

# Dudley Group NHS Charity **Annual Report** 2023/2024



## Contents

1. Welcome from our charity chair.....	3
2. A word from our chief executive .....	4
3. About the Dudley Group NHS Charity .....	5
3.1 The Dudley Group NHS Charity Strategy 2022-2025.....	5
3.2 Our strategic objectives and how we use charitable funds .....	6
3.3 Sharing charity news .....	6
4. How did we do? Key objectives for 2023-2024.....	7
4.1 Our Patients .....	7
4.1.1 Specialist equipment.....	7
4.1.2 Improving spaces .....	8
4.1.2.3 Enhancing well-being .....	8
5. Future Care .....	9
5.1 Easter Egg Appeal .....	9
5.2 Superhero Fun Run and Family Fun Day .....	9
6. Our People .....	10
6.1 Memory Tree.....	10
6.2 NHS 75 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations.....	10
6.3 Long Service Awards .....	11
7. Maximise the contribution .....	12
7.1 Glitter Ball .....	12
7.2 New charity mascot.....	12
Appendix 1 - Reference and Administrative Details.....	16
Appendix 2 - Principal Charitable Fund Advisers.....	19
Appendix 3 - Principal Professional Advisers .....	21
Appendix 4 - Structure, Governance and Management.....	22
Appendix 5 - Risk Management and Financial Review.....	24

## **1. Welcome from our charity chair**

Welcome to the Dudley Group NHS Charity Annual Report 2023/24, we are proud to support patients, their families, and our incredible staff across the whole of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust and within the local community.

I would like to thank all our supporters, who have once again contributed so much to the charity. Your donations and fundraising have helped us make a real difference to patient care here in Dudley.

I'm proud of the many important projects we are able to fund thanks to your support. In particular the scalp cooling machines to reduce hair loss for patients undergoing chemotherapy, improvements to the relatives rooms in our critical care unit and our beautiful memory tree which helps to remember staff and patients who have sadly passed away. Our charity team did a brilliant job organising successful fundraising events this year including the Superhero Fun Run which raised £5,000 and the Glitter Ball which raised £16,500.

All this is only made possible by the generosity of our supporters. Even in the uncertain times, when cost-of-living pressures are affecting so many, we've appreciated the growing number of donors. Like many charities our income in this year is slightly down and we continue to focus on raising funds, increasing awareness of our work and the positive impact on our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing chair of the charity committee Julian Atkins for his enthusiasm and support for our charity and I look forward to continuing the excellent work.

Thanks also goes to our team of Trustees, who have worked hard to ensure value for money with every pound spent and to help make the most powerful impact on our patients and their families. I hope you will feel as inspired as I do, as you read on about the Dudley Group NHS Charity's work and our achievements.



Gary Crowe

Chair of charity committee

Deputy chair and non-executive director, the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

## **2. A word from our chief executive**

As the chief executive of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust and as a member of the charity committee I would like to begin by saying a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has supported us.

This was a big year for our NHS, celebrating 75 years of providing care to all of us and those we love. As the official NHS charity in Dudley, we are proud to have been there supporting our NHS from the start and look forward to continuing that role in the future.

You will see more examples of the excellent work from the charity happening across the whole organisation and the dedication of the team shines through in the pages of this report.

Everyone has a wider role to play in strengthening the NHS charity sector as a whole, helping to build collaborative relationships with other organisations that are working to support Trusts up and down the country, and exploring opportunities to further develop our collective role as an important strategic partner to the health service.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this Annual Report and that you are as amazed as I am by the continued commitment and enthusiasm of everyone involved in running the Dudley Group NHS Charity.

Diane Wake

Chief executive, the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

Member of charity committee



### 3. About the Dudley Group NHS Charity

Our charity mission is to enhance the wellbeing and experience of our patients and staff by providing services and facilities not routinely funded by the NHS or our Trust. We raise donations from grants, companies, individuals, events, wills, and legacies to fund our vital work and services.

We are **making every day better** for everyone - not just physically, but mentally and emotionally too. For our patients and staff, the core emotion we strive for as a charity is **happiness**, but happiness can come in many forms. Happiness can come from recovering from surgery with an iPad, to playing with toys while mum sees the doctor. It might also just be trying to provide some light when everything feels at its darkest.

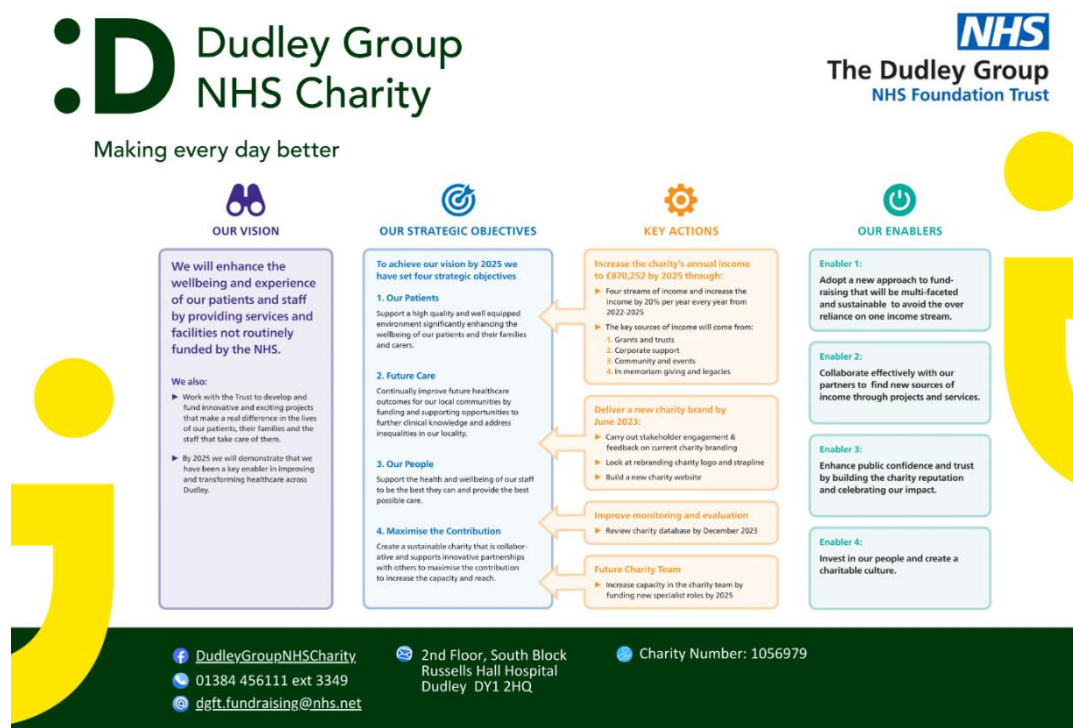
#### *Happiness. Light. Joy.*

- We work with the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust to develop and fund innovative and exciting projects that make a real difference in the lives of patients, their families and the staff that take care of them.
- Through our fundraising we are demonstrating we are a key enabler in improving and transforming healthcare across Dudley.

The Charity Committee (previously known as the Charitable Funds Committee) is made up of members of the Trust Board who oversee the workings of the charity. Nithee Patel is the head of fundraising for the Trusts **Dudley Group NHS Charity** (Charity No – 1056979).

#### 3.1 The Dudley Group NHS Charity Strategy 2022-2025

The Dudley Group NHS Charity has been working through its three-year fundraising strategy, which sets out its objectives, actions, and enablers to ensure we achieve our targets before 2025.



### 3.2 Our strategic objectives and how we use charitable funds

1. **Our patients** – we support a high quality and well-equipped environment significantly enhancing the wellbeing of our patients and their families. The charity has funded:
  - Televisions for patients on wards
  - The refurbishment of relatives rooms in our critical care unit
  - Scalp cooling systems for patients undergoing cancer treatments
2. **Future care** – we continually support future healthcare outcomes for our local communities by funding and supporting opportunities to further clinical knowledge and addressing inequalities in Dudley. The charity has funded:
  - Specialist bereavement training for staff members
  - Easter eggs for all patients across the TrustThe charity has organised:
  - The Superhero Fun Run and Family Fun Day with the childrens services team to raise awareness of health issues that may affect children and young people in Dudley.
3. **Our people** – we support the health and wellbeing of our staff to be the best they can and provide the best possible care. The charity has funded:
  - A memory tree with dedicated leaves to remember passed staff members
  - The Trusts flagship staff recognition awards called committed to excellence
  - Vouchers, chocolates, and meals for staff members during the Christmas period
4. **Maximise the contribution** – we are creating a sustainable charity that is collaborative and supports innovative partnerships. The charity funded:
  - a. A violence reduction service in our Emergency Department in collaboration with the Black Country Integrated Care Board and St Giles Trust.The charity has organised:
  - b. Our annual Glitter Ball gala dinner event gathering local businesses together, the evening offered the opportunity for attendees to learn about NHS, raise funds for the charity and also network with other like-minded Black Country businesses.

