Southend in Sight

England & Wales · Charity number 1069765

Details

Other names	SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03554422
Registered	1998-05-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	117 Hamlet Court Road Westcliff on Sea Essex SS0 7ES
Phone	01702 342131
Email	lucy@sbw.org
Website	southendinsight.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED PRIMARILY IN SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, AND IN ADJOINING AND ADJACENT AREAS TOGETHER WITH SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE OBJECTS AS ARE CONDUCIVE OR ANCILLARY TO THOSE OBJECTS.

Activities: The principal object of the charity is to offer support for visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend on Sea, Essex and the adjoining areas.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SOUTHEND-ON-SEA IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, AND IN ADJOINING AND ADJACENT AREAS.
- Southend-on-sea

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£336,955	£335,871	-	-
2024-03-31	£314,927	£344,863	-	-
2023-03-31	£282,996	£314,719	-	-
2022-03-31	£657,272	£982,838	£1,101,557	33
2021-03-31	£1,100,101	£994,131	£1,425,977	38

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Clare Louise Mc Lewin		2019-11-20
D E WACOGNE		
JEREMY DAVENPORT		
PHILIP GEORGE WARBURTON		1998-04-28
Penelope Jane Hefferan		2024-03-06
Russell Owen Cable		2018-01-05
STEPHANIE COOPER		
Sally Davies		2020-10-21

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Southend in Sight

England & Wales - Charity number 1069765

Accounts

Registered number: 03554422
Charity number: 1069765

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

(Formerly Southend on Sea Blind Welfare Organisation)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

VENTHAMS

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT
(A company limited by guarantee)

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SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

R O Cable, Chairman
S Cooper, Vice Chairman
J A Davenport
S Davies
C L McLewin
D E Wacogne
P G Warburton, Secretary
P J Hefferan (appointed 6 March 2024)

Company registered number

03554422

Charity registered number

1069765

Registered office

Millhouse
32-38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Company secretary

P G Warburton

Chief executive officer

L Martin

Accountants

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Bankers

HSBC Bank PLC
48 High Street
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JH

Investment managers

Evelyn Partners
16th & 17th Floor
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
London
EC4A 3BF

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To support and offer practical help to visually impaired people and their families in Southend-on-Sea and the adjoining areas
- To develop other charitable activities that are conducive or ancillary to these objects.

The charity has a general aim of providing practical help to visually impaired people in the general area of Southend.

Southend in Sight Advice Centre: The Centre offers people living with sight loss opportunities to try out a large range of specialist low vision equipment including CCTV magnifiers, talking books players, task lighting and many other aids to support independent living. This equipment is demonstrated by a team of staff and volunteers and a Tech Team give specialist advice on i-pads, tablets and mobile phones. Assistance has also been provided for people needing forms filled in for Attendance Allowance, PIP and Blue Badges. The staff use an assessment tool called the Sight Loss MOT which enables the Sight Loss Advice Manager to work with people more holistically looking at how their sight loss has impacted different areas of their life. A project with Cadent has continued and enabled the team to offer advice on energy saving during the cost-of-living crisis.

Hospital Services: An Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) is employed by Southend in Sight and funded by the Mid and South Essex Hospital Trust to provide full time support at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic for those patients who are in the early days of their sight loss journey. The ECLO helps with processing Certificates of Visually Impairment and provides the necessary emotional support in the difficult early days. They also sign post to other services and make referrals as necessary.

Social Activities and Talk and Support: Social activities remain popular as people living with sight loss can experience feelings of isolation. Coffee mornings and a Fun Friday session, with entertainment, are run once a month at a local social club. Weekly ten pin bowling sessions have continued in Hockley and is well attended. Other activities include a talking books club, line dancing, and a choir. Funding from the Southend Community Investment Board has been very much appreciated to keep these groups running. The Talk and Support Service continues to be supported by 10 volunteers and helps reduce isolation for people who can feel lonely living with sight loss.

Children and Young People:Support for children, young people and their families continues with social gatherings offered during the year including a very popular subsidised trip to the pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion. Other activities for children have included ten pin bowling, Animal Encounters and Just Ride sessions. All of our sight loss services are available to children, young people and their families and any requests for support are dealt with on an individual basis.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Information and Training: The organisation gives timely information, advice and guidance on all areas of sight loss. The equipment loan scheme continues to run and gives people the opportunity to borrow expensive items such as CCTVs. Guiding Training has also been offered on a regular basis to new staff and volunteers to give them the necessary skills to guide service users at events, activities and on site.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

1. To promote the Centre and services to all visually impaired people in the area and offer the Sight Loss MOT tool to assist in providing full support in all aspects of life.

2. To offer a range of activities so that visually impaired people have the chance to gain from experiences and meet others in the same position.

3. To provide opportunities for clients to engage in activities to reduce isolation.

4. To provide opportunities to try equipment that may help visually impaired people to continue an independent life in their own homes including advice on accessing IT. A newsletter is also produced four times a year providing information on a range of areas relevant to members.

5. To train and support volunteers to assist and support visually impaired people and encourage peer support. This involves recruiting volunteers who have experience of living with sight loss.

6. To present a range of activities and opportunities which are both popular with visually impaired people and respond to their requests and needs.

7. To support the ECLO service at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic to help people in the early stages of sight loss navigate their way around services and secure funding to sustain the service.

8. To offer volunteering opportunities to the local community for the benefit of visually impaired people.

9. To build a relationship with local families who have visually impaired children, promote the Charity and meet regularly.

c. Volunteers

The Charity is grateful for the invaluable efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service delivery, the charity shop and fundraising.

There are approximately 70 active volunteers, and some are visually impaired themselves. The visually impaired volunteers are extremely well placed to support others in the same position and this peer support is extremely valuable.

Volunteers working with service users have been given Guiding Training and are held in high regard at the charity. They are given long service awards and meet four times during the year for information sessions and celebrations.

Objectives and activities (continued)

d. Main activities undertaken to further the Company's purposes for the public benefit

The Trustees are mindful of their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives and activities of Southend in Sight focus on delivering services to aid the visually impaired in their daily living and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Budgets are set annually, and meetings are held with Trustees on a quarterly basis to monitor budgets against forecasts.

Southend in Sight has support from the Trustees and financial statements are produced regularly to manage the finances effectively, and take action if necessary.

b. Review of activities

This year, at the advice Centre, the charity has:

- provided 1,473 sessions of support at our Centre for 503 individuals on their sight loss journey.
- welcomed 140 new individuals to the Charity.
- helped 29 people with form filling over 32 and carried out 39 support sessions.

  supported 74 individuals with 114 face to face sessions of Tech support.
- carried out 95 Sight Loss MOTs and held 35 drop in advice sessions with peer support.

At Southend Hospital Eye Clinic our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer has supported those in the early days of their diagnosis. During the year they have:

- helped 1,103 patients with support and guidance and held 1,778 sessions of support.
- supported 683 relatives / carers and processed 155 Certificates of Visual Impairment.

For those who could be feeling isolated and want to meet others, the Charity has:

- provided 76 activities for adults and held 39 ten pin bowling sessions.
- offered 11 activities for children and young people including a trip to the pantomime and ten pin bowling.
- carried out 16 home visits and made 1,501 Talk and Support calls.

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Fundraising

Grants have been received through a number of large national and local funding organisations and programmes.

Generous support has been received from local groups, clubs and organisations.

A number of legacies and gifts in memory have also been gratefully received.

The Charity Shop, which is run by Southend Vision Trading Ltd, continues to be very popular and is open six days per week. Income (after expenses) this year was £46,233 which was donated to the Charity.

d. Investment policy and performance

The Articles of Association give the Trustees unrestricted powers to invest the funds as they see fit. Evelyn Partners (formerly Tilney Asset Management Services Ltd.), continue the management of funds on a medium risk basis. The investment performance of the fund manager is benchmarked against the WM Unconstrained Index.

Investments are managed on a medium risk basis with emphasis on an above average level of income and the growth of that income.

This will be achieved primarily through investment in a combination of bonds and higher income equities. The aim will be to achieve returns through a combination of capital appreciation and income received.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. Reserves policy

The reserves policy continues to be the maintenance of sufficient reserves to continue the existing services, and protect the future needs of the charity. The Trustees have considered:

Financial Risk

The risk of reduced income due to intermittent grant funding.

The risk of unplanned events.

The unpredictability of community fundraising including charity shop sales.

Ceasing to operate

The cost of winding up the Charity should it cease to operate.

Infrastructure

The suitability of the property at 117 Hamlet Court Road and whether it will meet the demands of the longer-term plans. In this connection the Charity has recently moved to premises in central Southend on Sea and it is proposed to sell the property in Hamlet Court Road.

Strategic Direction

The future direction of the charity to meet the changing needs of the local visually impaired community.

The opportunity to invest in / seed new projects to meet growing needs and increase funding.

The long-term plan to bring activities together under one roof at a new site.

Reserves breakdown

Unrestricted Funds:

These are income or income funds which can be spent at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of any of the charity's objects. If part of an unrestricted income fund is earmarked for a particular project it may be designated as a separate fund, but the designation is administrative only and does not restrict the Trustees' discretion to utilising the fund. After allocating an amount to a Designated Fund, the amount of Unrestricted Funds 31st March 2025, totalled £848,861. Of that figure, £503,912 was represented by fixed assets resulting free reserves at 31st March 2025 of £344,949. The Trustees consider this to be adequate to run the day-to-day affairs of the Charity.

Designated Funds:

These are part of the unrestricted funds which The Trustees have earmarked for particular projects, without restricting or committing the funds legally. At 31st March 2025 these amounted to £844,870, and represent an estimate of essential works to be undertaken to the properties occupied by the Charity in order to keep them in a good state of repair, and the anticipated cost of purchasing an additional property.

Restricted Funds:

These are funds subject to specific trusts, which may be declared by the donors or created through legal process. At 31st March 2025 these stood at £22,951.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The results are set out in the summary "income and expenditure" and show a deficit for the year of £1,349.

The Trustees consider that the assets of the Charity are adequate to fulfil its obligations for the foreseeable future.

d. Principal funding

The principal funding sources of the charity are grants, legacies, donations, and the proceeds of shop sales from the charity shop in Hamlet Court Road.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, with a company number of 03554422.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 28 April 1998 and has a registered charity number of 1069765.

The principal object of the company is to offer support and practical help to visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, and the adjoining areas.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, one-third of the Trustees retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re appointment. If the Charity, at the meeting at which a trustee retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy, the retiring trustee shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution or the re-appointment of the trustee is put to the meeting and lost. New Trustees are appointed who have the relevant knowledge and experience to act for the Charity.

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The number of Trustees must not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) but shall not be subject to any maximum number. The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets bi-monthly to discuss development, membership, finance and operations. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity to facilitate effective operation; the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including certain financial matters, employment and community services activities.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees undergo orientation and are briefed on their legal obligations under the Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-taking processes, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events which will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

e. Related party relationships

The Charity works with the two local talking newspapers and ensures that their newsletters are recorded and put on to CD. They work with Southend City Council, ECL, Age Concern, Citizens Advice Bureaux, SAVS, RNIB, Guide Dogs, Visionary, the Macular Society and other related voluntary sector organisations. They are part of a working partnership with other Essex sight loss charities called Essex Vision.

The charity owns a subsidiary company called Southend Vision Trading Limited that operates a charity shop.

f. Financial risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual view of the risks that the charity may face, reviewed quarterly
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Plans for future periods

Future developments

The Chairty has been considering its long term aims and whether the property at 117 Hamlet Court Road is suitable. A decision was made to sell the property, retain the charity shop and relocate front line services to a larger more accessible space with better access.

The priorities of the Charity are:

1. No one faces sight loss unsupported.

Offer a service that is professional, timely, personalised and a positive experience.
Provide support in all areas of life that have been affected by sight loss through our MOT tool.
Enable people to learn from others, share ideas and gain confidence in using tech and other equipment that supports independence.

2. No one faces sight loss alone.

Offer a range of activities that suit different ages and interests to reduce social isolation.
Provide people with opportunities to mix with peers, talk to volunteers and staff either in person or over the phone.
To use our learning and gain evidence to develop plans for a space to house social activities and other services under one roof.

3. We are inclusive and available to all.

All aspects of our services can be accessed and utilised, regardless of age, gender, social or ethnic background.
We are committed to a positive environment in which users of our service, volunteers, employees and trustees may experience a sense of belonging, respect and worth.
Services are available to adults, children, young people, their families / carers and we are committed to safeguarding people engaging with us.

4. Our finance, resources and infrastructure meet the growing need.

Financial commitments are met with agreed income targets through grant funding, community fundraising and our charity shop.
Our building is maintained and safe.
Risks are managed and reviewed quarterly.
A programme is in place for continued professional development and succession planning.
Growth areas for funding are identified to meet the increase in demand on services.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 29/10/2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Southend in Sight ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: T. McCarthy. Dated: 29/10/2025

Trevor McCarthy FCCA

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE) ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**168,907**	**89,191**	**258,098**	*245,879*
Charitable activities	4	**7,236**	**-**	**7,236**	*4,095*
Other trading activities	5	**30,205**	**-**	**30,205**	*35,645*
Investments	6	**41,416**	**-**	**41,416**	*29,308*
Total income		**247,764**	**89,191**	**336,955**	*314,927*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7,8	**10,470**	**-**	**10,470**	*15,717*
Charitable activities	9	**226,798**	**105,136**	**331,934**	*329,146*
Total expenditure		**237,268**	**105,136**	**342,404**	*344,863*
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments		**10,496**	**(15,945)**	**(5,449)**	*(29,936)*
Net gains on investments		**-**	**-**	**-**	*5,228*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		**10,496**	**(15,945)**	**(5,449)**	*(24,708)*
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains on revaluation of current assets		**6,533**	**-**	**6,533**	*17,835*
Net movement in funds		**17,029**	**(15,945)**	**1,084**	*(6,873)*
Reconciliation of funds:					

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Total funds brought forward	**1,706,915**	**38,896**	**1,745,811**	*1,752,684*
Net movement in funds	**17,029**	**(15,945)**	**1,084**	*(6,873)*
Total funds carried forward	**1,723,944**	**22,951**	**1,746,895**	*1,745,811*

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note		2025 £		*2024* *£*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		**503,911**		*503,934*
Investments	15		**1**		*1*
			503,912		*503,935*
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**17,665**		*33,977*	
Investments	17	**277,101**		*270,568*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**967,563**		*963,415*	
		1,262,329		*1,267,960*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(19,346)**		*(26,084)*	
Net current assets			**1,242,983**		*1,241,876*
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,746,895**		*1,745,811*
Total net assets			**1,746,895**		*1,745,811*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		**22,951**		*38,896*
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	19	**844,870**		*849,202*	
General funds	19	**848,861**		*834,033*	
Revaluation reserve		**30,213**		*23,680*	
Total unrestricted funds	19		**1,723,944**		*1,706,915*
Total funds			**1,746,895**		*1,745,811*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 29/10/2025

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southend in Sight meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Consolidated financial statements have not been prepared due to the investment in the subsidiary being immaterial to the financial statement as a whole.

1.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income from charitable activities relates to care home fess receivable. Income is recognised as and when invoices are raised for services provided

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Interest receivable

Income from interest, royalties and dividends is recognised when its receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

1.5 Taxation

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £400 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- not depreciated
Plant and machinery	- 12.5% reducing balance
Office equipment	- 10% reducing balance

The market values of the freehold properties are considered to be in excess of the book values held in the financial statements, therefore charging depreciaiton on these properties is not considered appropriate.

