mySociety

England & Wales · Charity number 1076346

Details

Other names	UK CITIZENS ONLINE DEMOCRACY, mySociety, UKCOD
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03277032
Registered	1999-07-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Mysociety 483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS
Phone	02032390725
Email	hello@mysociety.org
Website	www.mysociety.org

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT: 1. EDUCATION IN THE SUBJECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, CITIZENSHIP, CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BY, WITHOUT LIMITATION: A. USING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES TO: I. DEVELOP THE PUBLIC'S INDIVIDUAL CAPABILITIES, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING IN THESE SUBJECTS II. INCREASE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION FROM AND ABOUT PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, BUILDING CAPACITY AND KNOWLEDGE WITHIN COMMUNITIES B. CONDUCTING AND PUBLISHING RESEARCH AND PROVIDING STRUCTURED INFORMATION ON CITIZENSHIP AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES 2. CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY, GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY: A. FACILITATING INFORMED PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC IN DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES AND DECISION-MAKING WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITIES B. INNOVATION IN THE EFFECTIVE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES FOR THESE PURPOSES

Activities: mySociety helps people be active citizens with technology, research and data that individuals, journalists, and civil society can use, openly and for free. We work across three interlinked practice areas: Community, Democracy and Transparency - each underpinned by research, sector building and appropriate

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1076346

commercial work.

Classification

- **How:** Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£2,627,848	£2,528,589	£1,305,373	32
2024-03-31	£3,092,990	£2,557,743	£1,206,114	35
2023-03-31	£2,486,847	£2,250,012	£670,867	33
2022-03-31	£1,863,610	£2,116,158	£434,032	31
2021-03-31	£1,966,195	£1,486,591	£686,580	25

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1076346

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Genevieve Eleanor Maitland Hudson	Chair	2023-07-06
Ade Adewunmi		2021-04-01
Alastair John Tibbitt		2024-06-20
Alexander Christopher Scales		2024-06-20
Amanda Brown		2019-03-11
Anna Scott		2024-06-20
Devin Sean O'Shaughnessy		2022-12-01
Jennifer Francis Thornton		2022-12-01
Nigel Jeremy Ball		2024-06-20
Ravi Gidoomal		2024-06-20
Steven James Skelton		2021-04-01
Timothy James Hughes		2024-06-20

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1076346

mySociety

England & Wales - Charity number 1076346

Accounts

mySociety

Impact report & audited accounts

2024/25

Company no. 03277032
Charity no. 1076346

We are mySociety

We are working towards a fair society, where people are informed, connected and empowered to shape the future of their communities and the world around them.

Our work is needed more than ever

Since 2003 we have been creating, running and sharing digital services that break down barriers to democratic participation, equipping people to take action and drive meaningful change.

Today, our mission is taking on a new urgency.

Trust in democracy is at crisis level

The British Social Attitudes research finds that trust and confidence in government are as low as they have ever been, while the Edelman Trust barometer shows that, globally, the "**fear that leaders lie to us [is at an] all-time high**".

The UK's Office of National Statistics indicates that 57% of people have "**low or no trust in the government**". Data from the FGS Global Radar report shows that one in five Britons aged 18–45 prefer "**a strong leader who doesn't have to bother with elections**" to the current democratic system.

We're working on it

mySociety is not just a monitor of democracy, tracking the activity of our elected representatives: we also actively advocate for systemic improvements, based on our extensive research projects and increasing network of governance experts.

This year, that's meant investigating the failures in transparency and efficacy of the system by which MPs declare their financial interests, via our **WhoFundsThem** project.

Engagement levels are low

The Office of National Statistics reports that in 2023, 21% of the population had **not taken part in any political activities** in the last year.

From the same study, 44% of people said they had **little or no confidence in their ability to participate in politics**.

We're bringing people back in

Our Democracy services make it easier for everyone to understand what happens in the UK's parliaments and how that affects their own lives.

With its free, low-friction subscription service, **TheyWorkForYou** places the debates that reflect users' interests directly into their email inboxes. And via **WriteToThem**, it's simple to drop your representative a line.

The path to Net Zero is not straightforward

The Climate Change Committee used our data from CAPE to highlight that "**Only around one third of the emissions reductions required** to meet the 2030 target are **covered by credible plans**", and "Policy reversals and delays in other areas, together with inconsistent messaging, have **hindered progress just when acceleration was needed.**"

Our services drive climate action

Our Climate services give people the information they need to scrutinise climate action at the local level. From campaigners to council officers, informed people are making smart decisions about where to work most effectively to combat the climate emergency.

Local Intelligence Hub allows the combining of datasets that have not previously been put together, while **CAPE**, **natureemergency.com** and **Council Climate Action Scorecards** are key to councils collaborating on their climate action.

This is an era of disinformation

We are watching in real time how untruths and misrepresentations can **propel bad actors to power**, in countries across the world. **Disinformation spreads unchecked** on social media, and can now be accompanied by false 'proof' in the shape of AI-generated images or videos.

We help people find and share the truth

Our Transparency services **WhatDoTheyKnow** and **Alaveteli** allow people both in the UK and globally to access primary sources, while our Democracy website **TheyWorkForYou** publishes the verifiable record of what was said and how MPs voted in Parliament.

With this year's **TICTeC** conference focusing on pro-democracy tech, we're doing all we can to strengthen the sector's knowledge on how to resist the rise of misinformation.

This year…

…we've continued to provide our core services

TheyWorkForYou makes it easier to follow what goes on in Parliament and keep an eye on your own MP's activities.

WriteToThem provides a simple way to contact your elected representatives, even if you don't know who they are.

Climate Council Action Scorecards provide data to show how local authorities are doing on their path to Net Zero.

WhatDoTheyKnow guides users through the process of making a Freedom of Information request. Responses are openly published.

FixMyStreet makes it simple to report problems such as potholes and broken streetlights to the right authority to get them fixed.

Local Intelligence Hub empowers campaigners by making it simple to slice and dice climate-related data by region or across the whole UK.

…and, like every year, we've gone further

WhoFundsThem
An in-depth investigation into MPs' financial interests, highlighting failures in the reporting system — and making the information openly available to all.
See pages 8–10

FOI training in the UK
Hands-on tutoring for campaign groups supporting minoritised communities, showing how Freedom of Information can help with their causes.
See pages 19-20

Neighbourhood Warmth
A pioneering digital service enabling a community-led approach to tackling home energy emissions.
See page 30

ATI Community of Practice
Convening a global group of Access to Information practitioners online, for knowledge exchange and mutual learning.
See pages 16-17

New climate tools
Publishing a wealth of data — much of which has never before been used in combination — to inform climate campaigning.
See pages 26–28

TICTeC
Our annual conference returned to an in-person event — but with hybrid technology for remote participation too.
See pages 37–40

Welcome

from our Chair of Trustees…

History has not shown human beings to be generally good at forecasting, even in the very short term, or even very quick at picking up the signals that in retrospect seem obvious. In the UK's transition from water to steam power in the 1830s and 1840s, the direction of progress really did hang in the balance. Water power was abundant and cheap. Steam was expensive and the coal it relied on known even then to be polluting. The transition happened not because of the competitive efficiency or cost of production of steam power, but despite both.

Technological change follows unpredictable pathways. We all know the fossil economy was a shift with outsized consequences. Abundant renewable power was the path not taken, back then. We might well be at a similar point of technological shift now. Perhaps it is another bad decision. We don't know yet, but it's possible. Climate overshoot is established. Artificial Intelligence is quickly expanding its reach. Trumpian convulsions in geopolitics and international trade are uprooting 80 years of established norms.

We are unlikely to predict what comes next with any accuracy. What we can do is surface, discuss and debate those changes as widely as possible, drawing on the most reliable information we can get. We can try too, to ensure that new technologies have effective oversight and accountability mechanisms designed into them, to give ourselves a fighting chance to change tack. mySociety may be a small charity, but it can and does play an outsized role in promoting civic engagement with these, and other, political and social questions through its established tools and its continued innovation. This report highlights why that work matters so much.

… and from our Chief Executive

I'm delighted to share mySociety's 2024–5 Impact Report, highlighting the important work we do using digital tools to enable people to take part in democratic decision making and civic life.

Reading this report, I'm hugely proud, both of the sheer numbers of people we've helped through our services to make positive changes for themselves and their communities, but also of the many different ways we've been able to inform, empower and bring people together around those services.

From bringing back TICTeC, our Impacts of Civic Tech Conference to convene practitioners and researchers from around the world taking on some of the biggest democratic and technological challenges facing us; to informing millions of people with voting records and candidate information through TheyWorkForYou and Local Intelligence Hub in the run-up to the general election; to shining a light on MPs' financial interest declarations and making the case for systemic change; to working with grassroots groups using Freedom of Information for the first time in their advocacy work — this breadth of impact would not be possible for such a small team without an incredible community of partners, volunteers, collaborators and supporters.

A huge thanks both to the staff team and trustees and to everyone who has been a part of our work this year.

In 2024–25

mySociety's work reached many millions of people

and helped them inform themselves, participate in democracy, and make change

WhatDoTheyKnow

152,567

Freedom of Information requests submitted on the site this year.

7,649,955

Views of requests in the archive.

Hundreds of thousands

of alerts sent to people tracking keywords.

TheyWorkForYou

2,668,874

Visits to debate and MP pages.

Hundreds of thousands

of people received emails when their MPs spoke, or their chosen topics were mentioned in Parliament.

WriteToThem

135,000

Messages sent by WriteToThem users, to their representatives.

FixMyStreet

1,020,731

The number of neighbourhood issues reported by users to the authorities responsible for fixing them.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE HUB

Council Climate Action Scorecards

CAPE

650,000+

Views of council and constituency data in CAPE, the Council Climate Scorecards, and the Local Intelligence Hub.

TICTeC

242

academics, activists, funders and technicians came together at TICTeC 2024 to take part in…

51

different sessions on civic tech projects and learnings from around the world.

There were **30 million** sessions across all our sites.

In our outreach we learned directly from **22 organisations**, and brought **hundreds of people** together in online seminars and workshops.

WhoFundsThem

Crowdsourcing hidden information — and putting it into plain sight

We need better data, stronger checks, and tighter rules on our representatives' financial interests to rebuild public trust in our political system.

This year we have been working on WhoFundsThem, a deep dive into the financial interests of MPs: donations, gifts and second jobs, and how these fed into the General Election of 2024. We've been creating new datasets, new tools, and new sections on TheyWorkForYou to share the information.

The project involved training up a large cohort of volunteers to look across a variety of information sources, not all of them immediately transparent to the general public. The data they retrieved was then checked in-house at mySociety, with any highlighted industry findings being passed back to the MPs in question, giving them the right to reply.

WhoFundsThem volunteers came together online to learn how to investigate into MPs' interests.

What we found

Missing data; poor data quality; discrepancies in how (and whether) interests are declared in Parliament… all of which cloud the facts and make it harder for the public to fully understand who is funding their MP.

We also discovered ways we can make things better: how we can build on what is published, and how to shine a brighter light on interests that are disclosed but unpopular with the general public.

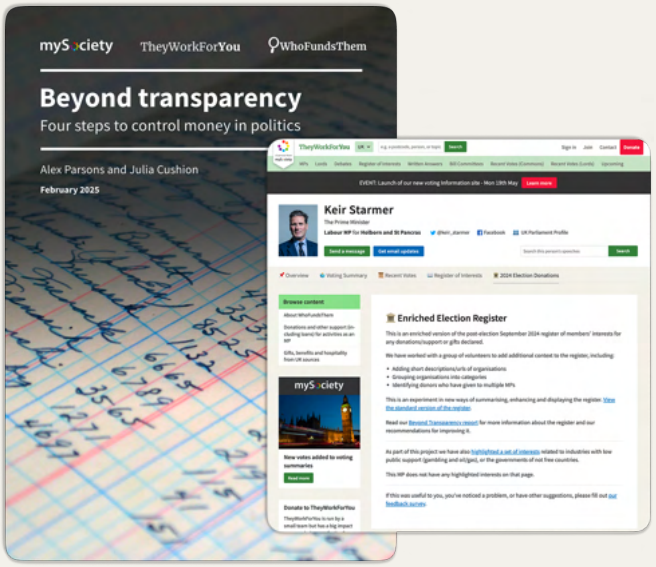
WhoFundsThem: the results

After the concerted period of research, the next job was to turn our findings into useful outputs. This first iteration of the WhoFundsThem project has yielded two results:

- What we now understand about **missing and poor quality data** fed into an in-depth report on the failings of the Register of Interests system, with recommendations on how it can be improved in order to increase both transparency and public confidence in MPs.
- Our improved, more **comprehensive and clearer data** on interests can now be accessed on every MP's page of our website TheyWorkForYou, making their financial interests easier for the general public to understand.
- As a side-effect, we also created some very informed volunteers.

"I was proud to have volunteered on this … it was a pleasure working with Julia and Alex who are the definition of good people. Read the report. Check your MP. Ask questions!"

— Lloyd Shepherd



Advocating for a better system

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO PARLIAMENT:

Better data collection to achieve more accurate interests information

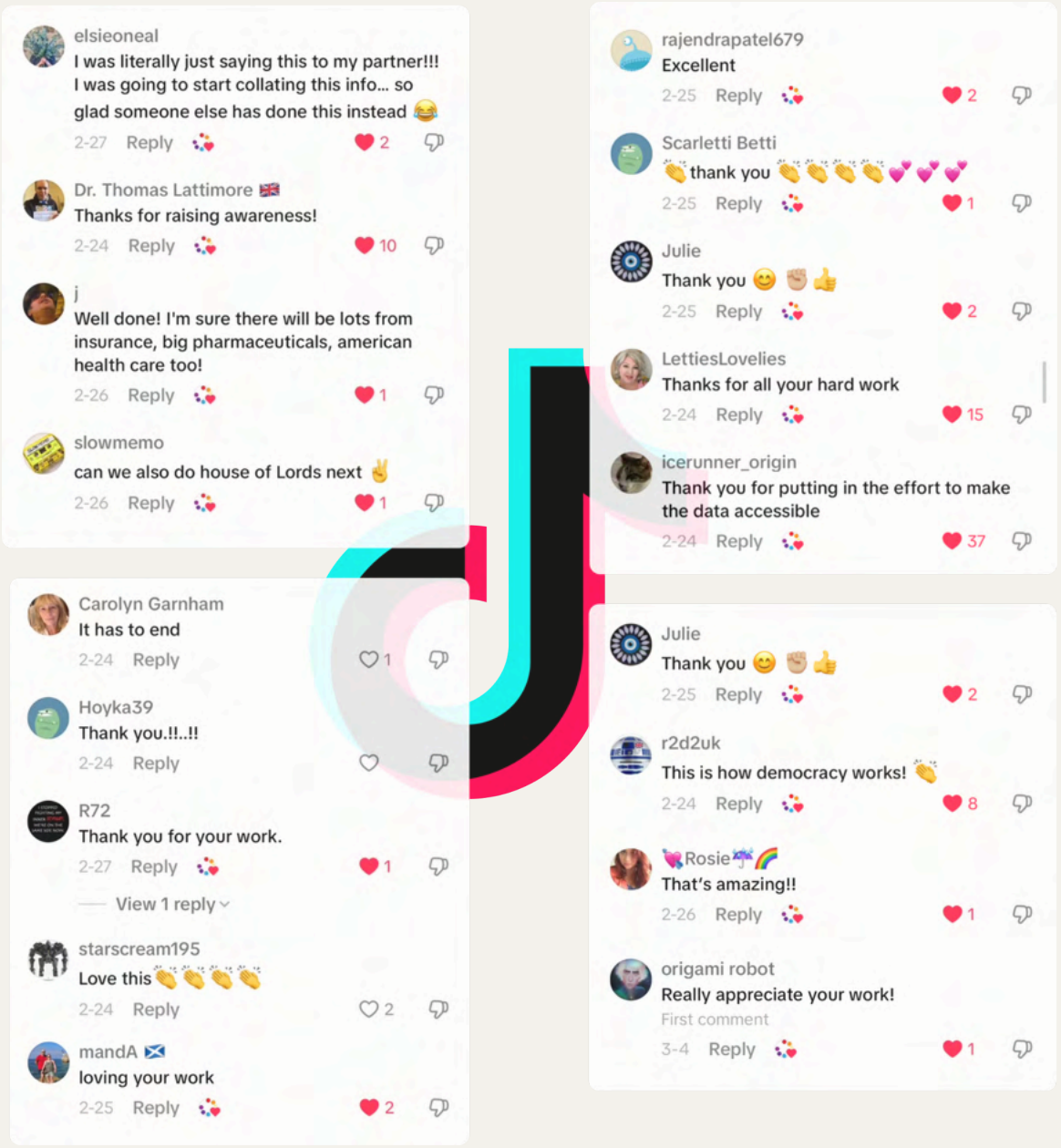
Stronger checks to make sure the interests information is reliable

Tighter rules so there are fewer unacceptable interests in the first place

Systematic reform to decrease the role of money in the political system

A citizens assembly to unblock the public discussion on MPs' interests

How the public reacted to our WhoFundsThem videos…



What's next?

When it comes to Parliament's Register of Interests, some changes need to happen from the inside — but we think there's also a lot more we can do from the outside.

We're thinking about how we can build on this work — to go broader by including more registers (we've already added the registers for the devolved Parliaments/Assemblies to TheyWorkForYou), or deeper by merging more datasets over the top of this information.

We're also thinking about how we can best act to get Parliament to enforce its own rules, and how we can work with others to call for stronger ones. Stay tuned by signing up for updates on whofundsthem.com.

Democracy is under threat...

...enter civic tech

Photo by www.kremlin.ru, sac Nóbrega/PR, Consejo de Comunicación y Ciudadanía del Gobierno de Nicaragua, www.kremlin.ru, Daniel Torok

The world we're in

Right now, we are at the intersection of two global trends:

- democracies around the world are under sustained threat
- there is rapid technological change

These two strands are not unconnected: 21st century authoritarians embrace technology as a means of internal control and external warfare.

The way forward

Democrats and democracies need, in turn, to step up in their use of technology — both defensively and constructively — to build stronger, more effective and popular democracies that are better connected with, and deliver for, their citizens.

- We need informed democratic participation from all kinds of people and communities to create stronger and fairer societies.
- We need reforms and responsiveness from democratic institutions, to convince people that their participation is worthwhile.

We need to do more than persuade citizens to participate and policymakers to hear the voices and understand the lives of those they're elected to serve – we need to give them practical, trustworthy and effective ways to do so.

"I cannot thank you enough for the work you do to make parliamentary processes legible [...] Total lifesaver for navigating a wildly obfuscated system."

— TheyWorkForYou user

A reliable champion for democracy

Photo by Samuel Hagger, House of Commons(CC nc-nd/2.0) and Catholic Church England and Wales(CC nc-nd/2.0)

IMPROVING LONG-RUNNING SERVICES

Providing a clearer picture of how MPs have voted

TheyWorkForYou has always provided an accessible path to understanding what's happening in the UK's parliaments. This year, we've reviewed and refined how voting summaries are calculated, to make them clearer and to provide a fairer representation of each MP's record; and having done that, we added more voting categories to reflect the concerns of our age.

"I didn't know this existed… omg what a game changer! User friendly and easy… I just used it and will do so again. I hate emailing people normally and this has circumvented my executive dysfunction."