### 3.3 Sharing charity news

All DGNHS Charity news is shared via several different mechanisms including media releases and photo opportunities and the social media accounts. Stay in the loop and be the first to know about our exciting events by hitting the 'Like' button on Facebook, and by following us on Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

- Twitter: @DGNHSCcharity
- Facebook: Dudley Group NHS Charity
- Instagram: @dgnhscharity
- LinkedIn: Dudley Group NHS Charity

## 4. How did we do? Key objectives for 2023-2024

### 4.1 Our Patients

#### 4.1.1 Specialist equipment

The charity has funded Reminiscence/Rehabilitation & Interactive Therapy Activities (RITAs) software and equipment across the Trust.

RITAs are an all-in-one touch screen solution which offers digital reminiscence therapy, a relatively new tool in the fields of nursing and healthcare. RITAs encompass the use of user-friendly interactive screens and tablets to blend entertainment with therapy and to assist patients (particularly with memory impairments) in recalling and sharing events from their past through listening to music, watching news reports of significant historical events, listening to war-time speeches, playing games and karaoke, and watching films.



Staff members using the RITA with patients

This year the charity has funded three scalp cooling machines for our cancer services. Many people undergoing chemotherapy in the UK are completely unaware that scalp coolers exist let alone that they could help cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy to keep their hair. Losing your hair can be the final straw and can have a devastating impact not only on the patient but also their families, particularly for children and young people.

By using these machines many people have reported that their hair loss was so minimal which enabled them to 'just feel normal' whilst undergoing treatment.



Scalp cooling machines



#### 4.1.2 Improving spaces

Two welcoming and peaceful relatives' rooms have been upgraded thanks to donations from local families. The project to create calm and private spaces for relatives with loved ones was essential as the rooms are used for delivering news to relatives of patients receiving treatment for severe and life-threatening illnesses.

After more than 12 months of planning and design work, the new relatives' rooms are now open, providing invaluable facilities where family and friends can talk, rest, and even stay overnight. The modern interior design and colour schemes, include comfortable furniture and televisions, family members can relax and take their mind off the critical nature of the admission.



Critical care relatives room

#### 4.1.2.3 Enhancing well-being

Tesla donated two mini cars for young patients to use to 'drive' to theatres. The charity arranged for the donation of the cars through the Tesla Owners Group UK initiative to help young patients alleviate their anxieties before their surgery and enhance patient experience at the hospital.

Simon Gregory matron of Theatres said, 'Staff really appreciate the kind donation from the Tesla Owners Club, as it allows us to ease the anxieties of our little patients as well as their parents or caregivers, making that journey into the Operating Theatres a bit more fun and engaging.'



Theatres staff with mini tesla cars



## 5. Future Care

### 5.1 Easter Egg Appeal

The charity launched an Easter egg appeal in February across Russell Hall Hospital, Corbett and Guest outpatient centres, and community sites for patients to enjoy a chocolate treat over the Easter weekend. Thanks to the generosity of organisations like; Dudley Lions, The Enterprise Group, Summerhill School, Lloyd's Bank, Puregym and many other members of the local community and supermarkets, the charity was overwhelmed by the appeals success with over 1,500 Easter eggs donated and distributed.

Amy Sargent, lead nurse on the Forget Me Not Unit at Russells Hall Hospital said "Our patients on the ward loved the Easter treats whilst in hospital. Thank you for all the donations, it makes a real difference to our patient experience."

Charity team with easter egg donations



### 5.2 Superhero Fun Run and Family Fun Day

Local superheroes came together to raise money for Dudley NHS charity at this year's 5K fun run on Sunday 11th June 2023 at Himley Hall Park. We had over 200 people attend the day, 90 of which took part in the fun run itself!

Throughout the event there was also, a family fun and awareness day which was organised by the childrens service CNS team which is made up of specialist nurses. There were children's activities, a fun fair, stalls, and refreshments available for all involved. Most importantly there were stalls from the team and other local health providers which helped raise awareness of health issues effecting children and young people in Dudley.

Ian Chadwell, who took part in the run for the second time and works in the Trust headquarters, said: "One of the best things about working in the NHS is being part of something bigger. It has been great to see colleagues from all parts of the hospital taking part, having fun, and raising funds to make life that little bit better for our patients. "Whilst it's certainly been a very hot day, it's a fantastic event to run in and having the shade of a big tree, a bottle of water and our medal waiting for us at the end was a brilliant moment!"

We managed to raise over £5,000 and still counting for our children's Appeal and all the funds raised will be improving the childrens outpatients waiting area in Russells Hall Hospital.

Participants starting the 5km superhero run



## 6. Our People

### 6.1 Memory Tree

The charity funded a beautiful Memory Tree at Russells Hall Hospital, in tribute to staff and patients who have sadly passed away.

The ornamental, metal tree contains leaves which can be engraved and dedicated in celebration, recognition, or remembrance of patients and staff at The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. The tree has been placed in the centre of the hospital's main walkway, near to the main reception, and is accessible to all visitors, patients, and staff.

The handmade sculpture was created by artist and sculptor Claudia Ashley-Brown, who used a range of mixed metals to create the eye-catching design.

Staff and family members of those who have passed away have said the tree is a meaningful way for people to remember a loved one but will also help support our charity in a very symbolic way.



Chief executive and head of patient experience launching the memory tree

### 6.2 NHS 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

To celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the NHS and the NHS Big Tea, our charity held a series of charity stands at all of our Trust sites from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2023. The charity funded all staff members with

a cup of tea or coffee, a cake, and an NHS 75 badge as a 'thank you' for being part of the NHS on its 75th Birthday.



Trust and PFI staff members celebrating big tea



NHS 75 pin badge funded by the charity

### 6.3 Long Service Awards

Annually the charity funds the Trusts Long Service Awards for staff members celebrating time in the NHS by receiving their 25, 30 and 40 years awards. The 2023 awards recognised an incredible 3,000 years of service within the NHS, a truly remarkable achievement. The presentations were made by chief executive Diane Wake and chair Sir David Nicholson.

Staff members celebrating long-service awards



## 7. Maximise the contribution

### 7.1 Glitter Ball

Black Country businesses came together to show their support for their local hospital and community services charity on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at the Copthorne Hotel in Dudley. Gathering local businesses together, the evening offered the opportunity for attendees to learn about the NHS, to raise funds for the charity and also network with other like-minded Black Country businesses.

The event was kindly sponsored by Mitie, Summit Healthcare, How to find a Care Home and Black Country & Marches Institute of Technology.

Guests were treated to a wonderful evening of entertainment including welcome drinks and a two-course meal, as well as live music from Abba Legacy. They had an opportunity to hear from the Trust's chief executive Diane Wake and Dr Richard Alleyne, who spoke about his work in palliative care and the vital role the Trust Charity plays in supporting patients in end of life care at Dudley.

Steve Johnson, head of projects at Mitie said, "It was a glamorous night in Dudley for such a fantastic cause. There were some really passionate speakers, with compelling stories that I myself personally related to, particularly around palliative care. The attendance shows how all parties involved with the Trust are committed to providing the best service and care they can for the patients".

Many businesses and their teams celebrated their Christmas parties this year whilst giving back to a vital cause. The event managed to raise an amazing £16,500 which included some generous donations to raffle and auction prizes. The funds raised supported our patient and staff wellbeing fund.



Annual charity business networking event

### 7.2 New charity mascot

The Dudley Group NHS Charity were thrilled to receive a development grant for £30,000 from NHS Charities Together which specifically aimed at supporting charities to build capacity and become more robust. Our charity is utilising the grant to rebrand, create a new charity website, develop a charity mascot, and launch these to all its stakeholders.

In December 2023 the charity launched a childrens mascot competition through a unique partnership between Dudley Group NHS Charity and educational resource publishing company Twinkl. After receiving over fifty entries for the competition, the winning design of a friendly fox called Aati (which means the one who is generous in Arabic) caught the imagination of the judges. Wearing a Black



Country inspired t-shirt, a chain and holding the charity flag in his paw, Aati's friendly and fun personality shone through!

