

Company registration number 03439299 (England and Wales)

Charity registration number 1065006 (England and Wales)

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	J. Ehlers T.A. Knott G. Pattimore A. Khan Rev. J.G. Poyntz J.D. Briant	(Appointed 5 November 2024)
Chief Executive Officer	A. Thornton	
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom (England and Wales)	03439299
Charity registration	England and Wales	1065006
Registered office	Unit 8, Housham Hall Farm Matching Tye, Harlow Essex CM17 0PB	
Independent examiner	HB Accountants 28 Plumpton House Plumpton Road Hoddesdon Hertfordshire EN11 0LB	

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

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THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Trust's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

Objectives and activities

The principal activity of the charity during the year was the provision of support services to individuals and families experiencing hardship across Harlow. This included emergency food provision, affordable food access, essential household and children's items, advice and guidance services, and community-based support.

The charity continued to operate as a Christian organisation working inclusively with people experiencing poverty, vulnerability, isolation, homelessness, learning or physical disability, and crisis.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Trust should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

During the year, the charity underwent a significant period of operational transition relating to its premises. Services initially operated from a temporary town centre unit, returned briefly to church-based premises, and subsequently relocated to a larger more permanent unit within Harlow's main shopping centre.

This move enabled the charity to consolidate all poverty-related services into a single, accessible location and contributed to increased service usage across the year. On average, approximately 250 individuals per day accessed support through the charity's services.

The principal projects delivered during the year were:

- Harlow Foodbank
- The Bounty Club (community supermarket)
- Bump to Five (baby-items bank plus pre-loved school uniform shop)
- Maybury Open Door (supportive drop-in centre for adults)
- Trussell Trust-funded projects: financial caseworker and Harlow Hive

The relocation supported a significant increase in activity within the Bounty Club, which accounts for a substantial proportion of the increase in total income shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. Membership exceeded 2,500 individuals, with regular users achieving estimated monthly household savings of £50- £60.

The charity also continued to host advice and guidance partners within its premises, including Citizens Advice Harlow, Community Hub, and Integration Services. In addition, the charity delivered its own Harlow Hive project, supporting individuals with lived experience of poverty to engage with services and address issues affecting them.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Premises and Partnerships

MRCT's registered office is just outside the town on a farm that stores and sorts the Foodbank's food: "The Store House". Costs for this have been supported by Harlow Council's Partnership Fund and the Mulberry Trust.

Alongside that the town's main shopping centre has given us premises are owned by the local authority with no rent or business rates payable. Utilities and occupancy-related costs are reflected within the expenditure on rent and utilities shown in the accounts.

Further support was received from Essex County Council towards the development of the Bounty Club community supermarket, including funding for an outreach vehicle, which is recorded within the charity's fixed assets and depreciation policy.

Community Engagement and Volunteering

Community involvement remains central to the charity's work. We have around 100 regular volunteers including volunteers with learning difficulties or physical disabilities. A significant proportion of volunteers supporting the Bounty Club were recruited from within the membership, contributing lived experience and supporting cost-effective delivery of that project

The charity also undertook consultation and engagement activity through focus groups and through the Harlow Hive project, which informed service development and partnership working across the organisation.

Service Activity Summary

- Harlow Foodbank supported households experiencing crisis, distributing over 4,200 food parcels of food items and other essential items donated by the general public. In this reporting period 84,751Kg of food was donated to the Foodbank, and 78,422 given out.
- The Bounty Club expanded significantly, contributing to increased turnover, purchasing £164,066 of stock and holding closing stock valued at £34,318.
- Bump to Five distributed over 1,000 parcels of items donated by the general public, supporting approximately 1,500 children, with donated items valued at approximately £110,000.
- Maybury Open Door continued to provide regular social and developmental activities for adults, with consistent weekly attendance of around 150 per week. Regular users and volunteers include persons with mental health issues, sensory deficits, physical disability and Senior Citizens as well as persons with learning difficulties.
- Trussell Trust-funded projects supported community engagement and poverty-related work, with activity reported within restricted funds and further amplified here, as follows:

Trussell Trust Projects – 2024/25

MRCT founded its food bank 16 years ago, operating as an independent self-governing service in affiliation with the Trussell Trust. During 2024/25 the Trussell Trust funded two supporting roles. These operated from the Community Support Centre, extending our support beyond emergency food provision to address the underlying causes of poverty.

