

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

**Azets Audit Services Limited
Ashcombe Court
Woolsack Way
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1LQ**

First Touch

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First Touch

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1072500

Principal address

Neonatal Unit
Lanesborough Wing
St George's Hospital
Tooting
London SW17 0QT

Trustees

Achim Herbert Vogt
Adam Gary Norgett
Benedict Kiran Donald Shaw
Clare Joanne O'Grady
Dr Sijo Francis
Kim Caddy
Louise Jane Hunter
Natalie Ann Daly
Nicole Eastwood
Paula Abramson
Robert Nestor

Independent examiner

Azets Audit Services
Ashcombe Court
Woolsack Way
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1LQ

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is a registered charity (charity number 1072500) and is constituted under a Trust deed dated 8th September 1998. The Trust was established by a parent of a baby treated on the unit, and was originally known as The Friends of the Neonatal Unit at St George's Hospital. The name was officially changed in June 2008 to First Touch, which was felt to better represent the impact of the Charity on babies' lives.

The current Trustees all have experience of the unit either as parents who have had a baby treated on the unit or as clinical staff.

New Trustees

New Trustees are selected and appointed by the existing Trustees. On appointment new Trustees are given a welcome pack which includes a brief history of the Charity, a copy of the last three years financial statements, a copy of the Trust Deed and Supplemental Deed, and copies of the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know" and "Charities and Public Benefit".

Relevant Interests

At this time none of the Trustees has a relevant interest but, in accordance with the Trust's policy, any Trustee with a relevant interest is required to disclose such interest and withdraw from any decisions where a conflict may arise.

First Touch

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Additional Governance Issues

At the Trustee meetings, the Trustees agree the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Charity, including large expenditure on equipment, and training and welfare budgets. The day-to-day administration of funds, processing, and marketing is delegated to the Charity Director and Coordinator. Its management is in the hands of a Management Committee.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

The Charity's objective, as set out in the governing document, is the relief and treatment of premature and sick babies in the neonatal unit at St Georges Hospital by providing and assisting in the provision of specialist equipment, improving the amenities and facilities, and to support and assist the families of such babies who are or have been on the unit.

Significant Activities

The main activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to the stated objects are:

- The purchase of medical equipment (augmenting that acquired by the NHS Trust);
- Funding supplementary and specialist training for nurses; and,
- Support through the welfare fund for families and babies.

The neonatal unit at St George's Hospital is a level three centre of excellence meaning the sickest babies from South-West London and the South-East of England, and occasionally further afield, are transferred to the unit for treatment and, therefore, benefit from the funds used by the Charity.

There is no means testing relating to provisions from the welfare fund for families, support is available to all.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

BACKGROUND

COVID-19 permanently altered the way in which First Touch works with the neonatal unit. The First Touch staff continue to work remotely in the main but maintaining a regular presence on the Unit. Staff are mindful of the ongoing need to keep the risk of infections low especially in the winter months to protect the vulnerable patients and their families.

The First Touch staff offer a visible and accessible resource at the unit, which enables easier communication with clinical staff to understand what is needed, often at quite short notice, and from a fund-raising perspective with the main source of donations coming from parents and families on or formally on the unit. Many parents meet the First Touch staff and see work undertaken and want to help support by raising funds or making donations.

The Trustees would like to pay tribute to both First Touch staff and the clinical and administrative staff on the Neonatal unit who are a crucial conduit enabling First Touch to continue to be agile and active supporting the unit as necessary.

First Touch

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE & FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity received income of £211,505 (2024: £213,998). A small decrease over the previous year but still reflecting the hard work of our staff and generosity of so many of our supporters.

Many of the families that are served by the Neonatal do not come from affluent backgrounds and they often go out of their way to raise funds in grateful thanks for the treatment their babies have received. The Charity takes great pride in the fact that most of its income is raised by those who have directly benefited from the work of the unit and the work of First Touch.

First Touch is fortunate to have a following of fundraisers and donors who step up to raise funds for equipment and projects as they are identified. The Trustees note with gratitude that the consistent achieving of targets reflects the hard work and dedication of our staff, together with families and individuals. Gift aid tax relief and gifts in kind make a huge difference to the overall total.

The Charity considers that its long-term main function is to fund the purchase of medical equipment to increase the capability of the unit to bring wellbeing to babies in its care. The charity responds to requests from the NNU for equipment and only if funds are available or if the Trustees believe that funds can be raised in a timely fashion does the charity commit to a purchase.