Designed by eleven-year-old, Laila Adams-Flash, was thrilled to receive the news that her creation had been chosen as the winning design, "I feel so happy to be the winner of this competition, I love drawing characters and cartoons so when my mum told me about the competition, I knew I really wanted to take part! I can't wait to see Aati showing others that's its kind to give to charity".

The mascot will now go into production and will be officially unveiled to Laila and the public in September 2024.



Childrens mascot competition winner with her design

## 8. Monitoring our fundraising income, expenditure and performance

### 8.1 Fundraising Income

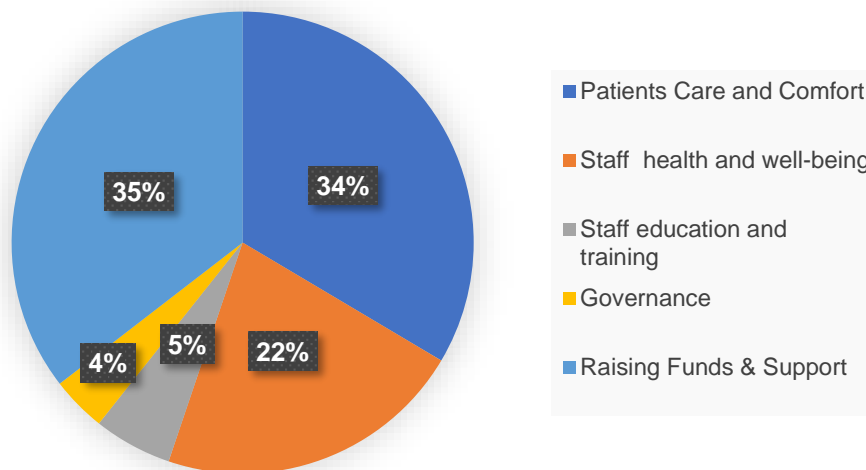
This year has been challenging for income in comparison to previous years, last year our total income was £723k and this year it has decreased to £674k. This was due to the charity experiencing a drop in donations following the pandemic and current cost of living crisis where we have seen donations decrease. We have also not been successful with applications for major grants due to the competitive environment in the charity sector which has seen a decrease in our grant funding.

The objectives and performance of the Dudley Group NHS Charity continue to be monitored and governed by the Charitable Funds Committee, a Sub-Committee of the Trust Board, chaired by a Non-Executive Director. In summary, the Corporate Trustees of Your Trust Charity have confidence in the fundraising and business development plan up to 2025, underpinned by the charity rebrand, new website and charity mascot which continues to act as a focal point of engagement with our supporters and donors.

### 8.2 Charitable funds spent in 2023-2024

The below chart explains how our charities income was spent over the course of 2023-2024 which is in line with our charities aims and objectives.

### Total raised £674k



## 9. Plans for Future Periods 2024-2025

### 9.1 New charity rebrand, website and charity mascot

The charity will be launching its new refreshed branding along with its own stand along website and newly produced charity mascot to the public in 2024. The charity hopes all of these will help to increase public engagement, fundraising and awareness of the fantastic work we do as a charity and as an NHS Trust. In line with our new branding, we will look to refresh spaces across the Trust and also look at digital donation points.

### 9.2 Fundraising Income Streams

As per our 2022-2025 fundraising strategy our focus for the next 12 months 2024-2025 will be:

- To support our reach amongst the corporate business community we will look to recruit a Corporate Advisory Group with select senior individuals from the local business sector in The Black Country. The group will work alongside the fundraising team to secure new corporate partnerships and a greater presence within the area.
- We will look to develop a plan to increase new income from “In Memoriam” giving and legacies by actively promote legacies with marketing campaigns, using a range of media (running continuously internally and externally to the Trust).
- Look at setting up an external lottery for the public to get involved with which could increase the charity's unrestricted income.
- We will plan a major appeal to raise £1m in line with the Trust priorities.
- We will look to digitalise the process of expenditure of all funds and create an online bid process for the patient and staff well-being fund.
- We will look to implement the process of looking for a new database system for the charity.

### 9.3 Measuring impact and performance

The charity will work towards created its own impact reporting tool which includes inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts, with impact viewed in terms of the long-term effect of a charity's activities on both individual beneficiaries and at a societal level.



#### **9.4 Trustees Perspective**

The charity fundraising strategy is due for review next year and the charity is planning ahead towards the future. The board of trustees are currently working with the charity to refresh its strategy for the next three years 2026-2029. This will include an internal and external review of the charity and reviewing the findings which will then translate into the development of a new fundraising strategy.

## **Appendix 1 - Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Charity Name:**

The Dudley Group NHS Charity

### **Charity Registration Number:**

1056979

### **Governing Document:**

The Dudley Group NHS Charity, registered Charity Number 1056979, was entered on the Central Register of Charities on the 22 July 1996 and amended on 14 November 2011.

### **Charity Trustees:**

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust is the Corporate Trustee of the Dudley Group NHS Charity (Trust Charity) and the Charitable Funds governed by the law applicable to Trusts, principally the Trustee Act 2000 and the Charities Act 2011.

The Corporate Trustee presents the Charitable Funds Annual Report and Summary Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Charity's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 have been prepared by the Corporate Trustee in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015. The Charity's Annual Report and Financial Statements include all the separately established funds for which The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust is the sole beneficiary.

The Charity is constituted of 75 individual funds as at the 31 March 2024 (2022/23:74) and the notes to the financial statements, as per the Financial Accounts 2023/24 distinguish the types of funds held and disclose separately all material funds.

Charitable funds received by the Charity are accepted and held and administered as funds and property held on trust for the purposes relating to the health service in accordance with the National Health Services Act 2006 and the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 and these funds are held on trust by the corporate body.

The members of the NHS Foundation Trust Board who served during the financial year were as follows:

Position	Name	Commencing	End
Chief executive	Diane Wake	03/04/17	
Chief finance officer (interim)	Chris Walker	01/01/24	
Chief finance officer (Interim)	Kevin Stringer	01/06/22	31/12/23
Chief operating officer	Karen Kelly	02/01/18	
Medical director	Julian Hobbs	02/10/17	
Chief nurse	Mary Sexton	29/11/19	31/10/23
Interim chief nurse	Helen Blanchard	23/10/23	21/03/24
Chief nurse	Martina Morris	03/03/24	
Chief people officer (Interim)	Alan Duffell	20/06/22	
Director of integration	Kat Rose**	18/04/22	
Executive chief strategy and digital officer and deputy chief executive	Adam Thomas	01/09/19	
Director of governance	Andy Proctor **	01/06/22	
Director of communications	Liz Abbiss**	01/05/23	
Chair	Sir David Nicholson	01/09/22	
Non-executive director	Prof Liz Hughes	15/11/19	
Non-executive director	Julian Atkins	04/01/16	31/05/24
Non-executive director	Catherine Holland	01/09/18	
Non-executive director	Lowell Williams	01/12/19	
Non-executive director and deputy chair	Prof Gary Crowe	01/07/19	
Non-executive director	Vij Randeniya	20/11/20	
Associate non-executive director	Thuvarahan Amuthalingham****	13/05/21	
Non-executive director	Gurjit Bhogal	13/05/21	
Associate non-executive director	Anthony Hilton****	01/07/23	
Non-executive director	Joanne Hanley	01/06/23	

*\*\*non-voting*

*\*\*\*\*associate non-executive directors are non-voting*

The NHS Foundation Trust Board devolved responsibility for the on-going management of funds to the Charity Committee (previously known as Charitable Funds Committee) which administers the funds on behalf of the Corporate Trustee.

**The members of the Charity Committee who served during the financial year are as follows:**

Position	Name	Joined CFC	Left
Non-executive director (chair of charity committee)	Julian Atkins	04/01/16	31/05/24
Non-executive director (chair of charity committee)	Prof Gary Crowe	01/06/24	
Chief executive	Diane Wake	03/04/17	
Chief finance officer (interim)	Kevin Stringer	01/06/22	31/12/23
Chief finance officer (interim)	Chris Walker	01/01/24	
Non-executive director	Lowell Williams	01/08/22	
Associate non-executive director	Thuvarahan Amuthalingham****	13/05/21	

\*\*\*\*associate non-executive directors are non-voting

## **Appendix 2 - Principal Charitable Fund Advisers**

The following officers of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust are the principal charitable fund advisers:

Diane Wake, chief executive, and Kevin Stringer & Chris Walker, interim directors of finance, under a scheme of delegated authority as approved by the Corporate Trustee, have day-to-day responsibility for the management of the Charitable Fund and must personally approve, on behalf of the Corporate Trustee, all expenditure over £5,000 with an upper limit of £50,000 using their delegated authority. All executive directors and the deputy director of finance - Financial Reporting, under a scheme of delegated authority as approved by the Corporate Trustee, approve all expenditure up to £5,000.