1.7 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.11 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. General information

Southend in Sight previously operating as Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organiation, is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those recorded in the register of members of the company. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respcet of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

The company is registered in England and Wales. The company's registered office address is Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DB.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Donations	79,384	89,191	**168,575**	*185,879*
Legacies	37,359	-	**37,359**	*25,000*
Grants	52,164	-	**52,164**	*35,000*
Total 2025	168,907	89,191	**258,098**	*245,879*
Total 2024	*152,683*	*93,196*	*245,879*	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Community services	7,236	**7,236**	*4,095*
Total 2024	*4,095*	*4,095*	

Following the closure of the Residential home, all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Charity operating income	30,205	**30,205**	*35,645*
Total 2024	*35,645*	*35,645*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Income from listed investments	32	**32**	*1,086*
Investment income - local cash	41,384	**41,384**	*28,222*
	41,416	**41,416**	*29,308*
Total 2024	*29,308*	*29,308*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Fundraising	446	**446**	*2,527*
Total 2024	*2,527*	*2,527*	

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Training	413	-	**413**	*1,204*
Cost of Equipment Sales	8,740	-	**8,740**	*11,519*
Total 2025	9,153	-	**9,153**	*12,723*
Total 2024	*12,103*	*620*	*12,723*	

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Portfolio Management	871	**871**	*467*
Total 2024	*467*	*467*	

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	*Total 2024 £*
Community services	226,798	105,136	**331,934**	*329,146*
Total 2024	*239,098*	*90,048*	*329,146*	

Following the closure of the Residential home, all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2025 £	Other costs 2025 £	Total 2025 £	*Total 2024 £*
Community services	205,306	126,628	**331,934**	*329,146*
Total 2024	*169,909*	*159,237*	*329,146*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Community services	277,581	54,353	**331,934**	*329,146*
Total 2024	*278,593*	*50,553*	*329,146*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Community services 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Staff costs	205,306	**205,306**	*169,909*
Premises costs	47,581	**47,581**	*79,637*
Social events and newsletters	20,706	**20,706**	*11,163*
Volunteers' expenses	420	**420**	*1,004*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,349	**1,349**	*1,537*
Sundry	-	**-**	*416*
Legal and professional fees	2,219	**2,219**	*12,855*
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	**-**	*2,072*
	277,581	**277,581**	*278,593*
Total 2024	*278,593*	*278,593*	

Analysis of support costs

	Community services 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Subscriptions	1,107	**1,107**	*483*
Telephone	2,969	**2,969**	*2,559*
Postage and stationery	3,361	**3,361**	*4,680*
Advertising	8,643	**8,643**	*9,934*
Accountancy	22,254	**22,254**	*22,104*
Travel and subsistence	618	**618**	*402*
Sundry	528	**528**	*247*
Bank charges	4,445	**4,445**	*4,171*
Legal and professional fees	6,888	**6,888**	*2,493*
Independent Examiner's / Auditor's remuneration	3,540	**3,540**	*3,480*
	54,353	**54,353**	*50,553*
Total 2024	*50,553*	*50,553*	

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Company's annual accounts.	**3,540**	*3,480*

12. Staff costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	**192,261**	*160,185*
Social security costs	**9,515**	*6,806*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**3,530**	*2,918*
	205,306	*169,909*

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Direct Charitable work	**8**	*8*
Administration and governance	**3**	*3*
	11	*11*

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration or other benefits during the year (2024- £Nil).

The Trustees were not reimbursed or paid directly any expenses during the year (2024 - £Nil).

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2024	**491,698**	**2,339**	**23,044**	**517,081**
Additions	**-**	**-**	**1,326**	**1,326**
At 31 March 2025	**491,698**	**2,339**	**24,370**	**518,407**
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	**-**	**1,749**	**11,398**	**13,147**
Charge for the year	**-**	**74**	**1,275**	**1,349**
At 31 March 2025	**-**	**1,823**	**12,673**	**14,496**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	**491,698**	**516**	**11,697**	**503,911**
At 31 March 2024	*491,698*	*590*	*11,646*	*503,934*

15. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2024	**1**
At 31 March 2025	**1**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	**1**
At 31 March 2024	*1*

16. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	**950**	*260*
Prepayments and accrued income	**16,715**	*33,717*
	17,665	*33,977*

17. Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Listed investments	**277,101**	*270,568*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	**6,127**	*10,713*
Other taxation and social security	**4,097**	*3,489*
Other creditors	**2,512**	*5,138*
Accruals and deferred income	**6,610**	*6,744*
	19,346	*26,084*

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Property Development	**849,202**	**-**	**(4,332)**	**-**	**844,870**
General funds					
General Funds	**834,033**	**247,764**	**(232,936)**	**-**	**848,861**
Revaluation reserve	**23,680**	**-**	**-**	**6,533**	**30,213**
	857,713	**247,764**	**(232,936)**	**6,533**	**879,074**
Total Unrestricted funds	**1,706,915**	**247,764**	**(237,268)**	**6,533**	**1,723,944**

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted funds					
South Essex NHS Foundation Trust	**-**	**33,460**	**(33,460)**	**-**	**-**
Community investment board	**13,141**	**-**	**(8,392)**	**-**	**4,749**
Lottery	**22,690**	**55,731**	**(60,219)**	**-**	**18,202**
Masons	**3,065**	**-**	**(3,065)**	**-**	**-**
	38,896	**89,191**	**(105,136)**	**-**	**22,951**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2024* £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Property Development	*900,000*	-	*(50,798)*	-	*849,202*
General funds					
General Funds	*810,471*	*221,731*	*(203,397)*	*5,228*	*834,033*
Revaluation reserve	*5,845*	-	-	*17,835*	*23,680*
	816,316	*221,731*	*(203,397)*	*23,063*	*857,713*
Total Unrestricted funds	*1,716,316*	*221,731*	*(254,195)*	*23,063*	*1,706,915*

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2024* £
Restricted funds					
South Essex NHS Foundation Trust	-	*32,929*	*(32,929)*	-	-
Essex Community Foundation - Running Costs	*1,334*	-	*(1,334)*	-	-
Community investment board	*9,590*	*9,843*	*(6,292)*	-	*13,141*
Essex Community Foundation - NHS	*145*	-	*(145)*	-	-
Lottery	*21,132*	*40,424*	*(38,866)*	-	*22,690*
Masons	*4,167*	*10,000*	*(11,102)*	-	*3,065*
	36,368	*93,196*	*(90,668)*	-	*38,896*

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Designated funds	**849,202**	**-**	**(4,332)**	**-**	**844,870**
General funds	**857,713**	**247,764**	**(232,936)**	**6,533**	**879,074**
Restricted funds	**38,896**	**89,191**	**(105,136)**	**-**	**22,951**
	1,745,811	**336,955**	**(342,404)**	**6,533**	**1,746,895**

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2024* £
Designated funds	*900,000*	-	*(50,798)*	-	*849,202*
General funds	*816,316*	*221,731*	*(203,397)*	*23,063*	*857,713*
Restricted funds	*36,368*	*93,196*	*(90,668)*	-	*38,896*
	1,752,684	*314,927*	*(344,863)*	*23,063*	*1,745,811*

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	503,911	-	**503,911**
Fixed asset investments	1	-	**1**
Current assets	1,239,378	22,951	**1,262,329**
Creditors due within one year	(19,346)	-	**(19,346)**
Total	1,723,944	22,951	**1,746,895**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	*Restricted funds 2024* £	*Total funds 2024* £
Tangible fixed assets	*503,934*	-	*503,934*
Fixed asset investments	*1*	-	*1*
Current assets	*1,229,064*	*38,896*	*1,267,960*
Creditors due within one year	*(26,084)*	-	*(26,084)*
Total	*1,706,915*	*38,896*	*1,745,811*

22. Related party transactions

During the year the chairty received donations from Southend Vision Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity, totalling £49,480 (2024: £46,233).

23. Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and had no ultimate controlling party. In the event that the charity is wound up, each current member (and any member who has ceased to be a member within one year) agrees to contribute a maximum of ten pounds to the assets of the charity.

24. Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

Name	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	06388803	Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1DB	Charity Shop

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Net assets £
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	1

Southend in Sight

England & Wales - Charity number 1069765

Accounts

Registered number: 03554422
Charity number: 1069765

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

(Formerly Southend on Sea Blind Welfare Organisation)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

VENTHAMS

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT
(A company limited by guarantee)

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SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Trustees

R O Cable, Chairman
S Cooper, Vice Chairman
J A Davenport
S Davies
C L McLewin
D E Wacogne
P G Warburton, Secretary
P J Hefferan (appointed 6 March 2024)

Company registered number

03554422

Charity registered number

1069765

Registered office

Millhouse
32-38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Company secretary

P G Warburton

Chief executive officer

L Martin

Accountants

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Bankers

HSBC Bank PLC
48 High Street
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JH

Investment managers

Evelyn Partners
16th & 17th Floor
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
London
EC4A 3BF

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To support and offer practical help to visually impaired people and their families in Southend-on-Sea and the adjoining areas
- To develop other charitable activities that are conducive or ancillary to these objects.

The charity has a general aim of providing practical help to visually impaired people in the general area of Southend.

Southend in Sight Centre: The Centre offers people with sight problems a chance to try out a large range of specialist equipment including CCTV magnifiers, talking books players, task lighting and many other aids to support independent living. This equipment is demonstrated by a team of staff and volunteers and a Tech Team give specialist advice on i-pads, tablets and mobile phones. Assistance has also been provided for people needing forms filled in for Attendance Allowance, PIP and Blue Badges. A new assessment tool has been introduced called the Sight Loss MOT which enables the Sight Loss Advisor to work with people more holistically looking at how their sight loss has impacted different areas of their life ie. Work, education, getting out and about, managing at home and finances. A project with Cadent has also enabled the team to offer advice on energy saving during the cost-of-living crisis.

Hospital Services: An Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) is employed partly through RNIB and the Mid and South Essex Hospital Trust to provide full time support at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic for those patients who are in the early days of their sight loss journey. The ECLO helps with processing Certificates of Visual Impairment and provides the necessary emotional support in the difficult early days. They will also sign post to other services and make referrals as necessary.

Social Activities and Talk and Support: Social activities remain popular as people living with sight loss can experience feelings of isolation. Coffee mornings and a Fun Friday session, with entertainment, are run once a month at a local social club. Weekly ten pin bowling sessions have continued in Hockley and are well attended. The newer activities including a talking books club, line dancing, and a choir have been well attended. The Talk and Support Service continues to be supported by 11 volunteers and helps reduce isolation for people who can feel lonely living with sight loss.

Support for children, young people and their families continues with social gatherings offered during the year including a subsidised trip to the pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion. New activities have been introduced including bowling, horse riding and Animal Encounters session. All of our sight loss services are available to children, young people and their families and any requests for support are dealt with on an individual basis.

Information and Training: The organisation gives timely information, advice and guidance on all areas of sight loss. The equipment loan scheme continues to run and gives people the opportunity to borrow expensive items

Objectives and activities (continued)

such as CCTVs. Sight Loss Awareness Training has also been available for local groups and organisations in Southend. Guiding Training has also been offered to new staff and volunteers to give them the necessary skills to guide service users at events, activities and on site.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

1. To promote the Centre and services to all visually impaired people in the area and offer the Sight Loss MOT tool to assist in providing full support in all aspects of life.

2. To offer a range of activities so that visually impaired people have the chance to gain from experiences and meet others in the same position.

3. To provide opportunities for clients to engage in activities to reduce isolation.

4. To provide opportunities to try equipment that may help visually impaired people to continue an independent life in their own homes including advice on accessing IT. A newsletter is also produced four times a year providing information on a range of areas relevant to members.

5. To train and support volunteers to assist and support visually impaired clients and encourage peer support. This involves recruiting volunteers who have experience of living with sight loss.

6. To present a range of activities and opportunities which are both popular with the membership and respond to their requests and needs.

7. To support the ECLO service at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic to help people in the early stages of sight loss navigate their way around services and secure funding to sustain the service.

8. To offer volunteering opportunities to the local community for the benefit of members.

9. To build a relationship with local families who have visually impaired children, promote the Charity and meet regularly.

c. Volunteers

The Charity is grateful for the invaluable efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service delivery, charity shops and fundraising.

There are approximately 75 active volunteers, and some are visually impaired themselves. The visually impaired volunteers are extremely well placed to support others in the same boat and this peer support is extremely valuable.

Volunteers working with service users have been given Guiding Training and volunteers are held in high regard at the charity. They are given long service awards and meet four times during the year for information sessions and celebrations.

Objectives and activities (continued)

d. Main activities undertaken to further the Company's purposes for the public benefit

The Trustees are mindful of their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives and activities of Southend in Sight focus on delivering services to aid the visually impaired in their daily living and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Budgets are set annually, and meetings are held with Trustees on a quarterly basis to monitor budgets against forecasts.

Southend in Sight has support from the Trustees and financial statements are produced regularly to manage the finances effectively, and take action if necessary.

b. Review of activities

The charity has continued to offer high quality and professional advice to those needing support managing sight loss. They have:

- Provided 1,486 sessions of support at our Centre and supported 486 individuals on their sight loss journey.
- welcomed 180 new individuals to the Charity.
- helped 25 people with form filling over 32 face to face sessions and supported 85 individuals with over 115 face to face sessions of Tech support.
- carried out 35 Sight Loss MOTs and held 32 drop in advice sessions with peer support.

At Southend Hospital Eye Clinic our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer has supported those in the early days of their diagnosis with emotional and practical advice. During the year they have:

- helped 1,078 patients with support and guidance and held 1,783 sessions of support.
- supported 651 relatives / carers and processed 192 Certificates of Visual Impairment.

For those who could be feeling isolated a range of activities have been on offer including bowling, book club, choir, line dancing, coffee mornings and Fun Fridays. The Talk and Support service also continued, supported by 11 volunteers and attendance at events for children and families has improved. During the year they have:

- provided 82 activities for adults and held 33 bowling sessions.
- offered 5 children's events including a trip to the Pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion.
- carried out 16 home visits to those who are housebound and made 1,787 Talk and Support calls to offer a lifeline to those who are feeling isolated.

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Fundraising

Grants have been received through a number of large national and local funding organisations and programmes.

Generous support has been received from local groups, clubs and organisations.

A number of legacies and gifts in memory have also been gratefully received.

The Charity Shop, which is run by Southend Vision Trading Ltd, continues to be very popular and is open six days per week. Income (after expenses) this year was £46,233 which was donated to the Charity.

d. Investment policy and performance

The Articles of Association give the Trustees unrestricted powers to invest the funds as they see fit. Evelyn Partners (formerly Tilney Asset Management Services Ltd.), continue the management of funds on a medium risk basis. The investment performance of the fund manager is benchmarked against the WM Unconstrained Index.

Investments are managed on a medium risk basis with emphasis on an above average level of income and the growth of that income.

This will be achieved primarily through investment in a combination of bonds and higher income equities. The aim will be to achieve returns through a combination of capital appreciation and income received.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. Reserves policy

The reserves policy continues to be the maintenance of sufficient reserves to continue the existing services, and protect the future needs of the charity. The Board have considered:

Financial Risk

The risk of reduced income due to intermittent grant funding.

The risk of unplanned events ie. increase in energy prices.

The unpredictable and unprecedented time for community fundraising including charity shop sales.

Ceasing to operate

The cost of winding up the Charity should it cease to operate.

Infrastructure

The investment needed to maintain the building to run the Charity from and to bring certain areas up to required

standards.

The investigation into an additional or new site to further develop and grow the Charity.

Strategic Direction

The future direction of the charity to meet the changing needs of the local visually impaired community.

The opportunity to invest in / seed new projects to meet growing needs and increase funding.

The long-term plan to bring activities together under one roof at an additional or new site.

Reserves breakdown

Unrestricted Funds:

These are income or income funds which can be spent at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of any of the charity's objects. If part of an unrestricted income fund is earmarked for a particular project it may be designated as a separate fund, but the designation is administrative only and does not restrict the Trustees' discretion to spend the fund. After allocating an amount to a Designated Fund, the amount of Unrestricted General Funds at 31st March 2024, were £834,033. Of that figure, £503,935 is represented by fixed assets so free reserves at 31st March 2024 total £330,098. The Trustees consider this to be adequate working capital to run the day-to-day affairs of the Charity.