The Trustees are keen to emphasise that the level of income is not the only way to measure success. The staff undertake other roles, including raising awareness for many of the issues surrounding premature birth and baby loss, together with welfare activities: making a stay on the unit more pleasant for families and staff. The feedback that is received from staff and families on the unit about the charity's role is reviewed regularly by the Trustees and is overwhelmingly positive.

Equipment

This year commitment to equipment spending continues, however, some delayed invoices from last financial year together with this year meant that equipment spend in the accounts stands at £260,501.

It is important to note that whilst the Trustees frequently agree to purchase equipment mindful of fundraising campaigns or funds in hand in any financial year the procurement policy at St George's Trust dictates that equipment must be sourced through them and subsequently invoiced. As such the Trustees have no control over the timing of the purchases and receipt of invoices. These timings combined with the very different nature of demands on the Charity's funds during the pandemic led to the Trustees agreeing that it was appropriate for welfare spending to exceed the equipment spending in these exceptional times, and the Trustees continue to monitor the balance between equipment and welfare.

Welfare

One of the guiding tenets of the Charity is to seek to enhance the "amenities and facilities, and to support the families of babies who are or have been on the ward". This falls into the Welfare category.

Each baby on the unit at Christmas receives a Christmas Stocking and festive edible treats were available on the unit for staff and families. Babies also received a small gift to celebrate Easter, Mother and Father's days, World Prematurity Day and other celebrations all funded by the Charity. The Amazon wish continues to be a popular and convenient way for supporters to arrange these seasonal donations together with day-to-day supplies such as tea bags, snacks, muslins and general supplies for the staff and families that make such a difference to a very intense and difficult time for families

First Touch

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Awareness and support

First Touch has also funded the training of Peer Supporters, volunteer parents trained by St Georges to be a visible and accessible face for families, visiting the nurseries and talking face to face with parents. So far this is proving popular and successful.

Staff

The staff at First Touch is the catalyst that allows the Charity to channel the generosity of volunteers and supporters to make such a tangible difference to the life and well-being of the babies on the unit. The Trustees recognise this is without doubt the single most important contribution to the work of the charity and wish to place on record their gratitude to all of the staff.

This has been a particularly difficult and challenging year for First Touch Staff, in May 2024 Sarah Collins, Charity Director left her role as she moved away from London. Sarah led First Touch brilliantly over 20 years, growing and shaping it to be the success that it is today. The Trustee Board were deeply saddened to see her go and send their very best wishes to her and her family for their home.

Additionally, and very sadly Louise Williams, Charity Co-ordinator since 2013 passed away in January 2025 after a long illness. Louise made a huge contribution to First Touch, and the benefits that the charity brought to families on the unit. In memory of Louise the reading corner has been named Louise's Library, books to entertain siblings or to read to babies may be borrowed from there and are supplied by First Touch in a number of languages common to the parents on the unit.

The Trustees were working to recruit a new Charity Director at the end of the financial year and meanwhile Sonja has been invaluable continuing to keep the charity working from day to day. Since then, Laura de Rooy (formerly a consultant on the unit and Trustee) has accepted the position and has resigned as Trustee to avoid any conflicts. This will enable the charity to go forward with plans for the coming year to continue to work innovatively and creativity to continue to support the Neonatal unit, together with the staff and families there.

Reserves Policy

The reserves held by the Charity at 31 March 2025 were £251,064 (2024: £413,658) and are split between unrestricted reserves totalling £241,064 (2024: £406,158) and restricted reserves of £10,000 (2024: £7,500).

The Charity only purchases equipment for which it has funding, or fundraising is undertaken specifically for a piece of equipment. It has minimal running costs other than staff salaries and running costs. The Trustees aim to maintain reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to a minimum of six months of unrestricted charitable expenditure.

The Charity has held assets in cash, either in current or deposit accounts throughout the year. First Touch does not have any interest in real estate property or possess any marketable securities and thus has no financial market exposure. The costs associated with the core activities of the Charity are noted in the attached Statement of Financial Activities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17th January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Nicola Eastwood - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
First Touch**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statement of First Touch (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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

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.