Liz Abbiss, director of communications, advises on proposals for fundraising as well as the spending strategy in this financial year and has responsibility for the communications and charity teams.

Nithee Patel, head of fundraising oversees the fundraising of the Dudley Group NHS Charity. They write the charity strategy and action plans relating to income generation as well as writing fundraising proposals and applications for grants. They oversee the charity and manage the charity team. They work with fund managers to ensure they are spending their funds accordingly.

Emma Bland, head of financial services, advised and reported on charitable funds, including strategy and processes.

Sarah Gregg, senior financial accountant, acted as the principal officer overseeing the day- to-day financial management and accounting for the charitable funds during the year.

Karen Phillips, fundraising manager, liaises with the wards and departments providing advice and support for the charity fundraising. They lead on key fundraising campaigns for the charity as well as apply for funding to local grants, foundations, and trusts. They work with local businesses to develop corporate partnerships as well as support with fundraising events for the charity.

Samantha Powers, fundraising and events manager, leads on the charity's portfolio of events. They also lead the creation, planning and successful implementation of the charity's appeals and campaigns programme. In addition to raising awareness of the charity within the wider Dudley and West Midlands area.

Henna Rhoad, fundraising apprentice, manages the charity's social media presence, designs promotional material for the charity, organises cheque presentations, and supports the team with fundraising events and projects.

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel are in line with the Trust and NHS Agenda for Change and their banding system. All roles in the charity team have been benchmarked against other similar NHS Charities in the region and the parameters used in setting their pay are inline with the NHS terms and conditions. All roles and their pay and remuneration are reviewed and approved by the charity committee.

### **Principal Office for the Charity**

Finance Department,  
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust,  
Trust Headquarters,  
Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley,

West Midlands, DY1 2HQ.  
Telephone: 01384 321121

A full set of financial statements can be downloaded from our website [www.dudleygroup.nhs.uk/our-charity](http://www.dudleygroup.nhs.uk/our-charity) or by contacting the Charity Finance Team, on 01384 321121 or [dgft.charityfinance@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.charityfinance@nhs.net)



## **Appendix 3 - Principal Professional Advisers**

### **Bankers**

NatWest  
RBS European Operations Centre,  
Brampton Road,  
Newcastle-under-Lyme,  
Staffordshire,  
ST5 0QX

Santander UK plc  
Corporate & Commercial Banking  
1/35, 287-301 St Vincent Street  
Glasgow  
G25HN

### **Solicitors**

Mills & Reeve  
78-84 Colmore Row  
Birmingham  
B3 2AB

### **Investment Fund Managers**

BlackRock Investment Managers Limited  
PO Box 545  
Darlington  
DL1 9TQ

### **Independent Auditors**

Grant Thornton LLP  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
103 Colmore Row,  
Birmingham  
B3 3AG

## Appendix 4 - Structure, Governance and Management

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust consists of Russells Hall Hospital (Acute Hospital), Corbett Outpatient Centre and Guest Outpatient Centre. The charitable funds are attributed in line with the Trust's Directorate structure. For example, charitable funds for Medicine include Medical Wards, Leukaemia, Respiratory, Diabetes, Rheumatology, Rehabilitation and Palliative care. The funds within Surgery include Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT), Ophthalmology, Surgical Wards, Breast Cancer Services, Surgery and Theatres. Other funds are within Obstetrics, Gynaecology, Pathology, Critical Care, Neonatal Services, Cardiology, Gastrointestinal Services, Renal Unit and Coronary Care. Adult Community Services include the District Nurse Teams Fund, Audiology, and the Community Rehabilitation Fund (which includes Neurology).

The Charity fund was established with the Charity Commission using the model declaration of trust and all funds held on trust as at the date of registration were classified as unrestricted funds or classified as designated funds under the main Charity. Subsequent donations and gifts received by the Charity that are attributable to the original funds are added to those fund balances within the existing Charity.

The Corporate Trustee fulfils its legal duty by ensuring that funds are spent in accordance with the objects of each fund. By designating funds, the key aim of the Trustee is to serve the NHS Trust for the public benefit, it respects the wishes of our generous donors to support patient care and advance the good health and welfare of patients, visitors, and staff. The Trustee have complied with their duty to have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, with due regard for funding decisions to demonstrate public benefit in the Charity's work.

Non-Executive Members of the Trust Board are appointed by the Trust Governors. Executive members of the Board are subject to recruitment by the NHS Foundation Trust Board. Members of the Trust Board and the Charity Committee (previously known as Charitable Funds Committee) are not individual trustee under Charity Law but act as agents on behalf of the Corporate Trustee.

The newly appointed members of the Charity Committee are provided with an induction pack which provides information about the Charity, including the Charity Committee terms of reference, Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements, policies and minutes, and information about trusteeship, including Charity Commission booklet CC3, The Essential Trustee. The Chair gives new members of both the NHS Foundation Trust Board and the Charity Committee a briefing on the current policies and priorities for the charitable funds.

Acting for the Corporate Trustee, the Charity Committee is responsible for the overall management of the Charitable Fund. The Committee is required to:

- Control, manage and monitor the use of the fund's resources.
- Provide support and guidance for usage of funds, whilst managing and monitoring the receipt of all income.
- Ensure that 'best practice' is followed in the conduct of all its affairs fulfilling all of its legal responsibilities.
- Ensure that the Investment Policy approved by the NHS Foundation Trust Board as Corporate Trustee is adhered to, and that performance is continually reviewed whilst being aware of ethical considerations.
- Keep the Trust Board fully informed on the activity, performance, and risks of the Charity.

The Charity Committee was established in 2006/07 and reports to the Trust Board. The objectives of the committee are to control the management and administration of the Charity in accordance with the

Charity's purposes and in line with the Charitable Funds Investment Policy. The committee will assist in the determination of the Charitable Funds Strategy ensuring that the Charity has all the hallmarks of an effective charity, as set out in the standards issued by the Charity Commission.

The accounting records and the day-to-day administration of the funds are dealt with by the Finance Department, Trust Headquarters, Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 2HQ.

## **Appendix 5 - Risk Management and Financial Review**

The risks to which the Charity is exposed have been identified and considered.

### **Future levels of income**

The charity is reliant on donations to allow it to support the Trust and its plans for the future. The Trustees mitigate the risk that income will fall by engaging with the Charity Team. Fundraising activity is regularly reviewed at the Charity Committee meetings to understand what worked well and what improvements may be needed.

### **Fall in investment returns**

The most significant risk identified was a possible loss from a fall in the value of the investments and the level of reserves available to mitigate the impact of such losses. The charity committee review the investment returns at the quarterly meetings to ensure that both spending and financial commitments remain in line with available income.

An effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated in connection with the charitable funds as the Charity is managed under the Governance and internal controls that are in place for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. The current system of internal financial control provides reasonable assurance of the safeguarding of assets, the maintenance of proper accounting records and the reliability of financial information.

### **Financial Review**

The deficit for the year was (£110,000). This is due to a reduction in donations and legacies, alongside an increase in expenditure on raising funds and charitable activities. Further detail is provided in sections 8.1 and 8.2 of this report.

The principal funding sources in 2023/24 were from donations and legacies (£0.336m), investments (£0.110m) and fundraiser income (£0.081m).

Up until March 2024, the Charity was holding £1.431m with BlackRock: £1.229m in their UK Equity ESG Fund, and £0.202m in their UK Bond Fund A. During March, the Charity redeemed its £1.229m holding in the UK Equity ESG Fund; these funds were transferred to BC Brewin Dolphin in 2024/25. The aim of the investments is primarily to provide income to support the grant giving activities as well as to grow the capital value in line with inflation as measured by UK CPI. The Charity also wishes for its investments to be managed in an ethical manner and has decided to place restrictions on direct investment into companies involved with tobacco, alcohol or obesity. The Charity's Investment Manager will consider Environmental, Social and Governance factors with all investments as they believe that companies that take these factors seriously will be the better long-term investments.