Designated Funds:

These are part of the Unrestricted Funds which The Trustees have earmarked for particular projects, without restricting or committing the funds legally. At 31st March 2024 these amount to £849,202, and represent an estimate of essential works to be undertaken at the property at 117 Hamlet Court Road of £250,000, in order to bring it into a good state of repair, and the anticipated cost of purchasing an additional property in the amount of £650,000, less expenditure incurred for the essential works to 31st March 2024. Sorrells, Chartered Surveyors, have been retained to identify suitable properties.

Restricted Funds:

These are funds subject to specific trusts, which may be declared by the donors or created through legal process. At 31st March 2024 these stood at £38,896.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The results are set out in the summary "income and expenditure" and show a deficit for the year of £6,873.

The Trustees consider that the assets of the Charity are adequate to fulfil its obligations for the foreseeable future.

d. Principal funding

The principal funding sources of the charity are grants, legacies, donations, and the proceeds of shop sales from our shop in Hamlet Court Road.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, with a company number of 03554422. The company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 28 April 1998 and has a registered charity number of 1069765.

The principal object of the company is to offer support and practical help to visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, and the adjoining areas.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, one-third of the Trustees retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re appointment. If the Charity, at the meeting at which a trustee retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy, the retiring trustee shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution or the re-appointment of the trustee is put to the meeting and lost. New Trustees are appointed who have the relevant knowledge and experience to act for the Charity.

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The number of Trustees must not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) but shall not be subject to any maximum number. The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets bi-monthly to discuss development, membership, finance and operations. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity to facilitate effective operation; the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including certain financial matters, employment and community services activities.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees undergo orientation and are briefed on their legal obligations under the Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-taking processes, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events which will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

e. Related party relationships

The Charity works with the two local talking newspapers and ensures that their newsletters are recorded and put on to CD. They work with Southend City Council Social Care, Age Concern, SAVS, RNIB, Guide Dogs, Visionary, the Macular Society and other related voluntary sector organisations.

The charity owns a subsidiary company called Southend Vision Trading Limited that operates a charity shop.

f. Financial risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual view of the risks that the charity may face, reviewed quarterly
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Plans for future periods

The following priorities are agreed as the Charity plans for the future:

1. No one faces sight loss unsupported.

Offer a service that is professional, timely, personalised and a positive experience.
Provide support in all areas of life that have been affected by sight loss through our MOT tool.
Enable people to learn from others, share ideas and gain confidence in using tech and other equipment that supports independence.

2. No one faces sight loss alone.

Offer a range of activities that suit different ages and interests to reduce social isolation.
Provide people with opportunities to mix with peers, talk to volunteers and staff either in person or over the phone.
To use our learning and gain evidence to develop plans for a space to house social activities and other services under one roof.

3. We are inclusive and available to all.

All aspects of our services can be accessed and utilised, regardless of age, gender, social or ethnic background.
We are committed to a positive environment in which users of our service, volunteers, employees and trustees may experience a sense of belonging, respect and worth.
Services are available to adults, children, young people, their families / carers and we are committed to safeguarding people engaging with us.

4. Our finance, resources and infrastructure meet the growing need.

Financial commitments are met with agreed income targets through grant funding, community fundraising and our charity shop.
Our building is maintained and safe.
Risks are managed and mitigated against (new site, IT, health and safety, investments, funding, staffing / volunteer levels etc).
A programme is in place for continued professional development and succession planning.
Growth areas for funding are identified to meet the increase in demand on services.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 30th October 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Southend in Sight ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: T. McCarthy. Dated: 30/10/2024

Trevor McCarthy FCCA

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE) ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Continuing operations 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Continuing operations 2023 £*	*Discontinued operations 2023 £*	*Total funds 2023 £*
Income from:								
Donations and legacies	3	**152,683**	**93,196**	**245,879**	**245,879**	*246,832*	-	*246,832*
Charitable activities	4	**4,095**	**-**	**4,095**	**4,095**	*3,794*	*(3,206)*	*588*
Other trading activities	5	**35,645**	**-**	**35,645**	**35,645**	*29,737*	-	*29,737*
Investments	6	**29,308**	**-**	**29,308**	**29,308**	*5,839*	-	*5,839*
Total income		**221,731**	**93,196**	**314,927**	**314,927**	*286,202*	*(3,206)*	*282,996*
Expenditure on:								
Raising funds	7,8	**15,097**	**620**	**15,717**	**15,717**	*9,405*	-	*9,405*
Charitable activities	9	**239,098**	**90,048**	**329,146**	**329,146**	*283,722*	*21,592*	*305,314*
Total expenditure		**254,195**	**90,668**	**344,863**	**344,863**	*293,127*	*21,592*	*314,719*
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains/(losses) on investments		**(32,464)**	**2,528**	**(29,936)**	**(29,936)**	*(6,925)*	*(24,798)*	*(31,723)*
Net gains/(losses) on investments		**5,228**	**-**	**5,228**	**5,228**	*(52)*	-	*(52)*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		**(27,236)**	**2,528**	**(24,708)**	**(24,708)**	*(6,977)*	*(24,798)*	*(31,775)*
Other recognised gains/(losses):								
Gains on revaluation of current assets		**17,835**	**-**	**17,835**	**17,835**	*(466)*	-	*(466)*
Other gains		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	*683,368*	-	*683,368*
Net movement in funds		**(9,401)**	**2,528**	**(6,873)**	**(6,873)**	*675,925*	*(24,798)*	*651,127*

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Continuing operations 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Continuing operations 2023 £*	*Discontinued operations 2023 £*	*Total funds 2023 £*
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	**1,716,316**	**36,368**	**1,752,684**	**1,752,684**	*1,101,557*	*-*	*1,101,557*
Net movement in funds	**(9,401)**	**2,528**	**(6,873)**	**(6,873)**	*675,925*	*(24,798)*	*651,127*
Total funds carried forward	**1,706,915**	**38,896**	**1,745,811**	**1,745,811**	*1,777,482*	*(24,798)*	*1,752,684*

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note		2024 £		*2023 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		**503,934**		*506,495*
Investments	15		**1**		*1*
			503,935		*506,496*
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**33,977**		*8,336*	
Investments	17	**270,568**		*48,031*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**963,415**		*1,216,609*	
		1,267,960		*1,272,976*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(26,084)**		*(26,788)*	
Net current assets			**1,241,876**		*1,246,188*
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,745,811**		*1,752,684*
Total net assets			**1,745,811**		*1,752,684*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		**38,896**		*36,368*
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	19	**849,202**		*900,000*	
General funds	19	**834,033**		*810,471*	
Revaluation reserve		**23,680**		*5,845*	
Total unrestricted funds	19		**1,706,915**		*1,716,316*
Total funds			**1,745,811**		*1,752,684*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 30th October 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southend in Sight meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Consolidated financial statements have not been prepared due to the investment in the subsidiary being immaterial to the financial statement as a whole.

1.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income from charitable activities relates to care home fess receivable. Income is recognised as and when invoices are raised for services provided

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Interest receivable

Income from interest, royalties and dividends is recognised when its receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

1.5 Taxation

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £400 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- not depreciated
Plant and machinery	- 12.5% reducing balance
Office equipment	- 10% reducing balance

The market values of the freehold properties are considered to be in excess of the book values held in the financial statements, therefore charging depreciaiton on these properties is not considered appropriate.

1.7 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.11 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. General information

Southend in Sight previously operating as Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organiation, is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those recorded in the register of members of the company. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respcet of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

The company is registered in England and Wales. The company's registered office address is Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DB.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	**Total funds 2024 £**	*Total funds 2023 £*
Donations	92,683	93,196	**185,879**	*227,469*
Legacies	25,000	-	**25,000**	*18,863*
Grants	35,000	-	**35,000**	*500*
Total 2024	152,683	93,196	**245,879**	*246,832*
Total 2023	*131,560*	*115,272*	*246,832*	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Community services	4,095	**4,095**	*3,794*
Residential home	-	**-**	*(3,206)*
Total 2024	4,095	**4,095**	*588*
Total 2023	*588*	*588*	

Following the closure of the Residential home, all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Charity operating income	35,645	**35,645**	*29,737*
Total 2023	*29,737*	*29,737*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Income from listed investments	1,086	**1,086**	*680*
Investment income - local cash	28,222	**28,222**	*5,159*
	29,308	**29,308**	*5,839*
Total 2023	*5,839*	*5,839*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Fundraising	2,527	**2,527**	*3,225*
Total 2023	*3,225*	*3,225*	

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Training	584	620	**1,204**	*180*
Cost of Equipment Sales	11,519	-	**11,519**	*5,495*
Total 2024	12,103	620	**12,723**	*5,675*
Total 2023	*5,675*	-	*5,675*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds (continued)

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Portfolio Management	467	**467**	*505*
Total 2023	*505*	*505*	

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Community services	239,098	90,048	**329,146**	*283,722*
Residential home	-	-	**-**	*21,592*
	239,098	90,048	**329,146**	*305,314*
Total 2023	*197,132*	*108,182*	*305,314*	

Following the closure of the Residential home, all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2024 £	Other costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Community services	169,909	159,237	**329,146**	*283,722*
Residential home	-	-	**-**	*21,592*
	169,909	159,237	**329,146**	*305,314*
Total 2023	*153,745*	*151,569*	*305,314*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Community services	278,593	50,553	**329,146**	*283,722*
Residential home	-	-	**-**	*21,592*
	278,593	50,553	**329,146**	*305,314*
Total 2023	*243,412*	*61,902*	*305,314*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Community services 2024 £	Residential home 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Staff costs	169,909	-	**169,909**	*153,745*
Premises costs	79,637	-	**79,637**	*76,093*
Social events and newsletters	11,163	-	**11,163**	*10,230*
Volunteers' expenses	1,004	-	**1,004**	*1,685*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,537	-	**1,537**	*1,659*
Sundry	416	-	**416**	-
Legal and professional fees	12,855	-	**12,855**	-
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	2,072	-	**2,072**	-
	278,593	-	**278,593**	*243,412*
Total 2023	*226,137*	*17,275*	*243,412*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Community services 2024 £	Residential home 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Subscriptions	483	-	**483**	*466*
Telephone	2,559	-	**2,559**	*2,527*
Postage and stationery	4,680	-	**4,680**	*6,463*
Advertising	9,934	-	**9,934**	*2,574*
Accountancy	22,104	-	**22,104**	*22,262*
Travel and subsistence	402	-	**402**	*406*
Sundry	247	-	**247**	*150*
Bank charges	4,171	-	**4,171**	*3,460*
Loan interest	-	-	**-**	*15,386*
Legal and professional fees	2,493	-	**2,493**	*4,728*
Independent Examiner's / Auditor's remuneration	3,480	-	**3,480**	*3,480*
	50,553	-	**50,553**	*61,902*
Total 2023	*57,585*	*4,317*	*61,902*	

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Company's annual accounts.	**3,480**	*3,480*

12. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	**160,185**	*143,478*
Social security costs	**6,806**	*7,168*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**2,918**	*3,099*
	169,909	*153,745*

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Direct Charitable work	**8**	*7*
Administration and governance	**3**	*3*
	11	*10*

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration or other benefits during the year (2023- £Nil).

The Trustees were not reimbursed or paid directly any expenses during the year (2023 - £10).

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2023	**491,698**	**5,298**	**28,046**	**525,042**
Additions	**-**	**-**	**1,048**	**1,048**
Disposals	**-**	**(2,959)**	**(6,050)**	**(9,009)**
At 31 March 2024	**491,698**	**2,339**	**23,044**	**517,081**
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	**-**	**4,077**	**14,470**	**18,547**
Charge for the year	**-**	**153**	**1,384**	**1,537**
On disposals	**-**	**(2,481)**	**(4,456)**	**(6,937)**
At 31 March 2024	**-**	**1,749**	**11,398**	**13,147**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	**491,698**	**590**	**11,646**	**503,934**
At 31 March 2023	*491,698*	*1,221*	*13,576*	*506,495*

15. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2023	**1**
At 31 March 2024	**1**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2024	**1**
At 31 March 2023	*1*

16. Debtors

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Due within one year		
Other debtors	**260**	*843*
Prepayments and accrued income	**33,717**	*7,493*
	33,977	*8,336*

17. Current asset investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Listed investments	**270,568**	*48,031*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	**10,713**	*12,521*
Other taxation and social security	**3,489**	*2,636*
Other creditors	**5,138**	*5,019*
Accruals and deferred income	**6,744**	*6,612*
	26,084	*26,788*

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Property Development	**900,000**	**-**	**(50,798)**	**-**	**849,202**
General funds					
General Funds	**810,471**	**221,731**	**(203,397)**	**5,228**	**834,033**
Revaluation reserve	**5,845**	**-**	**-**	**17,835**	**23,680**
	816,316	**221,731**	**(203,397)**	**23,063**	**857,713**
Total Unrestricted funds	**1,716,316**	**221,731**	**(254,195)**	**23,063**	**1,706,915**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Restricted funds					
Centre & Club room refurbishment	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	**-**	**32,929**	**(32,929)**	**-**	**-**
Essex Community Foundation - Running Costs	**1,334**	**-**	**(1,334)**	**-**	**-**
Community investment board	**9,590**	**-**	**(6,292)**	**-**	**3,298**
Essex Community Foundation - NHS	**145**	**-**	**(145)**	**-**	**-**
Lottery	**21,132**	**40,424**	**(38,866)**	**-**	**22,690**
Masons	**4,167**	**10,000**	**(11,102)**	**-**	**3,065**
Will Charitable Trust	**-**	**9,843**	**-**	**-**	**9,843**
	36,368	**93,196**	**(90,668)**	**-**	**38,896**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2023* £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Property Development	-	-	-	*900,000*	-	*900,000*
General funds						
General Funds	*1,065,916*	*167,724*	*(206,537)*	*(900,000)*	*683,368*	*810,471*
Revaluation reserve	*6,363*	-	-	-	*(518)*	*5,845*
	1,072,279	*167,724*	*(206,537)*	*(900,000)*	*682,850*	*816,316*
Total Unrestricted funds	*1,072,279*	*167,724*	*(206,537)*	-	*682,850*	*1,716,316*

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2023* £
Restricted funds						
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	-	*32,928*	*(32,928)*	-	-	-
Essex Community Foundation - Running Costs	-	*8,000*	*(6,666)*	-	-	*1,334*
Community investment board	-	*9,590*	-	-	-	*9,590*
Essex Community Foundation - NHS	*2,575*	*4,000*	*(6,430)*	-	-	*145*
Lottery	*16,239*	*50,753*	*(45,860)*	-	-	*21,132*
Masons	*4,167*	*10,000*	*(10,000)*	-	-	*4,167*
Screwfix	*826*	-	*(826)*	-	-	-
Will Charitable Trust	*5,471*	-	*(5,471)*	-	-	-
	29,278	*115,271*	*(108,181)*	-	-	*36,368*

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	**900,000**	**-**	**(50,798)**	**-**	**849,202**
General funds	**816,316**	**221,731**	**(203,397)**	**23,063**	**857,713**
Restricted funds	**36,368**	**93,196**	**(90,668)**	**-**	**38,896**
	1,752,684	**314,927**	**(344,863)**	**23,063**	**1,745,811**

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2023* £
Designated funds	-	-	-	*900,000*	-	*900,000*
General funds	*1,072,279*	*167,724*	*(206,537)*	*(900,000)*	*682,850*	*816,316*
Restricted funds	*29,278*	*115,271*	*(108,181)*	-	-	*36,368*
	1,101,557	*282,995*	*(314,718)*	-	*682,850*	*1,752,684*

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	503,934	-	**503,934**
Fixed asset investments	1	-	**1**
Current assets	1,229,064	38,896	**1,267,960**
Creditors due within one year	(26,084)	-	**(26,084)**
Total	1,706,915	38,896	**1,745,811**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	*Restricted funds 2023* £	*Total funds 2023* £
Tangible fixed assets	*506,495*	-	*506,495*
Fixed asset investments	*1*	-	*1*
Current assets	*1,236,608*	*36,368*	*1,272,976*
Creditors due within one year	*(26,788)*	-	*(26,788)*
Total	*1,716,316*	*36,368*	*1,752,684*

22. Related party transactions

During the year the chairty received donations from Southend Vision Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity, totalling £46,223 (2023: £54,467).

23. Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and had no ultimate controlling party. In the event that the charity is wound up, each current member (and any member who has ceased to be a member within one year) agrees to contribute a maximum of ten pounds to the assets of the charity.

24. Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

Name	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	06388803	Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1DB	Charity Shop

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Net assets £
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	1

Southend in Sight

England & Wales - Charity number 1069765

Accounts

SIGNED

Registered number: 03554422
Charity number: 1069765

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

(Formerly Southend on Sea Blind Welfare Organisation)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

VENTHAMS

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT
(A company limited by guarantee)

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SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustees

R O Cable, Chairman
S Cooper, Vice Chairman
B D Armitage (resigned 7 December 2022)
J A Davenport
S Davies
C L McLewin
M S Pinnock (resigned 3 October 2022)
D E Wacogne
P G Warburton, Secretary

Company registered number

03554422

Charity registered number

1069765

Registered office

Millhouse
32-38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Company secretary

P G Warburton

Chief executive officer

L Martin

Accountants

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Bankers

HSBC Bank PLC
48 High Street
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JH

Investment managers

Evelyn Partners
16th & 17th Floor
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
London
EC4A 3BF

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To support and offer practical help to visually impaired people and their families in Southend-on-Sea and the adjoining areas
- To develop other charitable activities that are conducive or ancillary to these objects.

The charity has a general aim of providing practical help to visually impaired people in the general area of Southend.

Community Services:

Southend in Sight Centre: The Centre offers people with sight problems a chance to try out a large range of specialist equipment including CCTV magnifiers, talking books players, task lighting and many other aids to support independent living. This equipment is demonstrated by a team of staff and volunteers and a Tech Team give specialist advice on i-pads, tablets and mobile phones. Assistance has also been provided for people needing forms filled in for Attendance Allowance, PIP and Blue Badges. A new assessment tool has been introduced called the Sight Loss MOT which enables the Sight Loss Advisor to work with people more holistically looking at how their sight loss has impacted different areas of their life ie. Work, education, getting out and about, managing at home and finances.

Hospital Services: An Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) is employed partly through RNIB to provide full time support at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic for those patients who are in the early days of their sight loss journey. The ECLO helps with processing Certificates of Visual Impairment and provides the necessary emotional support in the difficult early days. They will also sign post to other services and make referrals as necessary.

Social Activities and Talk and Support: Social activities remain popular as people living with sight loss can experience feelings of isolation. Coffee mornings and a Fun Friday session, with entertainment, are run once a month at a local social club. Weekly ten pin bowling sessions have continued in Hockley and are well attended. New activities this year include a talking books club, line dancing, and a choir. The Talk and Support Service continues to grow giving isolated individuals the support they need over the phone and for some people in their homes. Whilst the funding for this has reduced the service has been maintained and supported by a number of volunteers.

Support for children, young people and their families continues with social gatherings offered during the year including a subsidised trip to the pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion and an exclusive outing to Kids Kingdom. All of our sight loss services are available to children, young people and their families and any requests for support are dealt with on an individual basis.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Information and Training: The organisation gives timely information, advice and guidance on all areas of sight loss. Equipment demonstration days and the annual exhibition have seen good attendance. The equipment loan scheme continues to run and gives people the opportunity to borrow expensive items such as CCTVs. Sight Loss Awareness Courses have also been introduced for local groups and organisations in Southend and have been extremely popular. This year Guiding Training has returned to give new staff and volunteers the necessary skills to guide service users at events, activities and on site.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

1. To promote the Centre and services to all visually impaired people in the area.

2. To offer a range of activities so that visually impaired people have the chance to gain from experiences and meet others in the same position.

3. To provide opportunities for clients to engage in activities to reduce isolation.

4. To provide opportunities to try equipment that may help visually impaired people to continue an independent life in their own homes including advice on accessing IT. A newsletter will also continue to be produced four times a year providing information on a range of areas relevant to members.

5. To train and support volunteers to assist and support visually impaired clients and encourage peer support. This involves recruiting volunteers who have experience of living with sight loss.

6. To present a range of activities and opportunities which are both popular with the membership and respond to their requests and needs.

7. To support the ECLO service at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic to help people in the early stages of sight loss navigate their way around services and secure funding to sustain the service.

8. To offer volunteering opportunities to the local community for the benefit of members.

9. To build a relationship with local families who have visually impaired children, promote the Charity and meet regularly.

c. Volunteers

The Charity is grateful for the invaluable efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service delivery, charity shops and fundraising.

There are approximately 60 active volunteers, and some are visually impaired themselves. The visually impaired volunteers are extremely well placed to support others in the same boat and this peer support is extremely valuable.

Volunteers working with service users have been given Guiding Training and volunteers are held in high regard at the charity. They are given long service awards and meet four times during the year for information sessions and celebrations.

Objectives and activities (continued)

d. Main activities undertaken to further the Company's purposes for the public benefit

The Trustees are mindful of their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives and activities of Southend in Sight focus on delivering services to aid the visually impaired in their daily living and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Budgets are set annually, and meetings are held with Trustees on a quarterly basis to monitor budgets against forecasts.

Southend in Sight has support from the Trustees and financial statements are produced regularly to manage the finances effectively, and take action if necessary.

b. Review of activities

The charity has continued to offer high quality and professional advice to those needing support managing sight loss. This year, at our Centre, we have:

- Provided 1,286 sessions of support at our Centre and supported 457 individuals on their sight loss journey.
- welcomed 231 new individuals to the Charity.
- helped 24 people with form filling over 40 sessions and supported 61 individuals with Tech support over 101 sessions.
- carried out 44 Sight Loss MOTs and held 26 drop in advice sessions with peer support.
- At Southend Hospital Eye Clinic our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer has supported those in the early days of their diagnosis with emotional and practical advice. During the year we have:
- helped 1,020 patients with support and guidance and held 1,739 sessions of support.
- supported 617 relatives / carers and processed 214 Certificates of Visual Impairment.
- For those who could be feeling isolated we have expanded our activities to include bowling, book club, choir, line dancing, coffee mornings and Fun Fridays. Our Talk and Support service also continued supported by 11 volunteers and our engagement with children and families has improved. During the year we have:
- provided 54 activities for adults and held 38 bowling sessions.
- offered 6 children's events including a trip to the Pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion.
- carried out 43 home visits to those who are housebound and made 1,998 Talk and Support calls to offer a lifeline to those who are feeling isolated.

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Fundraising

The Charity Shop, which is run by Southend Vision Trading Ltd, continues to be very popular and is open six days per week. Income (after expenses) this year was £54,467 which was donated to the Charity.

Community fundraising has been more challenging as events and collections have not been as popular following the pandemic. However, grant funding, both nationally and locally has been seen more success with the focus being on cost of living and those facing financial hardship.

d. Investment policy and performance

The Articles of Association give the Trustees unrestricted powers to invest the funds as they see fit. Evelyn Partners (formerly Tilney Asset Management Services Ltd.), continue the management funds on a medium risk basis. The investment performance of the fund manager is benchmarked against the WM Unconstrained Index.

Investments are managed on a medium risk basis with emphasis on an above average level of income and the growth of that income.

This will be achieved primarily through investment in a combination of bonds and higher income equities. The aim will be to achieve returns through a combination of capital appreciation and income received.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. Reserves policy

The reserves policy continues to be the maintenance of sufficient reserves to continue the existing services, and protect the future needs of the charity. However, due to the recent sale of Elkington House Care Home and the Strategic Review carried out by the Charity, the Board of Trustees have reviewed their Reserves Policy. The Board have considered:

Financial Risk

The risk of reduced income due to intermittent grant funding.

The risk of unplanned events ie. increase in energy prices.

The unpredictable and unprecedented time for community fundraising including charity shop sales.

Ceasing to operate

The cost of winding up the Charity should it cease to operate.

Infrastructure

The investment needed to maintain the building to run the Charity from and to bring certain areas up to required standards.

The investigation into an additional or new site to further develop and grow the Charity.

Strategic Direction

The future direction of the charity to meet the changing needs of the local visually impaired community.

The opportunity to invest in / seed new projects to meet growing needs and increase funding.

The long-term plan to bring activities together under one roof at an additional or new site.

Reserves breakdown

Unrestricted Funds:

These are income or income funds which can be spent at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of any of the charity's objects. If part of an unrestricted income fund is earmarked for a particular project it may be designated as a separate fund, but the designation is administrative only and does not restrict the Trustees' discretion to spend the fund. After allocating an amount to a Designated Fund, the amount of Unrestricted General Funds 31st March 2023, were £810,471. Of that figure, £506,496 is represented by fixed assets so free reserves at 31st March 2023 total £303,975. This represents approximately twelve months of core operating expenditure, and it is planned to maintain the free reserves at that level.

Designated Funds:

These are part of the Unrestricted Funds which The Trustees have earmarked for particular projects, without restricting or committing the funds legally. At 31st March 2023 these amount to £900,000, and represent an estimate of essential works to be undertaken at the property at 117 Hamlet Court Road of £250,000, in order to bring it into a good state of repair, and the anticipated cost of purchasing an additional property in the amount of £650,000. Sorrells, Chartered Surveyors, have been retained to identify suitable properties.

Restricted Funds:

These are funds subject to specific trusts, which may be declared by the donors or created through legal process. At 31st March 2023 these stood at £36,368.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The results are set out in the summary "income and expenditure" and show a surplus for the year of £651,127.

The Trustees consider that the assets of the Charity are adequate to fulfil its obligations for the foreseeable future.

d. Principal funding

The principal funding sources of the charity are grants, legacies, donations, and the proceeds of shop sales from our shop in Hamlet Court Road.

.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, with a company number of 03554422.

The company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 28 April 1998 and has a registered charity number of 1069765.

The principal object of the company is to offer support and practical help to visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, and the adjoining areas.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, one-third of the Trustees retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re appointment. If the Charity, at the meeting at which a trustee retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy, the retiring trustee shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution or the re-appointment of the trustee is put to the meeting and lost. New Trustees are appointed who have the relevant knowledge and experience to act for the Charity.

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The number of Trustees must not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) but shall not be subject to any maximum number. The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets bi-monthly to discuss development, membership, finance and operations. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity to facilitate effective operation; the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including certain financial matters, employment and community services activities.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees undergo orientation and are briefed on their legal obligations under the Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-taking processes, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events which will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

e. Related party relationships

The Charity works with the two local talking newspapers and ensures that their newsletters are recorded and put on to CD. They work with Southend Borough Council Social Care, Age Concern, SAVS, RNIB, Guide Dogs, Visionary, the Macular Society and other related voluntary sector organisations.

The charity owns a subsidiary company called Southend Vision Trading Limited that operates a charity shop.

f. Financial risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual view of the risks that the charity may face, reviewed quarterly

Structure, governance and management (continued)

- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

Change of Name

As resolved at the AGM held on 28th October 2022, the name of the Charity has been changed from Southend Blind Welfare Organisation to Southend in Sight.

Plans for future periods

Priorities for 2023-2024:

1. No one faces sight loss unsupported.

Offer a service that is professional, timely, personalised and a positive experience.
Provide support in all areas of life that have been affected by sight loss through our MOT tool.
Enable people to learn from others, share ideas and gain confidence in using tech and other equipment that supports independence.

2. No one faces sight loss alone.

Offer a range of activities that suit different ages and interests to reduce social isolation.
Provide people with opportunities to mix with peers, talk to volunteers and staff either in person or over the phone.
To use our learning and gain evidence to develop plans for a space to house social activities and other services under one roof.

3. We are inclusive and available to all.

All aspects of our services can be accessed and utilised, regardless of age, gender, social or ethnic background.
We are committed to a positive environment in which users of our service, volunteers, employees and trustees may experience a sense of belonging, respect and worth.
Services are available to adults, children, young people, their families / carers and we are committed to safeguarding people engaging with us.

4. Our finance, resources and infrastructure meet the growing need.

Financial commitments are met with agreed income targets through grant funding, community fundraising and our charity shop.
Our building is maintained and safe.
Risks are managed and mitigated against (new site, IT, health and safety, investments, funding, staffing / volunteer levels etc).
A programme is in place for continued professional development and succession planning.
Growth areas for funding are identified to meet the increase in demand on services.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 25 October 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Southend in Sight ('the Company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: T. McCarthy. Dated: 25 October 2023

Trevor McCarthy FCCA

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE) ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Continuing operations 2023 £	Discontinued operations 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Continuing operations 2022 £*	*Discontinued operations 2022 £*	*Total funds 2022 £*
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	3	**131,560**	**115,272**	**246,832**	**-**	**246,832**	*227,485*	*-*	*227,485*
Charitable activities	4	**588**	**-**	**3,794**	**(3,206)**	**588**	*-*	*400,311*	*400,311*
Other trading activities	5	**29,737**	**-**	**29,737**	**-**	**29,737**	*28,965*	*-*	*28,965*
Investments	6	**5,839**	**-**	**5,839**	**-**	**5,839**	*511*	*-*	*511*
Total income		**167,724**	**115,272**	**286,202**	**(3,206)**	**282,996**	*256,961*	*400,311*	*657,272*
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	7,8	**9,405**	**-**	**9,405**	**-**	**9,405**	*31,284*	*-*	*31,284*
Charitable activities	9	**197,132**	**108,182**	**283,722**	**21,592**	**305,314**	*211,537*	*740,017*	*951,554*
Total expenditure		**206,537**	**108,182**	**293,127**	**21,592**	**314,719**	*242,821*	*740,017*	*982,838*
Net (expenditure)/income before net (losses)/gains on investments		**(38,813)**	**7,090**	**(6,925)**	**(24,798)**	**(31,723)**	*14,140*	*(339,706)*	*(325,566)*
Net (losses)/gains on investments		**(52)**	**-**	**(52)**	**-**	**(52)**	*1,416*	*-*	*1,416*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses) carried forward		**(38,865)**	**7,090**	**(6,977)**	**(24,798)**	**(31,775)**	*15,556*	*(339,706)*	*(324,150)*

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Continuing operations 2023 £	Discontinued operations 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Continuing operations 2022 £*	*Discontinued operations 2022 £*	*Total funds 2022 £*
Net movement in funds before other recognised (losses)/gains brought forward	**(38,865)**	**7,090**	**(6,977)**	**(24,798)**	**(31,775)**	*15,556*	*(339,706)*	*(324,150)*
Other recognised gains/(losses):								
Gains on revaluation of current assets	**(466)**	**-**	**(466)**	**-**	**(466)**	*(270)*	*-*	*(270)*
Other gains	**683,368**	**-**	**683,368**	**-**	**683,368**	*-*	*-*	*-*
Net movement in funds	**644,037**	**7,090**	**675,925**	**(24,798)**	**651,127**	*15,286*	*(339,706)*	*(324,420)*
Reconciliation of funds:								
Total funds brought forward	**1,072,279**	**29,278**	**1,101,557**	**-**	**1,101,557**	*1,425,977*	*-*	*1,425,977*
Net movement in funds	**644,037**	**7,090**	**675,925**	**(24,798)**	**651,127**	*15,286*	*(339,706)*	*(324,420)*
Total funds carried forward	**1,716,316**	**36,368**	**1,777,482**	**(24,798)**	**1,752,684**	*1,441,263*	*(339,706)*	*1,101,557*

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

SOUTHEND IN SIGHT
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note		2023 £		*2022 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		**506,495**		*1,152,447*
Investments	15		**1**		*1*
			506,496		*1,152,448*
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**8,336**		*17,170*	
Investments	17	**48,031**		*46,475*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**1,216,609**		*134,240*	
		1,272,976		*197,885*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(26,788)**		*(248,776)*	
Net current assets / liabilites			**1,246,188**		*(50,891)*
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,752,684**		*1,101,557*
Total net assets			**1,752,684**		*1,101,557*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		**36,368**		*29,278*
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	19	**900,000**		-	
General funds	19	**810,471**		*1,065,916*	
Revaluation reserve		**5,845**		*6,363*	
Total unrestricted funds	19		**1,716,316**		*1,072,279*
Total funds			**1,752,684**		*1,101,557*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....