— First-time WriteToThem user

"What amazed me on Friday morning was to find that [TheyWorkForYou] had already updated the site as new MPs were confirmed as election results were coming in. It was an impressively agile response.

…Shows how this tech can revitalise democratic institutions."

— John Naughton, Senior Research Fellow at Cambridge University

THERE WHEN NEEDED

Meeting the challenges of a General Election year

A big democratic event always means an increased flow of traffic: over the six weeks leading up to the UK's General Election, there were 1.4 million visits to TheyWorkForYou.

But this wasn't the only challenge the election brought: when MPs change, and constituency boundaries are adjusted as well, that's a lot of data to amend in a short space of time, across several of our sites: **WriteToThem**, **TheyWorkForYou**, **Local Intelligence Hub**, and **MapIt**.

We handled it, shoring the sites up for the increased traffic, prepping the boundary changes ahead of time and importing new MPs to our systems as they were announced overnight.

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

Advocating for change

It's not enough to simply record what happens in Parliament: with our unique expertise in digital engagement, we're well placed to suggest improvements around data outputs and even the internal mechanisms of the institution. Our Repowering Democracy series of blog posts saw both invited writers and inhouse thinkers examining parliamentary issues in depth.

Repowering Democracy: the most popular posts

Improving the register of MPs interests

The Big Ben rule: reducing Parliamentary jargon

Modernising the House of Commons and stand-in MPs

BRINGING NETWORKS TOGETHER

A global sharing of knowledge

We convened the **Parliamentary Monitoring Organisations (PMO) community of practice** — a space to share experience and learn from others who engage in the rare art of running websites to hold national parliaments accountable.

PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT

Open Knowledge Brasil

"I enjoyed the gatherings. Learnings from these are helping with our project planning, and I've connected with organisations similar to us."

Open Knowledge Brazil's **Querido Diário** initiative meticulously maps, scrapes, extracts, processes, indexes and publishes the official gazettes of 350 cities, rendering them accessible through a user-friendly web interface and API, and has the eventual aim of covering all 5,570 cities in Brazil. Watch their session at TICTeC 2024.

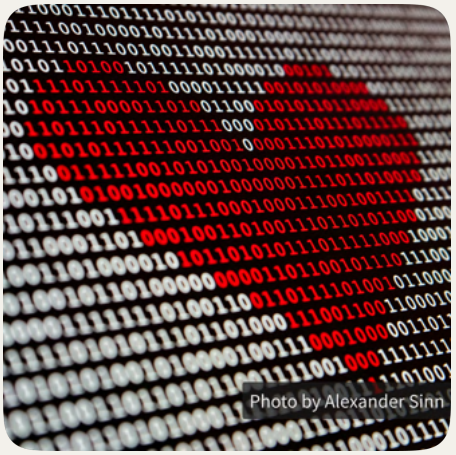
"It's a great way to stay updated on relevant work, trends, and knowledge. TICTeC gatherings are useful to us in that they focus on tech innovation, data policy, how to adopt AI, AI ethics etc., and are global. The in-person meetings make me more comfortable reaching out to contacts I've met online."

WeVis is a pioneering civic technology initiative dedicated to empowering citizens through open data and digital participatory tools.

One of their most significant endeavours has been the development of a parliamentary monitoring tool — an innovation previously nonexistent in Thailand. Watch their session at TICTeC 2024.

Helping to set information free

A community of transparency activists



The world we're in

When misinformation is rife, and lies are the currency of those in charge, the value of facts becomes all the stronger.

Access To Information (ATI) is one means by which we can all ensure that primary sources are in the public domain, not only supporting transparency and disincentivising corruption, but — just as importantly — publishing the verifiable truth.

Like any democracy-enhancing mechanism, ATI risks erosion in the current age: challenges include authorities ignoring requests (at best) or aggressively pushing back on rights to information (at worst), with everything in between, and are often coloured by the local context in which the sites are being run.

Access to Information network

FORGING GLOBAL LINKS

mySociety's Alaveteli software is at the rare intersection of open source software with high usage volumes and explicit social good outcomes, supporting individuals and organisations around the world to run their own Freedom of Information websites in the model of **WhatDoTheyKnow**. As a result, citizens in more than 25 countries and jurisdictions can access information via their local legislation.

Laws vary, and country contexts may be very different, but there is much that these initiatives have in common. We set up the **ATI Network** so that those running Access to Information projects could exchange support, advice and skills.

Because each organisation that runs an ATI site has emerged from different foundations, they have a variety of skills, from journalism to data visualisation, advocacy and campaigning to fighting legal challenges. Through regular meetings and online tutorials, the ATI Network is levelling its participants up across all of these disciplines.

Skill-sharing and mutual support

What transparency action looks like

Meeting online…

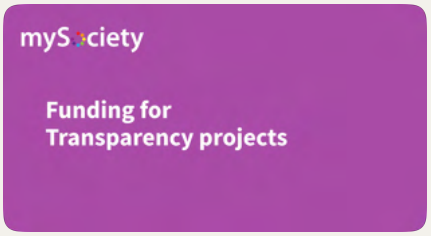
Over the year, members of the **ATI Network** have been invited to come together for learning and discussion in nine seminars. The outputs are subsequently shared on YouTube and our blog so that they are accessible to anyone else who can make use of this knowledge, for years to come.

"The opportunity to learn from the successes and failures of others in similar fields, a space to vent frustrations and seek advice in a supportive environment."

Most viewed videos:

Legal Framework Masterclass

Impact Measuring Workshop



Funding for Transparency Projects

…and face-to-face

Many of our European partners made presentations at the TICTeC conference — and then stayed a further day for an in-person meet-up in London.

This was the first opportunity we'd had to meet offline, giving the opportunity to discuss issues and also allowing stronger bonds to form between site members who may not have met each other before. Particular links were made between those running sites in France, Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden and Poland — and the experience was so positive that we did it all over again at TICTeC 2025.

"Hearing about interesting challenges in other countries which prepared me for similar challenges locally."

"The serendipity of chatting with others and realising we have common issues, and trying to think about how we could tackle them together."

Keeping the flame burning

To ensure those benefits keep coming, we've now launched a network newsletter which all ATI Network members can contribute to with stories of success or the challenges they are facing.

And because the skillshare meetings have been so welcome, we're increasing their frequency, and tying this work more closely with impact measuring.

"This year mySociety felt (and in fact was) closer and more directly involved in the work that we did, as partner and contributor of knowledge, leads and activities."

Practical transparency

Transparency happens when people have easy access to their rights to information. That's only made possible when a constant effort is made to keep mechanisms working.

PUTTING IN THE WORK

Data breaches: intercepted

When responding to FOI requests, public authorities sometimes release personal information in error, often as part of large spreadsheets. This type of careless data handling from an authority can have huge repercussions on the people whose data is accidentally put into the public domain. And, while authorities ought to have protections and policies in place to prevent such breaches from happening, for the times when that's not so, we've developed a new tool.

The Analyser is a powerful safeguard against such data breaches, now deployed on **WhatDoTheyKnow**.

This software automatically scans spreadsheets as they are received, identifying metadata types that are often the cause of large data breaches, such as pivot cache data,

"My colleagues have used FOIs but I was really super unclear about the process, where to even begin! This and the introduction to the mySociety tools and resources is a gamechanger!! So accessible."

hidden elements, or cached data from external links — and prevents them from being published on the site.

The team can then alert the authority in question that hidden data has been detected in their response, giving them the opportunity to send a replacement file if necessary.

We've also been working with the Information Commissioner's Office to help them understand how such breaches happen, and helping review some updated guidance they're working on for authorities.

All in all, that's how we're reducing the risk that sensitive information is accidentally published online, and limiting the harm that such releases can cause.

"For the past four years, we have carried out FOI requests to local authorities in England to build up a picture of national domestic abuse commissioning trends. The FOI webinar series was a fantastic opportunity for us to learn how other organisations use this method, and about WhatDoTheyKnow."

Improvements to Alaveteli

A dedicated run of development work on **Alaveteli** has given our international community — as well as **WhatDoTheyKnow** here in the UK — three important new features:

[A way to put news where site users are more likely to see it]

[A way to make it easier to find the information you're interested in]

[A way to analyse released datasets more easily.]

FINDING OUR USERS WHERE THEY ARE

Reaching out

Talking with minoritised groups

We've long understood that our services can be game-changers, giving a voice to the unheard, putting campaigns into the national conversation. But good intentions are not enough: people in need are not always going to find our sites unprompted.

One of mySociety's core beliefs is that knowledge is power. Current systems are serving only a few within society, and transparency and accountability are key to regaining trust in our political systems. For movement towards positive change in society, our theory is that putting knowledge into the hands of marginalised groups will start to help redistribute power in a more equitable way.

"This is great, thank you. It's a really good way for me (and others) to see the learning in practice, so I really appreciate it, and you taking the time to explain it all."

Photo by Jaggery, JCDecaux Creative Solutions(BY-NC-ND 2.0), Ravi Sharma, Andre Tan, Junior Reis

Last year…

…we embarked on research with 22 groups from marginalised communities, to understand what social change they are working towards, and the barriers they face in gathering information to advocate for it. Their causes included youth voice, race, mental health, homelessness, migrant support, human trafficking, research around lobbying, autism support and LGBTQIA+ support.

From the research we produced the report 'Using Access to Information to support social change', and made a series of improvements to our FOI service WhatDoTheyKnow to make it more suitable and accessible for these communities' needs.

This year…

…we're well into the second phase of this work. We found that organisations working in marginalised communities wanted further training and support — so we've been working directly, in depth, with ten organisations, supporting them through the process of making their first FOI requests to help progress their campaigns.

New Economics Foundation

to help residents and community groups to get involved in local planning decisions.

Maternity Engagement Action

to get to the bottom of why Black women are 3.7 times more likely to die in the perinatal period.

Kids of Colour

to understand the issues around police and young people.

Bite Back

to see where local authorities have a healthy food advertising policy.

Alcohol Change

to assess the number of children who are exposed to advertising for alcohol.

Migrant Democracy Project

to understand what sectors of society have registered to vote.

Fuel Poverty Action

to gather data to inform their press campaigns around energy policies and companies that bring about fuel poverty.

AMP Music

to understand how decisions are made around funding allocations for rural and deprived communities in North Yorkshire.

Organise

to manage two projects around workers' rights — on parental leave across different NHS trusts, and access to arts for working class and disabled artists.

Hudde

to understand how much of the profits from SEND support provision is going to private companies, and how this is affecting families/the wider community.

Spreading know-how

It doesn't stop with helping these few groups, though. The knowledge we've gained from these close partnerships is allowing us to develop resources and improve our software to make FOI easier for everyone.

We've run conferences and workshops, forged project partnerships and shaped online materials.

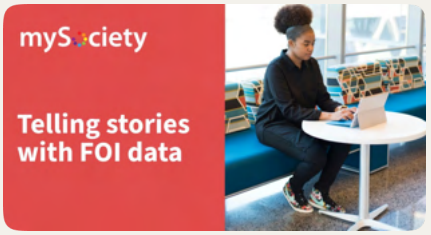
And the best thing of all? As WhatDoTheyKnow is the UK's largest online FOI platform — it's closing in on 1.25 million requests! — we can publish these new resources on it, to benefit a vast number of people in the months and years to come.

"I think you've done a fab job summarising such a wealth of information and experiences, some great recommendations and food for thought on the barriers and potential of using data for social change."

FOI videos

We ran a series of online seminars tailored to the specific questions groups working with marginalised communities had. We've started to promote the resulting videos within **WhatDoTheyKnow** to scale this knowledge-sharing to a broader audience.

Getting the most from FOI – looking at what makes a good request, and what to do with rejections and exemptions



Telling stories with FOI data – looking at how to find a story, using data for campaign insights and getting a story into the media

Creating datasets with FOI data – looking at using WhatDoTheyKnow to analyse data and start to pull out trends

Online resources

Our new online guides show beginners what FOI is, how to formulate a request, what kind of responses might come back... and perhaps most important of all, why a refusal need not be the end of the story. The aim? To make FOI more accessible to those who need it most.

We shared our knowledge at conferences

Presenting our research to journalists at OpenDemocracy's event.

Informing practitioners, on a panel alongside the ICO and OSIC at the eCase FOI25 conference.

Telling journalists how Scorecards used FOI requests, at the Climate Arena conference in Bologna.

Through this period of outreach, consultation and training we've learned so much that we'll be striving to apply the same approach to our other services in the coming years.

Our transparency services are helping people put information in public

The messaging platform **Reddit** was one ingredient in this push to find out how many doctors are being replaced by less-qualified Physicians Associates.

Parents for Inclusive Education used FOI to get a full understanding of how RE is being taught in Northern Ireland's primary schools.

Over in France, **Ma Dada** obtained the payslip of the PM, Emmanuel Macron — and gave a massive boost to public knowledge about FOI in the process.

We Love Stoke Lodge campaigned to keep a precious piece of ground in Bristol for public use, as one of their members told us in this podcast interview.

Technology to restore climate and nature

The world we're in

Are our leaders taking the climate emergency seriously? With the UK government sidelining the Climate and Nature Bill and going all guns blazing for the expansion of Heathrow airport, and the US withdrawing from the Paris agreement (again) with a cry of "Drill, baby, drill", the vital global shift to Net Zero has taken several steps back.

Meanwhile we've seen severe weather events increase, from Storm Éowyn, the UK's most powerful wind storm for over a decade, to seven consecutive days of heatwave in September 2024, the wettest period on record for Scotland in October 2023 and record-breaking warm temperatures in January 2025.

Scoring climate action

PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPACT

More than 80% of local councils have declared a climate emergency.

To help them achieve the goals they've set — and to encourage them to go further, faster and more efficiently — mySociety works with Climate Emergency UK (CE UK) to create the regular iterations of the Council Climate Action Scorecards.

The Scorecards website presents the results of an in-depth marking exercise across more than 40 actions that local authorities need to integrate into their processes and policies.

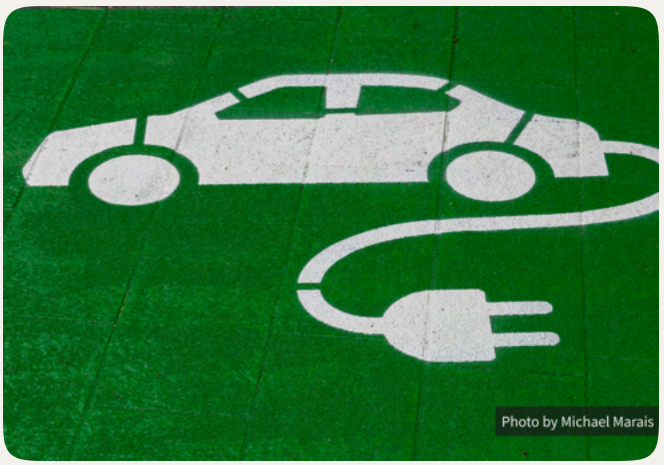


Photo by Michael Marais

Working together
While CE UK oversee the scoring methodology and lead cohorts of volunteers in the marking process, mySociety provide technical expertise, building the scoring platform, crunching the data and building the website that makes it easy for everyone to explore.

A useful overlap
CE UK's volunteers look in all kinds of places for the evidence that helps them score councils on their climate action — councils' meeting minutes, policies, news items and more.

And where that information can't be found? For this year's scoring, they used our WhatDoTheyKnow Projects software to send Freedom of Information requests to every council, asking about EPC ratings in council-owned properties.

This academic study noted that "Participation may be 'hidden' among wider campaigns, as FOI is often used as part of wider work by activists and NGOs. FOI has continued to drive innovations including crowdsourcing analysis of FOI data (such as local government Climate Scorecards) and other forms of public engagement."

Scorecards are having a real effect

- The first **Scorecards** project, in October 2023, published councils' action plans. Subsequent iterations have focused on the actual action being taken by local authorities. The project has caused the "biggest shake-up to council climate action in the last 10 years," according to a local government sustainability consultant — shining a light on council inaction which had previously gone unreported, resulting in improved accountability and driving action.

- Climate Emergency UK have identified that 30% of UK councils are now using, referencing and learning from our Scorecards in their environmental work, using them as a framework to guide their decisions. 76% of councils participated in the Right of Reply stage this year. At least 57 councils have used the Scorecards in cabinet, climate change and scrutiny committees to inform strategy and actions — and they're not just for councils: organisations such as UK100 are using them as part of their Climate Leadership Academy.

- Scorecards data has been referenced in the Scottish Parliament, Climate Change Committee Reports and the Local Mission Zero Network report by Chris Skidmore and Ben Houchen.

- And last but not least: thanks to CE UK's training, 215 volunteers have emerged from the marking process with detailed knowledge of council climate action; while more than 500 residents now know how to use the Scorecards to open conversations about climate with their councils.

From information to impact

A need for data

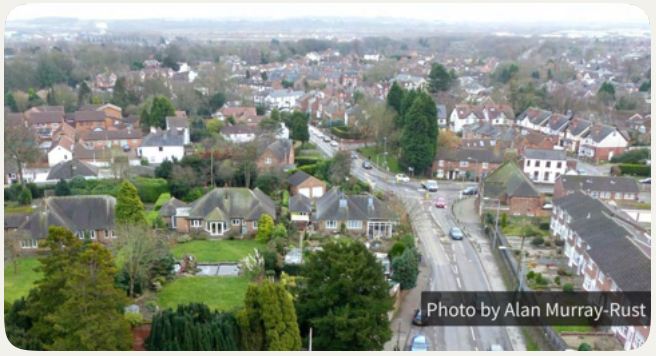
Net Zero is an urgent national mission on a huge scale. The transition will involve institutions across the country in changing policy and practice, with around a third of the work needing to take place at the local level.

If everyone is to understand whether that's happening fast and effectively enough, policy needs to be data-driven and we need progress to be tracked in public. All kinds of actors benefit from a better understanding of what is happening across the country: policymakers, researchers, campaigners and businesses.

The Scorecards help councils…

…justify climate action

…see what ‘good’ looks like



…engage departments in conversation

…involve local residents in climate action

…make carbon literacy training widespread

…raise awareness, internally and externally

…monitor their Net Zero work

…Embed climate action fully across the organisation

Joining the dots

We've seen how **Local Intelligence Hub** and **Scorecards** both bring disparate data together into one place, as does CAPE, our Climate Action Plan Explorer. We're also advocating for more joined up data at source — while we're happy to bring our expertise to providing open, consistent datasets, we'd love to see a world where that isn't necessary.

The examples above are around councils' climate action, but a wealth of key data that is held by public authorities will be needed to inform these changes — not all directly climate-related. Regular and consistent publication of basic data is far from dependable, as noted in our report Unlocking the value of fragmented data (2023), cowritten with the Centre for Public Data.