Financial Caseworker Support

Funding enabled the placement of a Citizens Advice Harlow financial caseworker, providing residents with independent FCA-accredited debt advice. This support helps people stabilise their finances and improve budgeting, and is increasingly enabling foodbank users to reduce repeat reliance on emergency food support as underlying debt and income issues are addressed.

During the year:

- 226 individuals accessed the service
- 70 people received support to consolidate and manage £212,106 of debt
- £44,933 of debt was written off
- 82 individuals achieved increased income through previously unclaimed benefits, averaging £5,340 per person (total £437,914)
- An estimated 109 individuals no longer required Foodbank support following intervention

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Campaigns and Organising (Harlow Hive)

A second Trussell Trust-funded role supported people with lived experience of poverty to self-organise and engage in local campaigning through the Harlow Hive project. The project focuses on developing community voice, leadership, and engagement with decision-makers.

During 2024/25, activity focused on building community power and stakeholder engagement, resulting in:

- . A user-led council housing repairs campaign, generating over 50 resident responses and contributing to changes in council practice
- . Strengthened collaboration with local organisations through the “Communitree” information initiative, improving awareness of support services across Harlow
- . Successful advocacy outcomes, including:
 - Retention of housing for evicted Redstone House residents
 - Improvements to local council housing repair processes
 - Adjustments to local bus routes to better connect residents to employment opportunities
 - Expansion of a school uniform affordability campaign across multiple local schools

Financial review

Total income for the year was £753,708 (2024: £416,538). The increase reflects growth in charitable trading activity, particularly within the Bounty Club.

Total expenditure for the year was £742,463 (2024: £531,640).

The net movement in funds resulted in a deficit of £11,245, which reflects planned investment in service expansion, increased staffing, stock holding, and premises-related costs.

Reserves policy

The charity's reserves position remains under regular review by the Trustees, with unrestricted funds of £120,476 held at the year end. Our reserves policy aims at retaining operational cost for 6 months which we are just short of. Restricted funds are maintained in accordance with funder requirements leaving the Foodbank well-funded on a restricted basis in unforeseen circumstances.

Plans for future periods

The Trustees will continue to focus on:

- Consolidating the town centre hub
- Managing costs responsibly while maintaining service levels
- Developing outreach capacity
- Strengthening partnership working
- Ensuring financial sustainability in a challenging economic environment

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

J. Ehlers

T.A. Knott

G. Pattimore

M. Parsons

(Resigned 3 July 2024)

A. Khan

Rev. J.G. Poyntz

J.D. Briant

(Appointed 5 November 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees have adopted a formal process for the nomination, selection and appointment of new Trustees to ensure appropriate governance, transparency and compliance with Charity Commission requirements, while maintaining the Trust's founding ethos.

In accordance with the charitable objects and faith-based ethos of MRCT, Trustees must be practising Christians.

The proposer of any nominee is responsible for confirming, to the best of their knowledge, that this requirement is met. All Trustees must also meet the eligibility requirements set out by the Charity Commission and confirm that they are not disqualified from acting as a charity trustee.

Potential candidates may be proposed by existing or former Trustees, members of staff, volunteers, or by invitation to partner organisations. The Board may also choose to advertise Trustee vacancies where appropriate. Once a vacancy has been identified, the Chair coordinates the recruitment process on behalf of the Board. Initial approaches to prospective candidates are conducted informally and on an exploratory basis. With the individual's consent, a formal nomination is submitted to the Board.

The Board considers nominations either at a duly convened meeting or via formal email circulation. A unanimous decision of the Trustees is required to proceed with inviting a nominee to confirm their interest. The Chair writes formally to the nominee outlining the selection process; the ethos and work of MRCT; the statutory duties and responsibilities of charity trustees; confirmation that appointment is subject to Board approval. Nominees are required to respond within two weeks, providing a CV and a written statement outlining their motivation and the skills and experience they would bring to the Board. All applications are circulated to Trustees in advance of the next Board meeting for consideration. Appointment requires unanimous agreement of the Board. Where there are more suitable candidates than vacancies, the Board may conduct informal interviews prior to making a final decision.

Successful candidates are informed in writing and assume office from the date confirmed by the Board. All appointments are recorded in the minutes. The Company Secretary (or the Chair, where applicable) ensures that the appointment is registered with the Charity Commission within one month.