The Charity's financial position including reserves are closely monitored and reported on at quarterly Charity Committees. Reserves are total funds available to the Charity (liquid or otherwise) to enable it to meet its objectives. The Charity maintains sufficient reserves to allow it to cover known liabilities and contingencies, absorb setbacks and take advantage of change and opportunity. Funds of the Charity comprise Unrestricted Funds £2,355,000 (2022/23 £2,419,000) of which £2,083,000 (2022/23 £2,192,000) have been designated for specific purposes and Restricted Funds £205,000 (2022/23 £252,000). Unrestricted Funds comprise those funds that the trustee is free to use for any purpose in

furtherance of the Charity objectives. Restricted Funds are specific appeals for funds or donations where legal restrictions have been imposed by the Donor.

### **Working in partnership for public benefit**

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust is the main beneficiary of the Charity and is a related party by virtue of being Corporate Trustee of the Charity. The charities objectives are for any charitable purpose or purposes relating to the National Health Service, wholly or mainly for the service provided by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. The strategy of the Charity is to work in partnership with the Trust, ensuring the funds are used to best effect, by deciding upon the most beneficial way to use charitable funds regarding the main activities, objectives, strategies, and plans of the Trust.

Our mission statement is to enhance and further improve the high quality services provided by the Trust, providing additional comfort and benefit to its patients and staff, by focusing fund expenditure on areas not covered or fully supported by NHS funds.

The charity team continues to forge strong relationships with members of staff of the hospital and community donors, local businesses, and fundraisers. Without the support and co-operation of the wider community the effective contribution to the Trust would be much diminished. The director of communications and the head of fundraising has also ensured that public are thanked for the enormous fundraising goodwill has been achieved.

In accordance with the objectives and strategy of the Charity, the head of financial services and the head of fundraising liaise with fund managers and department heads to encourage the spending of their funds in accordance with the donor's wishes; by supporting research and procedures within the National Health Service, supporting capital developments and the purchase of medical equipment, provide training and development activities for clinical and other staff, to ensure public benefit.

The Leukaemia Appeal Fund, a separately registered Charity (charity number 701336) raises money specifically for the Georgina Unit at Russells Hall Hospital.

The Trust's Volunteer Service, managed by the volunteer co-ordinator, Jane Goldsmith provides a valuable service to patients, visitors, and staff. For more information call 01384 456111 ext. 3420 or email [jane.goldsmith1@nhs.net](mailto:jane.goldsmith1@nhs.net).

The charity has a small number of volunteers who help us raise significant funds, represent us at events and around the Trust, support our office functions, and raise the profile of the Dudley Group NHS Charity in the community. Examples of roles include charity hub volunteer, ad-hoc corporate volunteer, events volunteers and charity mascot volunteer. We are thankful to all our volunteers and appreciate their contribution.

The Dudley Clinical Education Centre promotes and advances the study of science and medicine by supporting the professional education and development of Trust & Community staff and associated healthcare professionals. It supports key patients who are committed to further development of staff, by assisting in the training which empowers their contribution to specialist teams to improve the quality of care for all patients. For more information contact Kate Holmes, Medical Education Manager on 01384 321095 or email [kate.holmes8@nhs.net](mailto:kate.holmes8@nhs.net)

The Charity continues to be a member of NHS Charities Together, the trading name of the Association of NHS Charities. This organisation ensures that the Charity is kept informed and fully updated on all

current and developing issues in relation to charitable funds. Concerns are highlighted and the knowledge shared with similar organisations.

The charity is not a grant making organisation therefore so not have a grant making policy.



**CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24**

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

**DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**2023-24**

**FOREWORD**

The Dudley Group NHS Charity funds are registered with the Charity Commission, reference number 1056979 and include funds in respect of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the requirements in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008, Charities Act 2011, the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS102), and the Charities FRS 102 SORP for years commencing on or after January 2019 (The Statement of Recommended Practice).

**MAIN PURPOSE OF THE FUNDS HELD ON TRUST**

The main purpose of charitable funds held on trust is to apply income for any charitable purpose relating to the National Health Service wholly or mainly for the services provided by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

Approved by the Board on 14 November 2024.



Signed:

Date: 20 November 2024

## **CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24**

### **Statement of trustee's responsibilities**

The trustee is responsible for preparing the Trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The trustees have to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently: observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102); make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements: and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustee is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustee confirms that:

so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable company's auditor is unaware: and the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to, have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board on 14 November 2024.

Signed on behalf of the trustee:

Chairman.....

Date 20 November 2024

Trustee.....

Date 20 November 2024

## Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Dudley Group NHS Charity

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Dudley Group NHS Charity (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year ended 31 March 2024;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, 2019 Edition; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

### Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the trustees conclusions, we considered the inherent risks associated with the charity's business model including effects arising from macro-economic uncertainties such as the cost of living crisis, we assessed and challenged the reasonableness of estimates made by the trustees and the related disclosures and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the group and the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Charities SORP (FRS 102), Charities Act 2011, The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 and Data Protection Act 2018;

- We understood how the charity is complying with these legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those charged with governance. We enquired of management and those charged with governance whether there were any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, or whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of board and other minutes and through our legal and professional expenses review;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, and the risk of material override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the team included:
  - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of certain controls management has put in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting policies;
  - Identifying and testing journal entries, with a focus on unusual journals with specific risk characteristics and large value journals;
  - Identifying and testing related party transactions;
  - Inspecting board and other committee minutes; and
  - Assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
- These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it;
- The assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team. This included consideration of the engagement team's:
  - Understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
  - Knowledge of the charity sector; and
  - Understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the group including:
    - The provisions of the applicable legislation; and
    - Guidance issued by the Charity Commission.
- The team communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations included the potential for fraud in revenue through manipulation of income and management override of controls.
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
  - The charity's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement; and
  - The charity's control environment, including:
    - The policies and procedures implemented by the group to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework and relevant laws and regulations;
    - The adequacy of procedures for authorisation of transactions and review of management accounts; and
    - Procedures to ensure that possible breaches of laws and regulations are appropriate resolved.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jim McLarnon ACA  
Grant Thornton UK LLP  
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants  
Birmingham

Date: 21 November 2024

Grant Thornton UK LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2023/24 Total Funds £000	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2022/23 Total Funds £000
<b>Income from</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	340	(4)	336	405	132	537
Investments	14	110	0	110	72	4	76
Other trading activities	4	106	8	114	94	1	95
Other	5	5	0	5	16	0	16
<b>Total income</b>		<b>561</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>723</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>							
Raising funds	7 & 10	(187)	(9)	(196)	(140)	(19)	(159)
Charitable activities	7	(411)	(33)	(444)	(205)	(135)	(340)
Other expenditure	7	(26)	(8)	(34)	(23)	(44)	(67)
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(624)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>(674)</b>	<b>(368)</b>	<b>(197)</b>	<b>(565)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(63)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(109)</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>158</b>
Net Gains/(losses) on investments	13	(1)	0	(1)	(36)	0	(36)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) after Gains/(Losses) on investments</b>		<b>(64)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>122</b>
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Movement in funds</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(64)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>							
Total Unrestricted Funds brought forward		2,419	0	2,419	2,237	0	2,237
Total Restricted Funds brought forward		0	252	252	0	312	312
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>2,671</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

All activities arise from continuing activities. There were no recognised gains or losses after those shown above. The statement is equivalent to the income and expenditure account.



# CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total at 31 March 2024 £000	Total at 31 March 2023 £000
<b>Non Current Assets</b>					
Intangible Assets	12	0	0	0	0
Investments	13	202	0	202	1,433
Debtors over 1 year	15	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>202</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>1,433</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	15	34	(3)	32	29
Cash and cash equivalents	16	2,134	223	2,357	1,267
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,168</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>2,389</b>	<b>1,296</b>
Creditors falling due within one year	17	15	15	30	58
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>2,153</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>1,238</b>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>
Creditors falling due after more than one year	17	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	18	0	206	206	252
Unrestricted income funds	19	2,355	0	2,355	2,419
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>

The notes at pages 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements which were approved by the trustee and authorised for issue on their behalf by:

Signed:

*Dwaka*

Date: 20 November 2024

Funds of the Charity comprise Unrestricted Funds £2,355,000 (2022/23 £2,419,000) of which £2,083,000 (2022/23 £2,192,000) have been designated for specific purposes and Restricted Funds £206,000 (2022/23 £252,000). Unrestricted Funds comprise those funds that the trustee is free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the Charity objectives. Restricted Funds are specific appeals for funds or donations where legal restrictions have been imposed by the Donor.

**Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	2023/24 Total Funds £000	2022/23 Total Funds £000
<b>Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(109)	158
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	0	0
Dividends and interest from investments	(110)	(76)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(3)	(7)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(28)	14
Net cash provided by (used in ) operating activities	<u>(250)</u>	<u>89</u>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(250)	89
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Dividends and interest from investments	<u>1,339</u>	<u>76</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>1,339</u>	<u>76</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	<u>1,090</u>	<u>165</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April</b>	<u>1,267</u>	<u>1,102</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March</b>	<u><u>2,357</u></u>	<u><u>1,267</u></u>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash in hand	2,357	1,267
Notice deposits	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u><u>2,357</u></u>	<u><u>1,267</u></u>

CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24

Data entered below will be used throughout the workbook:

This year	2023-24
Last year	2022-23
This year ended	2024
Last year ended	2023
This year beginning	1 April 2023
This year name	31 March 2024
Last year name	31 March 2023

**CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24**

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

**DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**2023-24**

**FOREWORD**

The Dudley Group NHS Charity funds are registered with the Charity Commission, reference number 1056979 and include funds in respect of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the requirements in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008, Charities Act 2011, the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS102), and the Charities FRS 102 SORP for years commencing on or after January 2019 (The Statement of Recommended Practice).

**MAIN PURPOSE OF THE FUNDS HELD ON TRUST**

The main purpose of charitable funds held on trust is to apply income for any charitable purpose relating to the National Health Service wholly or mainly for the services provided by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

Approved by the Board on 14 November 2024.



Signed:

Date: 20 November 2024

## **CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24**

### **Statement of trustee's responsibilities**

The trustee is responsible for preparing the Trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The trustees have to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently: observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102); make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements: and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

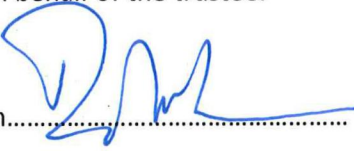
The trustee is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustee confirms that:

so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable company's auditor is unaware: and the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to, have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board on 14 November 2024.

Signed on behalf of the trustee:

Chairman.....

Date 20 November 2024

Trustee.....

Date 20 November 2024

## Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Dudley Group NHS Charity

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Dudley Group NHS Charity (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year ended 31 March 2024;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, 2019 Edition; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

### Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the trustees conclusions, we considered the inherent risks associated with the charity's business model including effects arising from macro-economic uncertainties such as the cost of living crisis, we assessed and challenged the reasonableness of estimates made by the trustees and the related disclosures and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the group and the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Charities SORP (FRS 102), Charities Act 2011, The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 and Data Protection Act 2018;



- We understood how the charity is complying with these legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those charged with governance. We enquired of management and those charged with governance whether there were any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, or whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of board and other minutes and through our legal and professional expenses review;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, and the risk of material override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the team included:
  - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of certain controls management has put in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting policies;
  - Identifying and testing journal entries, with a focus on unusual journals with specific risk characteristics and large value journals;
  - Identifying and testing related party transactions;
  - Inspecting board and other committee minutes; and
  - Assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
- These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it;
- The assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team. This included consideration of the engagement team's:
  - Understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
  - Knowledge of the charity sector; and
  - Understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the group including:
    - The provisions of the applicable legislation; and
    - Guidance issued by the Charity Commission.
- The team communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations included the potential for fraud in revenue through manipulation of income and management override of controls.
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
  - The charity's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement; and
  - The charity's control environment, including:
    - The policies and procedures implemented by the group to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework and relevant laws and regulations;
    - The adequacy of procedures for authorisation of transactions and review of management accounts; and
    - Procedures to ensure that possible breaches of laws and regulations are appropriate resolved.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jim McLarnon ACA  
Grant Thornton UK LLP  
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants  
Birmingham

Date: 21 November 2024

Grant Thornton UK LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2023/24 Total Funds £000	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2022/223 Total Funds £000
<b>Income from</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	340	(4)	336	405	132	537
Investments	14	110	0	110	72	4	76
Other trading activities	4	106	8	114	94	1	95
Other	5	5	0	5	16	0	16
<b>Total income</b>		<b>561</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>723</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>							
Raising funds	7 & 10	(187)	(9)	(196)	(140)	(19)	(159)
Charitable activities	7	(411)	(33)	(444)	(205)	(135)	(340)
Other expenditure	7	(26)	(8)	(34)	(23)	(44)	(67)
<b>Total expenditure</b>	21	<b>(624)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>(674)</b>	<b>(368)</b>	<b>(197)</b>	<b>(565)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(63)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(109)</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>158</b>
Net Gains/(losses) on investments	13	(1)	0	(1)	(36)	0	(36)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) after Gains/(Losses) on investments</b>		<b>(64)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>122</b>
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Movement in funds</b>	11	<b>(64)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>							
Total Unrestricted Funds brought forward		2,419	0	2,419	2,237	0	2,237
Total Restricted Funds brought forward		0	252	252	0	312	312
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>2,671</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

All activities arise from continuing activities. There were no recognised gains or losses after those shown above. The statement is equivalent to the income and expenditure account.

# CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total at 31 March 2024 £000	Total at 31 March 2023 £000
<b>Non Current Assets</b>					
Intangible Assets	12	0	0	0	0
Investments	13	202	0	202	1,433
Debtors over 1 year	15	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>202</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>1,433</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	15	34	(3)	32	29
Cash and cash equivalents	16	2,134	223	2,357	1,267
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,168</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>2,389</b>	<b>1,296</b>
Creditors falling due within one year	17	15	15	30	58
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>2,153</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>1,238</b>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>
Creditors falling due after more than one year	17	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	18	0	206	206	252
Unrestricted income funds	19	2,355	0	2,355	2,419
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,355</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,671</b>

The notes at pages' 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements which were approved by the trustee and authorised for issue on their behalf by:

Signed:



Date: 20 November 2024

Funds of the Charity comprise Unrestricted Funds £2,355,000 (2022/23 £2,419,000) of which £2,083,000 (2022/23 £2,192,000) have been designated for specific purposes and Restricted Funds £206,000 (2022/23 £252,000). Unrestricted Funds comprise those funds that the trustee is free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the Charity objectives, Restricted Funds are specific appeals for funds or donations where legal restrictions have been imposed by the Donor.

**Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	2023/24 Total Funds £000	2022/23 Total Funds £000
<b>Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(109)	158
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	0	0
Dividends and interest from investments	(110)	(76)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(3)	(7)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(28)	14
Net cash provided by (used in ) operating activities	<u>(250)</u>	<u>89</u>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(250)	89
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Dividends and interest from investments	1,339	76
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>1,339</u>	<u>76</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	<u>1,090</u>	<u>165</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April</b>	1,267	1,102
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March</b>	<u>2,357</u>	<u>1,267</u>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash in hand	2,357	1,267
Notice deposits	0	0
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>2,357</u>	<u>1,267</u>

## **Notes to the financial statements**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

#### **(a) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charities SORP 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and FRS102.

The charity's major funds held in restricted and unrestricted categories are disclosed in notes 18 and 19, on page 18.

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. There are no material uncertainties affecting the current year's financial statements.

#### **(b) Structure of funds**

Restricted Funds are those where the donor has provided for the donation to be spent in furtherance of a specific charitable purpose or an appeal for funds where legal restrictions have been imposed by the donor.

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustee is free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. The Trustees have set aside part of the unrestricted funds as designated funds to be used for a particular ward or specialty where the donor has specified.

The major funds held in each of these categories are disclosed in notes 18 and 19, on page 18.

#### **(c) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value if incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where there are terms or conditions attached to incoming resources, particularly grants, then these terms or conditions must be met before the income is recognised as the entitlement condition will not be satisfied until that point.

Individual donations are reviewed for Gift Aid application and duly claimed from H.M.R.C.  
Gift Aid income is accrued at the year-end if not claimed from H.M.R.C in the financial year.

#### **(d) Incoming resources from legacies**

Legacies are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable, this will be once confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that probate has been granted, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled or are within the charity's control.

#### **(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to each category of expense shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. Expenditure is recognised when the following criteria are met:

There is a present legal or constructive obligation resulting from a past event. It is more likely than not that a transfer of benefits (usually a cash payment) will be required in settlement.

The amount of the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of r incurred.