P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 25 October 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southend in Sight meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Consolidated financial statements have not been prepared due to the investment in the subsidiary being immaterial to the financial statement as a whole.

1.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income from charitable activities relates to care home fess receivable. Income is recognised as and when invoices are raised for services provided

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.5 Taxation

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £400 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- not depreciated
Plant and machinery	- 12.5% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 10% reducing balance
Office equipment	- 10% reducing balance
Other fixed assets	-

The market values of the freehold properties are considered to be in excess of the book values held in the financial statements, therefore charging depreciaiton on these properties is not considered appropriate.

1.7 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.11 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. General information

Southend in Sight previously operating as Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organiation, is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those recorded in the register of members of the company. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respcet of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

The company is registered in England and Wales. The company's registered office address is Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DB.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Donations	112,197	115,272	**227,469**	*218,797*
Legacies	18,863	-	**18,863**	*3,830*
Grants	500	-	**500**	*4,858*
Total 2023	131,560	115,272	**246,832**	*227,485*
Total 2022	*124,788*	*102,697*	*227,485*	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Community services	3,794	**3,794**	-
Residential home	(3,206)	**(3,206)**	*400,311*
Total 2023	588	**588**	*400,311*
Total 2022	*400,311*	*400,311*	

Following the closure of the Residential home all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Charity operating income	29,737	**29,737**	*28,965*
Total 2022	*28,965*	*28,965*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Income from listed investments	680	**680**	*511*
Investment income - local cash	5,159	**5,159**	-
	5,839	**5,839**	*511*
Total 2022	*511*	*511*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Fundraising	3,225	**3,225**	*2,189*
Total 2022	*2,189*	*2,189*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds (continued)

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Training	180	-	**180**	*909*
Cost of Equipment Sales	5,495	-	**5,495**	*27,462*
Total 2023	5,675	-	**5,675**	*28,371*
Total 2022	*28,054*	*317*	*28,371*	

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Portfolio Management	505	**505**	*724*
Total 2022	*724*	*724*	

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	*Total 2022 £*
Community services	175,540	108,182	**283,722**	*211,537*
Residential home	21,592	-	**21,592**	*740,017*
	197,132	108,182	**305,314**	*951,554*
Total 2022	*878,452*	*73,102*	*951,554*	

Following the closure of the Residential home all residential home expenditure is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2023 £	Other costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £	*Total 2022 £*
Community services	150,300	133,422	**283,722**	*211,537*
Residential home	3,445	18,147	**21,592**	*740,017*
	153,745	151,569	**305,314**	*951,554*
Total 2022	*713,815*	*237,739*	*951,554*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Community services	226,137	57,585	**283,722**	*211,537*
Residential home	17,275	4,317	**21,592**	*740,017*
	243,412	61,902	**305,314**	*951,554*
Total 2022	*880,208*	*71,346*	*951,554*	

Analysis of direct costs

	Community services 2023 £	Residential home 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Staff costs	150,300	3,445	**153,745**	*713,815*
Premises costs	62,263	13,830	**76,093**	*127,562*
Subscriptions	-	-	**-**	*487*
Residents' supplies	-	-	**-**	*25,979*
Social events and newsletters	10,230	-	**10,230**	*4,288*
Volunteers' expenses	1,685	-	**1,685**	*652*
Depreciation of tangible fixed asets	1,659	-	**1,659**	*7,194*
Training	-	-	**-**	*231*
	226,137	17,275	**243,412**	*880,208*
Total 2022	*175,797*	*704,411*	*880,208*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Community services 2023 £	Residential home 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Subscriptions	466	-	**466**	*115*
Telephone	2,527	-	**2,527**	*3,174*
Postage and stationery	6,463	-	**6,463**	*4,992*
Advertising	2,399	175	**2,574**	*2,419*
Accountancy	19,618	2,644	**22,262**	*26,176*
Travel and subsistence	406	-	**406**	*176*
Sundry	150	-	**150**	*1,078*
Bank charges	3,460	-	**3,460**	*3,351*
Loan interest	15,386	-	**15,386**	*6,904*
Legal and professional fees	3,230	1,498	**4,728**	*19,711*
Independent Examiner's / Auditor's remuneration	3,480	-	**3,480**	*3,240*
Trustees expenses reimbursed	-	-	**-**	*10*
	57,585	4,317	**61,902**	*71,346*
Total 2022	*35,740*	*35,606*	*71,346*	

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Company's annual accounts.	**3,480**	*3,240*

12. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	**143,478**	*663,390*
Social security costs	**7,168**	*38,850*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**3,099**	*11,575*
	153,745	*713,815*

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Direct Charitable work	**7**	*30*
Administration and governance	**3**	*3*
	10	*33*

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2022 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 March 2023, expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed or paid directly to a Trustee *(2022 -* £10).

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Office equipment £	Assets held for sale £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2022	**491,698**	**5,298**	**27,613**	**839,110**	**1,363,719**
Additions	**-**	**-**	**433**	**-**	**433**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(839,110)**	**(839,110)**
At 31 March 2023	**491,698**	**5,298**	**28,046**	**-**	**525,042**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	**-**	**3,902**	**12,986**	**194,384**	**211,272**
Charge for the year	**-**	**175**	**1,484**	**-**	**1,659**
On disposals	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(194,384)**	**(194,384)**
At 31 March 2023	**-**	**4,077**	**14,470**	**-**	**18,547**
Net book value					
At 31 March 2023	**491,698**	**1,221**	**13,576**	**-**	**506,495**
At 31 March 2022	*491,698*	*1,396*	*14,627*	*644,726*	*1,152,447*

15. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2022	**1**
At 31 March 2023	**1**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	**1**
At 31 March 2022	*1*

16. Debtors

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**783**	*11,421*
Other debtors	**60**	*60*
Prepayments and accrued income	**7,493**	*5,689*
	8,336	*17,170*

17. Current asset investments

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Listed investments	**48,031**	*46,475*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	-	206,904
Trade creditors	12,521	27,738
Other taxation and social security	2,636	2,104
Other creditors	5,019	5,598
Accruals and deferred income	6,612	6,432
	26,788	248,776

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Property Development	-	-	-	900,000	-	900,000
General funds						
General Funds	1,065,916	167,724	(206,537)	(900,000)	683,368	810,471
Revaluation reserve	6,363	-	-	-	(518)	5,845
	1,072,279	167,724	(206,537)	(900,000)	682,850	816,316
Total Unrestricted funds	1,072,279	167,724	(206,537)	-	682,850	1,716,316

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Restricted funds						
Centre & Club room refurbishment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	-	32,928	(32,928)	-	-	-
Essex Community Foundation - Running Costs	-	8,000	(6,666)	-	-	1,334
Community investment board	-	9,591	-	-	-	9,591
Essex Community Foundation - NHS	2,575	4,000	(6,430)	-	-	145
Lottery	16,239	50,753	(45,860)	-	-	21,132
Masons	4,167	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	4,167
Screwfix	826	-	(826)	-	-	-
Will Charitable Trust	5,471	-	(5,472)	-	-	(1)
	29,278	115,272	(108,182)	-	-	36,368

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2022* £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	*1,419,344*	*554,575*	*(909,419)*	*1,416*	*1,065,916*
Revaluation reserve	*6,633*	-	-	*(270)*	*6,363*
	1,425,977	*554,575*	*(909,419)*	*1,146*	*1,072,279*

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2022* £
Restricted funds					
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	-	*27,608*	*(27,608)*	-	-
Essex Community Foundation - NHS	-	*6,375*	*(3,800)*	-	*2,575*
Lottery	-	*47,714*	*(31,475)*	-	*16,239*
Masons	-	*10,000*	*(5,833)*	-	*4,167*
Screwfix	-	*5,000*	*(4,174)*	-	*826*
Will Charitable Trust	-	*7,000*	*(1,529)*	-	*5,471*
	-	*103,697*	*(74,419)*	-	*29,278*

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Designated funds	-	-	-	**900,000**	-	**900,000**
General funds	**1,072,279**	**167,724**	**(206,537)**	**(900,000)**	**682,850**	**816,316**
Restricted funds	**29,278**	**115,272**	**(108,182)**	-	-	**36,368**
	1,101,557	**282,996**	**(314,719)**	-	**682,850**	**1,752,684**

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	*Income £*	*Expenditure £*	*Gains/ (Losses) £*	*Balance at 31 March 2022 £*
General funds	*1,425,977*	*554,575*	*(909,419)*	*1,146*	*1,072,279*
Restricted funds	-	*103,697*	*(74,419)*	-	*29,278*
	1,425,977	*658,272*	*(983,838)*	*1,146*	*1,101,557*

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	506,495	-	**506,495**
Fixed asset investments	1	-	**1**
Current assets	1,236,608	36,368	**1,272,976**
Creditors due within one year	(26,788)	-	**(26,788)**
Total	1,716,316	36,368	**1,752,684**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	*Restricted funds 2022* £	*Total funds 2022* £
Tangible fixed assets	*1,152,447*	-	*1,152,447*
Fixed asset investments	*1*	-	*1*
Current assets	*168,607*	*29,278*	*197,885*
Creditors due within one year	*(248,776)*	-	*(248,776)*
Total	*1,072,279*	*29,278*	*1,101,557*

22. Related party transactions

During the year the chairty received donations from Southend Vision Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity, totalling £54,467 (2022: £56,779).

23. Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and had no ultimate controlling party. In the event that the charity is wound up, each current member (and any member who has ceased to be a member within one year) agrees to contribute a maximum of ten pounds to the assets of the charity.

24. Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

Name	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	06388803	Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1DB	Charity Shop

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Net assets £
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	1

Southend in Sight

England & Wales - Charity number 1069765

Accounts

Registered number: 03554422
Charity number: 1069765

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION

(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

VENTHAMS

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees

R O Cable, Chairman
S Cooper, Vice Chairman
B D Armitage
A J Cousins (resigned 5 November 2021)
J A Davenport
S Davies
C L McLewin
M S Pinnock (resigned 3 October 2022)
D E Wacogne
P G Warburton, Secretary

Company registered number

03554422

Charity registered number

1069765

Registered office

Millhouse
32-38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Company secretary

P G Warburton

Chief executive officer

L Martin

Accountants

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
26 Broadway
Leigh-on-Sea
Essex
SS9 1AN

Investment managers

Evelyn Partners
16th & 17th Floor
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
London
EC4A 3BF

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Company for the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To support and offer practical help to visually impaired people and their families in Southend-on-Sea and the adjoining areas
- To develop other charitable activities that are conducive or ancillary to these objects.

The charity has a general aim of providing practical help to visually impaired people in the general area of Southend.

Community Services

Community Services operates under the name 'Southend in Sight' and provides:

Southend in Sight Centre: The Centre offers people with sight problems a chance to try out a large range of specialist equipment including voice enhanced computers, CCTV magnifiers and many other aids to support independent living. This equipment is demonstrated by a team of staff and volunteers and a Tech Team give specialist advice on i-pads, tablets and mobile phones. Assistance has also been provided for people needing forms filled in for Attendance Allowance, PIP and Blue Badges. A new assessment tool has been introduced called the Sight Loss MOT which enables the Sight Loss Advisor to work with people more holistically looking at how their sight loss has impacted different areas of their life ie. Work, education, getting out and about, managing at home and finances.

Hospital Services: An Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) has been employed partly through RNIB to provide full time support at Southend Hosptial Eye Clinic for those patients who are in the early days of their sight loss journey. The ECLO helps with processing Certificates of Visual Impairment and provides the necessary emotional support in the difficult early days. They will also signpost patients to other services and make referrals as necessary.

Social Activities and Talk and Support: Social meet ups remain popular and after the pandemic people are keen for face-to-face contact. Coffee mornings have returned as well as outings to restaurants and parks. Weekly bowling sessions have continued albeit in a smaller group as restrictions were lifted. The new Talk and Support Service continues to grow giving isolated individuals the support they need over the phone and for some people in their homes. A new project was launched for those people needing extra support and advice on getting back out into the community again after long periods of isolation during the pandemic. Support for children, young people and their families continues with a small number of meet ups at the beach, park and pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion.

Information and Training: The organisation gives timely information, advice and guidance on all areas of sight loss. Equipment demonstration days and the annual exhibition returned after Covid with good attendance. The

Objectives and activities (continued)

equipment loan scheme continues to run and gives people the opportunity to borrow expensive pieces of equipment. Sight Loss Awareness Courses have also been introduced for local groups and organisations in Southend.

Elkington House Care Home

As reported in last year's Trustees Report, The Trustees made the difficult decision to close Elkington House Care Home and the closure was finalised on 26th November 2021. As the needs of local visually impaired people had changed over the years and in order to offer services to a greater number of people in the community, the Trustees made the decision to place a greater emphasis on Community support. Residents were supported with moving to alternative homes and staff were made redundant after due consultation and payment of the statutory redundancy entitlement. The Home was very well respected locally but with low occupancy following the pandemic, rising costs and an emphasis on people remaining in their own homes for longer, the home could not continue as a viable charitable activity. The property was marketed for the company by Sorrells, an independent firm of Chartered Surveyors, and completion of the sale took place on 2nd September 2022 for an amount of £1,350,000.

The main objectives for the coming year continue to be focused on:

- Carrying out a strategic review of the Charity to develop future plans and to maximise the use of the funds available, for the benefit of the visually impaired.
- Providing information and advice to people at the time when they need it, focusing on early intervention at the Eye Clinic.
- Providing an opportunity for people to get advice on low vision aids, creating a positive environment where people work together to find solutions to live well with sight loss.
- Assisting with new technology including i-pads, phones, tablets and PCs.
- Reducing isolation for visually impaired people and keeping active.
- Continuing to work closely with families to develop support to meet their needs.
- Integrating the new Sight Loss MOT assessment tool that measures outcomes
- Helping people to gain confidence getting back into the community after the pandemic.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

1. To promote the Centre and services to all visually impaired people in the area.

2. To offer a range of activities so that visually impaired people have the chance to gain from experiences and meet others in the same position.

3. To provide opportunities for clients to engage in activities to reduce isolation.

4. To provide opportunities to try equipment that may help visually impaired people to continue an independent life in their own homes including advice on accessing IT. A newsletter will also continue to be produced four times a year providing information on a range of areas relevant to members.

5. To train and support volunteers to assist and support visually impaired clients and encourage peer support. This involves recruiting volunteers who have experience of living with sight loss.

6. To present a range of activities and opportunities which are both popular with the membership and respond to their requests and needs.

Objectives and activities (continued)

7. To support the ECLO service at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic to help people in the early stages of sight loss navigate their way around services and secure funding to sustain the service.

8. To offer volunteering opportunities to the local community for the benefit of members.

9. To build a relationship with local families who have visually impaired children and meet regularly.

c. Volunteers

The company is grateful for the invaluable efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service delivery, charity shops and fundraising.

There are approximately 70 active volunteers, and some are visually impaired themselves. The visually impaired volunteers are extremely well placed to support others in the same boat and this peer support is extremely valuable.

Volunteers working with members have been given Guiding Training and volunteers are at the heart of the charity.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the Company's purposes for the public benefit

The Trustees are mindful of their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives and activities of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation focus on delivering services to aid the visually impaired in their daily living and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Budgets are set annually, and meetings are held with Trustees on a monthly basis to monitor budgets against forecasts.

