

# Kent Association for the Blind

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Report & Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

Charity Number 1062354

Company Number 03339912

[www.kab.org.uk](http://www.kab.org.uk)

**Supporting sight impaired people  
to live independent lives**



**Kent  
Association  
for the  
Blind**

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## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

### **Our Objectives and Activities**

The aim of Kent Association for the Blind (KAB) is to support sight-impaired people to live independent lives. We believe that anyone who has a visual impairment should be able to live a fulfilled, healthy and safe life, exercise self-determination and make informed choices, and achieve their own personal goals. In our Articles of Association our purpose is described as the "relief of blind and partially sighted persons and the prevention of sight loss and blindness" primarily in Kent, Medway and the London Boroughs of Bromley and Bexley. We fulfil our purpose by providing a comprehensive rehabilitation and support service to sight impaired people, and by raising awareness of eye health and the impact of sight loss. 2024-25 marked Year 3 of our role as Lead Provider of a Sensory Wellbeing contract for adults, commissioned by Kent County Council (KCC). Under this contract we deliver services directly, as well as sub-contracting provision for deaf people to two local hearing loss organisations. We are pleased to note that due to our strong performance during the initial term of the contract, in January 2025 we received confirmation that the contract would be extended for the first of two discretionary single year extensions.

This report describes the work we do, looks at what we have achieved over the last 12 months, and highlights our future plans. In reviewing outcomes and planning for the future, KAB's Trustees refer to Charity Commission guidance and ensure that the Charity's activities fulfil both the Commission's public benefit criteria and KAB's charitable objectives.

### **KAB's Clients and Services**

KAB offers help to anyone who is sight impaired: people of any age and at any stage of their sight loss journey. We have over 12,500 visually impaired clients, and for every one of them, poor sight impacts their daily lives. To reduce the impact of sight loss, we provide practical training, advice, support and equipment, and we also support families, carers, schools and employers.

Our operational area is large, and covers both urban and rural areas. Services are delivered from three Sight Centres in Maidstone, Canterbury and Bromley, and a further office base in Medway. Our Counselling, Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) and One-to-One support services are available to people across South-East London and we operate two social groups in the London borough of Bexley.

The main areas of charitable activity which deliver public benefit are:

- Rehabilitation Services, including ECLO support
- Counselling services
- Assistive Technology training and advice
- One-to-One Support Services for blind and deafblind clients
- Transcription Services
- Social and Leisure groups
- Eye health and prevention advice
- Training for Professionals
- Occasional short term developmental and pilot projects
- Volunteer opportunities and placements

## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

KAB is committed to collaborative working and is active within the sight loss sector to ensure best practice is shared, and effort isn't duplicated. Over the last year we have contributed to and benefited from our membership of Visionary (the umbrella body for local associations), this included our CEO continuing in the Chair's role within the London & South East Region CEO network and the Chair of Trustees continuing as a member of the visually impaired Chair and CEO group. The Chair of Trustees is also a part of the Visionary Group.

The backbone of rehabilitation – or 'rehab' - is practical training that helps people learn new skills to manage daily tasks at home and in the community.

Following a successful tender process during the latter months of 24-25, we are delighted to have been awarded a new contract by KCC to deliver habilitation services to sight impaired children, from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025. This contract will replace existing grant funded provision and represents an increased financial envelope to reflect the increased costs (primarily staff costs) of delivering this service. The contract is for 3 years, which will offer KAB greater stability in relation to this area of work and opportunities for workforce planning and development.

We continue to successfully provide existing contracted services as follows

- Lead Provider for a Sensory Wellbeing contract for Kent Adults (KCC)
- Rehabilitation and Voluntary Services for Sight Impaired Adults (London Borough of Bromley)
- Habilitation and Rehabilitation Services (all ages) in Medway (Medway Council)

### **One-to-One Support Services**

Our Guide Communicator and Sight Support Services are a costed provision that provide regular support to people who are sight or dual sensory impaired. This is a community based service aimed at enabling individuals and enhancing their wellbeing. Assistance is provided with a variety of tasks including shopping, managing correspondence and household tasks, attending hospital appointments and accessing social and leisure activities.

The service is funded either privately by individuals or by Social Care as part of an agreed package of support – or sometimes a combination of both.

### **In 2024/5 ;**

- The service supported over 70 clients, via 33 staff
- 40% of clients had a hearing impairment
- Clients were aged between 16 and 100 years
- 65% of clients lived alone
- 52 new referrals into the service were received

The Transcription Service produces accessible materials in audio, Braille, digital formats and large print, which is of huge benefit to the Charity's clients, visually impaired volunteers, Trustees and staff. We also provide small scale transcription for external bodies such as Councils and GPs, however take up has been low this year and we will need to carry out extensive marketing to ensure this service is viable.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

### **Awareness training**

KAB is pleased to be hosting a Research Intern (from October 2024 – July 2025) as part of Thomas Pocklington Trust's 'Get Set Progress' programme. This initiative aims to support more sight-impaired people to access work experience. Our Research Intern is conducting a detailed evaluation of KAB's Sensory Impairment Awareness Training, to inform our future Training model. This research includes consideration of:

- The training needs of our own staff and volunteers
- The training needs of the external market
- Potential development of e-learning packages
- Alternative options for training accreditation

While this research is undertaken, we continue to deliver a range of bespoke courses, both internally and externally. Training recipients include: KAB staff and volunteers, staff working in care homes, Local Authority colleagues, medical students and voluntary sector partners.

### **Clubs, Groups and Client Support**

During this year, 33 KAB social groups have been in operation across Kent, Medway, Bromley and Bexley. These include art and craft sessions, groups who meet for coffee/lunch, clubs who meet for talks/entertainment and groups who go on outings. We are pleased to have supported the introduction of new groups during this year, including 2 additional art based social groups in Tunbridge Wells and Bromley.

Each club is supported by dedicated volunteers who arrange activities and entertainment, act as drivers and escorts, and help to raise funds. For some members, this may be the only face-to-face social contact of the week, so the clubs also act as something of a 'safety net' for some elderly and vulnerable visually impaired people, with volunteers ensuring that KAB is called in if someone needs help.