Powerful insights for climate campaigners

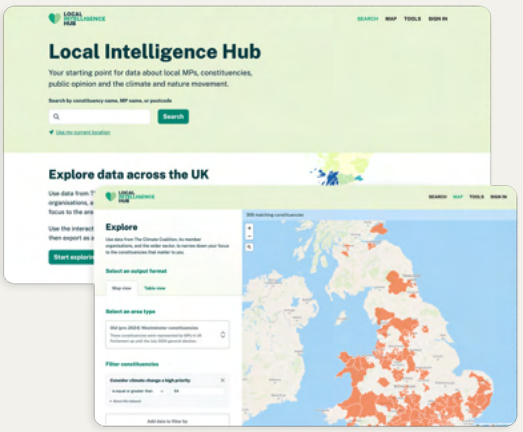
PUTTING DATA AT CAMPAIGNERS' FINGERTIPS

Local Intelligence Hub

Local Intelligence Hub, created in collaboration with The Climate Coalition and supported by Green Alliance, lets users join up disparate data related to climate action, making it more accessible to everyone. More than 60 datasets — covering everything from indicators of poverty to support for Net Zero initiatives, grassroots campaign groups and MPs' voting records — can be combined, even by data novices, in new ways, creating valuable new insights.

The live local data enhances relationships between MPs and the communities they serve. With this knowledge in hand, it's easier for campaigners to understand where to effectively focus their attention, and for decision-makers to see where more work needs to be done (and where to learn from best practice).

Datasets have been sourced from organisations including Friends Of The Earth, The Wildlife Trusts, and RSPB, as well as our own data on council climate emergency declarations, council net zero pledges, and scores from the Council Climate Action Scorecards, and The Climate



"It is an incredibly helpful tool – I've shared amongst our network and we will use for our upcoming campaigns."

"I use and recommend the Local Intelligence Hub all the time"

"I didn't realise that my MP has an interest in nature (which is quite uplifting and encouraging)"

Coalition's list of local climate groups who signed their 2024 open letter to the government.

Many datasets on the Hub can be viewed within both Westminster constituency and local authority boundaries – allowing us to include local authority-specific data such as climate emergency declarations, net zero pledges, and action plan documents. Slicing data by local authority was a common request from local campaigners using the Hub, to support them in their conversations with local councillors and council officers.

More than 200 organisations are regularly accessing the data in the Hub, from large national charities to local organisers.

"We are planning meetings with new MPs so having any information relating to how people vote, or their attitudes about nature and climate in their constituency is very helpful"

"It was crucial information for how I voted in the general election"

From online data to offline impact

40% of survey respondents say that they went on to contact their MP after using **Local Intelligence Hub**.

It is proving a really useful tool for the sector, with groups like Hope for the Future (who help people have constructive conversations with their elected reps about climate) telling us they now use it in all of their training.

The National Trust, who have five million members, used the Hub to design their place-based engagement and advocacy before and after the election.

"When I gave a three-minute tour of the Local Intelligence Hub on screen in the auditorium [...] there were audible "oooo"s and gasps of excitement from the audience about what they could do with this tool."

Standing up for nature

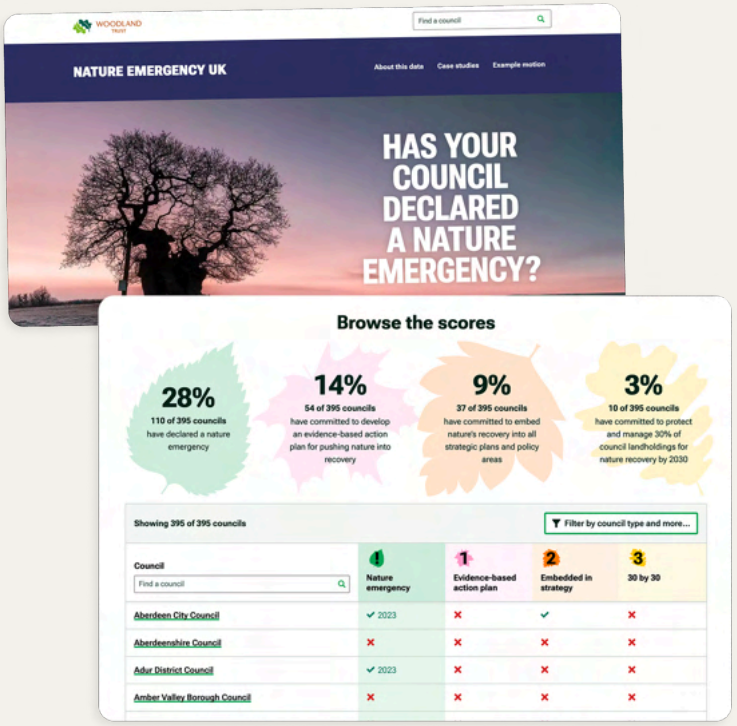
Nature Emergency UK

Alongside the climate emergency, and inextricably part of it, is the nature emergency — and, sadly, the UK nations are among the most nature-depleted in the world.

A green transition respects — and needs — a full ecosystem of organisms, plants, insect life and animals, and, just as with the climate emergency, much of the most crucial restoration work can be put in place by local authorities.

But, while the majority of councils (84%) have declared a climate emergency and published plans to address it, only 26% have declared a nature emergency, and just 8% have committed to embed nature recovery into their plans and policy areas.

To put that right, mySociety worked with the Woodland Trust and Climate Emergency UK to create Nature Emergency UK, a simple way to check how far your council has committed to action on nature, with a simple path to contacting them if they need some public encouragement.



Community action on home energy

a key part of the Net Zero puzzle

The trouble is…

Home energy is a major source of carbon emissions in the UK.

Photo by JP Sheard

If we're going to reach the UK's Net Zero goal, the UK Green Building Council estimates that we need to be retrofitting two homes every minute: that means updating homes that were built with poor insulation and carbon-dependent heating to be more energy-efficient and more climate-friendly. The solutions are there, and our research showed that individuals do want to take action — but home energy action is hard to take alone.

In a codesign workshop, experts and community leaders told us that the current individualised approach to retrofit isn't working. Technical expertise, access to finance, limited supply, and trust in solutions and suppliers were all listed as barriers to adoption.

Coming together for a solution

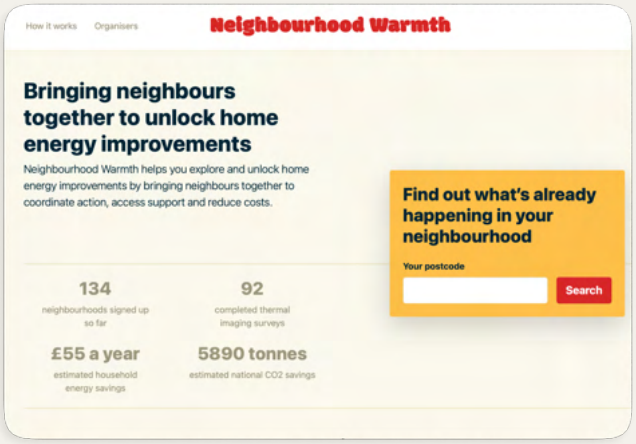
Our initial testing suggested that structured challenges on a digital platform could help householders navigate and understand their options, and feel empowered to take action; and that a digital service could help to foster the upskilling of early adopters across the UK into informal local community leaders on home energy.

Some of the most impactful changes (such as shared loop heating, solar panels, or energy flexibility through demand side response) require coordination and buy-in from a whole community. But even individual actions (home retrofit assessments, draught-proofing, heat pump installations) can be easier when you explore them as part of a group, because of the peer support and access to shared knowledge.

Neighbourhood Warmth

LEVERAGING THE POWER OF COMMUNITY FOR THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION

Neighbourhood Warmth is our digital solution to these barriers; a community-led approach to domestic retrofit. It puts power in the hands of communities to take immediate actions to reduce carbon emissions in their neighbourhoods.

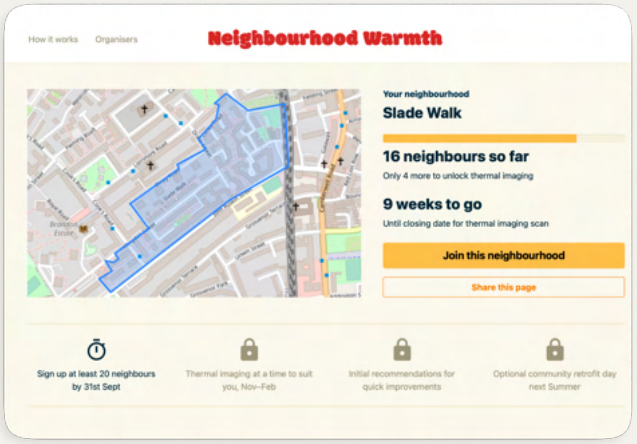


It brings together the pioneering actors in community energy action, supporting communities to organise locally around guided home energy challenges to catalyse action. This community-led model can support the fair distribution of energy transition funding, demand signalling for energy providers, and the scaling of home energy action, which should create more green jobs.

Our ultimate goal is to reduce the UK's carbon emissions by supporting communities to take action to make their homes warmer and healthier through increased knowledge sharing, trust, and social connectivity.

Where we are now

This year we worked with Carbon Co-op, exploring how better data on energy use, property factors and householder demand can be useful. This is especially in the context of community energy companies and local authorities looking to plan engagement around issues like retrofit and energy flexibility.



We're now taking this further, by running in-depth research with stakeholders across the energy sector, to see how digital engagement could support a more relational approach to retrofit in the coming years.

Empowerment starts with your own neighbourhood

Fed up and run down

The government's Community Life survey of 2023–4 showed that 61% of the people who are not proud of their local area give the reason that **it is run down**, and 29% feel that **their local area had worsened** in the previous two years.

24% of people consider **vandalism and graffiti** to be a serious problem in their area, and 37% **rubbish or litter** according to the English Housing survey on Wellbeing and Neighbourhoods.

A feeling of pride in one's neighbourhood, as these surveys imply, is an important factor in the nation's wellbeing, impacting our sense of health, safety and belonging.

And potholes are the "most visible sign of the public realm crumbling", says Luke Tryl of More In Common, indicating that when they are not repaired, public trust in local government is affected. But at the same time, the bodies responsible for upkeep of our streets, verges and green spaces are operating with much-diminished budgets.

Seen in this context, mySociety's **FixMyStreet** service, which helps people to report street issues and routes them to the right body to get them resolved, is not just a nifty civic website: it's a way to empower citizens, uplifting their wellbeing; and at the same time it's both a money and reputation-saver for councils.

Civic tech turned social enterprise

We may have started **FixMyStreet** as a service for citizens, but over time, we have developed it to improve the reporting process for local authorities and established an important source of income to support our charitable work.

31 authorities currently use FixMyStreet Pro as their own primary reporting software, benefiting from its unique ability to triage reports between authorities on a nationwide scale.

SocietyWorks, mySociety's commercial arm, is also a hub of innovation, working in partnership with councils to make continuous improvements to **FixMyStreet Pro** and to develop new council services such as WasteWorks.

This front-end software simplifies access to all aspects of local authority waste services online, and reduces unnecessary contact. **It's already in operation at 7 councils.**

For a full picture of how all this commercial activity benefits our charitable work, see our accounts further down this document.

SocietyWorks

Citizen-centred digital solutions for local government and the public sector

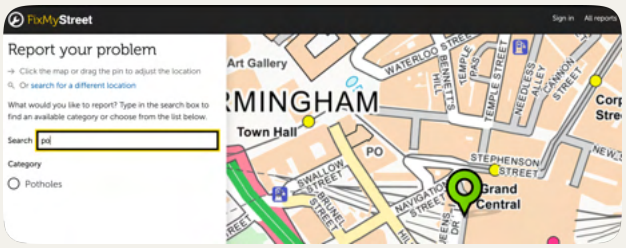
Extending our impact

SocietyWorks grew from mySociety, building on our 20+ years of experience developing open source digital civic services to specialise in providing scalable Software as a Service products capable of moulding to authorities' individual needs and processes.

As our commercial arm, SocietyWorks shares our values in its approach to development, retaining our longstanding commitment to putting the user first.

We also share an agile way of working. SocietyWorks is able to take a nimble, problem-solving approach to product development, continually working on new features and functionality in consultation with users. These improvements are made available across all clients' sites, and on our own FixMyStreet.com, by default.

This year's developments



Simple searching

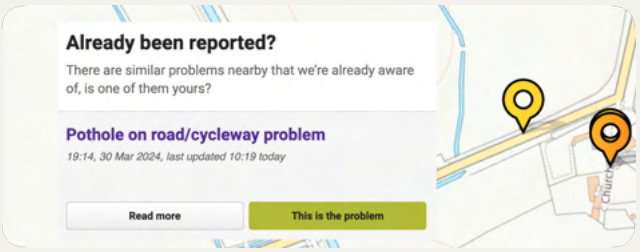
Ever on the hunt for easier site navigation, the team added the ability to search for a category on FixMyStreet, instead of selecting from a list.

Efficient category management

We introduced the ability to toggle categories on FixMyStreet, to make it easier and quicker to navigate to reports of interest, both for citizens making reports, and the authority staff who deal with them.

Customisable bins

A fun new piece of functionality launched this year for SocietyWorks' local authority waste service WasteWorks, allowing councils to easily generate their own waste container images according to their branding and bin types — which is, of course, different for each authority.

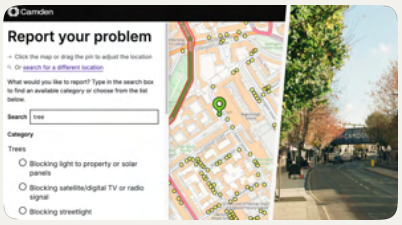


Per-category duplicate report radius

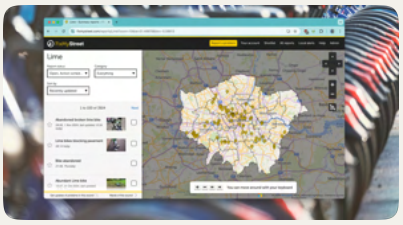
One of the big benefits **FixMyStreet** provides for councils is that it can point out when you're trying to report something that's already been logged. It does this by picking up similar reports within a specified radius — and now, authorities can set that radius differently for each type of issue, giving them valuable added flexibility.

And more…

Prototyping image-first reports – upload a photo and start your FixMyStreet report



Tree reporting in Camden – a more responsive process



Hire bikes and e-scooters – data now downloadable within London

Transformative technology

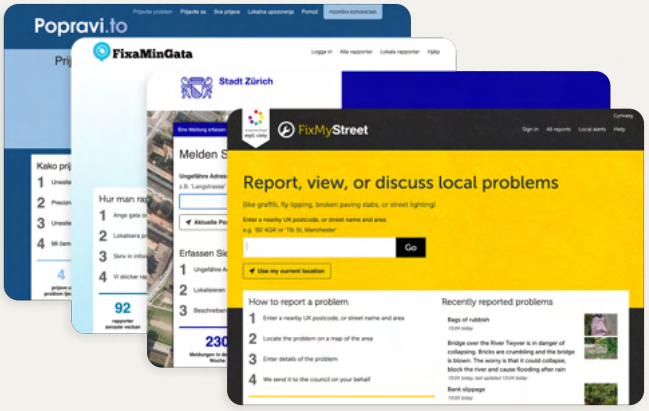
"We used FixMyStreet Pro as a catalyst for change."

Gloucestershire County Council showed how much of an impact **FixMyStreet Pro** had brought after just four months.

For lots more detail on SocietyWorks' operations, read their annual report.

FixMyStreet is open source

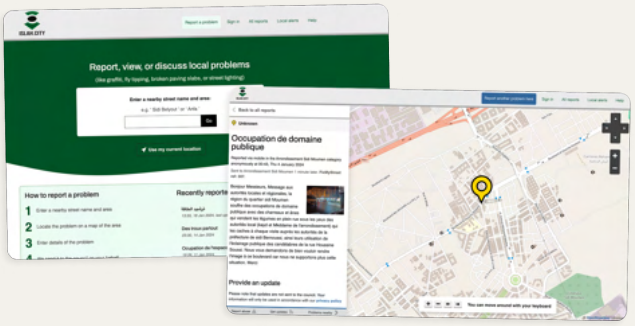
MAXIMISING THE BENEFIT



Like much of mySociety's software, **FixMyStreet** is an open codebase that others can adapt for use in their own countries or cities — and it is in use in several domains worldwide, including Australia, Croatia, Norway and Zurich.

An update to the FixMyStreet codebase benefits everyone who uses our UK-wide fixmystreet.com, but also gets pushed out to each **FixMyStreet Pro** instance, and is available for these international installations too. This year saw the release of FMS version 6.0, introducing several new features to make the service more usable for both reportmakers and site runners.

Fix my زنقة



Civic tech enthusiast Abdellatif Belmkadem utilised the open source FixMyStreet codebase to build Islah City, reshaping how citizens in Casablanca engage with their local government about local problems. Read the whole story here.

FixMyStreet in the media

FixMyStreet is a frequent topic for local news outlets, but here are some of the more significant mentions we spotted this year:

- Oxfordshire council have created a brigade of FixMyStreet "superusers" to help speed up road repairs, as profiled in this news story, and on BBC South Today.
- mySociety's own Zarino appeared on BBC's Morning Live, walking, talking AND demonstrating FixMyStreet all at the same time.