Southend in Sight has support from the Trustees and financial statements are produced regularly to manage the finances effectively, and take action if necessary.

b. Review of activities

Community Services:

- We are proud of the fact that nobody feels alone, living with sight loss.
- We have provided 1,235 sessions of support at our Centre and helped 400 individuals on their sight loss journey.
- Our new Sight Loss MOT has been introduced to plan an individual pathway for anyone living with sight loss.
- Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer has helped 1,211 individuals at Southend Eye Clinic.
- 2,270 Talk and Support calls have been made to offer a lifeline to those who are feeling isolated.
- Staff have made 65 home visits to those who are housebound.
- We have provided 14 activities, attended by 316 people.
- We have printed 2,400 newsletters and recorded 400 CDs to help people stay "In Touch".
- Our 70 volunteers are the backbone of the charity, helping with tech advice, form filling, providing companionship and running our charity shop.

Fundraising:

The Charity Shop continues to be very popular and has bounced back after the pandemic with an income of £77,809

Community Fundraising has been challenging with competitive grant funding and less events but the Community Fundraising totalled £34,144 during the year.

c. Investment policy and performance

The Articles of Association give the Trustees unrestricted powers to invest the funds as they see fit. Evelyn Partners (formerly Tilney Asset Management Services Ltd.), continue the management funds on a medium risk basis. The investment performance of the fund manager is benchmarked against the WM Unconstrained Index.

Investments are managed on a medium risk basis with emphasis on an above average level of income and the growth of that income.

This will be achieved primarily through investment in a combination of bonds and higher income equities. The aim will be to achieve returns through a combination of capital appreciation and income received.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. Reserves policy

The policy of the Trustees with regard to the reserves of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation is as follows:

1. Sufficient reserves are maintained to continue the exisiting services provided by the Organisation and to develop and expand these activities for the future.

2. The reserves are held to cover exisiting services and to protect the future needs of the Organisation.

3. The reserves at 31 March 2022, as shown in the Balance sheet of the Organisation stand at £1,101,557.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The results are set out in the summary "income and expenditure " and show a defecit for the year of £324,420 (2021: surplus of of £114,486).

The deficit for the year resulted mainly from the costs arising from the closure of Elkington House Care Home, the reasons for which are explained on Page 4 of this Report. As set out in Note 10 on Page 25 of the financial statements, a large proportion of the closure costs arose from the statutory redundancy entitlements and payments in lieu of notice. The Trustees do not anticipate any further significant costs in relation to the closure.

The Trustees consider that the assets of the charity are adequate to fulfil its obligations for the foreseeable future.

d. Principal funding

The principal funding sources of the charity are grants, legacies, donations, and the proceeds of shop sales from our shop in Hamlet Court Road.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, with a company number of 03554422.

The company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 28 April 1998 and has a registered charity number of 1069765.

The principal object of the company is to offer support and practical help to visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, and the adjoining areas.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, one-third of the Trustees retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re appointment. If the Charity, at the meeting at which a trustee retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy, the retiring trustee shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution or the re-appointment of the trustee is put to the meeting and lost. New Trustees are appointed who have the relevant knowledge and experience to act for the Charity.

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The number of Trustees must not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) but shall not be subject to any maximum number. The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets bi-monthly to discuss development, membership, finance and operations. A Chief Officer is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity to facilitate effective operation; the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including certain financial matters, employment and community services activities.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees undergo orientation and are briefed on their legal obligations under the Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-taking processes, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events which will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

e. Related party relationships

The Charity works with the two local talking newspapers and ensures that their newsletters are recorded and put on to CD. They work with Southend Borough Council Social Care, Age Concern, SAVS, RNIB, Guide Dogs, Visionary, the Macular Society and other related voluntary sector organisations.

The charity owns a subsidiary company called Southend Vision Trading Limited that operates a charity shop.

f. Financial risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual view of the risks that the charity may face.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

Plans for future periods

We recently surveyed the users, staff and volunteers of the Charity and they told us that:

- The advice provided at the Centre and at the Eye Clinic is first class, but the demand is high.
- The Talk & Support service is invaluable.
- Meeting up with others and socialising with people in the same position is important.
- People like to be able to drop in and learn from others.
- They enjoy feeling part of the community and having fun together.

In light of these priorities the Charity aims to:

- Invest in training another Sight Loss Advisor
- Continue the Talk and Support service and expand to visit those most in need in their home.
- Launch a new and varied programme of social activities.
- Open the Sight Loss Centre for weekly drop-in sessions run by people with lived experience.
- Work with partners to develop the services for children, young people and their families.

There is also some urgent work on the Hamlet Court Road building which will need to be addressed in the coming year as well as some ongoing maintenance issues.

Whilst the Charity may have the proceeds of the sale of the Elkington House Care Home to invest, there will also need to be in place a robust fundraising strategy to sustain the services and manage any periods of intermittent funding in the future.

Change of Name

The Trustees are proposing that the name of the Charity be changed from "Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation" to "Southend in Sight". This recognises the current operating name of the Charity and brings the new name in line with current terminology. A Special Resolution will be proposed at the AGM for consideration by the members.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 25 October 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation ('the Company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: T. McCarthy Dated: 28/10/2022

Trevor McCarthy FCCA

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE) ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Continuing operations 2022 £	Discontinued operations 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Continuing operations 2021 £*	*Discontinued operations 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	3	**124,788**	**102,697**	**227,485**	**-**	**227,485**	*335,893*	*-*	*335,893*
Charitable activities	4	**400,311**	**-**	**-**	**400,311**	**400,311**	*-*	*744,390*	*744,390*
Other trading activities	5	**28,965**	**-**	**28,965**	**-**	**28,965**	*19,218*	*-*	*19,218*
Investments	6	**511**	**-**	**511**	**-**	**511**	*600*	*-*	*600*
Total income		**554,575**	**102,697**	**256,961**	**400,311**	**657,272**	*355,711*	*744,390*	*1,100,101*
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	7,8	**30,967**	**317**	**31,284**	**-**	**31,284**	*19,507*	*-*	*19,507*
Charitable activities	9	**878,452**	**73,102**	**211,537**	**740,017**	**951,554**	*179,331*	*795,293*	*974,624*
Total expenditure		**909,419**	**73,419**	**242,821**	**740,017**	**982,838**	*198,838*	*795,293*	*994,131*
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains/(losses) on investments		**(354,844)**	**29,278**	**14,140**	**(339,706)**	**(325,566)**	*156,873*	*(50,903)*	*105,970*
Net gains/(losses) on investments		**1,416**	**-**	**1,416**	**-**	**1,416**	*(1,906)*	*-*	*(1,906)*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses) carried forward		**(353,428)**	**29,278**	**15,556**	**(339,706)**	**(324,150)**	*154,967*	*(50,903)*	*104,064*

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Continuing operations 2022 £	Discontinued operations 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Continuing operations 2021 £*	*Discontinued operations 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Net movement in funds before other recognised (losses)/gains brought forward	**(353,428)**	**29,278**	**15,556**	**(339,706)**	**(324,150)**	*154,967*	*(50,903)*	*104,064*
Other recognised gains/(losses):								
Gains on revaluation of current assets	**(270)**	**-**	**(270)**	**-**	**(270)**	*10,422*	*-*	*10,422*
Net movement in funds	**(353,698)**	**29,278**	**15,286**	**(339,706)**	**(324,420)**	*165,389*	*(50,903)*	*114,486*
Reconciliation of funds:								
Total funds brought forward	**1,425,977**	**-**	**1,425,977**	**-**	**1,425,977**	*1,311,491*	*-*	*1,311,491*
Net movement in funds	**(353,698)**	**29,278**	**15,286**	**(339,706)**	**(324,420)**	*165,389*	*(50,903)*	*114,486*
Total funds carried forward	**1,072,279**	**29,278**	**1,441,263**	**(339,706)**	**1,101,557**	*1,476,880*	*(50,903)*	*1,425,977*

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note		2022 £		2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		**1,152,447**		*1,159,640*
Investments	15		**1**		*1*
			1,152,448		*1,159,641*
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**17,170**		*13,755*	
Investments	17	**46,475**		*48,818*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**134,240**		*247,902*	
		197,885		*310,475*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(248,776)**		*(44,139)*	
Net current liabilities / assets			**(50,891)**		*266,336*
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,101,557**		*1,425,977*
Total net assets			**1,101,557**		*1,425,977*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		**29,278**		-
Unrestricted funds	19		**1,072,279**		*1,425,977*
Total funds			**1,101,557**		*1,425,977*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 25 October 2022

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash from/(used) in operating activities	**(317,663)**	*126,540*
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	**511**	*600*
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**-**	*(2,611)*
Proceeds from sale of investments	**7,530**	*17,743*
Purchase of investments	**(4,040)**	*(19,030)*
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	**4,001**	**(3,298)**
Cash flows from financing activities		
Cash inflows from new borrowing	**200,000**	-
Net cash provided by financing activities	**200,000**	**-**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(113,662)**	**123,242**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**247,902**	*124,660*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**134,240**	*247,902*

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Consolidated financial statements have not been prepared due to the investment in the subsidiary being immaterial to the financial statement as a whole.

1.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income from charitable activities relates to care home fess receivable. Income is recognised as and when invoices are raised for services provided

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Taxation

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £400 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- not depreciated
Plant and machinery	- 12.5% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 10% reducing balance
Office equipment	- 10% reducing balance

The market values of the freehold properties are considered to be in excess of the book values held in the financial statements, therefore charging depreciaiton on these properties is not considered appropriate.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.11 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. General information

Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare organiation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those recorded in the register of members of the company. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respcet of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

The company is registered in England and Wales. The company's registered office address is Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DB.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Donations	116,100	102,697	**218,797**	*83,390*
Legacies	3,830	-	**3,830**	*68,739*
Grants	4,858	-	**4,858**	*183,764*
Total 2022	124,788	102,697	**227,485**	*335,893*
Total 2021	*301,431*	*34,462*	*335,893*	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Residential home	400,311	**400,311**	*744,390*
Total 2021	*744,390*	*744,390*	

Following the closure of the Residential home all residential home income is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Charity operating income	28,965	**28,965**	*19,218*
Total 2021	*19,218*	*19,218*	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Income from listed investments	511	**511**	*600*
Total 2021	*600*	*600*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Fundraising	2,189	**2,189**	*490*
Total 2021	*490*	*490*	

7. Expenditure on raising funds (continued)

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Training	592	317	**909**	*(895)*
Cost of Equipment Sales	27,462	-	**27,462**	*18,728*
Total 2022	28,054	317	**28,371**	*17,833*
Total 2021	*17,833*	-	*17,833*	

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Portfolio Management	724	**724**	*1,184*
Total 2021	*1,184*	*1,184*	

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	*Total 2021 £*
Community services	138,435	73,102	**211,537**	*179,331*
Residential home	740,017	-	**740,017**	*795,293*
	878,452	73,102	**951,554**	*974,624*
Total 2021	*929,428*	*45,196*	*974,624*	

Following the closure of the Residential home all residential home expenditure is now shown as a discontinued operation in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2022 £	Other costs 2022 £	Total 2022 £	*Total 2021 £*
Community services	141,390	70,147	**211,537**	*179,331*
Residential home	572,425	167,592	**740,017**	*795,293*
	713,815	237,739	**951,554**	*974,624*
Total 2021	*729,347*	*245,277*	*974,624*	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Community services	175,797	35,740	**211,537**	*179,331*
Residential home	704,411	35,606	**740,017**	*795,293*
	880,208	71,346	**951,554**	*974,624*
Total 2021	*937,364*	*37,260*	*974,624*	

Analysis of direct costs

	Community services 2022 £	Residential home 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Staff costs	141,390	572,425	**713,815**	*729,347*
Premises costs	29,734	97,828	**127,562**	*153,857*
Subscriptions	-	487	**487**	*4,408*
Residents' supplies	-	25,979	**25,979**	*36,145*
Social events and newsletters	2,388	1,900	**4,288**	*4,994*
Volunteers' expenses	652	-	**652**	*76*
Depreciation of tangible fixed asets	1,633	5,561	**7,194**	*7,978*
Training	-	231	**231**	*559*
	175,797	704,411	**880,208**	*937,364*
Total 2021	*157,057*	*780,307*	*937,364*	

Included within Residential home staff costs are costs for redundancy payments and payments in lieu of notice that combine to to total £170,940.

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Community services 2022 £	Residential home 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Subscriptions	115	-	**115**	*499*
Telephone	2,424	750	**3,174**	*3,095*
Postage and stationery	4,984	8	**4,992**	*3,701*
Advertising	1,544	875	**2,419**	*1,246*
Accountancy	13,088	13,088	**26,176**	*20,288*
Travel and subsistence	168	8	**176**	*63*
Sundry	397	681	**1,078**	*654*
Training	1,135	-	**1,135**	*780*
Bank charges	10,255	-	**10,255**	*2,429*
Legal and professional fees	-	18,576	**18,576**	-
Independent Examiner's / Auditor's remuneration	1,620	1,620	**3,240**	*4,440*
Trustees expenses reimbursed	10	-	**10**	*65*
	35,740	35,606	**71,346**	*37,260*
Total 2021	*22,274*	*14,986*	*37,260*	

11. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Company's annual accounts (2021 - auditor's remuneration)	**3,240**	*4,440*

12. Staff costs

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Wages and salaries	**663,390**	*673,640*
Social security costs	**38,850**	*42,678*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**11,575**	*13,029*
	713,815	*729,347*

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	*2021* *No.*
Direct Charitable work	**30**	*35*
Administration and governance	**3**	*3*
	33	*38*

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2021 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 March 2022, expenses totalling £10 were reimbursed or paid directly to a Trustee *(2021* - £65).

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Assets held for sale £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2021	**1,094,546**	**104,406**	**137,154**	**27,613**	**-**	**1,363,719**
Transfer to Assets held for sale	**(602,848)**	**(99,108)**	**(137,154)**	**-**	**839,110**	**-**
At 31 March 2022	**491,698**	**5,298**	**-**	**27,613**	**839,110**	**1,363,719**
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2021	**-**	**77,312**	**115,413**	**11,354**	**-**	**204,079**
Charge for the year	**-**	**3,387**	**2,174**	**1,632**	**-**	**7,193**
Transfer to Assets held for sale	**-**	**(76,797)**	**(117,587)**	**-**	**194,384**	**-**
At 31 March 2022	**-**	**3,902**	**-**	**12,986**	**194,384**	**211,272**
Net book value						
At 31 March 2022	**491,698**	**1,396**	**-**	**14,627**	**644,726**	**1,152,447**
At 31 March 2021	*1,094,546*	*27,094*	*21,741*	*16,259*	*-*	*1,159,640*

15. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2021	**1**
At 31 March 2022	**1**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2022	**1**
At 31 March 2021	*1*

16. Debtors

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**11,421**	*9,082*
Other debtors	**60**	*60*
Prepayments and accrued income	**5,689**	*4,613*
	17,170	*13,755*

17. Current asset investments

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Listed investments	**46,475**	*48,818*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Bank loans	**206,904**	-
Trade creditors	**27,738**	*31,223*
Other taxation and social security	**2,104**	-
Other creditors	**5,598**	*5,429*
Accruals and deferred income	**6,432**	*7,487*
	248,776	*44,139*

The bank loan is secured by way of floating charge over Elkington House, a freehold property.

