,595
Disposals	(84,371)
Revaluations	<u>598,651</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,520,765</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,520,765</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,000,890</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

Fixed assets at historic cost as at 31st March 2021 were £2,346,588 (2020: 2,463,049)

Investments (neither listed nor unlisted) were as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Cash account	<u>4,501</u>	<u>46,382</u>

**11. STOCKS**

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Stocks	<u>5,741</u>	<u>5,741</u>

**12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Other debtors	149	540
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>72,875</u>	<u>198,000</u>
	<u>73,024</u>	<u>198,540</u>

**13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Trade creditors	341	2,448
Accruals and deferred income	<u>4,740</u>	<u>5,520</u>
	<u>5,081</u>	<u>7,968</u>

**14. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Within one year	4,687	-
Between one and five years	<u>-</u>	<u>9,373</u>
	<u>4,687</u>	<u>9,373</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,969,863	489,712	2,459,575
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12,388	(6,815)	5,573
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	306,692	6,295	312,987
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,288,943</u>	<u>489,192</u>	<u>2,778,135</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	127,878	(362,839)	724,673	489,712
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	-	(6,815)	-	(6,815)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	8,730	(12,834)	10,399	6,295
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>136,608</u>	<u>(382,488)</u>	<u>735,072</u>	<u>489,192</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,349,195	(379,332)	1,969,863
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	11,077	1,311	12,388
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	371,339	(64,647)	306,692
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,731,611</u>	<u>(442,668)</u>	<u>2,288,943</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	306,498	(387,809)	(298,021)	(379,332)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	27,947	(26,636)	-	1,311
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	17,314	(13,330)	(68,631)	(64,647)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>351,759</u>	<u>(427,775)</u>	<u>(366,652)</u>	<u>(442,668)</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,349,195	110,380	2,459,575
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted funds	11,077	(5,504)	5,573
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Expendable	371,339	(58,352)	312,987
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,731,611</u>	<u>46,524</u>	<u>2,778,135</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	434,376	(750,648)	426,652	110,380
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds	27,947	(33,451)	-	(5,504)
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Expendable	26,044	(26,164)	(58,232)	(58,352)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>488,367</u>	<u>(810,263)</u>	<u>368,420</u>	<u>46,524</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS**

The charity operates a non-contributory defined benefit scheme, which was closed to new employees in October 2005.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2019 . The results have been projected to 31st March 2021 and then recalculated using a number of assumptions detailed below.

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(1,868,000)	(1,745,000)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>1,550,000</u>	<u>1,304,000</u>
	(318,000)	(441,000)
Present value of unfunded obligations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deficit	<u>(318,000)</u>	<u>(441,000)</u>
Net liability	<u>(318,000)</u>	<u>(441,000)</u>

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Current service cost	8,000	9,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	39,000	9,000
Past service cost	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>47,000</u>	<u>18,000</u>
Actuarial (gain)/loss	<u>(136,000)</u>	<u>38,000</u>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.21</b>	<b>31.3.20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening defined benefit obligation	1,745,000	1,803,000
Current service cost	8,000	9,000
Contributions by employer	1,000	1,000
Interest cost	39,000	42,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	153,000	(31,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(78,000)</u>	<u>(79,000)</u>
	<b><u>1,868,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,745,000</u></b>

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.21</b>	<b>31.3.20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening fair value of scheme assets	1,304,000	1,403,000
Interest income on assets	29,000	33,000
Remeasurement gains/losses on assets	289,000	(69,000)
Contributions by employer	5,000	15,000
Contributions by scheme participants	1,000	1,000
Benefits paid	<u>(78,000)</u>	<u>(79,000)</u>
	<b><u>1,550,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,304,000</u></b>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	<b>31.3.21</b>	<b>31.3.20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>Defined benefit pension plans</b>	
	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
Equities	<b>57.00%</b>	52.70%
Bonds	<b>17.30%</b>	21.80%
Property	<b>6.10%</b>	7.30%
Cash	<b>1.40%</b>	2.00%
Other	<b>18.20%</b>	16.20%
	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>	<u>16.</u>

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	<b>31.3.21</b>	31.3.20
Discount rate	<b>2.10%</b>	2.30%
Future salary increases	<b>3.70%</b>	3.10%
Future pension increases	<b>2.70%</b>	2.10%
RPI inflation rate	<b>3.30%</b>	3.30%
CPI inflation rate	<b>2.70%</b>	2.20%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	<b>2.70%</b>	2.20%