Millions of happy users, getting results

Nick Kocharhook 🇺🇦💪
@nickk9.bsky.social

Reported a mis-pointed signal to @transportforlondon.bsky.social w #FixMyStreet, wondering if they'd do anything about it. Well, they did: 30min later, they confirmed the issue, saying it was an emergency & wld be fixed w/in 24h! Impressed. www.fixmystreet.com/report/7200935 @mysociety.org

Signal in the middle of the road facing the wrong way - Viewing a problem
www.fixmystreet.com

February 27, 2025 at 6:45 PM · Everybody can reply

2 likes

2

Laura Young
@LessWasteLaura

Since finding @fixmystreet I've been enjoying the quick and easy community reporting capabilities. In May I reported this bench, and this week I received an email saying the bench has been restored, giving people a place to sit and enjoy their space outside! Thanks @DundeeCouncil

Last edited 10:27 am · 10 Dec 2024 · **3,902** Views

5 15 113 5

Paul Clarke
@paulclarke.com

Had a very close call with a huge pothole on Vauxhall Bridge recently - went to report it on FixMyStreet and not only is it reported, it's also reported as fixed by the council (within 48 hrs). This is amazing. Remember the value of a good interface, and making "whose problem is this?" go away

November 21, 2024 at 9:53 AM · Everybody can reply

1 repost **16** likes

3 1 16

Post

Martin D
@unixmaisonette.com
+ Follow

I love @mysociety.org's Fix My Street tool. I reported a faulty cycle detector at 14:17 and at 14:22 I got a response from @tfl.gov.uk saying that they've investigated, considered it an emergency, and their contractor will deal with it within 24 hours.

www.fixmystreet.com/report/7558127

Cycle Detector Angle - Viewing a problem
www.fixmystreet.com

May 12, 2025 at 5:44 PM · Everybody can reply

2 reposts **7** likes

2 2 7

Post

DesignSecurityLtd
@DesignSecultd

I saw this on my walk this morning, reported via @fixmystreet and later as I walked back the team from @MonmouthshireCC were there clearing it. So thank you 👍 now let's catch fly tippers and get them off our streets 👊

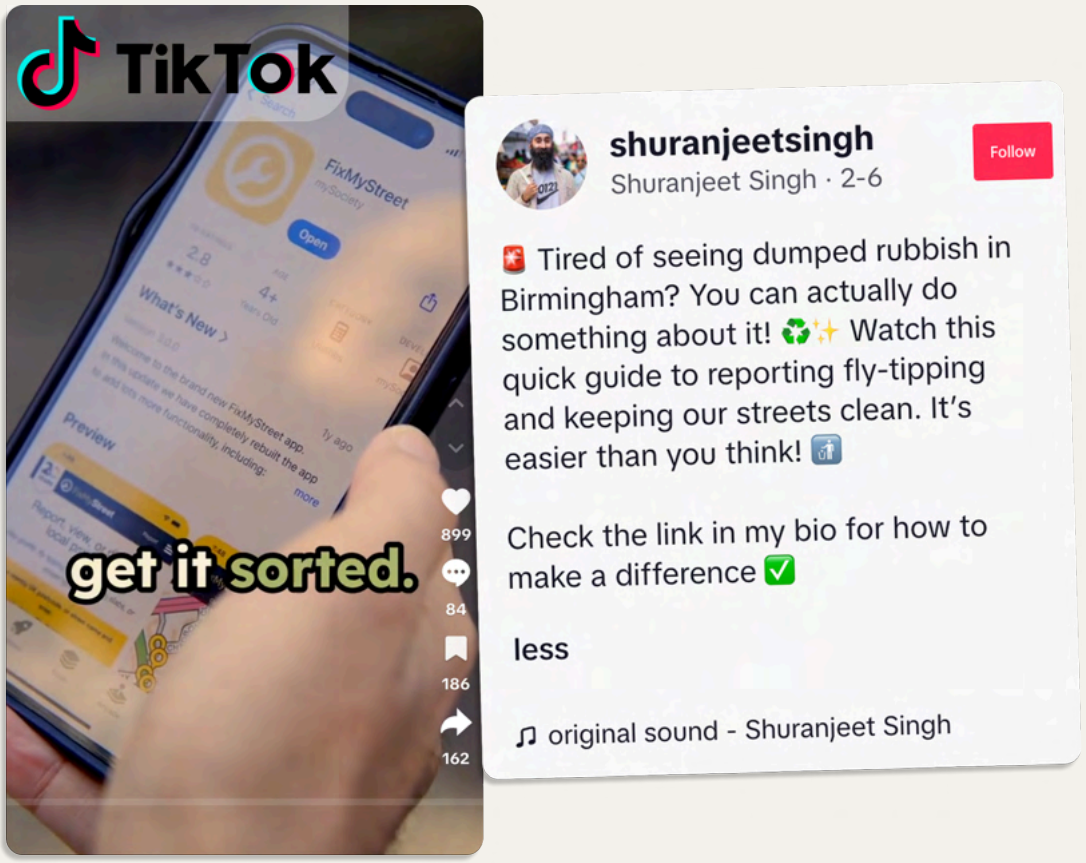
1:39 pm · 4 Mar 2025 · **74** Views

5

We loved!

Keen FixMyStreet user Shuranjeet Singh's video, on how to use the site to get fly tipping sorted:

https://www.tiktok.com/@shuranjeetsingh/video/7468420580081995041



TICTeC

The Impacts of Civic Technology conference

Democracy is precious

We only need to look at the world around us to understand that democracy is a precious and important commodity. When it is shaken, the social contract is shattered, hard-won rights must be fought for all over again — and people suffer.

For those of us building and maintaining pro-democracy technologies, there are big challenges. But there is one way to find strength — in each other.

"What I gained was not just learning, but a group of people who understand me, are willing to sit down with me and find ways to improve my work or tackle unresolved issues together."

Revitalising the civic tech community

The annual Impacts of Civic Technology (**TICTeC**) conference is a rare opportunity for our global community to come together, to rediscover the roots of our motivation, to learn from one another and to go back to our own communities with refreshed purpose.

A key tenet of the civic tech movement is the idea that the best advocacy is the demonstration of what is possible — and this is what TICTeC is all about. The conference brings together practitioners, funders and researchers to talk

"To see individuals from various backgrounds unite with a common goal to enhance inclusion within the civic tech realm was a profound experience."

"What an inspiring & educational week! The talks were global, diverse, thoughtful, & relevant to the challenges we all face."

about the impacts of our work and to learn how we can go further.

To counteract the vast resources put into anti-democratic technological advances, pro-democracy tech urgently needs to collaborate globally to share innovations, spark ideas and work together to empower citizens everywhere to push back against authoritarianism, populism and corruption.

"It is good to be part of a community that is working hard to make effective use of digital technology for the creation of public spaces, where real and meaningful interaction can take place."

TICTeC in London

CONVENING THOSE WITH A COMMON INTEREST

TICTeC took place in London in June 2024: the first chance for an in-person event since the pandemic saw us pivot to an online format in 2020.

The conference asked the broad question: *"What is needed to make civic tech on a global scale more successful and impactful, to tackle global problems around democracy and climate change?"*

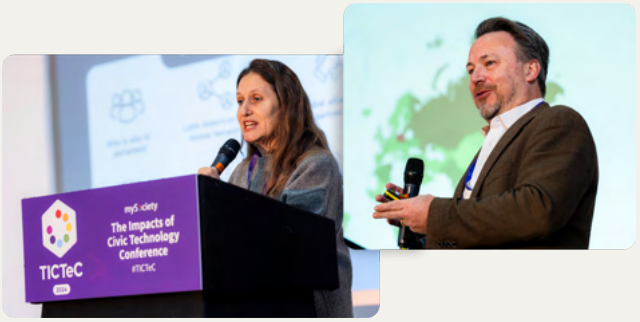
"A special thank you to mySociety for providing a platform to amplify innovations often overlooked by the international community."

"It was a beautiful and impactful experience to attend TICTeC, listen to civic tech professionals from different countries, with diverse backgrounds and share our work, as well as our ongoing battle to defend our country's independence, freedom and democratic path."

Keynote speakers

María Baron (Global Executive Director of Directorio Legislativo) and **Nick Mabey** (founder director and Chief Executive of E3G) spoke to a rapt audience to kick off each day's proceedings.

- Watch Nick Mabey's keynote
- Watch María Baron's keynote



In numbers

242 delegates (in person and online) came to TICTeC, from **39** countries.

They had **51** sessions to choose from, with **81** presenters representing **23** countries.

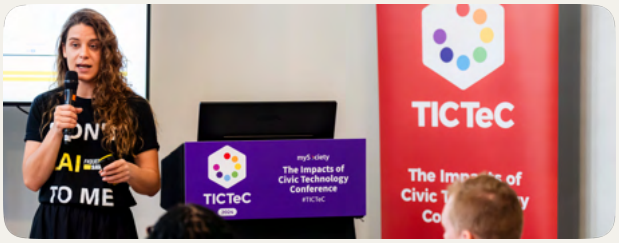
45 attendees (24.3%) and **20** presenters (25%) were from the Global South / less-free democracies.

100% said they made new connections, and **50%** said they deepened existing connections at TICTeC

100% said they generally enjoyed TICTeC 2024, would attend again and would recommend it to a friend.

92% feel better connected to their peers after attending.

Rewatch TICTeC 2024 highlights



Fiquem Sabendo (Brazil) on civic tech for uncovering corruption and championing the climate

PunchUp/WeVis on Thailand's first parliamentary monitoring tool

Panel: Civic tech's role in enabling effective & democratic change to tackle climate change

Ushahidi (Kenya): Transparent and inclusive electoral monitoring and governance

Diagonal (UK): Routing algorithms, 20-minute neighbourhoods and hills in Scottish towns

Teplitsa (Lithuania): The role of civic tech in sustaining Russian anti-war civil society in exile

Ben Worthy (UK): Can robots lobby? AI, democracy and political persuasion

Humanitarian Open StreetMap: Empowering community action through open mapping in disaster response & climate action

Into the future

In 2025/26, we'll continue to find focused ways to benefit people who will otherwise be disadvantaged: specifically, ensuring they gain opportunities from advances in technology, including appropriate applications of machine learning, data science and AI across our services.

We'll be using **WhatDoTheyKnow** and **Alaveteli** to create stronger transparency across institutions by making WhatDoTheyKnow Projects more widely accessible, including in other installations of Alaveteli around the world. We'll work with partners and collaborators, using **Projects** to produce key public interest datasets across climate and other topics. These will include the 2025 **Climate Action Scorecards**, in partnership with Climate Emergency UK, which will enable tracking of progress in local authority climate action over time, both for individual councils and as a whole, for the first time.

We'll complete vital work to mitigate potential harms by increasing our ability to detect and deter breaches of **WhatDoTheyKnow** house rules, and developing better tooling for removing personally identifiable information from FOI requests and responses.

We'll continue our support for groups working with marginalised communities in using FOI in their advocacy, and hope to broaden our training offer, developing training for organisations in using digital tools to present a compelling argument to those in power, and deliver policy change.

On **TheyWorkForYou**, we'll be providing clearer explanations of what is happening in Parliament, alongside building our capability to respond quickly to events, such as important votes, with focused communications and explanations. We'll also be looking for opportunities to encourage the modernisation of Parliament with new tools and analysis, as we have done in the **WhoFundsThem** project.

We'll be updating **WriteToThem** to make it a gold standard source of information for representatives and others on what people are concerned about when they contact them, and what they understand about who to contact on different issues. We will use surveys and machine learning analysis to create a better systematic understanding of the subject of communications and challenges navigating access, closing the loop with higher quality information flowing both ways.

We'll also be connecting services to make them more than the sum of their parts: enriching Local Intelligence Hub with pipelines of high quality civic information from Parliament via **TheyWorkForYou** and on policy issues via **WhatDoTheyKnow**, and exploring its potential to scale to other sectors.

Throughout the course of the year we will work in public, further developing our framework on AI as we go, and sharing our knowledge and experience with our wide international network of civic technology peers. Through **TICTeC** and the **ATI Network**, we'll be continuing to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations, enhancing their ability to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work.

We're making plans for TICTeC 2025, which is in June in Mechelen, Belgium and online. It will bring together people working on defensive technology against threats to democracy, and those who are using technologies constructively to enrich and strengthen the heartbeat of civic and democratic life. Marietje Schaake, former Member of the European Parliament, and Fellow at Stanford's Cyber Policy Center and the Institute for Human-Centered AI, will give a keynote on navigating a delicate line between the good that tech can do for democracy, and the dangers of letting tech giants dominate the field. Fernanda Campagnucci, Executive Director of Brazil's InternetLab, and a global specialist in data governance, digital transformation, and open government, will give a keynote on what is made possible by new forms of technology, particularly in the civic participation space.

Thank you

…to everyone who makes our work possible

Our funders

Thank you to the grantmaking organisations that have given us the backing to turn our visions into reality, for understanding the potential of our projects even when they are little more than words on a proposal document. We couldn't do it without you:

The Quadrature Climate Foundation, **National Lottery Community Fund**, **Aurora Trust**, and **the Climate Coalition**, which together funded our Climate programme.

The Patrick J McGovern Foundation, supporting our work to enhance the Local Intelligence Hub and amplify public data collaboration for scalable solutions.

The **Adessium Foundation**, **Swedish Postcode Foundation** and **Isocrates Foundation**, supporting our FOI work in the UK and Europe.

The National Endowment for Democracy and **Porticus**, supporting our TICTeC Communities programme.

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, supporting our work to enable FOI use by marginalised groups.

The JRSST Charitable Trust and **the Indigo Trust**, supporting the WhoFundsThem project.

The Dulverton Trust, for providing unrestricted funding that supports all our work.

Mr John Cross, for supporting the development and deployment of solutions using AI technology.

Our supporters

If you've donated to us — this year, or ever — thank you for valuing our work towards a more informed, empowered and connected world, and a fairer society. We know you could have chosen a thousand other worthy causes, and we're grateful that you put your belief in us.

Our volunteers

To the team who help run WhatDoTheyKnow, and the cohort of folk who helped us analyse MPs' expenses for the WhoFundsThem project: thank you for putting in your free time, knowledge and energy into our data and services. Your inputs are magnified many thousands of times over as they ripple through our sites' visitors.

William Buller

John Cross

Nikki Dekker

William Fitzpatrick

Gary Godfrey

Celeste Gómez Romero

Aleksandar Zdravkovic

Natalia Griaznevich

Sarah Halford

Ryan Harris

Matthew Haydon

Tom Irwin

John Knox

Pete McGaughey

Léon McGregor

Kevin Nunan

Abigail Page-Rumsey

Doug Paulley

Jenny Pollex

Lloyd Shepherd

Charlotte Street

Connie Sullivan

Inigo Surguy

Becca Watts

Rosamund Williams

And to all our other volunteers who didn't want to be named publicly.

Our trustees

Thank you to our board of trustees, whose counsel helps ensure we're treading the right course, as effectively as possible. We appreciate your time and wisdom.

mySociety

Financial overview

Trustees' annual report and audited accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Company no. 03277032
Charity no. 1076346

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Company number	03277032
Charity number	1076346
Registered office and operational address	483 Green Lanes, London, N13 4BS
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: A Adewunmi N Ball — appointed 20 June 2024 A Brown A J H Burton — resigned 20 June 2024 R Gidoomal — appointed 20 June 2024 T Hughes — appointed 20 June 2024 G Maitland Hudson D O'Shaughnessy R E Rank — resigned 20 June 2024 A Scales — appointed 20 June 2024 A Scott — appointed 20 June 2024 S Skelton J Thornton A Tibbitt — appointed 20 June 2024
Chief executive officer	L Crow
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 27–31 White Hart Street, High Wycombe, HP11 2HL
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House, 62 Prince Street, Bristol, BS1 4QD

Report of the trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative information set out on page 45 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

mySociety is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under a Memorandum & Articles of Association, and is registered as a charity in England and Wales (registered charity no. 1076346).

mySociety is governed by a board of volunteer trustees. Trustees serve four-year terms, and may be reappointed for one further four-year term after completion of their first. Trustees are generally recruited through an open call for applications, or may occasionally be directly appointed following a period of service as an observer of one of the board's committees. Following their appointment trustees participate in a series of briefings with key staff and fellow trustees as part of their induction; which includes briefings on financial procedures, our priority areas of work, ongoing strategy and organisational setup.

mySociety operates a number of civic and democratic websites, and has a wholly owned commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, governed by its own board of directors comprising a combination of trustees from mySociety, executive directors and independent non-executive directors. Trustees and non-executive directors are not remunerated.

Day-to-day management of mySociety and its subsidiaries is delegated to the Chief Executive except for the following matters which are reserved to the trustees:

- Approval of strategy, values and policy;
- Establishing and disbanding committees of the board;
- The creation, selection and appointment to any post with a total remuneration package of £60,000 p.a. or greater, or FTE;
- Approval of the group's annual report and accounts; and
- Significant financial commitments as set out in a delegations policy.

At any one time, mySociety typically employs around 30 permanent members of staff and a small additional number on temporary contracts. SocietyWorks Ltd employs no staff directly, but buys in labour as required from mySociety.

There is an annual review of pay for all staff members, encompassing two elements:

- Cost of living; and
- Performance.

The Chief Executive makes recommendations to the board of trustees based on performance, affordability and the financial health of mySociety, and changes in averages of salaries for comparable roles, except for the Chief Executive's own pay and that of the Managing Director of SocietyWorks Ltd, which is discussed by the board of trustees alone. The board of trustees either accepts or amends the recommendations, and makes the revised pay offer to the staff.

Salary ranges for new roles are set using both industry benchmarks and salaries of staff members already employed by the organisation in similar roles.

Objectives and activities

Aims and goals

In 2024 we updated our charitable objectives with the Charity Commission to reflect the ways in which our work, and charity law, have changed over the last 20 years. Our updated objectives are to advance for the public benefit:

1. education in the subjects of climate change, citizenship, civic responsibility and community development by, without limitation:
    a. using information and communication technologies to:
        i. develop the public's individual capabilities, skills and understanding in these subjects
        ii. increase the accessibility of information from and about public authorities, building capacity and knowledge within communities
    b. conducting and publishing research and providing structured information on citizenship and democratic processes
2. civic responsibility, good citizenship and community development in particular but not exclusively by:
    a. facilitating informed participation by the public in democratic processes and decision-making within their communities
    b. innovation in the effective use of information and communication technologies for these purposes.

Our ambition is to repower democracy: using our digital and data skills to put more power in more people's hands.

In 2024/25 we continued working towards the goals defined in our 2022–27 strategy, which we believe will enable us to realise our ambition to significantly and sustainably grow the positive impact our services have for citizens:

Headline goals

1. Reach more, and more kinds of people with our services, focusing on those underserved by democracy and by our services.
2. Get democratic institutions to meet citizens' needs, using insights from our services and support from the communities that use them.
3. Help drive the democratic transition we need in response to the climate crisis by developing new services or service changes across our core areas of work.

Supporting goals

4. Build UK partnerships targeting citizen reach or specific institutional change to which we can uniquely contribute through our services.
5. Use our research, international network and events to inform and share our practices.
6. Create and sustain supporter and volunteering programmes to build capacity and strengthen our connection to our wider UK community.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Social investment policies

mySociety's ongoing provision of services via its subsidiary trading company, SocietyWorks Ltd, represents a social investment; projects are chosen based on alignment with the charity's purposes, as well as with the aim of achieving a financial return.

Achievements and performance

Our impact report on pages 6 to 40 outline our achievements and performance in 2024/25.

Financial review

Total group income in 2024/25 was £2.628m, a decrease of 15% from the £3.093m recognised in 2023/24. Restricted income of £1.008m (2023/24: £1.645m) has dropped by 39% reflecting the challenges in the current philanthropic funding environment that is impacting the charity sector. Unrestricted charitable income has dropped from £0.145m in 2023/24 to £0.116m in 2024/25. While we are seeing a gradual increase in individual giving donations, the funding environment for unrestricted grants continues to follow the trend of recent years and is becoming increasingly challenging to secure.

Income from other trading activities increased by 15% to £1.503m (2023/24: £1.302m) mainly driven by growth in core product revenue in SocietyWorks Ltd alongside an increase in its local authority client base.

Total expenditure of £2.529m is marginally less than the previous financial year (2023/24: £2.558m). We have managed our expenditure budgets closely in an uncertain funding environment and a challenging economic climate with inflationary pressures evident in the rising costs of services.

2024/25 saw a net surplus outturn of £0.099m (2023/24: £0.535m). In the charity, we have spent down restricted grants received in the previous financial year and allocated against activities delivered in 2024/25, and profits from SocietyWorks Ltd of £0.299m (2023/24: £0.159m) have contributed to a surplus in unrestricted funds of

£0.225m (2023/24: £0.122m). Total funds at the year end were £1.305m (2023/24: £1.206m) made up of unrestricted funds of £0.873m (2023/24: £0.649m) and restricted funds of £0.432m (2023/24: £0.557m).

Over the past three years we have focused on increasing our unrestricted reserves through growing our commercial profit contribution from SocietyWorks, in recognition that a number of our larger multi-year grants were ending and amidst an increasingly uncertain philanthropic funding environment. Our increase in unrestricted reserves will provide some security over the next two financial years as we navigate the challenge of securing funding to meet the expenditure required to deliver ongoing impact.

mySociety's major charitable supporters in 2024/25 are listed on page 42.

mySociety's commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, provides sustainable commercial income streams within each of our practice areas, building on and related to the work we do charitably. In particular, our FixMyStreet Pro commercial contracts generate substantial multi-year income streams aligned with our overall mySociety mission and work with local authorities. Profits made from trading activity are distributed to the charity, with income and expenditure from trading activity consolidated in the group accounts as unrestricted funds.
On the consolidated statement of financial activities, income from other trading activities and expenditure on raising funds: trading activities, relate wholly to SocietyWorks Ltd. Profit margins for the commercial subsidiary are considered reasonable in comparison to contextually similar SMEs operating in the Software as a Service (SaaS) industry. 2024/25 was the first year of implementation of SocietyWorks' three year growth strategy which aims to deliver year on year profit growth, in order to provide mySociety with more certainty on future multi-year income. In 2024/25, SocietyWorks Ltd generated a net profit of £0.299m (2023/24: £0.159m) which has contributed to delivering an unrestricted surplus in mySociety.