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	1,419,344	554,575	(909,419)	1,416	1,065,916
Revaluation reserve	6,633	-	-	(270)	6,363
	1,425,977	554,575	(909,419)	1,146	1,072,279

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Restricted funds					
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	-	26,608	(26,608)	-	-
Essex Community Foundation	-	6,375	(3,800)	-	2,575
Lottery	-	47,714	(31,475)	-	16,239
Masons	-	10,000	(5,833)	-	4,167
Screwfix	-	5,000	(4,174)	-	826
Will Charitable Trust	-	7,000	(1,529)	-	5,471
	-	102,697	(73,419)	-	29,278

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2021* £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	*1,301,935*	*1,065,639*	*(948,935)*	*2,611*	*(1,906)*	*1,419,344*
Revaluation reserve	*(3,789)*	-	-	-	*10,422*	*6,633*
	1,298,146	*1,065,639*	*(948,935)*	*2,611*	*8,516*	*1,425,977*

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2021* £
Restricted funds						
Centre & Club room refurbishment	*340*	-	*(340)*	-	-	-
Staff salary contribution	*(1)*	-	*1*	-	-	-
Equipment centre redecoration	*2,765*	-	*(2,765)*	-	-	-
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	*8,682*	*27,014*	*(35,696)*	-	-	-
Refurbishment of Quiet room	*1,000*	-	*(1,000)*	-	-	-
Safeguarding & Training	*559*	-	*(559)*	-	-	-
SBC Emergency Fund- Covid-19	-	*1,460*	*(462)*	*(998)*	-	-
SBC	-	*2,000*	*(2,000)*	-	-	-
Clothworkers Foundation	-	*1,928*	*(315)*	*(1,613)*	-	-
Staff Salary Contribution- Sport England	-	*640*	*(640)*	-	-	-
Essex Community Foundation	-	*1,420*	*(1,420)*	-	-	-
	13,345	*34,462*	*(45,196)*	*(2,611)*	-	-

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
General funds	**1,425,977**	**554,575**	**(909,419)**	**1,146**	**1,072,279**
Restricted funds	**-**	**102,697**	**(73,419)**	**-**	**29,278**
	1,425,977	**657,272**	**(982,838)**	**1,146**	**1,101,557**

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	*Income £*	*Expenditure £*	*Transfers in/out £*	*Gains/ (Losses) £*	*Balance at 31 March 2021 £*
General funds	*1,298,146*	*1,065,639*	*(948,935)*	*2,611*	*8,516*	*1,425,977*
Restricted funds	*13,345*	*34,462*	*(45,196)*	*(2,611)*	-	-
	1,311,491	*1,100,101*	*(994,131)*	-	*8,516*	*1,425,977*

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,152,447	-	**1,152,447**
Fixed asset investments	1	-	**1**
Current assets	168,607	29,278	**197,885**
Creditors due within one year	(248,776)	-	**(248,776)**
Total	1,072,279	29,278	**1,101,557**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2021* £
Tangible fixed assets	*1,159,640*	*1,159,640*
Fixed asset investments	*1*	*1*
Current assets	*310,475*	*310,475*
Creditors due within one year	*(44,139)*	*(44,139)*
Total	*1,425,977*	*1,425,977*

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

	2022 £	*2021* £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**(324,150)**	*104,064*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**7,193**	*7,978*
Loan interest	**6,904**	-
Gains/(losses) on investments	**(1,416)**	*1,904*
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	**(511)**	*(600)*
Increase in debtors	**(3,416)**	*(1,962)*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**(2,267)**	*15,156*
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	**(317,663)**	*126,540*

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	*2021* £
Cash in hand	**134,240**	*247,902*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**134,240**	*247,902*

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2021	Cash flows	Other non-cash changes	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	247,902	(113,662)	-	134,240
Debt due within 1 year	-	(200,000)	(6,904)	(206,904)
Liquid investments	48,818	(2,343)	-	46,475
	296,720	(316,005)	(6,904)	(26,189)

25. Pension commitments

26. Related party transactions

During the year the chairty received donations from Southend Vision Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity, totalling £56,779 (2021: £13,954). At the balance sheet date the charity was owed £Nil (2021: £Nil)

27. Post balance sheet events

Following the closure of Elkington House during the year, the Charity made the decision to sell the property. The sale was completed on 02 September 2022 at a value of £1,350,000. The carrying value of the property sold is £644,726.

28. Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and had no ultimate controlling party. In the event that the charity is wound up, each current member (and any member who has ceased to be a member within one year) agrees to contribute a maximum of ten pounds to the assets of the charity.

29. Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

Name	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	06388803	Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1DB	Charity Shop

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Net assets £
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	1

Southend in Sight

England & Wales - Charity number 1069765

Accounts

Registered number: 03554422
Charity number: 1069765

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

VENTHAMS

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees

R O Cable, Chairman
S Cooper, Vice Chairman
B D Armitage
A J Cousins
J A Davenport
S Davies (appointed 21 October 2020)
C L McLewin
M S Pinnock
D E Wacogne
P G Warburton, Secretary

Company registered number

03554422

Charity registered number

1069765

Registered office

Millhouse
32-38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Company secretary

P G Warburton

Chief executive officer

L Martin

Independent auditors

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
26 Broadway
Leigh-on-Sea
Essex
SS9 1AN

Investment managers

Tilney Asset Management Services Limited
16th & 17th Floor
6 New Street Square
New Fetter Lane
London
EC4A 3BF

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Company for the 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

- To support and offer practical help to visually impaired people and their families in Southend-on-Sea and the adjoining areas
- To develop other charitable activities that are conducive or ancillary to these objects.

The charity has a general aim of providing practical help to visually impaired people in the general area of Southend. For many years, the Organisation concentrated its efforts on providing specialist residential care and still maintains a well-regarded residential care home, Elkington House. As needs have changed and in order to offer services to a greater number of people in the community, Southend Blind Welfare Organisation has placed a greater emphasis on Community Support.

Community Services now operates under 'Southend in Sight'. Southend Blind Welfare Organisation remains the over-arching charity with two projects:

1. Elkington House – Residential Care Home
2. Southend in Sight – Community Services

They are currently providing:

- Elkington House: A specialist residential home which offers sensitive care to older people with sight problems in a friendly and warm environment.

- Southend in Sight Centre: The Centre offers people with sight problems a chance to try out a large range of specialist equipment including voice enhanced computers, CCTV magnifiers and many other aids to daily independent living. This equipment is demonstrated by a team of volunteers and a Tech Team give specialist advice on i-pads, tablets and mobile phones. Due to Covid restrictions the service has involved more home visits and advice over the phone to find solutions to people's problems.

- Hospital Services: An Eye Clinic Liaison Officer has been employed through RNIB to provide full time support at the Eye Clinic for those patients who have recently found that their sight is failing.

- Social Activities: The organisation has adapted its social activities due to restrictions put upon them. A new Talk and Support Service has been offered to give isolated individuals the support they need. The weekly Tenpin Bowling Group and has been put on hold for the time being. Coffee mornings have also been postponed and more support has been given over the phone. Children and family support has also been put on hold and activity packs have been spent to keep visually impaired children engaged.

-Information and Training: The organisation gives timely information, advice and guidance on all areas of sight

Objectives and activities (continued)

loss including emotional support. It works with other groups and companies to provide equipment demonstration days and exhibitions. The organisation also provides an equipment loan scheme which gives clients the opportunity to borrow expensive pieces of equipment which they might benefit from but be unable to purchase due to low income. Whilst the loan scheme continues to be very popular, demonstrations have moved to the home as restrictions have been introduced.

The Charity has also begun to develop activities for visually impaired children and their families. The first event was held in December 2019 and there are plans afoot to consult with parents and children for ongoing activities, days out and opportunities for parents to meet each other.

The main objectives for the coming year continue to be focused on:

- Providing information and advice to people at the time when they need it, focusing on early intervention at the Eye Clinic, reintroducing face to face support.
- Providing an opportunity for people to get advice on low vision aids, creating an environment where independent living is a real possibility for all members.
- Assisting with new technology including i-pads, phones, tablets and PCs.
- Reducing isolation for visually impaired people and keeping active.
- Continuing to work closely with families to develop support to meet their needs
- Introducing a new sight loss assessment tool that measures outcomes (called a Sight Loss MOT)
- Helping people to gain confidence as the community opens up after Covid.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

1. To promote the new and improved Centre and services to all members and other visually impaired people in the area.

2. To offer social activities so that visually impaired people have the chance to gain from experiences which would be difficult for them to access alone.

3. To provide opportunities for clients to engage in activities and companionship.

4. To provide opportunities to try equipment that may help visually impaired people to continue an independent life in their own homes including advice on accessing IT. A newsletter will also continue to be produced three times a year providing information on a range of areas relevant to members.

5. To train and support volunteers to assist and support visually impaired clients and encourage peer support. This involves recruiting volunteers who have experience of living with sight loss.

6. To present a range of activities and opportunities which are both popular with the membership and also respond to their requests and needs.

7. To embed a full time ECLO service at Southend Hospital Eye Clinic to help people in the early stages of sight loss navigate their way around services and find new funding to sustain the service.

8. To continue to offer sensitive care for older people with sight problems at specialist residential home, Elkington House.

9. To offer volunteering opportunities to the local community for the benefit of members.

10. To build a relationship with local families who have visually impaired children and meet regularly.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Volunteers

The company is grateful for the invaluable efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service provision, charity shops and fundraising.

There are approximately 75 active volunteers and some are visually impaired themselves. The visually impaired volunteers are extremely well place to support others in the same boat and this peer support is extremely valuable.

Volunteers working with members have been given Guiding Training and volunteers open the charity shop on a Saturday to help bring in more income to run services.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the Company's purposes for the public benefit

The Trustees are mindful of their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The objectives and activities of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation focus on delivering services to aid the visually impaired in their daily living and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Budgets are set annually and meetings are held with Trustees on a monthly basis to monitor budgets against forecasts.

Southend in Sight and Elkington House have support from the Board of Trustees and an Accounts Manager to manage the finances effectively and make adjustments and take action if necessary.

b. Review of activities

Community Services:

On 16th March 2020 the country went into a national lock down due to the Pandemic.

The staff began working from home and within a few days was operational. The visually impaired community found themselves feeling vulnerable with complex Government communications, social distancing signage, changes to street layouts and a reliance on technology.

With this in mind, everyone on the Organisation's database who was over the age of 70 (and shielding) was contacted. It was found that a voice at the end of the phone calmed understandable nervousness and gave people the reassurance that there was support available to help navigate them through these difficult times.

In light of this, a new Talk and Support service was also developed. 80 people, who were feeling isolated, were called regularly by staff and volunteers.

25 activity packs were also sent to visually impaired children who were off school.

At the Hospital Eye Clinic the Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) moved to home working as many of the staff at the Eye Clinic were redeployed across the hospital. It was a particularly difficult time for people to learn that they were losing their sight. Support continued for people in those early days of losing their sight and referrals were made directly to the Clinic for those needing emergency appointments. The ECLO supported 675 people during the year and held 1,381 sessions of support.

During the year 520 individuals were supported, 128 deliveries were carried out and 813 calls were made offering specialist advice (equipment, tech support, form filling).

When looking at the support as a whole during the year, 5,210 sessions to local visually impaired people were provided.

Fundraising:

The Charity Shop was only able to trade for 5 months of the financial year but still managed to generate an income of £29,712 which includes a good set of results from trading online.

Community Fundraising came to an abrupt halt as lockdown began and a number of emergency grants were sourced across the sector.

Elkington House

Elkington House faced a tough year through the pandemic. The staff worked tirelessly ensuring that our residents were safe and the care home was free of Covid.

The Team showed such resilience as problems with food supply and staff shortages affected the home during the year. The home continued to provide high quality personal care and things were kept as normal as possible

Achievements and performance (continued)

with a gradual return to family and friends visiting.

c. Investment policy and performance

The Articles of Association give the Trustess unrestricted powers to invest the funds as they see fit. During 2019/20 Tinley Asset Management Services Limited managed the funds on a medium risk basis. The investment performance of the fund manager is benchmarked against the WM Uncinstrained Index.

Investments are managed by an Independent Asset Manager on a medium risk basis with emphasis on an above average level of income and the growth of that income.

This will be achieved primarily through investment in a combination of bonds and higher income equities. The aim will be to achieve returns through a combination of capital appreciation and income received.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The policy of the Trustees with regard to the reserves of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation is as follows:

1. Sufficient reserves are maintained to continue the exisiting services provided by the Organisation and to develop and expand these activities for the future.

2. The reserves are held to cover exisiting services and to protect the future needs of the Organisation.

3. The reserves at 31 March 2021, as shown in the Balance sheet of the Organisation stand at £1,425,977.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The results are set out in the summary "income and expenditure " and show a surplus for the year of £114,486 (2020: surplus of of £101,727).

The Trustees consider that the assets of the charity are adequate to fulfil its obligations for the foreseeable future.

d. Principal funding

The principal funding sources of the charity are primarily fees received in respect of the residential home and rehabilitation services, which are supplemented by voluntary donations

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Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 28 April 1998.

The company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 28 April 1998 and is a registered charity number 1069765.

The principal object of the company is to offer support and practical hel to visually impaired and blind persons and their families in Southend-on-Sea, Essex and the adjoining areas.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, one-third of the trustees shall retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who ahve been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. If the chairty, at the meeting at which the trustee retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy, the retiring trustee shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution or the re-appointment of the trustee is put to the meeting and lost.

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The number of trustees must not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) but shall not be subject to any maximum number. The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets bi-monthly to discuss development, membership, finance and operations. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity to facilitate effective operation; the Chief Executive Officer has delegate authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including certain financial matters, employment and community services activities.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees undergo orientation and are briefed on their legal obligations unde the Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Assocaition, the decision -taking processes, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events which will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

e. Related party relationships

The organisation works with the two local talking newspapers and ensures that their newsletters are recorded and put on to CD. They work with Social Care, Age Concern, SAVS, RNIB, Guide Dogs, Visionary, the Macular Society and other related voluntary sector organisations.

The charity owns a subsidiary company called Southend Vision Trading Limited that operates a charity shop.

f. Financial risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual view of the risks that the charity may face

Structure, governance and management (continued)

- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise,

The Trustees continue to monitor the impact on the charity of the pandemic caused by the coronavirus (Covid-19) and ensure that sufficient systems are in place in order to mitigate, as far as possible, the financial risk to the Charity whilst also ensuring the health and safety of the Charity's employees, volunteers and work in the wider comunity are maintained.

The Charity will make use of government support schemes where necessary and the Trustees will continue to meet to discuss future action points as needed. Although there is expected to be an impact on income the Charity is in a financially strong position and therefore believes that it will be able to continue its activities for the forseeable future as stated in the Going Concern accounting policy 1.2.

Plans for future periods

To continue running the Centre at 117 Hamlet Court Road under the banner of Southend in Sight, offering a quality service across all areas, sign posting those that can't be helped directly.

To continue to work closely with the ECLO at the Southend Hospital Eye Clinic and make timely referrals to support services.

To continue social activities and trips programmes and ensure members are well supported with trained volunteers.

To develop a programme of activities for Children, Young People and their families in the coming year.

To offer more coffee mornings to invite people in and engage with our services and pilot some new activities for a wider range of members.

To promote Southend in Sight and engage with the local community through talks and training.

To produce a robust fundraising strategy to fund community services and secure funding for the ECLO service.

Post Balance Sheet Event

The Trustees of Southend Blind Welfare Organisation have recently carried out a strategic review of the charity in order to outline and protect the future direction of the Charity. This is to ensure that the Organisation is able to provide the services that best serve the needs of local visually impaired people and that the best possible use is made of the resources available to achieve this.

It has been concluded that Elkington House Care Home no longer meets the primary support needs of the people the charity was founded to support. The current situation represents a significant financial risk to the charity, so it is with great regret the Trustees announce the closure of Elkington House Care Home. This will ensure that the Community Services division of the Charity can continue its work from its centre in Hamlet Court Road.

After much discussion and deliberation, this difficult decision has been made due to a combination of reasons:

<u>Reduced Demand</u>

We are a Charity that was formed to assist visually impaired people. Over the years the number of residents with sight loss has reduced significantly. The majority of our residents are now not visually impaired. The

Plans for future periods (continued)

demand for residential care has reduced, as currently the main objective of Local Authority care services is to support people in their own homes, by providing domiciliary support for as long as possible. This has reduced the demand for Care Homes such as ours.