KAB provides financial support to Clubs via an annual grants programme, and also by meeting volunteers' expenses and providing insurance cover. The Charity also provides non-financial support such as recruiting and training volunteers, carrying out Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and helping with publicity. Our staff visit at least every six months to offer advice and support to both members and volunteers. All KAB Clubs sign up to a Handbook, which aims to ensure they operate safely and fairly and that members' needs are met as well as appropriate.

We also run more focused sessions to connect clients with shared needs e.g. Glaucoma Support groups. We are proud to have an established Advisory Council of service users and volunteers which acts as a consultative group, providing advice to the Senior Management Team and Board of Trustees on topics such as branding, policy, service development and local issues under consultation.

### **Counselling**

In March 2025, our Counselling Service was celebrated at Healthwatch Kent and Medway's Recognition Awards. The Team won an award for excellence and innovation in preventative services. We are also very proud of our Counselling Team for achieving their goal of becoming a trauma informed Service.

We continue to offer face to face counselling from our centres, alongside telephone counselling – with the latter accounting for approximately 70% of provision.

Referrals have risen this year – from an average of 174 over the preceding 2 years, to 212 this year (22% increase). The number of counselling hours delivered has also risen, from 1391 in 23-24, to 1402 in 24-25.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

Thanks to grant funding, we have successfully piloted two online peer groups to support individuals exiting the counselling service. These sessions were facilitated by a trained, sight-impaired KAB Volunteer and feedback from participants was extremely positive:

"I found (the sessions) very helpful to speak to people who are dealing with various stages of sight loss. To feel like I contributed was very rewarding.  
I do hope that these meetings will be the first of many to help others with sight loss and sincerely thank everyone who planned and facilitated them".

"I was unsure when I signed up to join the group (...) but after meeting everyone, chatting and laughing I realised that this was what I needed. To talk through concerns and the hurdles that we have faced or are still facing with our various conditions was an amazing outlet and I hope that my fellow peer group members found the same".

"I realised that I am not alone in the fears and anxieties that I face and that the wonderful advice and support that was given to me by the other people within the group with such consideration and kindness was invaluable. It allowed me to make some difficult decisions that I had been struggling to make and gave me the courage to face the PIP Assessment with some forearmed knowledge of what the process would entail".

### **Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLO)**

We continue to provide immediate support within 10 hospital eye clinics across Kent, Medway and South East London. During the year, we provided 2953 interventions, including:

- Assistance with the process of being registered as sight impaired/severely sight impaired
- Emotional support
- Onward referral to access low vision aids
- Information about eye condition and treatment
- Signposting to services within the community
- Information about daily living aids, equipment and technology

We recently undertook a survey with clinicians, to measure the value of ECLOs to their professional roles. We received extremely positive feedback, including:

- Over 90% of respondents indicated that the ECLO saves them time each week
- Over 93% of respondents agree that ECLOs positively impact the emotional support of patients

'Without ECLO the department will not run efficiently. The role is now one of the foundations that our practice is dependent on.'

'The ECLO is invaluable to my patients as a link between the clinic and KAB. It is a huge relief to be able to put patients directly in touch with someone who can offer them real help. Patients are invariably grateful for the support.'

'Excellent targeted and thoughtful help. Makes eye care better and more productive.'

'The ECLO consistently goes above and beyond....to ensure every patient receives exceptional support.'

# **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

## **Strategic Report**

### **Projects**

Project income has increased from £91,519 in 2023/24 to £92,023 in 2024/25.

#### **Iris – Mobile Sight Centre**

Iris, our community vehicle, has continued to be a key way of increasing our reach and working in partnership. In 24-25, Iris undertook 78 events. Across these events, Iris' onboard team conducted 1,300 one-to-one consultations with individuals, as well as broader engagement with the general public. Of the 1,300 individuals supported, only 14% were previously known to KAB – meaning Iris is achieving her aim of enabling us to support more people via a local approach. The 1-2-1 consultations included information about eye health, technology, wellbeing and more – as well as onward referrals to other KAB community services for additional support with independent living or specific eye conditions. Iris event locations are diverse, including schools, garden centres, supermarkets, day centres, GP practices and hospitals. We have continued to work in partnership to increase Iris' reach and impact—with collaborators including technology suppliers, local branches of Age UK and local charities Involve Kent and Hi Kent.

#### **Financial Review**

In the year ending March 2025, the Charity's principal funding continued to come from Local Authority Contracts, Grants, Fundraising and Legacies.

Income from all areas increased from £2,541,473 in 2023/24 to £5,483,599 in 2024/25. This increase was due to an increase in Donations and Legacies. Income was used to meet KAB's charitable objectives with rehab services being the single largest areas of expenditure at £2,153,336 (2024: £2,101,789).

Total expenditure for the year is £3,037,342 (2024: £3,001,108) resulting in a surplus of £2,456,440 after investment gain, compared with a deficit of £293,747 in the previous year which was as a result of small legacies and higher staffing costs in 2023/24.

#### **Fundraising**

Total Fundraising income increased to £3,562,219 (2024: £607,235) largely attributed to two large legacies and a strategy of focusing on Trust and Foundations (T&F) for this financial year. Areas including the London Marathon event and our annual Golf Day event have over-performed, however, there was a decline in Community and Corporate income. This is partially attributable to not having a Fundraising Manager in post until October 2024 and the challenges of the external fundraising climate. We value the support of all our corporate partners and look forward to working together over the coming year.

Legacy income totalled £3,084,014 (2024: £224,324). The Trustees are very grateful to the kind supporters who have remembered KAB in their wills and through donations in memory.

We continue to gain traction on social media through new follows, with greater engagement from posts about children and younger people. Income through appeals and KAB Connect newsletter have been lower than previous years, due to the cost of living crisis. We continue to seek sponsorship to drive down the publication costs.

Unfortunately, we were greatly impacted by the cost of living crisis this year and have been unable to raise sufficient funds to meet our targets across Community and Individual Fundraising which have been predictably the hardest hit throughout the last financial year as the fundraising landscape continues to evolve.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

Fundraising expenditure has been closely monitored during the year. Our focus on income streams with the greatest return on investment have been critical however the difficulties in recruiting a Fundraising Manager have hindered our business model. A new Fundraising Strategy has been developed by the new Fundraising Manager with support from our experienced Fundraising Trustee and the SMT.