Going concern

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity held unrestricted funds of £0.873m at 31 March 2025.
- 46% of funding against the charity's budgeted expenditure for the upcoming 12 months was already secured at the financial year end.
- The trading subsidiary has £1.013m of multi-year contract commitments from commercial customers to be recognised in the 2025/26 financial year.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1(c) to the financial statements.

Risk management

mySociety operates a comprehensive risk management framework that supports informed decision making around the risks that threaten our ability to achieve our goals. Our risk register is reviewed regularly by the Senior Management Team, with formal review by the board of trustees at least bi-annually. Risks are categorised by type, and assessed by probability and impact creating a gross risk score. Mitigations are

reviewed and identified as relevant to deliver a net risk score that is within acceptable risk tolerance thresholds of the board of trustees. Contingencies are also identified if mitigations were to fail. Our approach to risk management is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risks to delivering our goals.

The key risks, alongside impact, mitigation, and contingency strategies for the organisation are as follows:

(1) Risk: Failure to acquire sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation.
Impact: Failure to deliver mission impact.
Mitigation: Charity funding is a primary focus for the organisation; the SocietyWorks team is focused on growing sustainable profits from commercial activity; quarterly financial forecasts are prepared to ensure timely information is available to support critical decision making; relevant consideration will be given to any reductions to the cost base.
Contingency: Reduce the cost base to ensure the charity remains solvent.

(2) Risk: Cyber attack
Impact: Failure to meet data protection standards; negative impact to reputation; operational sustainability at risk; failure to meet contractual commitments.
Mitigation: Strong password policies; access to servers limited; encrypted hard drives; hosting with suppliers experienced in dealing with DOS attacks; project work underway to segregate systems more comprehensively to prevent potential contagion.

(3) Risk: Insufficient free cash to meet financial obligations.
Impact: Failure to meet financial and operational commitments and deliver to mission.
Mitigation: Long-term forward financial planning to enable any failure to be addressed by future cost reductions in a timely manner and ensure the organisation remains solvent; cash flow forecasting; robust credit control processes.
Contingency: Reduce the cost base to ensure the charity remains solvent.

(4) Risk: Loss of key staff and volunteers
Impact: Failure to meet commitments and our ambitions for impact due to lack of capacity; loss of critical institutional knowledge for sustaining services.
Mitigation: Skill sharing across teams to ensure that there is no organisational dependency on a single individual; close line management to identify and address staff concerns; open culture, focus on limiting working hours, and flexible approach to working; Health, Safety & Wellbeing policies and practises implemented and monitored; process mapping and documentation of key knowledge; Service Manager focused on maintaining a healthy culture between staff and volunteer team; funding and resource allocation to reduce the administrative burden on WhatDoTheyKnow; clear guidelines on ways of working.
Contingency: Backfilling functions with remaining staff; recruiting replacement.

(5) Risk: Capacity planning in our server infrastructure is inadequate
Impact: If we fail to adequately plan for growth, we may not be able to keep up with demand on our services. The scale of the service and data for WhatDoTheyKnow risks problems for availability and redundancy, which could result in data loss.

Mitigation: maintenance of multiple server instances and deployment automation allowing quick movement and load balancing of services to manage sudden changes in capacity; monitoring alerts to sudden changes that impact availability, helping to diagnose and manage trends; extensive performance monitoring.
Contingency: Add capacity using on-demand virtual machines; redistribute services to better utilise capacity.

(6) Risk: Failure to update services to respond to new technical and societal developments makes our services irrelevant.
Impact: Gradual loss of overall impact against goals
Mitigation: Consideration of projects that will allow us to update services or create new services to reflect new external developments – dependent on capacity and funding, and monitor quantitative and qualitative use of services as indicators of impact.

(7) Risk: Inadequate capacity in SMT leads to escalation of other risks
Impact: Significant challenges in capacity in small management team lead to increases in other risk areas due to delayed or inadequate response, or loss of key staff due to burnout
Mitigation: Focus on skill and experience development in other staff, flexible trading off of work between SMT members, regular discussion of approaches.

Reserves policy

In 2023/24, the board of trustees undertook a comprehensive review of mySociety's reserves policy.

In order to responsibly and effectively manage the group finances, mySociety holds reserves to manage the financial impact of organisational risk, including working capital commitments. We aim to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption at short notice due to a lack of funds, whilst at the same time ensuring that income is spent appropriately on activities to deliver strategic impact and is not retained for longer than it should be. We operate a tiered approach to financial risk management for monitoring reserves that layers our aims for monthly operating cost cover, cessation costs for mySociety and SocietyWorks, and opportunity reserves.

At a minimum, the charity aims to hold a minimum of three months operating costs plus earmarked cessation costs as free reserves (£0.4m). At a maximum, the charity aims to hold six months operating costs across the group, earmarked cessation costs across the group, as well as an opportunity reserves fund that may be designated to support strategic programmes (£1.4m).

As at 31 March 2025, mySociety held free reserves of £0.840m, which covers three months of group operating costs plus earmarked cessation costs for the group.

Plans for future periods

Our plans for the future are described on page 41.

Fundraising

mySociety solicits donations from the public via its websites, and does not engage in any follow-up activity with individual donors unless consent has been given for further contact. We do not employ outside fundraisers, and are not bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising, but will keep this under review as our fundraising work develops. No complaints have been received about our fundraising activity.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the group and parent charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 26 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by

A. Brown
Trustee

GE Maitland Hudson

G. Maitland Hudson
Chair

Independent auditors' report

To the members of mySociety

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of mySociety (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated and parent charity balance sheets, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the 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 group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 9 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 group and parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the 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 auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they 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 group and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and

using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

1. We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

2. We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:
   Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
   Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
   Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

3. We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

4. We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

5. We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

6. We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

7. We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:
   Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
   Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
   Reviewing related party transactions; and
   Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 26 June 2025

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street Bristol
BS1 4QD

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**Total 2025 £**	Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations	3	1,007,984	90,886	**1,098,870**	1,788,156
Charitable activities	4	–	22,850	**22,850**	–
Other trading activities	5	–	1,503,417	**1,503,417**	1,302,272
Investments		–	2,711	**2,711**	2,562
Total income		1,007,984	1,619,864	**2,627,848**	3,092,990
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds: raising charitable donations		–	91,256	**91,256**	95,247
Raising funds: trading activity		–	1,204,702	**1,204,702**	1,142,810
Charitable activities		1,133,326	99,305	**1,232,631**	1,319,686
Total expenditure	7	1,133,326	1,395,263	**2,528,589**	2,557,743
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	9	(125,342)	224,601	**99,259**	535,247
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		557,358	648,756	**1,206,114**	670,867
Total funds carried forward		432,016	873,357	**1,305,373**	1,206,114

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 21 to the accounts.

Consolidated balance sheets

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	**The group 2025 £**	The group 2024 £	**The charity 2025 £**	The charity 2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	**17,017**	21,765	**17,017**	21,765
Intangible assets	13	**16,783**	43,264	**–**	–
Investments	14	**–**	–	**1**	1
		33,800	65,029	**17,018**	21,766
Current assets					
Debtors	17	**252,399**	355,923	**521,259**	278,643
Cash at bank and in hand		**1,878,762**	1,691,360	**853,684**	994,933
		2,131,161	2,047,283	**1,374,943**	1,273,576
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	18	**(859,588)**	(906,198)	**(89,343)**	(91,983)
Net current assets		**1,271,573**	1,141,085	**1,285,600**	1,181,593
Net assets	20	**1,305,373**	1,206,114	**1,302,618**	1,203,359
Funds	21				
Restricted funds		**432,016**	557,358	**432,016**	557,358
Unrestricted funds					
General funds		**873,357**	648,756	**870,602**	646,001
Total charity funds		**1,305,373**	1,206,114	**1,302,618**	1,203,359

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 26 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A. Brown
Trustee

G. Maitland Hudson
Chair

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

		Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash used in operating activities:			
	Net movement in funds	**99,259**	535,247
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation charges	**7,249**	6,670
	Amortisation charges	**26,481**	56,427
	Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(2,711)**	(2,562)
	Loss on the sale of fixed assets	**–**	1,530
	Decrease in debtors	**103,524**	73,056
	(Decrease) / increase in creditors	**(46,610)**	241,720
Net cash provided by operating activities		**187,192**	912,088
Cash flows from investing activities:			
	Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**2,711**	2,562
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(2,501)**	(8,728)
	Recognition of intangible fixed assets	**–**	(16,309)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		**210**	(22,475)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**187,402**	889,613
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**1,691,360**	801,747
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		**1,878,762**	1,691,360

Note: The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation and general information

mySociety is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is 483 Green Lanes, London, N13 4BS.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) — (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

mySociety 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 note.

b) Group accounts

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned (controlled) subsidiary on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

c) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

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

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of provision of invoiced consultancy and software services is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Recharges of staff costs between the charitable company and its subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd have not been recognised as income in the charitable company's statement of financial activities, and are instead netted off against expenditure. This has no impact upon the consolidated figures, in which intercompany transactions are eliminated.

e) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable, and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

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

g) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Grants payable

Grants payable are recognised as expenditure on the earlier of a) when the charity has a present obligation to transfer resources; and b) when the charity ceases to control the resource (e.g. via transferring funds to the grant recipient.

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of direct costs, as follows:

	2025	2024
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	6.9%	6.7%
Charitable activities	93.1%	93.3%

k) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 – 5 years straight line basis

l) Intangible fixed assets

Product development expenditure is capitalised only if the expenditure can be measured reliably, the product or process is technically feasible, future economic benefits are probable and the company intends to and has sufficient resources to complete development and to use or sell the asset. Otherwise, it is recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, product development is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of intangible assets over the estimated period that economic benefit attributable to the asset is expected to flow to the company. The amortisation rates in use are as follows:

Software development	3 years straight line basis

m) Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less impairment.

n) Debtors

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

o) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

p) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

q) Financial instruments

The charitable 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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

r) Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

s) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

t) Accounting estimates and key judgements

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

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

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below.

Depreciation
As described in note 1k to the financial statements, depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Amortisation
As described in note 1l to the financial statements, amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations	1,645,320	142,836	**1,788,156**
Other trading activities	–	1,302,272	**1,302,272**
Investments	–	2,562	**2,562**
Total income	1,645,320	1,447,670	**3,092,990**
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	–	95,247	**95,247**
Raising funds: trading activity	–	1,142,810	**1,142,810**
Charitable activities	1,231,674	88,012	**1,319,686**
Total expenditure	1,231,674	1,326,069	**2,557,743**
Net income and net movement in funds	413,646	121,601	**535,247**

3. Income from donations

Donor	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total 2025 £
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	69,289	–	69,289
The National Lottery Community Fund	123,960	–	123,960
National Endowment for Democracy	143,603	–	143,603
Isocrates Foundation	74,890	–	74,890
The Indigo Trust	25,000	–	25,000
Adessium Foundation	82,950	–	82,950
Patrick J. McGovern Foundation	231,533	–	231,533
Swedish Postcode Foundation	76,645	–	76,645
JRSST Charitable Trust	31,114	–	31,114
The Dulverton Trust	–	35,000	35,000
J and H Cross	35,000	–	35,000
John Ellerman Foundation	50,000	–	50,000
Porticus	63,000	–	63,000
Other donations	1,000	55,886	56,886
Total income from donations	**1,007,984**	**90,886**	**1,098,870**

3. Income from donations

Prior period comparative

Donor	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £
Quadrature	570,000	30,000	600,000
Swedish Postcode Foundation	82,883	–	82,883
The National Lottery Community Fund	196,480	–	196,480
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	64,532	–	64,532
Adessium Foundation	85,835	–	85,835
National Endowment for Democracy	105,422	–	105,422
J and H Cross	–	10,000	10,000
Patrick J McGovern Foundation	237,633	–	237,633
Global Black Thrive CIC	45,980	–	45,980
The Climate Coalition	45,000	–	45,000
Isocrates Foundation	161,555	–	161,555
Aurora Trust	50,000	–	50,000
Porticus	–	65,000	65,000
Other donations	–	37,836	37,836
Total income from donations	**1,645,320**	**142,836**	**1,788,156**

4. Income from charitable activities

Activity	2025 £	2024 £
TICTeC ticket sales	**12,850**	–
Research consultancy	**10,000**	–
Total income from charitable activities	**22,850**	–

All income from charitable activities in the current and prior period was unrestricted.

5. Income from other trading activities

Activity	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Sale of software and IT consultancy	1,503,417	1,302,272

All income from other trading activities in the current and prior period was unrestricted.

6. Government grants

The charitable company receives a government grant, defined as funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the year ending 31 March 2025 was £123,960 (2024: £196,480). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

7. Total expenditure

	Raising funds: charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support & governance costs £	**Total 2025 £**
Staff costs (note 10)	81,093	1,014,155	822,728	48,252	**1,966,228**
Servers and subscriptions	–	49,517	29,975	–	**79,492**
TICTeC	–	–	80,953	–	**80,953**
Team meetings and retreats	–	22,021	–	20,068	**42,089**
Legal, financial and insurance	–	13,190	–	27,686	**40,876**
General administration costs	–	1,359	–	8,576	**9,935**
Partner payments (note 8)	–	–	168,016	–	**168,016**
UK travel and subsistence	–	15,183	–	10,457	**25,640**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	–	13,872	–	14,744	**28,616**
Amortisation	–	26,481	–	–	**26,481**
Depreciation	–	–	–	7,249	**7,249**
Training	–	–	–	3,621	**3,621**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	–	2,592	–	–	**2,592**
Marketing	469	46,332	–	–	**46,801**
Sub-total	81,562	1,204,702	1,101,672	140,653	**2,528,589**
Allocation of support and governance costs	9,694	–	130,959	(140,653)	**–**
Total expenditure	**91,256**	**1,204,702**	**1,232,631**	**–**	**2,528,589**

Total governance costs were £14,160 (2024: £12,852).

Prior period comparative

	Raising funds: charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support & governance costs £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs (note 10)	69,417	950,391	868,469	108,035	1,996,312
Servers and subscriptions	–	37,524	31,433	–	68,957
Team meetings and retreats	–	17,348	–	18,420	35,768
Legal, financial and insurance	–	11,995	–	30,336	42,331
General administration costs	–	7,979	–	11,944	19,923
Partner payments (note 8)	–	–	229,218	–	229,218
UK travel and subsistence	–	10,971	–	9,791	20,762
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	–	15,230	–	12,999	28,229
Amortisation	–	56,427	–	–	56,427
Depreciation	–	–	–	6,670	6,670
Training	–	–	–	4,594	4,594
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	–	–	–	1,530	1,530
Marketing	12,077	34,945	–	–	47,022
Sub-total	81,494	1,142,810	1,129,120	204,319	2,557,743
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,753	–	190,566	(204,319)	–
Total expenditure	95,247	1,142,810	1,319,686	–	2,557,743

8. Grants payable

Included within 'partner payments' in note 7 are sub-grant 'partner payments' made to the following institutions:

	2025 £	2024 £
Access Info Europe	**69,908**	71,285
Atlatszo	**6,475**	–
Climate Emergency UK	**–**	50,000
Open Knowledge Foundation Deutschland	**48,476**	47,226
Open Knowledge Foundation France	**8,352**	–
Public Association Lawyers for Human Rights	**–**	8,294
OpenUP South Africa	**7,909**	–
Superbloom Design	**10,691**	8,251
Vouliwatch	**–**	16,305
SPOON	**16,205**	–
Nil (2024: 10) grants payable <£5,000	**–**	27,857
Total	**168,016**	229,218

No grants were paid to individuals in the current or prior period, and no support costs have been allocated to grant-making activities.

9. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Amortisation	**26,481**	56,427
Depreciation	**7,249**	6,670
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**–**	1,530
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**618**	Nil
Foreign exchange gains	**3,073**	3,750
Auditors' remuneration		
Statutory audit	**11,450**	10,360
Other services	**350**	350

Trustees' reimbursed expenses comprised payments to 2 (2024: nil) trustees for travel expenses.

In common with other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

10. Staff costs and numbers

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	**1,710,591**	1,760,746
Social security costs	**180,913**	199,403
Pension costs	**67,163**	37,852
Contractors	**7,561**	14,620
Less: capitalised product development within SocietyWorks Ltd	**–**	(16,309)
	1,966,228	1,996,312

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

Salary band	**2025 (No. of employees)**	2024 (No. of employees)
£60,001 to £65,000	**2**	1
£65,001 to £70,000	**7**	7
£80,001 to £85,000	**1**	1
£85,001 to £90,000	**1**	1
£90,001 to £95,000	**1**	1

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £107,133 (2024: £104,762).

Description	**2025 (No.)**	2024 (No.)
Average number of employees *(full-time equivalent)*	**32**	35

Redundancy and termination payments of £15,000 were paid during the year and included within staff costs above (2024: £7,370).

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, has gift aided its available profits to the charity.

12. Tangible fixed assets (Group and Charity)

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	**35,940**
Additions in year	**2,501**
At 31 March 2025	**38,441**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2024	**14,175**
Charge for the year	**7,249**
At 31 March 2025	**21,424**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	**17,017**
At 31 March 2024	21,765

13. Intangible fixed assets (Group)

	Software Development £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	**181,509**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2024	**138,245**
Charge for the year	**26,481**
At 31 March 2025	**164,726**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	**16,783**
At 31 March 2024	43,264

All intangible assets are held within the trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd.

14. Investments

	The group 2025 £	The group 2024 £	**The charity 2025 £**	The charity 2024 £
Investment in subsidiary company	**–**	**–**	**1**	1

The investment represents 100% of the ordinary share capital of SocietyWorks Ltd, whose principal activity is to carry out trading activities in support of the charity. A summary of the financial results and position of SocietyWorks Ltd is given below (see note 15).

15. Subsidiary undertakings

SocietyWorks Ltd (company number 05798215) is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of mySociety. It trades in software and IT consultancy.