Trustees are expected to engage actively in Board meetings and governance matters. Where a Trustee has not attended meetings or engaged in Board business for six months, the Chair will seek clarification, and the Board will determine appropriate action.

Trustees may resign by providing a minimum of 30 days' notice (verbal or written), except in circumstances of serious illness, family crisis, death or criminal conviction. All resignations are formally recorded in Board minutes.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Organisational structure

The charity is governed by a Board of six Trustees, supported by a volunteer Honorary Treasurer. The Trustees meet formally at four-monthly intervals, alongside an annual strategic away-day to review performance, risks, and future priorities.

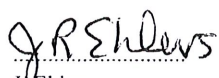
The Board appoints the Chief Executive Officer, who during the year had responsibility for the management of a staff team of approximately 20. The CEO is accountable to the Trustees for operational delivery, financial performance, and strategic implementation.

The Honorary Treasurer provides monthly financial reporting to the Board. In addition, Trustees receive regular operational reports from all projects throughout the year, enabling ongoing oversight of activity, performance, and risk.

Day-to-day service delivery is managed through project structures led by full-time project managers, who are responsible for staff supervision and volunteer management within their respective teams.

The Operations Manager oversees organisational policies and compliance, including human resources, health and safety, local authority licensing, and food safety standards, ensuring that services are delivered in line with regulatory and good-practice requirements.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



J. Ehlers

Trustee

Date: 12.3.26

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Trust (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Trust's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of I.C.A.E.W., which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



HB Accountants

28 Plumptre House

Plumptre Road

Hoddesdon

Hertfordshire

EN11 0LB

Date: 2/3/26

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
		2025	2025	2025	2025	(As restated) 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	3	129,869	-	289,970	419,839	381,309
Charitable activities	4	242,784	-	86,687	329,471	109,255
Investments	5	4,398	-	-	4,398	1,657
Total income		<u>377,051</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,657</u>	<u>753,708</u>	<u>492,221</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	4,720	-	-	4,720	-
Charitable activities	7	202,068	-	535,675	737,743	531,640
Total expenditure		<u>206,788</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>535,675</u>	<u>742,463</u>	<u>531,640</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>170,263</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(159,018)</u>	<u>11,245</u>	<u>(39,419)</u>
Transfers between funds		(121,400)	-	121,400	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>48,863</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(37,618)</u>	<u>11,245</u>	<u>(39,419)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>59,079</u>	<u>26,554</u>	<u>37,618</u>	<u>123,251</u>	<u>162,670</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>107,942</u>	<u>26,554</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134,496</u>	<u>123,251</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Prior financial year (As restated)		Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Redundancy fund	Restricted funds	Total
	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	68,419	-	312,890	381,309
Charitable activities	4	33,788	-	75,467	109,255
Investments	5	1,657	-	-	1,657
Total income		103,864	-	388,357	492,221
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	79,525	-	452,115	531,640
Total expenditure		79,525	-	452,115	531,640
Net income/(expenditure)		24,339	-	(63,758)	(39,419)
Transfers between funds		(54,540)	-	54,540	-
Net movement in funds		(30,201)	-	(9,218)	(39,419)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		89,280	26,554	46,836	162,670
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		59,079	26,554	37,618	123,251

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	as restated £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		7,470		7,971
Current assets					
Stocks	14	34,318		14,198	
Debtors	15	11,524		6,321	
Cash at bank and in hand		207,099		255,364	
		252,941		275,883	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(125,915)		(160,603)	
Net current assets			127,026		115,280
Total assets less current liabilities			134,496		123,251
The funds of the Trust					
Restricted income funds	18	-			37,618
Unrestricted funds - general	20	107,942			59,079
Unrestricted funds - Redundancy fund	19	26,554			26,554
		134,496			123,251

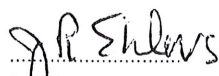
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

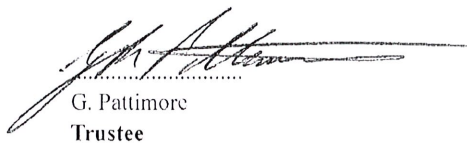
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 10.3.2025