We have seen ongoing success with our revised strategy for T&F, with income increasing again from £220,881 in 23-24 to £276,058 in 24-25. This success is the result of maintaining a high level of applications and seeking a range of grant values. Our current priorities for T&F funding are: Counselling, Assistive Technology, Befriending, Social groups and Children's Activities.

We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and we are committed to following their Code of Fundraising Practice so as to ensure that the public, including vulnerable people, are protected from unreasonable or intrusive approaches. KAB carries out all fundraising activities in line with recognised standards. We are also registered as a Data Controller and Data Processor with the Information Commissioner's Office and are compliant with General Data Protection Regulation requirements.

### **Investment Powers and Policy**

The charity's investment approach for the year was to both grow the real value of investments whilst managing return and risk in the context of uncertain financial markets, and to maximise bank interest from cash held on deposit. The Trustees employ Coutts & Co. investment managers to achieve this aim, using full discretionary powers of investment, but taking a medium to low-risk approach with a clear benchmarked target.

Investment income including bank interest increased to £50,050 in 2024/25 from £40,046 in 2023/24.

In reviewing the investment policy, the Trustees have considered any ethical restrictions they should apply and are mindful of the need to avoid undermining the credibility of KAB by profiting from, or providing capital to, activities which might be connected to those which are detrimental to eye health. KAB only holds collective investments, and as such is not at risk of investing directly in such companies. We also meet regularly with our investment managers and monitor our portfolio to ensure an adequate level of scrutiny of any potential exposure.

### **Reserves Policy**

KAB's Trustees consider that holding reserves is an essential part of their duty of governance. The Reserves Policy is reviewed every February to coincide with the budget setting and strategic planning timetable and the review of the Investment Policy and Risk Register.

The policy for 2025/26 is to hold reserves of £862,000 (2024/25 £490,000) to cover the risks associated with loss of income necessitating winding down some or all of the organisation, loss of key workers, investment risk and the risk of legacy income being below budget. Unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 totalled £1,186,795 (2024: £1,063,944). The planned deficit for the financial year 2024/25 is £470,557.

Trustees recognise that some reserves are required to deliver unfunded services which are intrinsic to KAB's work.

Total funds of the Charity as at 31 March 2025 were £5,235,299 (2024: £2,778,859).

The designated funds at 31 March 2025 totalled £3,506,538 (2024: £1,323,841). Details of these funds are provided in note 18.



## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

Funds have been designated to cover building maintenance, equipment and ICT maintenance and replacement, as well as the continuation and development of key projects. Specifically, allocations linked to projects such as ECLO, Assistive Technology (AT), Training, Counselling, and Transcription reflect the anticipated cost of these services over a period of two to three years.

The maintenance fund accounts for costs expected to arise over the next three years, while the ICT equipment and replacement fund covers anticipated expenses over a one to five-year period. Additionally, there are plans to purchase a property in the Kent area to support both staff and service users.

Future funding will also be required for the Mobile Sight Centre once current funding ceases. A fixed asset fund is in place to reflect the value of operational fixed assets, which are not available for charitable expenditure. The plan to rebrand the organisation is being considered to better reflect its current contracts and activities.

Trustees are confident that their approach to reserves will enable them to maintain current work programmes in the year ahead even with the planned deficit budget, and to complete planned work in the event that income streams are adversely affected.

The restricted funds at 31 March 2025 totalled £541,966 (2024: £391,074). Details of these funds are provided in note 19.

### **Plans for future periods**

The Trustees recognise the need to continue where possible to reduce budget deficits. We have identified our key priority areas such as Trusts and Foundations where we would hope to secure alternative means of funding and help reduce the subsidy from KAB reserves. This includes continuing to explore new funding streams for our ECLO's our Counselling Service and our Clubs and social activities.

We have exciting plans in place for Iris for 2025/26 to enable us to reach more existing and potential service users. We are very grateful to our sponsors and supporters for their continued involvement and we are aiming to further improve our profile county wide next year. This continues to be a very exciting venture for KAB with opportunities to increase the services available on Iris.

We plan to refresh our Strategic Plan in 2025/26 and will begin this process in November 2025 with a staff conference where our teams can contribute to KAB's priority setting.

Our partnership with Medway's Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Transformation Academy continues. The Transformation Academy has continued to develop and we have been providing low level HR support and increased DBS checks to small VCS organisations in Medway to help increase our income. Next year there will be a second tranche of the Academy which our Director of Services will attend.

### **Going concern**

The Trustees have assessed the operational and financial impact in the Strategic Report on pages 5 and 6. Trustees reviewed potential risks to KAB and Trustees note that KAB remains in a stable position.

# **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

## **Reference and administrative details**

Company Number      03339912  
Charity Number        1062354  
Registered Office      72 College Road  
                                 Maidstone  
                                 Kent ME15 6SJ  
                                 Tel 01622 691357

### **Our Advisors**

Bankers                National Westminster Bank plc  
                                 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor County Gate 2  
                                 Staceys Street  
                                 Maidstone  
                                 Kent ME14 1ST

Auditors                Azets Audit Services  
                                 First Floor  
                                 River House  
                                 1 Maidstone Road  
                                 Sidcup  
                                 Kent DA14 5RH

Investment  
Managers                Coutts & Co  
                                 Wellington Gate  
                                 7-9 Church Road  
                                 Royal Tunbridge Wells  
                                 Tunbridge Wells TN1 1HT

### **Our Directors and Trustees**

#### **Honorary Officers**

Mrs. Hazel Groves	Chair
Mr. James Burke	Honorary Treasurer

#### **Other Trustees**

Mr. Michael Benson	Resigned March 2025
Mr. Paul Betts	
Mr. Anthony Blackman	Resigned April 2025
Mr. Anthony Colwell	
Mr. Luke Cashin	
Mr. Alan Thorpe	Resigned April 2024
Mrs Avril Langman-Heath	
Mr. Ian Platt	

Company Secretary  
Mrs Eithne Rynne

### **Our Senior Management Team and Key Management Personnel**

Eithne Rynne	Chief Executive
Andrea Forsythe	Director of Finance
Vanessa Stanley	Director of HR
Katherine Barr	Director of Services

# **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

## **Structure, Governance & Management**

### **Legal and Administrative Status**

KAB is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 March 1997, and is also a registered Charity. The company is governed under its Articles of Association which were updated in October 2009.