	2025 £	2024 £
Turnover	**1,503,417**	1,302,272
Cost of sales	**(722,656)**	(707,362)
Gross profit	**780,761**	594,910
Administrative expenses	**(482,045)**	(435,448)
Profit on ordinary activities	**298,716**	159,462
Corporation tax	**–**	–
Profit for financial year after taxation	**298,716**	159,462

Changes in equity		
Total retained profit brought forward	**2,755**	2,755
Total comprehensive income for the year	**298,716**	159,462
Gift aid distribution to parent charity	**(298,716)**	(159,462)
Total retained profit carried forward	**2,755**	2,755

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	**1,157,872**	1,062,903
Liabilities	**(1,155,116)**	(1,060,147)
Funds	**2,756**	2,756

16. Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross income	**1,423,148**	1,950,180
Results for the year	**99,260**	535,247

17. Debtors

	2025 Group £	2024 Group £	2025 Charity £	2024 Charity £
Trade debtors	**104,640**	307,365	**–**	4,000
Accrued Income	**117,083**	–	**117,083**	–
Prepayments	**29,777**	46,064	**18,407**	26,218
Amounts owing by group undertakings	**–**	–	**384,870**	245,931
Other debtors	**899**	2,494	**899**	2,494
	252,399	355,923	**521,259**	278,643

18. Creditors : amounts falling due within 1 year

	2025 Group £	2024 Group £	2025 Charity £	2024 Charity £
Trade creditors	**2,505**	1,870	**615**	1,571
Accruals	**28,360**	11,360	**24,360**	7,560
Other taxation and social security	**136,924**	155,277	**44,460**	57,034
Grants payable	**–**	15,581	**–**	15,581
Other creditors	**19,907**	10,237	**19,908**	10,237
Deferred income (Note 19)	**671,892**	711,873	**–**	–
	859,588	906,198	**89,343**	91,983

19. Deferred income

	2025 Group £	2024 Group £	**2025 Charity £**	2024 Charity £
At 1 April 2024	**711,873**	528,474	**–**	–
Deferred during the year	**671,892**	711,873	**–**	–
Released during the year	**(711,873)**	(528,474)	**–**	–
At 31 March 2025	**671,892**	711,873	**–**	–

Deferred income relates to contract income invoiced by SocietyWorks Ltd in advance of provision of services.

20. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	–	17,017	**17,017**
Intangible fixed assets	–	16,783	**16,783**
Current assets	432,016	1,699,145	**2,131,161**
Current liabilities	–	(859,588)	**(859,588)**
Net assets at 31 March 2025	**432,016**	**873,357**	**1,305,373**

Prior period comparative:

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	–	21,765	21,765
Intangible fixed assets	–	43,264	43,264
Current assets	572,939	1,474,344	2,047,283
Current liabilities	(15,581)	(890,617)	(906,198)
Net assets at 31 March 2024	557,358	648,756	1,206,114

21. Movements in funds

Fund	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2025 £**
Restricted funds					
ATI in Europe	117,393	234,485	(258,661)	–	**93,217**
Aurora Trust	50,000	–	(50,000)	–	**–**
J and H Cross	–	35,000	–	–	**35,000**
John Elllerman Foundation	–	50,000	–	–	**50,000**
The Indigo Trust	–	25,000	(12,548)	–	**12,452**
Porticus	–	63,000	(2,061)	–	**60,939**
WhoFundsThem	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	**–**
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	(4,238)	69,289	(63,350)	–	**1,701**
JRSST Charitable Trust	–	31,114	(31,114)	–	**–**
National Endowment for Democracy – TICTeC Communities	9,303	143,603	(145,579)	–	**7,327**
Patrick J McGovern Foundation	237,633	231,533	(297,786)	–	**171,380**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	147,267	123,960	(271,227)	–	**–**
Total restricted funds	557,358	1,007,984	(1,133,326)	–	**432,016**
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	648,756	1,619,864	(1,395,263)	–	**873,357**
Total unrestricted funds	648,756	1,619,864	(1,395,263)	–	**873,357**
Total funds	1,206,114	2,627,848	(2,528,589)	–	**1,305,373**

Purposes of restricted funds

ATI in Europe	A project co-funded by grants from Adessium Foundation, Swedish Postcode Foundation and Isocrates Foundation. The project aims to build a cohesive, wide and activated community that is working to strengthen the right of access to information across the European region, so that Access to Information (ATI) delivers the information needed for democratic debate and accountability.
Aurora Trust	A grant towards mySociety's Neighbourhood Warmth programme.
J and H Cross	A fund from a private donor which is restricted for use on the development, acquisition, maintenance, licensing, and access of Artificial Intelligence ("AI") technology in support of the charity's work on transparency and democracy.
John Ellerman Foundation	A grant to deliver a project encouraging councils to create sustainable communities.
The Indigo Foundation	A grant restricted for use on the WhoFundsThem project.
Porticus	A grant towards the delivery of The Impacts of Civic Technology (TICTeC) Conference 2025.
WhoFundsThem	A restricted donation from an individual for use on the WhoFundsThem project.
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	A grant that funds mySociety's transparency programme, ensuring the right to information can be used by all.
JRSST Charitable Trust	A grant restricted to WhoFundsThem – a project to bring information about MPs' financial interests to the public in an accessible way, resourcing campaigns for transparency and public accountability across the sector.
National Endowment for Democracy – TICTeC Communities	A grant to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work enhancing public participation, transparency, and accountability via Civic Tech Field Guide, Communities of Practice and two hybrid TICTeC Conferences.
Patrick J McGovern Foundation	A grant to enhance the Local Intelligence Hub and amplify public data collaboration for scalable solutions.
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	Grants to accelerate local climate action through data and digital services.
Transfers between funds:	
Reserve fund	A target level of unrestricted funds to enable mySociety to: cover emergency cash flow shortfalls; respond to an extraordinary event, campaign or project; or wind down the organisation in an orderly fashion should this become necessary. In the previous year, this reserve was transferred to general funds during the year to reflect the new reserves policy.

Prior period comparative

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted funds					
ATI in Europe	37,856	330,273	(250,736)	–	**117,393**
Alaveteli	25,000	–	(25,000)	–	**–**
Aurora Trust	–	50,000	–	–	**50,000**
Black Thrive CIC	–	45,980	(45,980)	–	**–**
The Climate Coalition	–	45,000	(45,000)	–	**–**
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	17,247	64,532	(86,017)	–	**(4,238)**
National Endowment for Democracy – TICTeC Communities	–	84,863	(75,560)	–	**9,303**
National Endowment for Democracy – TICTeC Labs	8,956	20,559	(29,515)	–	**–**
Patrick J McGovern Foundation	–	237,633	–	–	**237,633**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	54,653	766,480	(673,866)	–	**147,267**
Total restricted funds	143,712	1,645,320	(1,231,674)	–	**557,358**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	240,482	–	–	(240,482)	**–**
General funds	286,673	1,447,670	(1,326,069)	240,482	**648,756**
Total unrestricted funds	527,155	1,447,670	(1,326,069)	–	**648,756**
Total funds	670,867	3,092,990	(2,557,743)	–	**1,206,114**

22. Related party transactions

mySociety has a wholly owned subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd, a company limited by shares (company no. 05798215). At 31 March 2025, SocietyWorks Ltd owed mySociety £384,869 (2024: £245,931).

There were no other related party transactions in the current or prior reporting period.

mySociety

Keep up with mySociety's news, all year round:

→ mysociety.org/subscribe

Help us break down the barriers to democratic participation:

→ mysociety.org/donate

mySociety

England & Wales - Charity number 1076346

Accounts

Company no. 03277032
Charity no. 1076346

mySociety

Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 March 2024

mySociety

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Company number	03277032
Charity number	1076346
Registered office and operational address	483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

A Adewunmi	
A Brown	
C Brown	resigned 6 July 2023
A J H Burton	
F Mainoo	resigned 21 October 2023
G Maitland Hudson	appointed 6 July 2023
D O'Shaughnessy	
R Rank	
C Ross	resigned 8 December 2023
S Skelton	
J Thornton	

Chief Executive Officer	L Crow
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 27-31 White Hart Street High Wycombe HP11 2HL
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

mySociety is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under a Memorandum & Articles of Association, and is registered as a charity in England and Wales (registered charity no. 1076346).

mySociety is governed by a board of volunteer trustees. Trustees serve four-year terms, and may be reappointed for one further four-year term after completion of their first. Trustees are generally recruited through an open call for applications, or may occasionally be directly appointed following a period of service as an observer of one of the board's committees. Following their appointment trustees participate in a series of briefings with key staff and fellow trustees as part of their induction; which includes briefings on financial procedures, our priority areas of work, ongoing strategy and organisational setup.

mySociety operates a number of civic and democratic websites, and has a wholly owned commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, governed by its own board of directors comprising a combination of trustees from mySociety, executive directors and independent non-executive directors. Trustees and non-executive directors are not remunerated.

Day-to-day management of mySociety and its subsidiaries is delegated to the Chief Executive except for the following matters which are reserved to the trustees:

- Approval of strategy, values and policy;
- Establishing and disbanding committees of the board;
- The creation, selection and appointment to any post with a total remuneration package of £60,000 p.a. or greater, or FTE;
- Approval of the group's annual report and accounts; and
- Significant financial commitments as set out in a delegations policy.

At any one time, mySociety typically employs around 30 permanent members of staff and a small additional number on temporary contracts. SocietyWorks Ltd employs no staff directly, but buys in labour as required from mySociety.

There is an annual review of pay for all staff members, encompassing two elements:

- Cost of living; and
- Performance.

The Chief Executive makes recommendations to the board of trustees based on performance, affordability and the financial health of mySociety, and changes in averages of salaries for comparable roles except for the Chief Executive's own pay and that of the Managing Director of SocietyWorks Ltd, which is discussed by the board of trustees alone. The board of trustees either accepts or amends the recommendations, and makes the revised pay offer to the staff.

Salary ranges for new roles are set using both industry benchmarks and salaries of staff members already employed by the organisation in similar roles.

mySociety

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

Aims and goals

The objectives of mySociety are “to conduct and promote research into the use and effects of information and communication technologies in the context of the operation of any body or bodies which has or have an electorate, and to disseminate the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public”.

mySociety uses its UK websites and the international websites it supports to undertake active research to explore what is effective in delivering on this mission. Our ambition is to repower democracy: using our digital and data skills to put more power in more people's hands.

2023/24 was our first year of working towards a number of five-year goals that we believe will enable us to realise our ambition to significantly and sustainably grow the positive impact our UK services have for citizens:

Headline goals

1. Reach more, and more kinds of people with our services, focusing on those underserved by democracy and by our services.
2. Get democratic institutions to meet citizens’ needs, using insights from our services and support from the communities that use them.
3. Help drive the democratic transition we need in response to the climate crisis by developing new services or service changes across our core areas of work.

Supporting goals

4. Build UK partnerships targeting citizen reach or specific institutional change to which we can uniquely contribute through our services.
5. Use our research, international network and events to inform and share our practices.
6. Create and sustain supporter and volunteering programmes to build capacity and strengthen our connection to our wider UK community.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Social investment policies

mySociety's ongoing provision of services via its subsidiary trading company, SocietyWorks Ltd, represents a social investment; projects are chosen based on alignment with the charity’s purposes, as well as with the aim of achieving a financial return.

Achievements and performance

Our work is organised under four interlinked practice areas, all underpinned by research and sector-building: Democracy, Transparency, Climate, Community. Our communications, fundraising, events and administrative personnel support the activities of these practice areas.

In 2023/24, mySociety's 35 permanent UK staff continued to help citizens in the UK and around the world to meaningfully engage with their government and within their communities - through the running of our services FixMyStreet, TheyWorkForYou, WhatDoTheyKnow, WriteToThem, CAPE and Local Intelligence Hub; by supporting the work of local organisations in over 40 countries worldwide; and by researching the efficacy and impact of digital tools on government accountability, transparency and citizen engagement. Our sites are used regularly by a vast number of people - they were used over 31 million times in the UK in 2023.

Our 20th anniversary awards in November 2023 were an opportunity to highlight the work of citizens who have used our services to drive impactful change, accelerate climate action, expose truth and campaign for justice. For example, we presented Eleanor Shaikh with the 'Campaigning for Justice' award for using our WhatDoTheyKnow service to fight for justice for the wrongly accused Post Office subpostmasters - a scandal that has been cited as the greatest miscarriage of justice in the UK's history.

Democracy

Our UK parliamentary monitoring site TheyWorkForYou had over 4.8 million visits in 2023/24, while our WriteToThem service, enabling people to contact their elected representatives, saw 2 million sessions.

TheyWorkForYou's goal is to make the UK's Parliaments more transparent and accessible to citizens and civil society, so that high quality information about our elected representatives isn't only available to insiders or those who can pay. This year we have been working to make TheyWorkForYou even more inclusive, and as of July 2023 it now includes debates and a list of all Members of the Welsh Senedd, in both English and Welsh. It is the only source that brings together the proceedings of all the UK's parliaments. Through the regular publication of debates, plus TheyWorkForYou's search and alert functions, we aim to support citizens and civil society across the UK to play an active part in democracy.

TheyWorkForYou's voting record summaries are summaries of how individual MPs have voted. This year we have sharpened the focus in our approach, working on developments to ensure we present clear and accurate summaries of how individual MPs have voted for use by the public, in the context of parties and wider policies, with a focus on votes that use the powers of Parliament. Our new approach also makes updates more practical with less resources. We have also refreshed our explanation of Parliamentary voting.

Another key piece of work this year was in preparation for the upcoming general election. The current set of parliamentary constituencies is being replaced for the next election and no-one officially produces a single dataset of all the new constituencies covering the whole UK, so in 2023 mySociety developed and released a number of resources including maps, postcode lookups and cross referencing tools to make the boundaries easier to navigate for the upcoming election.

An impact story from our WriteToThem service this year was in the campaign ‘Zero Hour’ which aims to provide a pathway to getting cross-party support for a legislative solution that will ensure that the UK delivers a science-led, people-powered plan on biodiversity and climate. The campaign relied on getting Zero Hour’s supporters to contact their representatives and ask them for their backing, so they integrated our WriteToThem tool into their website to ensure that supporters could contact the MP where they live with the click of a button. The campaign was incredibly effective, with thousands of our supporters asking their MPs to support the Climate and Ecology Bill.

Transparency

Our Freedom of Information (FOI) service, WhatDoTheyKnow, makes it easier for people to access information from public authorities in the UK. In 2023/24 around 120,000 FOI requests were sent via the site - a 3% increase on the previous year.

We recognise that too often marginalised communities are disengaged from civic participation, so a key focus of mySociety’s work is to bring our tools to those who feel voiceless and disenfranchised. Throughout 2023 we conducted research and outreach into marginalised groups’ usage of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. We spoke to organisations working on the frontlines of marginalisation in the UK and produced a report which uncovered the challenges that organisations embedded in marginalised communities face when gathering data held by public bodies to advocate for positive social change. Informed by our research findings, we have both made service improvements to make FOI more accessible, and launched a training programme to empower disadvantaged communities with the knowledge and skills to engage meaningfully in a way that affects change.

Supported by the Wellcome Data Prize in Mental Health, mySociety also provided technical support to an organisation, Black Thrive, whose work addresses the inequalities that negatively impact the mental health and wellbeing of Black people. Together we built an interactive ‘stop and search’ dashboard to help understand whether the disproportionate use of police stop and search impacts the mental health of young Black people.

Our Access To Information (ATI) Europe project continued this year, in partnership with Access Info Europe and Open Knowledge Foundation Germany. In the first half of the year, mySociety conducted one-to-one interviews with almost all of the active ATI sites in Europe to better understand the goals, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for each organisation. From this we created both a series of Action Learning Skills Shares for the network to benefit from each other's expertise, and a mentorship programme devised to allow for deeper learning for a smaller set of organisations. The mentorship programme is supported by subgrants from the Isocrates foundation to allow all participants to be able to take the time to participate fully in the programme.

As an example of the ATI network in action, MaDada in France have created a data explorer dashboard which they use on their version of Alaveteli, our Access to Information platform, with some support from mySociety. The dashboard has already been ported into the Belgian Alaveteli Transparencia.be, and SPOON in the Netherlands are keen to use it — a positive demonstration of technical collaboration and distribution through the network. With the introduction of two new platforms in Slovenia and Kosovo, and the closure (albeit temporarily) of Mimes Bronn in Norway and La Statul Intrebari in Romania, we currently have 17 operational ATI platforms in Europe.

Climate
With support from Quadrature Climate Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund, we're working to help communities, civil society and local councils tackle the climate emergency. As a solution to challenges uncovered by our prototyping weeks held in 2022/23, we have launched the Local Intelligence Hub — a climate data sharing platform, built with The Climate Coalition and soft-launched to their members in April 2023, then to the public in February 2024. This interactive map with comprehensive data and filter functions enables targeted searches, and resourcing campaigners with local information at the touch of a button, which early users have described as 'game changing' for their climate campaigning. We have also developed an 'alpha' version of our community retrofitting platform, Neighbourhood Warmth, and have been working on developing partnerships to roll this service out in the coming year.

Throughout this year we have continued our partnership with Climate Emergency UK, supporting their work on the second round of the Council Climate Action Scorecards - assessing the climate action being undertaken by local authorities. The second iteration of the Scorecards, which launched in October 2023, is much bigger and more ambitious in scope than the last: it scores not the plans, but the climate actions of every local authority in the UK. This level of oversight has not previously been possible; as with so much about the Scorecards project, it is allowing councils to take more informed action on climate, and enabling individuals and communities to clearly understand what is being done.

In 2023 we employed a Policy and Advocacy Manager who promotes the recommendations that come from our research and digital services, with the aim of improving the information ecosystem available to citizens, especially around climate. This year mySociety also joined the Blueprint Coalition – an influential group of local government organisations, environmental groups, and research institutions working together to deliver local climate action with a joined-up approach.

Community
Our FixMyStreet platform provides a simple way for citizens to report faults to authorities responsible for getting them fixed. FixMyStreet is a particularly useful tool for making Britain's streets more accessible, with wheelchair users and blind people utilising it to report issues that were making roads unsafe or inaccessible. In 2023/24 FixMyStreet saw 6 million sessions. Thanks to translation work we have done on FixMyStreet this year, place-based issues in Wales can now be reported to the correct authority by citizens in Welsh as well as in English.

The FixMyStreet codebase is open source, meaning that anyone with the required technical knowhow can pick it up, tweak it for their local context, and create an issue-reporting website for their own country, for free. This year, another FixMyStreet site has launched in an international location - Croatia, adding to the number of citizens across the world who can enjoy keeping their neighbourhoods safe and clean with the codebase's simple functionality.

TICTeC
Our TICTeC conference is about sharing research, knowledge and experiences to examine and improve the impacts of civic technology, in order to strengthen democracy, public participation, transparency, and accountability across the world. With support from the National Endowment for Democracy we launched a two year project in partnership with the Civic Tech Field Guide to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations. During this year we developed our outreach and communications strategy to engage global civic tech initiatives with our TICTeC Communities of Practice, particularly targeting those based in the Global South.

Financial review

Total group income in 2023/24 was £3.093m, an increase of 24% from the £2.487m recognised in 2022/23. Restricted grant income of £1.645m (2022/23: £1.049m) represents a material increase of 57% on the previous financial year. A significant proportion of this relates to the final phases of multi-year grants that will not be repeated in 2024/25. Unrestricted grant income has dropped from £0.165m in 2022/23 to £0.095m in 2023/24.

Income from other trading activities increased by 8% to £1.302m (2022/23: £1.202m) representing growth in core SocietyWorks business.

Total expenditure of £2.558m (2022/23: £2.250m) represents a year on year increase of 14%. Expenditure has been closely managed in a challenging economic climate with inflationary pressures evident in the rising costs of services.