.....
Debra Saunders FCA, BSc (Hons)
Azets Audit Services
Ashcombe Court
Woolsack Way
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1LQ

Dated: 20 January 2026

First Touch

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		47,964	64,539	112,503	89,407
Activities for generating funds	2	87,723	-	87,723	111,005
Investment income	3	1,527	-	1,527	1,439
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Gifts in kind		<u>9,751</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,751</u>	<u>12,147</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>146,966</u>	<u>64,539</u>	<u>211,505</u>	<u>213,998</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income		4,959	-	4,959	6,262
Charitable activities					
Purchase of medical equipment		198,462	62,039	260,501	8,263
Support through the welfare fund for families and babies		93,948	-	93,948	112,291
Gifts in kind		9,751	-	9,751	12,147
Support costs		<u>4,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,940</u>	<u>4,462</u>
Total resources expended		<u>312,060</u>	<u>62,039</u>	<u>374,099</u>	<u>143,425</u>
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME		<u>(165,094)</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>(162,594)</u>	<u>70,573</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>406,158</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>413,657</u>	<u>343,085</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>241,064</u></u>	<u><u>10,000</u></u>	<u><u>251,064</u></u>	<u><u>413,658</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

First Touch

Balance Sheet At 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	4,543	3,854
Cash at bank		<u>250,001</u>	<u>412,684</u>
		254,544	416,538
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(3,480)	(2,800)
		<u>251,064</u>	<u>413,658</u>
NET ASSETS			
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		241,064	406,158
Restricted funds		<u>10,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>251,064</u>	<u>413,658</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 17th January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Nicola Eastwood
Nicola Eastwood - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

First Touch

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

Going concern

We have paid particular attention to the likely effects on the charity of the current global economic uncertainty and the trustees remain confident that sufficient funding, and reserves, are in place and that the charity has adequate resources to enable it to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Incoming resources and debtors

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Debtors and prepaid expenses are included at the monetary value of the transaction.

Resources expended and liabilities

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are recognised when received and recorded based on the estimated value of a similar good or service available to buy. These amounts are recognised within income and expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Capital expenditure

Expenditure of a capital nature is written off to income and expenditure in the year in which it is incurred.

2. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>87,723</u>	<u>111,005</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>1,527</u>	<u>1,439</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

5. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross wages	57,442	65,661
Employers NIC	-	437
Employers pensions	1,616	1,269
Other staff costs	847	1,231
	<u>60,660</u>	<u>68,598</u>

No employees (2024: Nil) received employee benefits for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>4,543</u>	<u>3,854</u>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>3,480</u>	<u>2,880</u>

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	244,544	10,000	254,544	416,538
Current liabilities	<u>(3,480)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,480)</u>	<u>(2,880)</u>
	<u>241,064</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>251,064</u>	<u>413,658</u>

First Touch

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	406,158	(162,594)	243,564
Restricted funds			
Equipment Fund	7,500	2,500	10,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>413,658</u>	<u>(162,594)</u>	<u>251,064</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	146,966	(312,060)	(165,094)
Restricted funds			
Equipment Fund	64,539	(62,039)	2,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>211,505</u>	<u>(374,099)</u>	<u>(162,594)</u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	338,085	68,073	406,158
Restricted funds			
Equipment Fund	5,000	2,500	7,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>343,085</u>	<u>70,573</u>	<u>413,658</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – PRIOR YEAR (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	211,280	(143,207)	68,073
Restricted funds			
Equipment Fund	2,718	(218)	2,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,998</u>	<u>(143,425)</u>	<u>70,573</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Equipment Fund

Donations received for specific items of medical equipment are allocated to this fund and any purchases made are then matched accordingly.

First Touch

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Donations	93,881	70,256
Gift aid	<u>18,623</u>	<u>19,151</u>
	112,504	89,407
Activities for generating funds		
Fundraising events	87,723	111,005
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	1,527	1,439
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Gifts in kind	<u>9,751</u>	<u>12,147</u>
Total incoming resources	211,505	213,998
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Fundraising and administration	22,368	3,478
Events	<u>800</u>	<u>2,784</u>
	23,168	6,262
Charitable activities		
Medical equipment funding	260,501	8,263
Welfare	32,156	43,018
Staff costs	42,569	68,598
Training post funding	1,014	457
Gifts in kind	<u>9,751</u>	<u>12,147</u>
	336,240	132,701
Support costs		
Independent examiner's fee	3,480	2,880
Other costs	<u>1,460</u>	<u>1,582</u>
	4,940	4,462
Total resources expended	<u>374,099</u>	<u>143,425</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>(162,594)</u>	<u>70,573</u>