### **Governance**

The Trustees meet at least quarterly, and each year, one third of the longest serving trustees retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election. The Board can appoint new trustees at any point during the year. Our aim is to have at least a third of the Board representative from our client base.

Trustees are recruited via an open process in order to meet identified skills and knowledge gaps, and all new Trustees go through an induction process which includes visits to various areas of the Charity, and opportunities to shadow staff and undertake training. A Trustee Handbook underpins induction, and sets out the role of the Board, the role of individual Trustees and officers, relationships with staff, guidelines for performance appraisal, a code of conduct and conflict of interests policy.

No Trustee receives remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Charity.

The only permanent sub-committee is the Finance, Risk and Audit Sub-Committee, which comprises the Chair, Hon. Treasurer and Vice Chair (or another Trustee if no Vice Chair was appointed), and is attended by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance. This sub-committee meets before every full Board meeting and reports back to the Board verbally and in writing.

Governance information is available digitally and in audio, Braille or large print for staff and Trustees who have a sensory impairment; KAB also provides Guide Communicators or other support as required at Board meetings and other Trustee events.

### **Organisational Structure & Management**

Day to day responsibility for service provision and ensuring that charitable and strategic aims are met is delegated to the Chief Executive, who is supported by a Senior Management Team.

During the year, KAB had on average 99 staff (61.77 full time equivalent) across three office bases. KAB aims to ensure that it has appropriate procedures in place to ensure staff are able to be fully engaged in all areas of the Charity's work and are given appropriate training, support and guidance to carry out their roles effectively. KAB maintains its Investor In People status and is an accredited Disability Confident Employer.

The pay of Key Management Personnel is agreed at board level. Pay scales are agreed based on extensive reviews of the pay rates of similar roles within the comparable charity sector. Management staff progress along pay scales based on length of service and satisfactory performance in the same way as all KAB staff.

Throughout this report we mention our wonderful volunteers. Our volunteers generally support rehab services by driving clients to meetings and appointments, delivering equipment, home visiting and befriending, and helping people to read their mail and manage their home affairs. Volunteers help run our clubs, help at events and help us with many of our back room functions like administration and fundraising. We are enormously grateful to them all.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

### **Related Parties and Connected Charities**

Any connections between a Trustee or senior manager and KAB's suppliers, funders, or key stakeholders must be disclosed in line with KAB's Conflict of Interest policy. In the current year no related party transactions were reported.

The Charity commits staff time and resources to collaborative working and staff are involved in many strategic groups both nationally and regionally, all with the ultimate aim of improving the lives of sight impaired people. However, this joint working is informal and KAB has no connected charities.

### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

Potential risks to KAB, our beneficiaries and staff are reviewed regularly and detailed in a Risk Register. Gross risk is measured in terms of likelihood of occurrence and severity of impact, then the controls that we have in place are assessed to produce a retained or 'net' risk level.

The most significant net risks to the Charity in the current year are inability to deliver services due to loss of contracts and tendering risk and data security risk. The risks associated with the cost of living crisis and the impact on our ability to fundraise have also been retained on the Risk Register.

Risks to income are being addressed by the focus on developing a new Fundraising Strategy and making changes where needed, the regular monitoring of cash flow, increasing Guide Communicator fee income through requests to KCC, Medway and Bromley Councils and holding adequate cash reserves to cover the medium term shortfall.

Contract and tendering risk refers to the potential loss of Local Authority funding, which could pose a major threat to KAB as a whole and potentially to the quality of service received by users. This risk is being addressed in the following ways - ensuring that we have good knowledge of the sector environment and strong relationships with partner agencies; growing the already good bank of data which evidences the quality of current provision; being as involved as possible with commissioning strategy and ensuring costing of services is accurate and up to date.

Increased data security risk reflects a marked increase in the demands placed on charities by funders in terms of technical and policy compliance with challenging new information governance and data management standards. This is being addressed by continual review of the raft of policies in place surrounding data security, ongoing investment in ICT equipment and ensuring staff attend quality training on any changes and update policies accordingly.

Risks are monitored and communicated regularly to the Board, and risk management forms an integral part of our strategic planning.

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing 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;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

**Kent Association for the Blind  
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025  
(continued)**

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

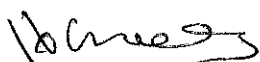
**Disclosure of information to auditors**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

A resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The Trustees' Report is approved by order of the Board of Trustees and the Strategic Report (included therein) is approved by the Board of Trustees in their capacity as directors in their meeting on 3 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Hazel Groves  
Chair

Registered Office  
72 College Road  
Maidstone  
Kent ME15 6SJ

## **Kent Association for the Blind Independent Auditors Report to the Members**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Kent Association for the Blind (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

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 charitable company 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**

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 charitable company'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 trustees 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 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 course of 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 this gives rise to 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.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Independent Auditors Report to the Members**

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report prepared for the purpose of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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 set out on page 15, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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 charitable company'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 charitable company 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.

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

## **Kent Association for the Blind Independent Auditors Report to the Members**

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (continued)**

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.