2023/24 saw a net surplus outturn of £0.535m (2022/23: £0.237m), much of this relating to timing on income receipts from multi-year restricted funds received within the financial year but with expenditure planned in 2024/25, and profits from SocietyWorks contributing towards an increase in unrestricted funds. Total funds at the year end were £1.206m (2022/23: £0.671m) made up of unrestricted funds of £0.649m (2022/23: £0.527m) and restricted funds of £0.557m (2022/23: £0.144m).

mySociety's major charitable supporters in 2023/24 have included:

- Quadrature Climate Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund, Aurora Trust, and the Climate Coalition, which together funded our Climate programme;
- Adessium Foundation, Swedish Postcode Foundation and Isocrates supporting our FOI work in the UK and Europe;
- National Endowment for Democracy, supporting our TICTeC Labs and Communities programmes.;
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, supporting our work to enable FOI use by marginalised groups;
- Patrick J McGovern Foundation, supporting our work to amplify public data collaboration for scalable solutions;
- Porticus UK, providing unrestricted funding that supports all of our work; and
- Black Thrive Global, collaborating on work that addresses the inequalities that negatively impact the mental health and wellbeing of Black people.

We are also grateful to all the individuals and small private foundations who provide one-off or recurring donations to support mySociety's work.

mySociety's commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, provides sustainable commercial income streams within each of our practice areas, building on and related to the work we do charitably. In particular, our FixMyStreet Pro commercial contracts generate substantial multi-year income streams aligned with our overall mySociety mission and work with local authorities. Profits made from trading activity are distributed to the charity, with income and expenditure from trading activity consolidated in the group accounts as unrestricted funds.

On the consolidated statement of financial activities, income from other trading activities and expenditure on raising funds: trading activities, relate wholly to SocietyWorks Ltd. Profit margins for the commercial subsidiary are considered reasonable in comparison to contextually similar SMEs operating in the Software as a Service (SaaS) industry. The financial year ending 31 March 2025 will see the first year of implementation of SocietyWorks Ltd's three year growth strategy where we expect to deliver year on year profit growth, providing mySociety with more certainty on future multi-year income.

In 2023/24, SocietyWorks Ltd generated a net profit of £0.159m (2022/23: £0.208m) which has contributed to delivering an unrestricted surplus in mySociety.

Going concern

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity held unrestricted funds of £0.649m at 31 March 2024;
- 80% of funding against the charity's budgeted expenditure for the upcoming 12 months was already secured at the financial year end; and
- The trading subsidiary has £0.711m of forward commitments from commercial customers to be recognised in the 2023/24 financial year.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1(c) to the financial statements.

Principal risks and uncertainties

mySociety operates a comprehensive risk management framework that supports informed decision making around the risks that threaten our ability to achieve our goals. Our risk register is reviewed regularly by the Senior Management Team, with formal review by the Board of Trustees at least bi-annually. Risks are categorised by type, and assessed by probability and impact creating a gross risk score. Mitigations are reviewed and identified as relevant to deliver a net risk score that is within acceptable risk tolerance thresholds of the Board of Trustees. Contingencies are also identified if mitigations were to fail. Our approach to risk management is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risks to delivering our goals.

The key risks, alongside impact, mitigation, and contingency strategies for the organisation are as follows:

1. Risk: Failure to acquire sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation.
   Impact: Failure to deliver mission impact.
   Mitigation: Charity funding is a primary focus for the organisation; the SocietyWorks team is focused on growing sustainable profits from commercial activity; quarterly financial forecasts are prepared to ensure timely information is available to support critical decision making; relevant consideration will be given to any reductions to the cost base.
   Contingency: Reduce the cost base to ensure the charity remains solvent.
2. Risk: Insufficient free cash to meet financial obligations.
   Impact: Failure to meet financial and operational commitments and deliver to mission.
   Mitigation: Long-term forward financial planning to enable any failure to be addressed by future cost reductions in a timely manner and ensure the organisation remains solvent; cash flow forecasting; robust credit control processes.
   Contingency: Reduce the cost base to ensure the charity remains solvent.

3. Risk: Cyber attack
   Impact: Failure to meet data protection standards; negative impact to reputation; operational sustainability at risk; failure to meet contractual commitments.
   Mitigation: Strong password policies; access to servers limited; encrypted hard drives; hosting with suppliers experienced in dealing with DOS attacks; project work underway to segregate systems more comprehensively to prevent potential contagion.
   Contingency: identify source of access, close security hole, consider restoration of site from most recent backup and public disclosure.
4. Risk: Loss of key staff and volunteers
   Impact: Failure to meet commitments and our ambitions for impact due to lack of capacity; loss of critical institutional knowledge for sustaining services.
   Mitigation: Skill sharing across teams to ensure that there is no organisational dependency on a single individual; close line management to identify and address staff concerns; open culture, focus on limiting working hours, and flexible approach to working; Health, Safety & Wellbeing policies and practises implemented and monitored; process mapping and documentation of key knowledge; Service Manager focused on maintaining a healthy culture between staff and volunteer team; funding and resource allocation to reduce the administrative burden on WhatDoTheyKnow; clear guidelines on ways of working.
   Contingency: Backfilling functions with remaining staff; recruiting replacement.
5. Risk: Capacity planning in our server infrastructure is inadequate
   Impact: If we fail to adequately plan for growth, we may not be able to keep up with demand on our services. The scale of the service and data for WhatDoTheyKnow risks problems for availability and redundancy, which could result in data loss.
   Mitigation: maintenance of multiple server instances and deployment automation allowing quick movement and load balancing of services to manage sudden changes in capacity; monitoring alerts to sudden changes that impact availability, helping to diagnose and manage trends; extensive performance monitoring.
   Contingency: Add capacity using on-demand virtual machines; redistribute services to better utilise capacity.

Reserves policy
In 2023/24, the Board of Trustees undertook a comprehensive review of mySociety's reserves policy.

In order to responsibly and effectively manage the Group finances, mySociety holds reserves to manage the financial impact of organisational risk, including working capital commitments. We aim to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption at short notice due to a lack of funds, whilst at the same time ensuring that income is spent appropriately on activities to deliver strategic impact and is not retained for longer than it should be. We operate a tiered approach to financial risk management for monitoring reserves that layers our aims for monthly operating cost cover, cessation costs for mySociety and SocietyWorks, and opportunity reserves.

The charity defines free reserves as unrestricted net current assets. At a minimum, the charity aims to hold a minimum of three months operating costs plus earmarked cessation costs as free reserves (£0.4m). At a maximum, the charity aims to hold six months operating costs across the group, earmarked cessation costs across the group, as well as an opportunity reserves fund that may be designated to support strategic programmes (£1.4m).

As at 31 March 2024, mySociety held free reserves of £0.583m, which covers five months of operating costs plus earmarked cessation costs in the charity.

Under its previous reserves policy, mySociety operated a separate designated cash reserves fund earmarked for use if a worst case scenario emerged and the charity had to be closed down. These funds were set aside in a ring-fenced bank account. The new reserves policy monitors mySociety's free reserves position in line with generally accepted charity accounting practice, and in 2023/24, the Board of Trustees approved the un-designation of the cash reserves fund.

Plans for future periods

In 2024/25 we'll be working to make progress against each of the five-year goals set out on page 3 of this report. To further our aim of reaching people and communities who are underrepresented in our democratic system and our services, we'll be conducting seminars, training, outreach and user research to build our understanding of needs of underserved communities and to improve their understanding of how our services can make change. We'll also be delivering service improvements across our transparency and democracy services, including explorations of how to combine human and machine learning and AI, to better enable people from all walks of life to understand and engage in democratic processes.

We'll run a crowdsourcing campaign aiming to give citizens and civil society better tools to understand MP's financial interests. This will promote better quality information, centering the public's role in setting standards, and encouraging better alignment between public values and representative's behaviour, leading over time to increased public trust. We'll work with volunteers to collect and check information, and engage the public in supporting this work as a tangible step we can take together towards a transparent and trustworthy political system.

In our Climate programme, we'll be conducting a local pilot of our Neighbourhood Warmth service, which supports collective action on home energy improvements, and continue our partnership with Climate Emergency UK to deliver the Climate Action Scorecards, which will deliver the first iteration which allows action from local authorities to be tracked across time in 2025. We'll also continue to improve the Local Intelligence Hub, all with a goal of supporting a faster, more informed and effective democratic response to the climate crisis in the UK.

Beyond the UK, our hybrid TICTeC conference will bring together practitioners, researchers, and funders to examine civic tech's impact, and ask what is needed to make it more successful and impactful on a global scale in the current context; while in our Transparency programme we'll continue working with partners to strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the network of ATI platforms across Europe.

Fundraising

mySociety solicits donations from the public via its websites, and does not engage in any follow-up activity with individual donors unless consent has been given for further contact. We do not employ outside fundraisers, and are not bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising, but will keep this under review as our fundraising work develops. No complaints have been received about our fundraising activity.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the group and parent charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 20 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown

A. Brown
Trustee

GE Maitland Hudson

G. Maitland Hudson
Chair

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of mySociety (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated and parent charity balance sheets, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the 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 group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the group and parent charity financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the group and parent charity 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 21 June 2024

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:
GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

mySociety

Consolidated statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2024 Total £**	2023 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	1,645,320	142,836	**1,788,156**	1,283,946
Other trading activities	4	-	1,302,272	**1,302,272**	1,202,431
Investments		-	2,562	**2,562**	470
Total income		1,645,320	1,447,670	**3,092,990**	2,486,847
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds: raising charitable donations		-	95,247	**95,247**	84,017
Raising funds: trading activity		-	1,142,810	**1,142,810**	994,863
Charitable activities		1,231,674	88,012	**1,319,686**	1,171,132
Total expenditure	6	1,231,674	1,326,069	**2,557,743**	2,250,012
Net income and net movement in funds	8	413,646	121,601	**535,247**	236,835
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		143,712	527,155	**670,867**	434,032
Total funds carried forward		557,358	648,756	**1,206,114**	670,867

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 20 to the accounts.

mySociety

Consolidated balance sheets

As at 31 March 2024

	Note	**The group 2024 £**	The group 2023 £	**The charity 2024 £**	The charity 2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11	**21,765**	21,237	**21,765**	21,237
Intangible assets	12	**43,264**	83,382	**-**	-
Investments	13	**-**	-	**1**	1
		65,029	104,619	**21,766**	21,238
Current assets					
Debtors	16	**355,923**	428,979	**278,643**	346,436
Cash at bank and in hand		**1,691,360**	801,747	**994,933**	322,152
		2,047,283	1,230,726	**1,273,576**	668,588
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	17	**(906,198)**	(664,478)	**(91,983)**	(21,714)
Net current assets		**1,141,085**	566,248	**1,181,593**	646,874
Net assets	19	**1,206,114**	670,867	**1,203,359**	668,112
Funds	20				
Restricted funds		**557,358**	143,712	**557,358**	143,712
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**-**	240,482	**-**	240,482
General funds		**648,756**	286,673	**646,001**	283,918
Total charity funds		**1,206,114**	670,867	**1,203,359**	668,112

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 20 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown

A. Brown
Trustee

GE Maitland Hudson

G. Maitland Hudson
Chair

mySociety

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	**535,247**	236,835
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**6,670**	6,234
Amortisation charges	**56,427**	47,796
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(2,562)**	(470)
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	**1,530**	662
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**73,056**	(208,688)
Increase in creditors	**241,720**	147,566
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**912,088**	229,935
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**2,562**	470
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	**-**	840
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(8,728)**	(6,669)
Recognition of intangible fixed assets	**(16,309)**	(25,298)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	**(22,475)**	(30,657)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**889,613**	199,278
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**801,747**	602,469
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**1,691,360**	801,747

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

mySociety 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 note.

b) Group accounts

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned (controlled) subsidiary on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

c) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the charitable company’s current and future financial position and the level of unrestricted, general reserves held at 31 March 2025. The charity also has significant confirmed unrestricted funding for the year ended 31 March 2025. Given the above, the trustees consider that the charitable company has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

d) Income

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

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of provision of invoiced consultancy and software services is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Recharges of staff costs between the charitable company and its subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd have not been recognised as income in the charitable company's statement of financial activities, and are instead netted off against expenditure. This has no impact upon the consolidated figures, in which intercompany transactions are eliminated.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

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

g) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Grants payable

Grants payable are recognised as expenditure on the earlier of a) when the charity has a present obligation to transfer resources; and b) when the charity ceases to control the resource (e.g. via transfering funds to the grant recipient).

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of direct costs, as follows:

	2024	2023
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	**6.7%**	6.7%
Charitable activities	**93.3%**	93.3%

1. Accounting policies (continued)

k) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 - 5 years straight line basis

l) Intangible fixed assets

Product development expenditure is capitalised only if the expenditure can be measured reliably, the product or process is technically feasible, future economic benefits are probable and the company intends to and has sufficient resources to complete development and to use or sell the asset. Otherwise, it is recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, product development is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of intangible assets over the estimated period that economic benefit attributable to the asset is expected to flow to the company. The amortisation rates in use are as follows:

Software development	3 years straight line basis

m) Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less impairment.

n) Debtors

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

o) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

p) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

q) Financial instruments

The charitable 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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

r) Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

s) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

t) Accounting estimates and key judgements

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

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

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below.

Depreciation

As described in note 1k to the financial statements, depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Amortisation

As described in note 1l to the financial statements, amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	1,074,077	209,869	**1,283,946**
Other trading activities	-	1,202,431	**1,202,431**
Investments	-	470	**470**
Total income	1,074,077	1,412,770	**2,486,847**
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	-	84,017	**84,017**
Raising funds: trading activity	-	994,863	**994,863**
Charitable activities	964,226	206,906	**1,171,132**
Total expenditure	964,226	1,285,786	**2,250,012**
Net income and net movement in funds	109,851	126,984	**236,835**

3. Income from donations

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Quadrature	570,000	30,000	**600,000**
Swedish Postcode Foundation	82,883	-	**82,883**
The National Lottery Community Fund	196,480	-	**196,480**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	64,532	-	**64,532**
Adessium Foundation	85,835	-	**85,835**
National Endowment for Democracy	105,422	-	**105,422**
J and H Cross	-	10,000	**10,000**
Patrick J McGovern Foundation	237,633		**237,633**
Global Black Thrive CIC	45,980	-	**45,980**
The Climate Coallition	45,000	-	**45,000**
Isocrates Foundation	161,555	-	**161,555**
The Aurora Trust	50,000	-	**50,000**
Porticus	-	65,000	**65,000**
Other donations	-	37,836	**37,836**
Total income from donations	1,645,320	142,836	**1,788,156**

3. Income from donations (continued)

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Quadrature	470,000	30,000	500,000
Swedish Postcode Foundation	85,041	-	85,041
The National Lottery Community Fund	210,875	-	210,875
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,080	-	58,080
Adessium Foundation	85,150	-	85,150
National Endowment for Democracy	129,931	-	129,931
J and H Cross	25,000	-	25,000
Newby Trust	10,000	-	10,000
Porticus	-	135,000	135,000
Other donations	-	44,869	44,869
Total income from donations	1,074,077	209,869	1,283,946

4. Income from other trading activities

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Sale of software and IT consultancy	**1,302,272**	1,202,431

All income from other trading activities in the current and prior period was unrestricted.

5. Government grants

The charitable company receives a government grant, defined as funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the year ending 31 March 2024 was £196,480 (2023: £210,875). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

6. Total expenditure

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2024 Total £**
Staff costs (note 9)	69,417	950,391	868,469	108,035	**1,996,312**
Servers and subscriptions	-	37,524	31,433	-	**68,957**
Team meetings and retreats	-	17,348	-	18,420	**35,768**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	11,995	-	30,336	**42,331**
General administration costs	-	7,979	-	11,944	**19,923**
Partner payments (note 7)	-	-	229,218	-	**229,218**
UK travel and subsistence	-	10,971	-	9,791	**20,762**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	15,230	-	12,999	**28,229**
Amortisation	-	56,427	-	-	**56,427**
Depreciation	-	-	-	6,670	**6,670**
Training	-	-	-	4,594	**4,594**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	1,530	**1,530**
Marketing	12,077	34,945	-	-	**47,022**
Sub-total	81,494	1,142,810	1,129,120	204,319	**2,557,743**
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,753	-	190,566	(204,319)	-
Total expenditure	**95,247**	**1,142,810**	**1,319,686**	**-**	**2,557,743**

Total governance costs were £12,852 (2023: £12,840).

6. Total expenditure (continued)

Prior period comparative:

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2023 Total £**
Staff costs (note 9)	62,717	832,974	773,778	126,133	**1,795,602**
Servers and subscriptions	-	38,481	38,219	-	**76,700**
Team meetings and retreats	-	14,332	-	14,077	**28,409**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	10,659	-	19,921	**30,580**
General administration costs	-	5,306	-	8,331	**13,637**
Partner payments (note 7)	-	-	175,201	-	**175,201**
UK travel and subsistence	-	7,780	-	7,212	**14,992**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	13,588	-	9,782	**23,370**
Amortisation	-	47,796	-	-	**47,796**
Depreciation	-	-	-	6,234	**6,234**
Training	-	-	-	4,777	**4,777**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	662	**662**
Marketing	8,105	23,947	-	-	**32,052**
Sub-total	70,822	994,863	987,198	197,129	**2,250,012**
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,195	-	183,934	(197,129)	-
Total expenditure	**84,017**	**994,863**	**1,171,132**	**-**	**2,250,012**

7. Grants payable

Included within 'partner payments' in note 7 are sub-grant 'partner payments' made to the following institutions:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Access Info Europe	**71,285**	53,266
Climate Emergency UK Ltd	**50,000**	40,000
Im23 Ltd	**-**	5,000
Lynsted Community Kitchen Garden	**-**	5,000
Open Knowledge Foundation Deutschland	**47,226**	47,570
Public Association Lawyers for Human Rights	**8,294**	-
The 10:10 Foundation (working name Possible)	**-**	5,000
Superbloom Design	**8,251**	-
Vouliwatch	**16,305**	-
10 (2023: 7) grants payable <£5,000	**27,857**	19,365
	229,218	175,201

No grants were paid to individuals in the current or prior period, and no support costs have been allocated to grant-making activities.

8. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:	**2024**	2023
	£	£
Amortisation	**56,427**	47,796
Depreciation	**6,670**	6,234
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**1,530**	662
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**Nil**	289
Foreign exchange gains / (losses)	**3,750**	1,854
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Statutory audit	**10,360**	10,000
▪ Other services	**350**	300

In the prior year, trustees' reimbursed expenses comprised payments to 3 trustees for travel costs.

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**1,760,746**	1,558,101
Social security costs	**199,403**	186,097
Pension costs	**37,852**	35,199
Contractors	**14,620**	41,504
Less: capitalised product development within SocietyWorks Ltd	**(16,309)**	(25,299)
	1,996,312	1,795,602

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £65,000	**1**	5
£65,001 to £70,000	**7**	1
£75,001 to £80,000	**-**	1
£80,001 to £85,000	**1**	-
£85,001 to £90,000	**1**	1
£90,001 to £95,000	**1**	1

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £104,762 (2023: £105,424).

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Average number of employees (full-time equivalent)	**35**	33

Redundancy and termination payments of £7,370 were paid during the year and included within staff costs above. There were no redundancy and termination costs in 2023.

10. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, has gift aided its available profits to the charity.