Specialist Care

We have seen an increase in the age of residents coming to the home with a corresponding need for specialist support, including Dementia and Nursing Care. The Trustees feel that strategically these increased needs are outside the objectives of the Charity.

Low Levels of Occupancy

Over the last few years occupancy levels have been reducing. In 2017 they were 72%, in 2018, 71%, in 2019, 67% and in 2020, 64%. The Covid pandemic has hit the care industry hard and at present the occupancy level is operating at 44%. At this level the Home is not sustainable. The financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021 show a loss for the Care Home of £50,803, although fortunately the losses were covered by a legacy and government grants. These sources of income are unlikely to be recurring. The management accounts of the Home, for the six months to 30th September 2021, show a loss of approximately £46,000. Whilst care home occupancies fluctuate, the Trustees consider that the Charity would be at risk financially if the losses continued. The Trustees do, of course, have a statutory obligation to protect the assets of the Charity.

Building Improvements

The building, from which the Care Home operates, is in need of substantial repair, the cost of which would be prohibitive in the present circumstances. It is estimated that these costs would amount to at least £200,000.

The Trustees are extremely proud of the number of people that have been supported at the Care Home over the past 63 years. We have always prided ourselves on our personal care, and our main concern now is the welfare of our residents and staff. It has been decided that the home will close in January 2022 which will give us time to help residents find alternative accommodation and to support staff in their search for new employment.

The Community Services centre in Hamlet Court Road will continue to support the visually impaired in Southend on Sea and adjoining areas.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Venthams, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....

P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 29th October 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 Auditors' 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 United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 29 to the financial statements, 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 Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Enquiries were made of management and those charged with governance with a view to identifying those laws and regulations that could be expected to have a material impact on the financial statements. During the engagement team briefing, the outcomes of these discussions and enquiries were shared with the team, as well as consideration as to where and how fraud may occur in the entity.

The following laws and regulations were identified as being of significance to the entity:

Those laws and regulations considered to have a direct effect on the financial statements include UK financial reporting standards, Company Law & Charity Commission regulations.

Laws and regulations for which non-compliance may be fundamental to the operating aspects of the entity are the Helath and Safety a Work Act and the regulations imposed by the Care Quality Commission.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: inquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the entity complies with such laws and regulations; enquiries with the same concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims; review of board minutes; testing the appropriateness of entries in the nominal ledger, including journal entries; reviewing transactions around the end of the reporting period; and the performance of analytical procedures to identify unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified. However, the likelihood of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is limited by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the entity's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

T. McCarthy.

Venthams
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Millhouse
32 - 38 East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB

Date: 29/10/2021

Venthams are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**301,431**	**34,462**	**335,893**	*308,584*
Charitable activities	4	**744,390**	**-**	**744,390**	*760,570*
Other trading activities	5	**19,218**	**-**	**19,218**	*31,732*
Investments	6	**600**	**-**	**600**	*1,189*
Total income		**1,065,639**	**34,462**	**1,100,101**	*1,102,075*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7,8	**19,507**	**-**	**19,507**	*32,959*
Charitable activities	9	**929,428**	**45,196**	**974,624**	*961,726*
Total expenditure		**948,935**	**45,196**	**994,131**	*994,685*
Net income/(expenditure) before net losses on investments		**116,704**	**(10,734)**	**105,970**	*107,390*
Net losses on investments		**(1,906)**	**-**	**(1,906)**	*(223)*
Net income/(expenditure)		**114,798**	**(10,734)**	**104,064**	*107,167*
Transfers between funds	19	**2,611**	**(2,611)**	**-**	*-*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		**117,409**	**(13,345)**	**104,064**	*107,167*
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains on revaluation of current assets		**10,422**	**-**	**10,422**	*(5,440)*
Net movement in funds		**127,831**	**(13,345)**	**114,486**	*101,727*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**1,298,146**	**13,345**	**1,311,491**	*1,209,764*
Net movement in funds		**127,831**	**(13,345)**	**114,486**	*101,727*
Total funds carried forward		**1,425,977**	**-**	**1,425,977**	*1,311,491*

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note		2021 £		2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		**1,159,640**		*1,165,007*
Investments	15		**1**		*1*
			1,159,641		*1,165,008*
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**13,755**		*11,791*	
Investments	17	**48,818**		*39,015*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**247,902**		*124,660*	
		310,475		*175,466*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(44,139)**		*(28,983)*	
Net current assets			**266,336**		*146,483*
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,425,977**		*1,311,491*
Total net assets			**1,425,977**		*1,311,491*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	19		**-**		*13,345*
Unrestricted funds	19		**1,425,977**		*1,298,146*
Total funds			**1,425,977**		*1,311,491*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The entity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the entity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

However, an audit is required in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
P G Warburton
(Trustee)

Date: 29th October 2021

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BLIND WELFARE ORGANISATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	2021 £	*2020* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash from/(used) in operating activities	**126,540**	*115,328*
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	**600**	*1,189*
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(2,611)**	*(1,474)*
Proceeds from sale of investments	**17,743**	*5,144*
Purchase of investments	**(19,030)**	*(1,820)*
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	**(3,298)**	**3,039**
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayments of borrowing	**-**	*(11,507)*
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	**-**	**(11,507)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**123,242**	**106,860**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**124,660**	*17,800*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**247,902**	*124,660*

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare Organisation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Consolidated financial statements have not been prepared due to the investment in the subsidiary being immaterial to the financial statement as a whole.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the possible effects on the Charity of the impacts of the pandemic caused by the coronavirus (Covid-19). Taking into account a period exceeding 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for this reason will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its financial statements.

1.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income from charitable activities relates to care home fess receivable. Income is recognised as and when invoices are raised for services provided

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Taxation

The Company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £400 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- not depreciated
Plant and machinery	- 12.5% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 10% reducing balance
Office equipment	- 10% reducing balance

The market values of the freehold properties are considered to be in excess of the book values held in the financial statements, therefore charging depreciaiton on these properties is not considered appropriate.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.11 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.12 Pensions

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2. General information

Southend-on-Sea Blind Welfare organiation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those recorded in the register of members of the company. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respcet of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

The company is registered in England and Wales. The company's registered office address is Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DB.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	48,928	34,462	**83,390**
Legacies	68,739	-	**68,739**
Grants	183,764	-	**183,764**
Total 2021	301,431	34,462	**335,893**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Restricted funds 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Donations	*164,924*	*44,295*	*209,219*
Legacies	*95,015*	-	*95,015*
Grants	*4,350*	-	*4,350*
Total 2020	*264,289*	*44,295*	*308,584*

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Community services	(100)	**(100)**
Residential home	744,490	**744,490**
Total 2021	744,390	**744,390**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Community services	*6,544*	*6,544*
Residential home	*754,026*	*754,026*
Total 2020	*760,570*	*760,570*

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Charity operating income	19,218	**19,218**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Charity operating income	*31,732*	*31,732*

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from listed investments	600	**600**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Income from listed investments	*1,189*	*1,189*

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising	490	**490**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Fundraising	*3,074*	*3,074*

7. Expenditure on raising funds (continued)

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Training	(895)	**(895)**
Cost of Equipment Sales	18,728	**18,728**
Total 2021	17,833	**17,833**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Training	*3,417*	*3,417*
Costs of Equipment Sales	*25,756*	*25,756*
Total 2020	*29,173*	*29,173*

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Portfolio Management	1,184	**1,184**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Portfolio Management	*711*	*711*

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Community services	140,672	38,659	**179,331**
Residential home	788,756	6,537	**795,293**
	929,428	45,196	**974,624**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Restricted funds 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Community services	*170,346*	*36,494*	*206,840*
Residential home	*754,886*	-	*754,886*
	925,232	*36,494*	*961,726*

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by expenditure type

	Other costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Community services	179,331	**179,331**
Residential home	795,293	**795,293**
	974,624	**974,624**

	Other costs 2020 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Community services	*206,840*	*206,840*
Residential home	*754,886*	*754,887*
	961,726	*961,726*

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Community services	157,057	22,274	**179,331**
Residential home	780,307	14,986	**795,293**
	937,364	37,260	**974,624**

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	*Support costs 2020* £	*Total funds 2020* £
Community services	*180,856*	*25,984*	*206,840*
Residential home	*739,687*	*15,199*	*754,886*
	920,543	*41,183*	*961,726*

Analysis of support costs

	Community services 2021 £	**Residential home 2021** £	**Total funds 2021** £
Subscriptions	500	-	**500**
Telephone	1,955	1,141	**3,096**
Postage and stationery	3,067	634	**3,701**
Advertising	1,017	227	**1,244**
Accountancy	9,544	10,744	**20,288**
Travel and subsistence	43	20	**63**
Sundry	654	-	**654**
Training	780	-	**780**
Bank charges	2,429	-	**2,429**
Auditors remuneration	2,220	2,220	**4,440**
Trustees expenses reimbursed	65	-	**65**
	22,274	14,986	**37,260**

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	Community services 2020 £	*Residential home 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Subscriptions	*35*	-	*35*
Telephone	*1,786*	*1,190*	*2,976*
Postage and stationery	*4,230*	*1,156*	*5,386*
Advertising	*3,135*	*783*	*3,918*
Accountancy	*9,707*	*9,707*	*19,414*
Travel and subsistence	*430*	-	*430*
Sundry	*249*	*144*	*393*
Bank charges	*4,056*	-	*4,056*
Mortgage interest	*114*	-	*114*
Auditors remuneration	*2,220*	*2,220*	*4,440*
Trustees expenses reimbursed	*22*	-	*22*
	25,984	*15,200*	*41,184*

11. Auditors' remuneration

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	**4,440**	*4,440*

12. Staff costs

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	*2020 No.*
Direct Charitable work	**35**	*36*
Administration and governance	**3**	*3*
	38	*39*

12. Staff costs (continued)

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2020 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 March 2021, expenses totalling £65 were reimbursed or paid directly to a Trustee *(2020 - £22)*.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2020	**1,094,546**	**104,406**	**137,154**	**25,002**	**1,361,108**
Additions	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,611**	**2,611**
At 31 March 2021	**1,094,546**	**104,406**	**137,154**	**27,613**	**1,363,719**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2020	**-**	**73,439**	**112,993**	**9,669**	**196,101**
Charge for the year	**-**	**3,873**	**2,420**	**1,685**	**7,978**
At 31 March 2021	**-**	**77,312**	**115,413**	**11,354**	**204,079**
Net book value					
At 31 March 2021	**1,094,546**	**27,094**	**21,741**	**16,259**	**1,159,640**
At 31 March 2020	*1,094,546*	*30,967*	*24,161*	*15,333*	*1,165,007*

15. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2020	**1**
At 31 March 2021	**1**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	**1**
At 31 March 2020	*1*

16. Debtors

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**9,082**	*7,447*
Other debtors	**60**	*647*
Prepayments and accrued income	**4,613**	*3,697*
	13,755	*11,791*

17. Current asset investments

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Listed investments	**48,818**	*39,015*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	*2020* *£*
Trade creditors	**31,223**	*16,725*
Other creditors	**5,429**	*3,521*
Accruals and deferred income	**7,487**	*8,737*
	44,139	*28,983*

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	1,301,935	1,065,639	(948,935)	2,611	(1,906)	1,419,344
Revaluation reserve	(3,789)	-	-	-	10,422	6,633
	1,298,146	1,065,639	(948,935)	2,611	8,516	1,425,977
Restricted funds						
Centre & Club room refurbishment	340	-	(340)	-	-	-
Staff salary contribution	(1)	-	1	-	-	-
Equipment centre redecoration	2,765	-	(2,765)	-	-	-
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	8,682	27,014	(35,696)	-	-	-
Refurbishment of Quiet room	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-	-
Safeguarding & Training	559	-	(559)	-	-	-
SBC Emergency Fund- Covid-19	-	1,460	(462)	(998)	-	-
SBC	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
Clothworkers Foundation	-	1,928	(315)	(1,613)	-	-
Staff Salary Contribution- Sport England	-	640	(640)	-	-	-
Essex Community Foundation	-	1,420	(1,420)	-	-	-
	13,345	34,462	(45,196)	(2,611)	-	-

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Gains/ (Losses)* £	*Balance at 31 March 2020* £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	*1,202,569*	*1,057,780*	*(958,191)*	*(223)*	*1,301,935*
Revaluation reserve	*1,651*	-	-	*(5,440)*	*(3,789)*
	1,204,220	*1,057,780*	*(958,191)*	*(5,663)*	*1,298,146*
Restricted funds					
Centre & Club room refurbishment	*340*	-	-	-	*340*
Staff salary contribution	-	*7,000*	*(7,000)*	-	-
Staff salary contribution	*2,439*	-	*(2,440)*	-	*(1)*
Equipment centre redecoration	*2,765*	-	-	-	*2,765*
Eye Clinic Liaison Officer	-	*34,803*	*(26,121)*	-	*8,682*
Refurbishment of Quiet room	-	*1,000*	-	-	*1,000*
Safeguarding & Training	-	*1,492*	*(933)*	-	*559*
	5,544	*44,295*	*(36,494)*	-	*13,345*

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
General funds	**1,298,146**	**1,065,639**	**(948,935)**	**2,611**	**8,516**	**1,425,977**
Restricted funds	**13,345**	**34,462**	**(45,196)**	**(2,611)**	**-**	**-**
	1,311,491	**1,100,101**	**(994,131)**	**-**	**8,516**	**1,425,977**

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	*Income £*	*Expenditure £*	*Gains/ (Losses) £*	*Balance at 31 March 2020 £*
General funds	*1,204,220*	*1,057,780*	*(958,191)*	*(5,663)*	*1,298,146*
Restricted funds	*5,544*	*44,295*	*(36,494)*	-	*13,345*
	1,209,764	*1,102,075*	*(994,685)*	*(5,663)*	*1,311,491*

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,159,640	**1,159,640**
Fixed asset investments	1	**1**
Current assets	310,475	**310,475**
Creditors due within one year	(44,139)	**(44,139)**
Total	1,425,977	**1,425,977**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	*Restricted funds 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*1,165,007*	-	*1,165,007*
Fixed asset investments	*1*	-	*1*
Current assets	*162,121*	*13,345*	*175,466*
Creditors due within one year	*(28,983)*	-	*(28,983)*
Total	*1,298,146*	*13,345*	*1,311,491*

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

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**104,064**	*107,167*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**7,978**	*8,737*
Gains on investments	**1,904**	*223*
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	**(600)**	*(1,189)*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(1,962)**	*8,255*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**15,156**	*(7,865)*
Net cash provided by operating activities	**126,540**	*115,328*

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Cash in hand	**247,902**	*124,660*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**247,902**	*124,660*

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2020	Cash flows	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	124,660	123,242	247,902
Liquid investments	39,015	9,803	48,818
	163,675	133,045	296,720

25. Related party transactions

During the year the chairty received donations from Southend Vision Trading Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the charity, totalling £13,954 (2020: £63,717). At the balance sheet date the charity was owed £Nil (2020: £237)

26. Post balance sheet events

The Charity has made the decision, following the future strategic review carried out, that Elkington House Care Home will be closed. Further details of this post balance sheet event are given on pages 10 and 11 of the Trustees' Report.
This event is a non-adjusting event as the announcement was made after the end of the current reporting period but before the accounts were authorised for issue, but the conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period do not result in an adjustment to the financial statements. The estimated impact on the Charity following the closure of the Care Home will be a reduction to income of between 60-70% and a reduction to expenditure of between 70-80%.

27. Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and had no ultimate controlling party. In the event that the charity is wound up, each current member (and any member who has ceased to be a member within one year) agrees to contribute a maximum of ten pounds to the assets of the charity.

28. Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company:

Name	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	06388803	Millhouse, 32-38 East Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1DB	Charity Shop

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Net assets £
Southend Vision Trading Limited (100% owned subsidiary)	1

29. Provisions available for audits of small entities

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature, we use our auditor firm to assist with bookkeeping, payroll and management accounts and in the preparation of the annual financial statements.