## **Kent Association for the Blind Independent Auditors Report to the Members**

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (continued)**

- Conclude 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Azets Audit Services Limited*

Michelle Wilkes FCA (Partner)  
For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services  
Senior Statutory Auditor  
First Floor  
River House,  
1 Maidstone Road  
Kent DA14 5RH  
Date: 8 September 2025

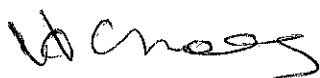
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.03.2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.03.2024 £
<b>Income:</b>							
Donations and Legacies	2	3,163,145	399,074	3,562,219	408,490	205,743	614,233
Charitable Activities							
Rehabilitation Services	3a	420,248	1,058,000	1,478,248	406,673	1,074,000	1,480,673
One to One Support Services		263,064	-	263,064	279,994	-	279,994
AT Service		1,319	-	1,319	1,040	-	1,040
Talking News and Transcription		1,697	-	1,697	2,193	-	2,193
Training	3b	2,267	-	2,267	6,098	-	6,098
Projects	3c	92,023	-	92,023	91,519	-	91,519
Other activities		32,712	-	32,712	25,677	-	25,677
Investments	4	50,050	-	50,050	40,046	-	40,046
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>4,026,525</b>	<b>1,457,074</b>	<b>5,483,599</b>	<b>1,261,730</b>	<b>1,279,743</b>	<b>2,541,473</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	5	176,017	-	176,017	159,386	-	159,386
Charitable Activities	6						
Rehabilitation Services		962,529	1,190,807	2,153,336	882,229	1,219,560	2,101,789
One to One Support Services		464,341	-	464,341	459,078	-	459,078
AT Service		91,150	78,828	169,978	117,891	48,546	166,437
Talking News and Transcription		1,790	-	1,790	2,761	1,830	4,591
Training		6,592	-	6,592	34,025	60	34,085
Clubs, Groups and Client Support		11,347	36,547	47,894	10,909	48,230	59,139
Projects		17,394	-	17,394	16,603	-	16,603
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>1,731,165</b>	<b>1,306,182</b>	<b>3,037,342</b>	<b>1,682,882</b>	<b>1,318,226</b>	<b>3,001,108</b>
Net gains/losses on investments	13	2,295,365	150,892	2,446,257	(421,152)	(38,483)	(459,635)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds for the year</b>		<b>10,183</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,183</b>	<b>165,888</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>165,888</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>2,305,548</b>	<b>150,892</b>	<b>2,456,440</b>	<b>(255,264)</b>	<b>(38,483)</b>	<b>(293,747)</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,387,785</b>	<b>391,074</b>	<b>2,778,859</b>	<b>2,643,049</b>	<b>429,557</b>	<b>3,072,606</b>

**All the above amount relate to continuing activities**  
**All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities**

Kent Association for the Blind  
Company Number 03339912  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
		£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	900,007	945,745
Investments	13	<u>1,232,982</u>	<u>1,448,611</u>
Total Fixed Assets		2,132,989	2,394,356
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	14	14,592	12,693
Debtors	15	1,486,092	513,273
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,876,817</u>	<u>146,270</u>
Total Current Assets		3,377,501	672,236
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors falling due within one year	16	<u>275,191</u>	<u>287,733</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>3,102,310</u>	<u>384,503</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u><u>5,235,299</u></u>	<u><u>2,778,859</u></u>
<b>The Funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted general funds		1,186,795	1,063,944
Designated funds	18	3,506,538	1,323,841
Restricted funds	19	541,966	391,074
<b>Total charity funds</b>	20	<u><u>5,235,299</u></u>	<u><u>2,778,859</u></u>

Approved for issue by the Trustees on 3 September 2025



Mrs Hazel Groves - Chair



Mr J Burke- Treasurer

The notes on pages 21 to 34 form part of these accounts.

Kent Association for the Blind  
Statement of Cash Flows  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	21	<b>1,457,590</b>	<b>(423,018)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest received		31,757	3,641
Dividends received		18,293	36,406
Proceeds from sale of investment		1,063,709	1,290,727
Purchase of investments		(875,608)	(1,026,520)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,906)	(18,633)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>235,245</b>	<b>285,621</b>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,692,835	(137,397)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		197,680	335,077
<b>Cash and cash equivalents carried forward</b>	22	<b>1,890,515</b>	<b>197,680</b>

## 1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows;

### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The accounts show the results of the charities operations which are described in the Trustees' Report, all of which are continuing.

Kent Association for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

### b) Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered in the UK. The members of the company are the trustees and in the event of the Charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

### c) Preparation of the accounts on a Going Concern basis

The trustees have assessed the financial position of the Charity, the assumptions made in the preparation of its budgets and forecasts and the financial risks. Based on this and the level of reserves held the trustees conclude that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

### d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for the particular areas of the charity's work. Further details of each fund as shown in note 19.

### e) Income recognition

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

### f) Income from local authority grants

Income from local authority grants is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds and any performance conditions of the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

#### i) Donations

Donations are recognised upon receipt by the charity. Income from membership subscriptions received by clubs have the substance of a gift and are recognised within donations.

#### ii) Fundraising Events

Income from fundraising events is shown gross with the associated costs included in costs of raising funds.

#### iii) Legacy gifts

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis when receipt of the income is believed to be probable. Income is believed to be probable when all of the following occur: probate has been granted, the administrator/executor for the estate has communicated in writing the amount of the gift, there are sufficient funds within the estate to make a distribution, and all conditions not under the control of the charity have been met. For legacies where the gift is: a residuary legacy, in a form other than cash, or which

involves assets which require liquidation prior to distribution, the legacy will only be recognised where the above conditions have been met and the amount can be reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy.

Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

iv) Training courses

Income received in advance for training courses is deferred until the date of the course as these fees would be refundable in the event that KAB cancelled the training.

v) Dividends and interest receivable

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment managers of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Donated services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) the general volunteer time of KAB volunteers is not recognised and the trustee's annual report provides more information about their contribution.

KAB receives several types of donated items and facilities such as raffle prizes, room hire, training and hospitality. On receipt, these items are recognised at the value of the gift which the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain items or services of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in the expenditure in the period of receipt.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the various activities of KAB. These costs have been allocated between the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The basis on which support costs have been allocated is set out in note 7.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at their purchase price. Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets, other than freehold land, at annual rates calculated to write off the costs less the estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life on a straight line basis as follows:

Asset Category:	Annual Rate:
Freehold land	0%
Freehold buildings	2%
Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Fixtures, fittings, equipment and computers	10-20%
Motor vehicles	20%

k) Fixed Asset Investments

Fixed asset investments are held both to generate income and for investment potential. The investments held are listed and traded on a recognised stock exchange and are measured initially at cost and subsequently at their fair value at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

l) 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 the sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase price is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of Financial activities.

m) Operating leases

The charity classifies the leases of the Canterbury and Bromley Sight Centres as operating leases. Rentals payable are charged in a straight line basis over the lease term.

n) Clubs and Groups

The income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of all KAB clubs and groups are included within these financial statements. All club funds are treated as restricted.

o) Stock

Stock held comprises two elements: stock associated with non-charitable trade and stock provided as part of charitable activity. Neither stock type is issued for free and as such all stock is held at the lower of costs or net realisable value. Damaged or obsolete stock is written down as an expense.

p) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the amount due less any provision for bad or doubtful debts.

q) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes only cash held in instant access bank accounts.

r) Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amounts.

s) Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 7. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within the staff costs of the fundraising, charitable activity or support costs as appropriate. These costs are allocated to the unrestricted funds of the charity with the exception of job roles which are funded by restricted funds, namely ECLO and Kent based rehab staff, and in these instances pension costs are allocated to the relevant restricted fund. Where costs are allocated to support costs the costs are charged to the unrestricted funds of the charity using the methodology set out in note 7.