J. Ehlers
Trustee


G. Pattimore
Trustee

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Unit 8, Housham Hall Farm, Matching Tye, Harlow, Essex, CM17 0PB.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Trust's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The Trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trust has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Trust. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Trust.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Trust is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Trust has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Trust has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Trust reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The Trust has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Trust's balance sheet when the Trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Trust's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Trust is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Trust's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and grants	129,869	289,970	419,839	68,419	312,890	381,309

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Sale of goods	235,905	-	235,905	33,788	-	33,788
Services provided under contract	6,879	86,687	93,566	-	75,467	75,467
	242,784	86,687	329,471	33,788	75,467	109,255

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	4,398	1,657

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Advertising	4,720	-

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	387,323	322,595
Depreciation and impairment	501	3,984
Food purchases	179,800	36,712
Rent and utilities	41,397	28,242
Motor and travel	14,775	17,019
Insurance and professional fees	13,953	12,534
Repairs and renewals	17,825	16,809
Telephone	4,895	4,167
Printing, postage and stationery	4,156	1,274
Training	1,839	671
Bank charges	1,067	691
CAB project worker	46,448	58,469
Other operating costs	13,872	26,663
	<u>727,851</u>	<u>529,830</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	6,052	1,000
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Governance	3,840	810
	<u>737,743</u>	<u>531,640</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	202,068	79,525
Restricted funds	535,675	452,115
	<u>737,743</u>	<u>531,640</u>

8 Grants payable

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Heart 4 Harlow	600	600
Ciaster	-	100
Middle East Christian Aid	300	300
St Paul's Harlow Restoration Fund	5,000	-
MacMillan	152	-
	<u>6,052</u>	<u>1,000</u>

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Governance	3,840	810
Governance costs comprise:	2025 £	2024 £
Accountancy	3,840	810
	3,840	810

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Trust during the year.

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
	18	16
Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	357,863	296,251
Social security costs	18,735	18,687
Other pension costs	10,725	7,657
	387,323	322,595

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	47,196	46,022

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	6,242	38,871	45,113
At 31 March 2025	6,242	38,871	45,113
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2024	6,231	30,911	37,142
Depreciation charged in the year	11	490	501
At 31 March 2025	6,242	31,401	37,643
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	-	7,470	7,470
At 31 March 2024	11	7,960	7,971

14 Stocks

	2025	2024
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	34,318	14,198

15 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	7,618	6,321
Prepayments and accrued income	3,906	-
	11,524	6,321

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	4,770	9,104
Accruals and deferred income	121,145	151,499
	125,915	160,603

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

17 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	10,725	7,657

The Trust operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Trust in an independently administered fund.

18 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Maybury Open Door	-	32,557	(82,163)	49,606	-
Harlow Foodbank	-	267,925	(283,029)	15,104	-
Bump to 5	-	12,883	(34,611)	21,728	-
Bounty Club	37,618	63,292	(135,872)	34,962	-
	37,618	376,657	(535,675)	121,400	-

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Maybury Open Door	-	34,177	(53,313)	19,136	-
Harlow Foodbank	46,836	227,930	(302,610)	27,844	-
Bump to 5	-	22,466	(30,026)	7,560	-
Bounty Club	-	103,784	(66,166)	-	37,618
	46,836	388,357	(452,115)	54,540	37,618

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19 Designated funds

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the Trust's activities.

	At 1 April 2024	At 31 March 2025
	£	£
Redundancy reserve	26,554	26,554
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	At 31 March 2024
	£	£
Redundancy reserve	26,554	26,554

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	59,079	377,051	(206,788)	(121,400)	107,942
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	89,280	103,864	(79,525)	(54,540)	59,079

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Redundancy fund	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:				
Tangible assets	7,470	-	-	7,470
Current assets/(liabilities)	100,472	26,554	-	127,026
	107,942	26,554	-	134,496

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Redundancy fund	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:				
Tangible assets	7,971	-	-	7,971
Current assets/(liabilities)	51,108	26,554	37,618	115,280
	<u>59,079</u>	<u>26,554</u>	<u>37,618</u>	<u>123,251</u>

22 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

23 Prior year adjustment

In the year ended 31 March 2024, income received in advance was not accounted for. This totalled £150,689 of which £42,959 was unrestricted funds and £107,730 was restricted funds. In addition stock of £14,198 was not accounted for. In the year ended 31 March 2023, income received in advance was not accounted for. This totalled £75,683 all of which was restricted funds. The prior year accounts have therefore been restated accordingly.