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	1.04.20 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	31.03.21 £
Gerald Micklem	1,098	-	(359)	-	739
ACT Foundation	1,383	-	(272)	-	1,111
HIWCF Family Days	1,900	534	(2,134)	-	300
HIWCF Portsmouth Hub	530	-	(367)	-	163
Awards for All	2,777	-	(2,777)	-	-
Geographically restricted funds	108	-	(108)	-	-
Eastleigh Mayor	3,006	-	(601)	-	2,405
The Scale Trust Fund	682	-	(682)	-	-
Portchester Club	500	-	(25)	-	475
Cycling	405	-	(25)	-	380
	<u>11,077</u>	<u>27,947</u>	<u>(26,635)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,573</u>

Gerald Micklem is funding to have an Open Sight pop-up hub at Petersfield and Havant for 12 months providing information advice and guidance for the local visually impaired community.

ACT Foundation is funding to have an Open Sight pop-up hub at Lymington and Aldershot for 12 months providing information advice and guidance for the local visually impaired community.

HIWCF Family Days is funding for two family fun days to allow visually impaired children and their families to enjoy some fun activities and for families to network with each other.

HIWCF Portsmouth Hub is a grant for the operational costs of The Portsmouth Sight Hub - meeting once a month for 12 months in Portsmouth to provide information, advice and guidance to the visually impaired.

Awards for All is a grant given specifically to establish and support peer support groups for Working Age visually impaired people.

Certain geographically restricted funds have been gifted at various times to provide Association services in various localities which are: Droxford; Lymington; New Milton; Ringwood; Romsey and Totton. Note that the branch at Droxford has become dormant.

Eastleigh Mayor represents funds received from Eastleigh Mayor which must be used to benefit anywhere in the Eastleigh borough.

The Scale Trust Fund was delegated to Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind in 1996 (equally with the Portsmouth Association for the Blind) with the purpose of funding support for poor people within Hampshire.

Portchester Club donation is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health awareness in schools for twelve months.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**18. RESTRICTED FUNDS - continued**

Cycling sponsorship is a contribution towards the running cost of eye health in schools for twelve months.

**19. SHARE CAPITAL**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The accounts do not therefore include a reconciliation of movements in shareholders funds.

**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	7,604	9,917
Legacies	78,832	201,358
Grants	10,886	4,829
Trust fund income	<u>8,613</u>	<u>43,926</u>
	<b>105,935</b>	<b>260,030</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising events - branches	16,348	49,382
<b>Investment income</b>		
Other fixed asset invest - FII	8,730	17,314
Deposit account interest	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
	<b>8,733</b>	<b>17,314</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Resource centre	2,797	12,119
Outreach income and shows	2,498	11,682
Service contracts	<u>297</u>	<u>1,232</u>
	<b>5,592</b>	<b>25,033</b>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>136,608</b>	<b>351,759</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Direct fundraising costs	11,404	18,149
Other activities	<u>1,023</u>	<u>2,384</u>
	<b>12,427</b>	<b>20,533</b>
<b>Investment management costs</b>		
Portfolio management	1,176	1,286
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	203,316	203,801
Resource centre	1,344	7,912
Second sight magazine	5,699	5,376
Carried forward	<u>210,359</u>	<u>217,089</u>

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**HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF  
THE BLIND**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Brought forward	210,359	217,089
Conferences	-	3,422
Branch expenditure	6,426	32,346
Other charitable activities	18,447	22,208
	<u>235,232</u>	<u>275,065</u>
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Management</b>		
Wages	70,256	70,185
Office equipment costs	5,659	6,125
Insurance	4,361	3,860
Light and heat	4,424	5,856
Telephone	2,000	2,735
Postage and stationery	3,460	6,424
Sundries	1,186	51
Computer expenses	13,776	3,479
Premises expenses	4,682	5,745
Subscriptions	856	1,014
Cleaning	3,664	3,486
Freehold property	10,455	10,455
Computer equipment	1,203	1,589
	<u>125,982</u>	<u>121,004</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Trustees' expenses	113	491
Accountancy fees	4,740	6,000
Legal fees	2,818	3,396
	<u>7,671</u>	<u>9,887</u>
Total resources expended	<u>382,488</u>	<u>427,775</u>
<b>Net expenditure before gains and losses</b>	<b>(245,880)</b>	<b>(76,016)</b>
<b>Realised recognised gains and losses</b>		
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	599,072	(328,652)
Realised gains/losses on pensions	136,000	(38,000)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b><u>489,192</u></b>	<b><u>(442,668)</u></b>

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