Kent Association for the Blind has two defined contributions schemes held with Aegon and The People's Pension. Since April 2014 staff who were not already members of the Aegon scheme are only able to join The People's Pension Scheme. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employees contributions to the relevant scheme.

New and existing employees who were not otherwise enrolled in a pension scheme were automatically enrolled into the People's Pension scheme where their earnings met the auto enrolment criteria unless they had exercised their right to opt out of the scheme membership.

Employees enrolled in both schemes contract directly with the companies concerned. The charity makes a matching contribution of up to 6% of salary to these pension schemes and acts as an agent collecting and paying over employee pension contributions.

t) Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

u) Management estimates and judgements

Accounting estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Foundation makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the

related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

#### Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 12 for the carrying amount of the property plant and equipment, and note 1(j) for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

## 2. Donations and Legacies

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Donations	174,057	144,524
Grant income from Trusts and Foundations	276,058	220,881
Legacies	3,084,014	224,324
Club Donations	28,090	24,504
	<u>£3,562,219</u>	<u>£614,233</u>

Of the total grants from Trust and Foundations, there were funders that donated over £10,000 as follows: National Lottery and one anonymous. In 2024 the Trust and Foundations funders which donated over £10,000 were as follows; Lois Cumbers Charitable Foundation, National Lottery and Vision Foundation.

## 3. Income from Charitable Activities

### 3a. Rehabilitation Services

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Local Authority Grants from:		
Kent County Council	1,139,000	1,155,000
Medway Council	166,861	153,242
London Borough of Bromley	148,000	148,000
London Borough of Bexley	17,510	17,510
	<u>£1,471,371</u>	<u>£1,473,752</u>
Equipment Income	6,877	6,921
Total	<u>£ 1,478,248</u>	<u>£ 1,480,673</u>



### 3b. Training

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Short Courses	2,267	6,098
Total	<u>£ 2,267</u>	<u>£ 6,098</u>

All income associated with Training in 2025 and 2024 is unrestricted.

### 3c. Projects

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Other	92,023	91,519
Total	<u>£92,023</u>	<u>£91,519</u>

### 4. Income from investments

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Income from listed investments	31,322	36,405
Interest on cash deposits	18,728	3,641
	<u>£ 50,050</u>	<u>£ 40,046</u>

### 5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Donations and Legacies	Other Trading Activities	Investment costs	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.24
Direct Staff Costs	97,658	5,140	-	102,798	85,157
Direct Fundraising Costs	30,570	1,609	-	32,179	31,667
Building and telephone costs	8,007	-	-	8,007	7,626
Investment management costs	-	-	6,134	6,134	8,305
Governance Costs (see note 7)	1,328	131	-	1,459	1,321
Support Costs ( see note 7)	23,150	2,290	-	25,440	25,310
	<u>£160,713</u>	<u>£ 9,170</u>	<u>£ 6,134</u>	<u>£ 176,017</u>	<u>£ 159,386</u>

All expenditure on raising funds in unrestricted.

## 6. Expenditure on Charitable activities

	Staff costs	Direct costs	Support costs	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
<b>Cost of raising funds</b>	102,798	32,179	41,040	176,017	159,386
<b>Charitable expenditure</b>					
Rehabilitation services	1,376,841	392,674	383,821	2,153,336	2,101,789
One to one support services	336,037	9,604	118,700	464,341	459,078
AT Service	115,360	15,238	39,380	169,978	166,437
Transcription & Talking News	1,041	319	430	1,790	4,591
Training	4,711	267	1,614	6,592	34,085
Clubs, groups and client support	-	43,762	4,132	47,894	59,139
Projects	197	17,197	-	17,394	16,603
	1,834,187	479,061	548,077	2,861,325	2,841,721
	1,936,985	511,240	589,117	3,037,342	3,001,108

Included in direct costs and support costs are staff costs of £265,391 (2024: £238,604) which are allocated above.

### 7a. Support costs

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
CEO's office	106,142	95,772
Finance	88,533	76,744
HR	70,978	65,066
IT	52,457	48,839
Establishment costs including support staff	184,876	186,202
Insurance	36,787	36,533
Professional fees	20,680	20,157
Governance (note 7b)	28,664	27,847
	589,117	557,160

### 7b. Governance costs

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Auditor's remuneration	12,750	12,000
CEO and finance costs	11,766	10,999
Other	4,148	4,848
	28,664	27,847

## 8. Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after the following

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	48,643	52,959
Loss on Disposal	-	12,282
Audit Fees - Statutory Audit	12,750	12,000
Operating leases                      Land and Buildings	<u>13,000</u>	<u>4,333</u>

## 9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remunerations and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
The staff costs were		
Wages and Salaries	1,940,886	1,882,842
Social Security Costs	168,131	158,358
Pension Costs	<u>93,359</u>	<u>87,898</u>
	<u>2,202,376</u>	<u>2,129,098</u>

The total amount of redundancy payments made in the financial year was £nil (2024 £3,978). Redundancy payments are set at the statutory minimum amount based on the staff members' age and period of service.

Trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year of £90 two trustees (2024 £36 one trustee). The nature of the expenses reimbursed were travel expenses in connection with attending meetings.

The average number of staff during the year was 99 (2024 100).