## 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

### (f) Recognition of expenditure and associated liabilities as a result of grant

Grants are only made to related or third party NHS bodies and non NHS bodies in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the funds held on trust. Grant payments are recognised as expenditure when the conditions for their payment have been met or where there is a constructive obligation to make a payment.

A constructive obligation arises when:

the charity has communicated its intention to award a grant to a recipient who then has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant or

the charity has made a public announcement about a commitment which is specific enough for the recipient to have a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant or

there is an established pattern of practice which indicates to the recipient that we will honour our commitment.

The trustees have control over the amount and timing of grant payments and consequently where approval has been given by the trustees then a liability is recognised. Grants are not usually awarded with conditions. However when they are then those conditions have to be met before the liability is recognised.

When an intention has not been communicated then no expenditure is recognised but an appropriate designation is made in the appropriate fund. If a grant has been offered but there is uncertainty as to whether it will be accepted or whether conditions will be met, then no liability is recognised but a contingent liability is disclosed.

### (g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those costs which do not relate to a single activity. These include staff costs, cost of administration, internal and external audit costs and IT support. Support costs have been apportioned between fundraising costs and charitable activities as a percentage of expenditure. The analysis of support costs and the bases of apportionment applied are shown in note 6, on page 13

### (h) Fundraising Costs

The costs of generating funds are those costs attributable to generating income for the charity, other than those costs incurred in undertaking charitable activities or the costs incurred in undertaking trading activities in furtherance of the charity's objects. The costs of generating funds represent fundraising costs together with investment management fees. Fundraising costs include expenses for fundraising activities and a fee paid to a related party, The Dudley Group NHSFT, under a fundraising agreement (see note 2). The fee is used to pay the salaries and overhead costs of the hospital's fundraising office.

### (i) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include all costs incurred in the pursuit of the charitable objects of the charity. These costs include an apportionment of support costs, as shown in note 6 on page 13, and are apportioned by average fund balance charges to the specific funds.

### (j) Fixed asset investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument. Fixed asset investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and are subsequently measured at their fair value (market value) as at the balance sheet date. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising revaluation and disposals throughout the year. Quoted stocks and shares are included in the balance sheet at the current market value quoted by the investment analyst, excluding dividend. Other investments are included at the trustee's best estimate of market value.

the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors. Further information on the OtM investments can be found in note 13

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Charity Authorised Investment Fund Units are included in the balance sheet at the closing dealing price at 31 March 2023.

### (k) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and the opening market value or purchase date if later. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year end and opening market value or purchase date if later.

### (l) Debtors

Debtors are amounts owed to the charity. They are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

## 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

### (m) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand is held to meet the day to day running costs of the charity as they fall due. Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments, usually in 90-day notice interest bearing savings accounts.

### (n) Creditors

Creditors are amounts owed to the charity. They are measured at the amount that the charity expects to have to pay to settle the debt.

Amounts which are owed in more than a year are shown as long-term creditors.

### (o) Intangible assets

Intangible assets are non-monetary assets without physical substance which are capable of being sold separately from the rest of the Charity's business or which arise from contractual or other legal rights. They are recognised only where it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to, or service potential be provided to, the Charity and where the cost of the asset can be measured reliably.

#### Software

Software which is integral to the operation of hardware e.g. an operating system is capitalised as part of the relevant item of property, plant and equipment. Software which is not integral to the operation of the hardware, e.g. application software, is capitalised as an intangible asset. Purchased computer software licenses are capitalised as intangible non-current assets where expenditure of at least £5,000 is incurred and amortised over the shorter of the term of the license and other useful lives.

#### Measurement

Intangible assets are recognised initially at cost, comprising all directly attributable costs needed to create, produce and prepare the asset to the point that it is capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Subsequently intangible assets are measured at fair value.

#### Amortisation

Intangible assets are amortised over their expected useful economic lives in a manner consistent with the consumption of economic or service delivery benefits.

<u>Asset Category</u>	<u>Useful Life (years)</u>
Software Licences	5

### (p) Pooling Scheme

An official pooling scheme is operated for investments relating to all Umbrella and Special Charity Funds.

The scheme was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 April 1998.

### (q) Cash Flow Statement

The Charity has prepared the financial statements under FRS 102 and provided a statement of cash flow.



## 2 Related party transactions

As part of the normal course of business, the Charitable Funds undertake a number of transactions with The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. These transactions amount to expenditure of £674,000 (2022/23 £565,000); and a creditor of £2,204 (2022/23 £23,000).

The Charity has also undertaken transactions with HMRC, who as a Government Department are deemed a related party. The transactions with HMRC are no income received (2022/23 nil); creditor of nil (2022/23 £17,300), and debt of £1,681 with the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust in this year (2022/23 £3,235).

Members of the Charitable Funds Board of Trustees are also members of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust Board. There are appropriate controls in existence to ensure that individual transactions are undertaken independently of these members.

	2023/24		2022/23	
	Turnover of Connected Organisation	Surplus (Deficit) for the Connected Organisation	Turnover of Connected Organisation	Surplus (Deficit) for the Connected Organisation
	£000	£000	£000	£000
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust	579,323	(30,505)	545,068	(322)

## 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023/24 Total Funds	2022/23 Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Donations from individuals	132	(4)	128	108
Donations in memoriam	65	0	65	91
Charity Appeal income	12	0	12	13
Legacies	131	0	131	167
Grants	1	0	1	158
<b>Total</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>537</b>

Donations from individuals are gifts from members of the public, relatives of patients and staff.

In 2023/24 the Charity received several amounts from legacies totalling £131,000; a slight decrease from 2022/23 (£167,000).

In 2023/24 the Charity received a grant from Waites Family totalling £500 (2022/23 £158,000)

## 4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023/24 Total Funds	2022/23 Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Fundraiser income	73	8	81	64
Staff Lottery Income	33	0	33	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>95</b>

## 5 Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023/24 Total Funds	2022/23 Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Miscellaneous Income	2	0	2	14
Clinical Education Centre - income	3	0	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>

## 6 Allocation of support costs

	Raising funds	Charitable activities	2023/24 Total Funds	2022/23 Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
External audit fee	13	0	13	12
Statutory compliance	0	0	0	0
Financial Services	13	0	13	12
<b>Governance</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>
Financial Administration	41	0	41	36
Salaries and related costs	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous costs	0	8	8	43
Bank charges	1	0	1	1
Charity Ledger costs	6	0	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>110</b>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24 Funds	Total 2022/23 Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Raising funds	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	74	8	82	110
	<b>74</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>110</b>

The allocation of support costs are apportioned using the average balance of each fund and are charged to each fund. Support costs have been apportioned between fundraising costs and charitable activities as a percentage of expenditure as above.

## 7 Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023/24 Funds	Total 2022/23 Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Raising Funds	212	11	223	159
<b>Charitable activities - expenditure</b>				
Purchase of new equipment	189	0	189	47
Staff education and welfare	147	34	181	199
Patient education and welfare	61	6	67	70
Research	0	0	0	6
Building and refurbishment	13	0	13	84
Clinical Education Centre	1	0	1	0
	<b>411</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>406</b>
	<b>623</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>565</b>

The total costs for raising funds is £223,000 (2022/23 £159,000) of which £136,000 relates to the fundraiser and lead fund raiser salary costs (see note 10 page 14) and the remaining balance relates to events and support costs of £77,000 (2022/23 £37,000), and staff lottery prizes £10,000 (2022/23 £10,000),

The cost for building and refurbishment was £13,000 (2022/23 (£84,000)).

## CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24

### 8 Auditor's remuneration

The auditor's remuneration of £12,600 (2022/23 £12,000) relates solely to the statutory audit.

### 9 Trustees' remuneration and benefits

The Trustees' were not paid any remuneration and benefits or reimbursed for any expenditure in 2023/24 (2022/23 nil)

### 10 Staff costs and emoluments

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
Salaries and Wages	110	89
Tax & NI	11	11
Pension costs	15	12
	<u>136</u>	<u>112</u>

The staff costs and emoluments of £110,000 (2022/23 £89,000) relate to the fundraiser who commenced in January 2010, the Fundraising & Engagement Lead who commenced in July 2021, the Fundraising and Events Manager who commenced in October 2023, and the Fundraising Apprentice who commenced in September 2023.