	2025		2024	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Head Office	4	5	3	8
Fundraising	1	4	1	3
Charitable activities	32	53	32	53
	<u>37</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>64</u>

During this year, one employee earned more than £80,000 but not more than £90,000 and one employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 (2024: one employee earned more than £70,000 but not more than £80,000).

The key management personnel of the charity has employee benefits total £276,409 (2024: £237,092).

## 10. Related Party Transactions

There have been no related party transactions in the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024 nil) which require disclosure.

## 11. Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and, is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

## 12. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold land and buildings College Road Maidstone	Furniture, fittings equipment and computers	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost				
As at 1 April 2024	1,306,924	144,532	74,162	1,525,618
Additions	-	2,906	-	2,906
Disposal	-	(8,859)	-	(8,859)
As at 31 March 2025	1,306,924	138,579	74,162	1,519,665
Depreciation				
As at 1 April 2024	443,541	91,836	44,496	579,873
Charge for the year	16,138	17,673	14,832	48,643
Disposal	-	(8,859)	-	(8,859)
As at 31 March 2025	459,679	100,650	59,328	619,657
Net Book Value				
As at 31 March 2025	847,245	37,929	14,834	900,007
As at 31 March 2024	863,383	52,696	29,666	945,745

The land value included in Freehold land and buildings is £500,000.

## 13. Fixed Asset Investments

### Movement in fixed asset listed investments

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Market value brought forward at 1 April 2024	1,448,611	1,504,624
Add: additions to investments at cost	875,608	1,026,520
Movement in cash held within investments	(37,711)	42,306
Disposals at carrying value	(1,063,709)	(1,290,727)
Unrealised/realsed gains and (losses)	10,183	165,888
Market value as at 31 March 2025	1,232,982	1,448,611
Net cash released from investments in the year was £250,000 (2024 £250,000).		

### 13. Fixed Asset Investments

#### Investments at fair value comprised:

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Bonds	246,727	196,843
Equities – overseas	735,052	586,933
Equities – UK	29,630	403,858
Equities – Emerging markets	84,518	78,141
Thematic	123,356	95,639
Commodities	-	35,787
Cash held within the investment portfolio	13,699	51,410
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,232,982</b>	<b>1,448,611</b>

Investments include £116,422 (2024 £103,777) held on behalf of clubs and branches.

Quoted investments are carried at their fair value. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value. The charity holds investments for income and capital growth. The charity manages investment risk by retaining expert advisors at Coutts bank. Risk is also managed by directing Coutts to operate the investment portfolio using a medium risk strategy. The risk of realised losses upon needing to extract cash at short notice is mitigated by assessing cash flow needs at least 18 months into the future and holding sufficient cash outside of the portfolio to meet these needs.

#### The following investments represent a significant value of the portfolio:

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Coutts Actively Managed UK Equity	-	97,391
Coutts Actively Managed US Equity Fund	151,173	192,062
Coutts US ESG Insights Equity Fund	115,524	205,163
Coutts UK ESG Insights Equity Fund	-	277,344
Coutts Europe ex UK Equity Index GBP-C-	22,153	85,561
Coutts US and Canada Enhanced Index	102,096	-
Coutts North America ESG insights	214,723	-
Amundi Funds SICAV Shares	67,687	-
Coutts US ESG Insights Equity Fund Hedged	72,999	-
JP Morgan Fund ICVC shares	73,081	-

### 14. Stock

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Fundraising Merchandise	1,266	1,632
Rehab and Low Vision Equipment	13,326	11,061
	<b>14,592</b>	<b>12,693</b>

### 15. Debtors

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Trade debtors	140,098	133,953
Prepayments	50,330	48,499
Accrued Income	1,291,727	326,527
	<b>1,486,092</b>	<b>513,273</b>

**16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Trade creditors	67,299	81,071
Accruals	34,402	29,378
Deferred Income	121,212	131,266
Other Taxation and Social Security	51,099	44,929
Other creditors	1,179	1,089
	<u>275,191</u>	<u>287,733</u>

**17. Deferred Income**

	Total 31.03.2025	Total 31.03.2024
Balance at 1 April 2024	131,266	111,815
Released in the year	(131,266)	(111,815)
Deferred in the year	121,212	131,266
Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>121,212</u>	<u>131,266</u>

Deferred Income of £121,212 relates to income from events and project grants occurring post year-end.

**18. Designated funds**

Current year	Balance at 31.03.2024	New designation	Designation released	Balance at 31.03.2025
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer Fund	118,733	425,000	(102,736)	440,997
AT worker Fund	9,200	245,000	(104,200)	150,000
Transcription Fund	18,632	10,000	(3,119)	25,513
Training services Fund	23,000	27,000	(11,873)	38,127
Maintenance Fund	124,300	76,800	-	201,100
Equipment and ICT Fund	47,800	-	-	47,800
Mobile Sight Centre	-	300,000	-	300,000
Re-branding	-	50,000	-	50,000
Counselling	36,431	263,200	(46,637)	252,994
Property Purchase	-	1,100,000	-	1,100,000
Fixed asset reserve	945,745	-	(45,738)	900,007
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,323,841</u>	<u>2,497,000</u>	<u>(314,303)</u>	<u>3,506,538</u>

The Trustees feel that roles performed by the Eye Clinic Liaison Officers, AT workers, Mobile Sight Centre and the work undertaken by the Transcription, Counselling Service and Training services are of vital importance to KAB service users and as such, they have again designated funds (above), to enable services continue in the coming year in the event that insufficient new external funding is obtained.

The maintenance fund will allow KAB to meet the expected building maintenance costs, based on a detailed review of repairs and renewals needs.

The equipment and ICT Fund is based on the expected future costs of maintaining the charities ICT infrastructure in an increasingly challenging Information Governance environment.

There are plans to purchase a property in the Kent area to support both staff and service users.

The plan to rebrand the organisation is being considered to better reflect its current contracts and activities.

The fixed asset fund relates to funds held in fixed assets, including the freehold land and buildings that are not available for charitable expenditure.