There is one member of staff who earned over £60,000 (2022/23 one member)

There were no other staff costs as the Charity uses the services provided by the NHS Foundation Trust staff, for the administration of the charity (Note 6 Financial Services)

### 11 Analysis of net movement in funds

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2023/24 Total Funds £000	2022/23 Total Funds £000
Net movement in funds for the year	(64)	(46)	(110)	122
Net movement in funds available for future activities	<u>(64)</u>	<u>(46)</u>	<u>(110)</u>	<u>122</u>

## 12 Intangible assets

<b>Cost or Valuation</b>	<b>Software £000</b>	<b>2023/24 £000</b>	<b>2022/23 £000</b>
Balance at start of year	5	5	5
Additions	0	0	0
Revaluations	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
Closing Balance	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
Balance at start of year	5	5	5
Disposals	0	0	0
Revaluations	0	0	0
Impairments	0	0	0
Charge for year	0	0	0
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
Closing Net Book Value	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

## 13 Investments

<b>Movement in fixed asset investments:</b>	<b>2023/24 £000</b>	<b>2022/23 £000</b>
Market value at 1 April	1,433	1,469
Less: Disposals at carrying value	(1,229)	0
Add: Acquisitions at cost	0	0
Net gain (losses) on revaluation	(2)	(36)
Market value at 31 March	<u>202</u>	<u>1,433</u>

<b>Fixed asset investments:</b>	<b>Units held as at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>2023/24 Total £000</b>	<b>2022/23 Total £000</b>
Investments in BLK Charities UK Bond Fund	138,890	202	206
Investments in BLK Charities UK Equity ESG Fund	0	0	1,227
	<u>138,890</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>1,433</u>

# CHARITABLE TRUST ACCOUNT - DUDLEY GROUP NHS CHARITY - 2023/24

## 14 Investment income

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
Investments income - Common Investment Fund	46	50
Cash held as part of the investment portfolio	0	9
Interest from Bank Account	64	17
	<u>110</u>	<u>76</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2023/24 Total Funds £000	2022/23 Total Funds £000
Fixed asset investment	46	0	46	54
Short term investments and cash on deposit	64	0	64	22
	<u>110</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>76</u>

## Movement in Santander Deposit Account

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
Value of Deposit Fund at 1 April	0	500
Additions	0	0
Disposals	0	(500)
Value of Deposit Fund at 31 March	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

## 15 Debtors

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
<b>Debtors under 1 year</b>		
Accrued income	31	29
Prepayments	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Debtors over 1 year</b>		
Accrued income	0	0
Prepayments	0	0
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>

Accrued income of £31,000 (2022/23 £29,000) represents sums owed to the charity, which consists of accrued investment dividend of £9,000, sponsorship for Committed to Excellence awards £8,000, accrued bank interest £8,400, and outstanding Gift Aid claim of £4,900.

## 16 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
Government Banking Services	2,357	1,267
Santander Fixed Term Deposit	0	0
	<b>2,357</b>	<b>1,267</b>

## 17 Creditors

	2023/24 Total £000	2022/23 Total £000
<b>Creditors: falling due within one year</b>		
Trade creditors	0	7
Accruals	30	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Creditors falling due after more than one year</b>		
Accruals	0	0
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>58</b>

Creditor accruals represent sums owed each year end by the Charity, for costs incurred in the furtherance of the Charity's objectives.

# 18 Analysis of charitable funds - restricted

	Balance 1 April 2023 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Transfers £000	Gains and Losses £000	Balance 31 March 2024 £000
Children's Appeal	10	8	0	0	0	18
Cancer Appeal	3	0	0	0	0	3
Emergency Department Appeal	5	0	0	0	0	5
Emergency Department Paediatric Appeal	19	0	(4)	0	0	15
NHS Charities Together	0	0	0	0	0	0
Volunteering Futures Funds	12	0	(9)	0	0	3
COVID-19/Wellbeing	173	(5)	(28)	0	0	140
Dudley Development Grant	30	0	(9)	0	0	21
	<b>252</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>205</b>

Restricted Funds are specific appeals for funds or donations where legal restrictions have been imposed by the donor.

The charity has appeal funds, with grant funding from NHS Charities Together included in the above.

The appeal funds have been established to provide support, comfort and well-being to the patients, their families and carers whilst they are in hospital.

The Volunteering Future Funds was established to expand the Trust student volunteering programme.

The COVID 19/Wellbeing fund was established to support patient and staff well-being during the pandemic and after.

The Dudley Development Grant was provided by NHS Charities Together to support the charity to rebrand, create its own website and mascot.

# 19 Analysis of charitable funds - unrestricted

	Balance 1 April 2023 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Transfers £000	Gains and Losses £000	Balance 31 March 2024 £000
<b>Material funds</b>						
A Patient & Staff Wellbeing Fund	250	200	(177)	0	(1)	272
B Community General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>(177)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>272</b>

	Balance 1 April 2023 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Transfers £000	Gains and Losses £000	Balance 31 March 2024 £000
<b>Material funds designated</b>						
A Special Care Baby Unit	35	7	(5)	0	0	37
B Maternity & Obstetric Unit	132	40	(21)	0	0	151
C Coronary Care Unit	70	59	(11)	0	0	118
D Gastro Intestinal Unit	65	5	(12)	0	0	58
E Renal Unit	104	7	(20)	0	0	91
F Pathology Directorate	73	2	(5)	0	0	70
G Medical Directorate	856	148	(256)	0	(1)	748
H Medical Equipment Charity	136	7	(14)	0	0	129
I Cardiology	17	1	(1)	0	0	17
J Rheumatology	72	5	(10)	0	0	67
K Surgical Directorate	395	57	(57)	0	0	395
L Clinical Education Centre	44	5	(3)	0	0	46
M Adult Community Services	159	17	(31)	0	0	145
Others	11	1	(1)	0	0	11
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>(447)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>2,083</b>
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>(624)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>2,355</b>

## 20 Commitments

The Charity has the following commitments:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023/24	Total Funds 2022/23
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Charitable Projects	0	0	0	0
Capital	0	0	0	0
Other	213	28	241	178
	<b>213</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>178</b>

The charity is undergoing a rebranding and website design project and the playroom on the Children's Unit is undergoing refurbishment. Other commitments relate to miscellaneous items for staff & patients, courses, and patients furniture.

## 21 Analysis of total resources expended

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
<b>Description</b>		
Christmas Expenditure - Patients	5	3
Patients Furniture	17	32
Patient Information/Education	11	3
Patients Miscellaneous	24	17
Medical & Surgical Equipment	167	39
Patients Audio Visual	2	3
Staff Christmas Expenditure	62	13
Staff Expenses	4	1
Staff Books/Journals/Education	14	29
Staff Course Fees	11	8
Staff Retirement/Long Service	13	17
Staff Other	57	90
Research	0	5
Contribution to Capital	11	63
Support Costs	56	86
Fundraiser Costs	183	122
Staff Lottery Prizes	10	10
Clinical Education Centre Costs	1	0
Governance Costs	26	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>565</b>



## Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Dudley Group NHS Charity

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Dudley Group NHS Charity (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year ended 31 March 2024;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, 2019 Edition; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

### Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the trustees conclusions, we considered the inherent risks associated with the charity's business model including effects arising from macro-economic uncertainties such as the cost of living crisis, we assessed and challenged the reasonableness of estimates made by the trustees and the related disclosures and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the group and the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Charities SORP (FRS 102), Charities Act 2011, The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 and Data Protection Act 2018;

- We understood how the charity is complying with these legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those charged with governance. We enquired of management and those charged with governance whether there were any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, or whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of board and other minutes and through our legal and professional expenses review;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, and the risk of material override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the team included:
  - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of certain controls management has put in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting policies;
  - Identifying and testing journal entries, with a focus on unusual journals with specific risk characteristics and large value journals;
  - Identifying and testing related party transactions;
  - Inspecting board and other committee minutes; and
  - Assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
- These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it;
- The assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team. This included consideration of the engagement team's:
  - Understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
  - Knowledge of the charity sector; and
  - Understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the group including:
    - The provisions of the applicable legislation; and
    - Guidance issued by the Charity Commission.
- The team communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations included the potential for fraud in revenue through manipulation of income and management override of controls.
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
  - The charity's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement; and
  - The charity's control environment, including:
    - The policies and procedures implemented by the group to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework and relevant laws and regulations;
    - The adequacy of procedures for authorisation of transactions and review of management accounts; and
    - Procedures to ensure that possible breaches of laws and regulations are appropriate resolved.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jim McLarnon ACA  
Grant Thornton UK LLP  
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants  
Birmingham

Date: 21 November 2024

Grant Thornton UK LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006