## 18. Designated funds

Prior year	Balance at 31.03.2023	New designation	Designation released	Balance at 31.03.2024
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer Fund	89,711	125,000	(95,978)	118,733
AT worker Fund	49,435	95,000	(135,235)	9,200
Transcription Fund	13,793	10,000	(5,161)	18,632
Training services Fund	25,831	27,000	(29,831)	23,000
Maintenance Fund	193,100	-	(68,800)	124,300
Equipment and ICT Fund	73,400	-	(25,600)	47,800
Mobile Sight Centre	75,000	-	(75,000)	-
Counselling	80,000	-	(43,569)	36,431
Fixed asset reserve	992,352	-	(46,607)	945,745
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,592,622</b>	<b>257,000</b>	<b>(525,781)</b>	<b>1,323,841</b>

## 19. Restricted Funds

Current year	Balance at 31.03.2024	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31.03.2025
KCC Adults Grant	-	1,058,000	(1,058,000)	-
Trusts, Legacies and donations restricted to AT services	52,844	84,942	(78,828)	58,958
Trusts and donations restricted to children's activities	3,396	200	(2,035)	1,562
Trusts and donations restricted for demonstration equipment	710	-	(40)	670
Family Activities	-	5,041	(543)	4,498
Donations restricted for rehabilitation and activities for adults	4,364	123,384	(16,128)	111,620
Aiming High/ Mary Kirby	26,659	-	-	26,659
Jarrett Legacy	41,494	-	(1,774)	39,720
ECLO Funding	-	21,560	(6,750)	14,810
Counselling	61	21,297	(15,953)	5,405
Covid Funding	4,926	-	(417)	4,509
MSC	19,681	88,590	(89,167)	19,104
Clubs and Groups	236,939	54,060	(36,547)	254,452
	<b>391,074</b>	<b>1,457,074</b>	<b>(1,306,182)</b>	<b>541,966</b>

KCC Adults Grant is the grant from KCC for the provision of adult's rehabilitation services in Kent.

We are tremendously grateful for the donations from individual donors, organisations and many trusts that have supported our work this year. Trust funding has been received for AT services, children's activities, the purchase of demonstration equipment, the ongoing provision of Transcription and the support of rehabilitation and leisure activities for adults.

Also included within restricted trust donations for AT services are: grants made to pay the salary costs of our AT Worker in Bromley, which were received, from City Bridge Trust and a generous legacy bequest for our general AT services.

The Jarrett Legacy is a legacy left for the benefit of the Gravesend area.

The Aiming High/ Mary Kirby fund relates to legacy income to be spent in the Sevenoaks area.

The ECLO funding is income to be spent within the department from Kent Community Foundation and Tula Trust.

Clubs and groups represent the total funds held by the KAB clubs and groups including accrued legacies.

The Counselling funds is to be spent on telephone counselling and face to face counselling in the Bromley and Canterbury area.

The MSC Fund relates to donations restricted for the purchase and use of the Mobile Sight Centre.

The grant from the National Lottery Community Fund (RC London and South East Region) is restricted to support Iris (MSC) over a 3 year period, as well as providing some funding towards follow up Assistive Technology (AT) support in the community. The Grant amount to date is £160,976.

The Covid Funding is funding to be spent on personal protective equipment in light of the Covid Pandemic.

## 19. Restricted Funds

Prior year	Balance at 31.03.2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31.03.2024
KCC Adults Grant	-	1,074,000	(1,074,000)	-
Trusts, Legacies and donations restricted to AT services	45,765	55,625	(48,546)	52,844
Trusts and donations restricted to children's activities	1,523	2,121	(248)	3,396
Trusts and donations restricted for demonstration equipment	710	-	-	710
Trusts restricted for the Foundation Degree	60	-	(60)	-
Trusts and donations restricted for talking News	1,829	-	(1,829)	-
Donations restricted for rehabilitation and activities for adults	5,874	300	(1,810)	4,364
Aiming High/ Mary Kirby	32,815	-	(6,156)	26,659
Jarrett Legacy	56,312	-	(14,818)	41,494
ECLO Funding	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Counselling	12,342	18,528	(30,809)	61
Covid Funding	5,233	-	(307)	4,926
MSC	14,487	93,607	(88,413)	19,681
Clubs and Groups	252,607	32,562	(48,230)	236,939
	<u>429,557</u>	<u>1,279,743</u>	<u>(1,318,226)</u>	<u>391,074</u>



## 20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year	Fixed Assets	Investments	Net Current Assets	Total 31.03.2025
Restricted funds	-	116,422	425,544	541,966
Designated Funds	900,007	423,834	2,182,697	3,506,538
Unrestricted Funds	-	692,726	494,069	1,186,795
	<u>900,007</u>	<u>1,232,982</u>	<u>3,102,310</u>	<u>5,235,299</u>

## Prior year

	Fixed Assets	Investments	Net Current Assets	Total 31.03.2024
Restricted funds	-	103,777	287,297	391,074
Designated Funds	945,745	378,096	-	1,323,841
Unrestricted Funds	-	966,738	97,206	1,063,944
	<u>945,745</u>	<u>1,448,611</u>	<u>384,503</u>	<u>2,778,859</u>

## 21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Net movement in funds	2,456,440	(293,747)
Add back depreciation charge	48,643	52,959
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(50,050)	(40,046)
Add back loss on disposal	-	12,282
Deduct gains/ add Losses on investments	(10,183)	(165,888)
(Increase)/ Decrease in stocks	(1,899)	(136)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(972,819)	(16,714)
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	<u>(12,542)</u>	<u>28,272</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>1,457,590</u>	<u>(423,018)</u>

## 22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Cash at bank and in hand	1,811,468	65,958
Cash held by Clubs	65,349	80,312
Cash held with Investment managers	13,695	51,410
	<u>1,890,515</u>	<u>197,680</u>

The difference in the figure for cash and cash equivalents on cash flow statement and the cash in balance sheet is due to the inclusion of cash held within Investment managers.

## 23. Obligations under operating leases

The company had future commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and Buildings		Other		Total	
	31.03.2025	31.03.2024	31.03.2025	31.03.2024	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
Payments due in less than 1 year	8,667	8,667	-	1,937	8,667	10,604
Payments due in 2-5 years	26,780	39,750	-	-	26,780	39,750
	<u>35,447</u>	<u>48,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,937</u>	<u>35,447</u>	<u>50,354</u>