11. Tangible fixed assets (Group and Charity)

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	**35,326**
Additions in year	**8,728**
Disposals in year	**(8,114)**
At 31 March 2024	**35,940**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2023	**14,089**
Charge for the year	**6,670**
On disposal	**(6,584)**
At 31 March 2024	**14,175**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2024	**21,765**
At 31 March 2023	21,237

12. Intangible fixed assets (Group)

	Software development £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	**165,200**
Additions in year	**16,309**
At 31 March 2024	**181,509**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2023	**81,818**
Charge for the year	**56,427**
At 31 March 2024	**138,245**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2024	**43,264**
At 31 March 2023	83,382

All intangible assets are held within the trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd.

13. Investments

	The group		The charity	
	2024	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Investment in subsidiary company	**-**	-	**1**	1

The investment represents 100% of the ordinary share capital of SocietyWorks Ltd, whose principal activity is to carry out trading activities in support of the charity. A summary of the financial results and position of SocietyWorks Ltd is given below (see note 14).

14. Subsidiary undertakings

SocietyWorks Ltd

SocietyWorks Ltd (company number 05798215) is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of mySociety. It trades in software and IT consultancy.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Turnover	**1,302,272**	1,202,431
Cost of sales	**(707,362)**	(599,380)
Gross profit	**594,910**	603,051
Administrative expenses	**(435,448)**	(395,483)
Profit on ordinary activities	**159,462**	207,568
Corporation tax	**-**	-
Profit for financial year after taxation	**159,462**	207,568
Changes in equity		
Total retained profit brought forward	**2,755**	2,755
Total comprehensive income for the year	**159,462**	207,568
Gift aid distribution to parent charity	**(159,462)**	(207,568)
Total retained profit carried forward	**2,755**	2,755

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Assets	**1,062,903**	929,696
Liabilities	**(1,060,147)**	(926,940)
Funds	**2,756**	2,756

15. Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross income	**1,950,180**	1,491,984
Results for the year	**535,247**	236,835

16. Debtors

	The group		**The charity**	
	2024	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade debtors	**307,365**	353,090	**4,000**	-
Accrued Income	**-**	30,660	**-**	30,660
Prepayments	**46,064**	26,378	**26,218**	12,748
Amounts owing by group undertakings	**-**	-	**245,931**	284,177
Other debtors	**2,494**	18,851	**2,494**	18,851
	355,923	428,979	**278,643**	346,436

17. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	The group		**The charity**	
	2024	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade creditors	**1,870**	4,705	**1,571**	2,724
Accruals	**11,360**	17,360	**7,560**	13,860
Other taxation and social security	**155,277**	108,809	**57,034**	-
Grants payable	**15,581**	-	**15,581**	-
Other creditors	**10,237**	5,130	**10,237**	5,130
Deferred income (see note 18)	**711,873**	528,474	**-**	-
	906,198	664,478	**91,983**	21,714

18. Deferred income

	The group		The charity	
	2024	2023	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
At 1 April 2023	**528,474**	321,426	**-**	-
Deferred during the year	**711,873**	528,474	**-**	-
Released during the year	**(528,474)**	(321,426)	**-**	-
At 31 March 2024	**711,873**	528,474	**-**	-

Deferred income relates to contract income invoiced by SocietyWorks Ltd in advance of provision of services.

19. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds	General funds	**Total funds**
	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	21,765	**21,765**
Intangible fixed assets	-	43,264	**43,264**
Current assets	572,939	1,474,344	**2,047,283**
Current liabilities	(15,581)	(890,617)	**(906,198)**
Net assets at 31 March 2024	**557,358**	**648,756**	**1,206,114**

Prior period comparative:	Restricted funds	Designated funds	General funds	**Total funds**
	£	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,237	21,237
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	83,382	83,382
Current assets	144,387	240,482	845,857	1,230,726
Current liabilities	(675)	-	(663,803)	(664,478)
Net assets at 31 March 2023	143,712	240,482	286,673	670,867

20. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2024 £**
Restricted funds					
ATI in Europe	37,856	330,273	(250,736)	-	**117,393**
Alaveteli	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	**-**
Aurora Trust	-	50,000	-	-	**50,000**
Black Thrive CIC	-	45,980	(45,980)	-	**-**
The Climate Coallition	-	45,000	(45,000)	-	**-**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	17,247	64,532	(86,017)	-	**(4,238)**
NED - TicTec Communities	-	84,863	(75,560)	-	**9,303**
NED - TicTec Labs	8,956	20,559	(29,515)	-	**-**
Patrick J McGovern	-	237,633	-	-	**237,633**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	54,653	766,480	(673,866)	-	**147,267**
Total restricted funds	143,712	1,645,320	(1,231,674)	-	**557,358**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	240,482	-	-	(240,482)	**-**
General funds	286,673	1,447,670	(1,326,069)	240,482	**648,756**
Total unrestricted funds	527,155	1,447,670	(1,326,069)	-	**648,756**
Total funds	670,867	3,092,990	(2,557,743)	-	**1,206,114**

Purposes of restricted funds

ATI in Europe A project co-funded by grants from Adessium Foundation, Swedish Postcode Foundation and Isocrates Foundation. The project aims to build a cohesive, wide and activated community that is working to strengthen the right of access to information across the European region, so that Access to Information (ATI) delivers the information needed for democratic debate and accountability.

Alaveteli Grant from a private donor and it is restricted for use on developments, projects and initiatives forming part of mySociety's Transparency programme anywhere in the world.

Aurora Trust Grant towards mySociety’s Neighbourhood Warmth programme.

Black Thrive CIC Sub-grant for mySociety’s Transparency work on a project that investigates and communicates the extent to which disproportional use of police stop and search impacts the mental health of young Black people in England and Wales.

The Climate Coalition Funding towards mySociety’s Climate work on the Local Intelligence Hub.

20. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable	A grant that funds mySociety's Transparency programme, ensuring the right to information can be used by all.
National Endowment for Democracy (NED) - TICTeC Communities	Grant to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work enhancing public participation, transparency, and accountability worldwide via TICTeC Surgeries and Action Labs.
National Endowment for Democracy (NED) - TICTeC Labs	Grant to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work enhancing public participation. This fund was previously called National Endowment for Democracy and the name changed to separate the new restricted grant received from the same funder above.
Patrick J McGovern	Grant to enhance the Local Intelligence Hub and amplify public data collaboration for scalable solutions.
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	Grants to accelerate local climate action through data and digital services.

Transfers between funds

Reserve fund	A target level of unrestricted funds to enable mySociety to: cover emergency cash flow shortfalls; respond to an extraordinary event, campaign or project; or wind down the organisation in an orderly fashion should this become necessary. This was transferred to general funds in the year to reflect the new reserves policy.

Funds in deficit

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust is in deficit at year end, funding will be received in April 2024 for the next instalment of the grant.

20. Movements in funds (continued)

Prior period comparative	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2023 £**
Restricted funds					
ATI in Europe	-	170,191	(132,335)	-	**37,856**
Alaveteli	25,000	25,000	(25,000)	-	**25,000**
Columbia University	229	-	(229)	-	**-**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	58,080	(40,833)	-	**-** **17,247**
National Endowment for Democracy	(1,560)	129,931	(119,415)	-	**8,956**
Newby Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	**-**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	10,192	680,875	(636,414)	-	**-** **54,653**
Total restricted funds	33,861	1,074,077	(964,226)	-	**143,712**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	240,021	-	-	461	**240,482**
General funds	160,150	1,412,770	(1,285,786)	(461)	**286,673**
Total unrestricted funds	400,171	1,412,770	(1,285,786)	-	**527,155**
Total funds	434,032	2,486,847	(2,250,012)	-	**670,867**

21. Related party transactions

mySociety has a wholly owned subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd, a company limited by shares (company no. 05798215). At 31 March 2024, SocietyWorks Ltd owed mySociety £245,931 (2023: £284,177).

There were no other related party transactions in the current or prior reporting period.

mySociety

England & Wales - Charity number 1076346

Accounts

Company no. 03277032
Charity no. 1076346

mySociety

Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 March 2023

mySociety

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Company number	03277032
Charity number	1076346
Registered office and operational address	483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

A Adewunmi	
A Brown	
C Brown	resigned 6 July 2023
A J H Burton	
F Mainoo	appointed 1 December 2022
G Maitland Hudson	appointed 6 July 2023
J A F Keutgen	resigned 18 September 2022
D O'Shaughnessy	appointed 1 December 2022
R E Rank	
C Ross	
S Skelton	
J Thornton	appointed 1 December 2022

Chief Executive Officer	L Crow
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 27-31 White Hart Street High Wycombe HP11 2HL
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

mySociety is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under a Memorandum & Articles of Association, and is registered as a charity in England and Wales (registered charity no. 1076346).

mySociety is governed by a board of volunteer trustees. Trustees serve four-year terms, and may be reappointed for one further four-year term after completion of their first. Trustees are generally recruited through an open call for applications, or may occasionally be directly appointed following a period of service as an observer of one of the board's committees. Following their appointment trustees participate in a series of briefings with key staff and fellow trustees as part of their induction; which includes briefings on financial procedures, our priority areas of work, ongoing strategy and organisational setup.

mySociety operates a number of civic and democratic websites, and has a wholly owned commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, governed by its own board of directors comprising a combination of trustees from mySociety, executive directors and independent non-executive directors. Trustees and non-executive directors are not remunerated.

Day-to-day management of mySociety and its subsidiaries is delegated to the Chief Executive except for the following matters which are reserved to the trustees:

- Approval of strategy, values and policy;
- Establishing and disbanding committees of the board;
- The creation, selection and appointment to any post with a total remuneration package of £60,000 p.a. or greater, or FTE;
- Approval of the group's annual report and accounts; and
- Significant financial commitments as set out in a delegations policy.

At any one time, mySociety typically employs around 30 permanent members of staff and a small additional number on temporary contracts. SocietyWorks Ltd employs no staff directly, but buys in labour as required from mySociety.

There is an annual review of pay for all staff members, encompassing two elements:

- Cost of living; and
- Performance.

The Chief Executive makes recommendations to the board of trustees based on performance, affordability and the financial health of mySociety, and changes in averages of salaries for comparable roles (particularly for technical roles), except for the Chief Executive's own pay and that of the Managing Director of SocietyWorks Ltd, which is discussed by the board of trustees alone. The board of trustees either accepts or amends the recommendations, and makes the revised pay offer to the staff.

Salary ranges for new roles are set using both industry benchmarks and salaries of staff members already employed by the organisation in similar roles.

Objectives and activities

Aims and goals

The objectives of mySociety are "to conduct and promote research into the use and effects of information and communication technologies in the context of the operation of any body or bodies which has or have an electorate, and to disseminate the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public".

mySociety uses its UK websites and the international websites it supports to undertake active research to explore what is effective in delivering on this mission. Our ambition is to repower democracy: using our digital and data skills to put more power in more people's hands.

Through the course of 2022/23, we developed and agreed a number of five-year goals that we believe will enable us to realise this ambition to significantly and sustainably grow the positive impact our UK services have for citizens:

1. Reach more, and more kinds of people with our services, focusing on those underserved by democracy and by our services.
2. Get democratic institutions to meet citizens' needs, using insights from our services and support from the communities that use them.
3. Develop new services or service changes across our core areas of work to drive the democratic transition we need in response to the climate crisis.
4. Build UK partnerships targeting citizen reach or specific institutional change to which we can uniquely contribute through our services.
5. Use our research, international network and events to inform and share our practices.
6. Create and sustain supporter and volunteering programmes to build capacity and strengthen our connection to our wider UK community.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Social investment policies

mySociety's ongoing provision of services via its subsidiary trading company, SocietyWorks Ltd, represents a social investment; projects are chosen based on alignment with the charity's purposes, as well as with the aim of achieving a financial return.

Achievements and performance

Our work is organised under four interlinked practice areas, all underpinned by research and sector-building: Democracy, Transparency, Climate, Community. Our communications, fundraising, events and administrative personnel support the activities of these practice areas.

In 2022/23, mySociety's 33 permanent UK staff continued to help citizens in the UK and around the world to meaningfully engage with their government and within their communities - through the running of our services FixMyStreet.com, TheyWorkForYou.com, WhatDoTheyKnow.com and CAPE; by supporting the work of local organisations in over 40 countries worldwide; and by researching the efficacy and impact of digital tools on government accountability, transparency and citizen engagement.

Democracy

Our UK parliament monitoring site TheyWorkForYou had over 6.7 million visits in 2022/23, while our WriteToThem service, enabling people to contact their elected representatives, saw 2.1 million sessions.

TheyWorkForYou's goal is to make the UK's Parliaments more transparent and accessible to citizens and civil society, so that high quality information about our elected representatives isn't only available to insiders or those who can pay. One way we do this is by enabling users to sign up to receive an email alert when specific people speak, or specific keywords are spoken in Parliament - providing a free parliamentary monitoring tool that lowers the bar for small, often underfunded organisations to engage with Parliament. This year, people working in charities told us that they used keyword alerts to track mentions of themes relevant to their work, helping them to identify potentially interested parliamentarians to connect with; and to get clearer details of policy and policy changes, which can be useful in conveying important and up to date information to beneficiaries. Just one of many examples is not-for-profit publication Inside Time, the national newspaper for prisoners and detainees, circulated to all of the UK's 141 prisons. They use the alerts service to monitor for the keyword "prison" – which has enabled them to find and publish important stories - such as one about an innovative scheme to reduce violence, being trialled at 18 prisons - which haven't had any public announcements or press releases.

Transparency

Our Freedom of Information (FOI) platform WhatDoTheyKnow.com makes it easier for people to access information from public authorities in the UK. In 2022/23 around 117,000 FOI requests were sent via the site - an 11% increase on the previous year.

This year, with support from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, we've been working on ways to make it easier for people with low digital literacy to make well-formed FOI requests on WhatDoTheyKnow. This has included adding information that helps citizens understand more about a particular public body - including the kind of information they hold and don't hold - and guidance around how to challenge poor FOI-handling practices.

In October 2022 we launched the second phase of our Access to Information (ATI) in Europe project, in partnership with Access Info Europe and Open Knowledge Foundation Germany. In the first six months of the project we've built new features aimed at reducing the administrative burden of running an Alaveteli site; and we've worked with the groups running ATI sites across Europe to better understand their goals, strengths and weaknesses, and how the project can support them to enhance their impact and sustainability.

In April 2022 we published a report on Improving Oversight of Access to Information, which paints a comprehensive picture of appeal systems and processes across Europe, and argues for the value of specialised oversight bodies (Information Commissioners) who have independence from government and the power to compel compliance from authorities. We submitted evidence to the Ministry of Justice's May 2022 consultation on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs); and we fed into the ICO's November 2022 consultation on how it plans to prioritise FOI complaints. We published our second WhatDoTheyKnow moderation report, detailing the headline facts and figures of the site's usage, as well as quantitative analysis of the requests reported for admin attention, the actions taken - such as removing or hiding requests - and the reasons why.

Climate

With support from Quadrature Climate Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund, we're working to help communities, civil society and local councils tackle the climate emergency. In 2022/23, we embarked on a series of rapid prototyping exercises - bringing together people embedded in a topic area to explore where digital services might help create systemic change. Out of this emerged two areas with high potential that we'll work on in 2023/24: home retrofit, and data sharing for climate campaigning. We also launched a small grants programme, Innovations in Climate Tech, awarding three grants of £5000 for innovators and local councils who work together to trial a digitally-based, local climate-related project.

We continued to partner with Climate Emergency UK, supporting their work on the second round of the Council Climate Action Scorecards - assessing the climate action being undertaken by local authorities. As part of this process, CE UK trialled the use of FOI to source information from councils, working with mySociety's Transparency team to crowdsource data from batch FOI requests. Over the year we saw the first round of the Scorecards - which assessed councils' climate plans - being used in a range of impactful ways by campaigners, councils and other stakeholders.

As part of our work to improve the data ecosystem around climate data, we launched a report on Unlocking the Value of Fragmented Public Data, produced with the Centre for Public Data. The report recommends that government require public authorities to publish data to a common standard and in a common location, and provide support for a data convener. This would help civil society, businesses and other users unlock the full value of many public datasets that are currently underused.

Community
Our FixMyStreet platform provides a simple way for citizens to report faults to authorities responsible for getting them fixed. In 2022/23 FixMyStreet.com saw 4.8 million sessions. In the year we have improved consistency of user experience by replacing the national FixMyStreet app with a progressive web app. Offline reporting functionality is now available on the website and new app, which is particularly important for users in more rural areas where connectivity is poor. Accessibility improvements have included the addition of keyboard navigation of the map for those who may be unable to use a pointing device.

TICTeC
With support from the National Endowment for Democracy we continued to bring together the global civic tech sector through the TICTeC Labs programme, to discuss challenges facing the sector and identify potential ways forward, with small grants available to support organisations to work on the identified solutions. In 2022/23, we explored how we can amplify civic tech successes beyond the civic tech community to evidence our impact through mainstream channels; the opportunities and challenges in using civic tech to encourage people to change and coordinate their behaviour around the climate crisis; and how civic tech can survive and thrive in challenging and hostile environments.

Financial review
Total Group income in 2022/23 was £2.487m, an increase of 33% from the £1.864m recognised in 2021/22. Grant income has increased significantly in comparison with the previous financial year with restricted grant income recognised of £1.049m (2021/22: £0.780m), an increase of 34% on the previous financial year; and unrestricted grant income of £0.165m (2021/22: £0.033m).

Income from other trading activities increased by 26% to £1.202m (2021/22: £0.955m) representing growth in core SocietyWorks business.

Total group expenditure of £2.250m (2021/22: £2.116m) represents a year on year increase of 6%. Expenditure has been well managed in a challenging economic climate with inflationary pressures evident in rising costs of services.

2022/23 saw a net surplus outturn of £0.237m (2021/22: net deficit -£0.253m). Our closing funds at the year end totalled £0.671m (2021/22: £0.434m) made up of unrestricted funds of £0.527m (2021/22: £0.400m) and restricted funds of £0.144m (2021/22: £0.034m).

mySociety's major charitable supporters in 2022/23 have included:
- Quadrature Climate Foundation and National Lottery Community Fund, which together fund our Climate programme;
- Adessium Foundation and Swedish Postcode Foundation, supporting our FOI work in the UK and Europe;
- National Endowment for Democracy, supporting our TICTeC Labs programme;
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, supporting our work to enable FOI use by marginalised groups; and
- Porticus UK, providing unrestricted funding that supports all of our work.

We are also grateful to all the individuals and small private foundations who provide one-off or recurring donations to support mySociety's work.

mySociety's commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, provides sustainable commercial income streams within each of our practice areas, building on and related to the work we do charitably. In particular, our FixMyStreet Pro commercial contracts generate substantial multi-year income streams aligned with our overall mySociety mission and work with local authorities. Profits made from trading activity are distributed to the charity, with income and expenditure from trading activity consolidated in the group accounts as unrestricted funds.

In 2022/23, SocietyWorks Ltd generated a net profit of £0.208m (2021/22: £0.021m) which has contributed to delivering an unrestricted surplus in mySociety.

Going concern

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity held unrestricted reserves of £0.527m at 31 March 2023;
- The charity's key funders for 2022/23 were committed to providing grant payments of £1.110m in the new financial year;
- The trading subsidiary has £0.874m of forward commitments from commercial customers to be recognised in the 2022/23 financial year
- 73% of income against the group's budgeted expenditure for the upcoming 12 months was already secured at the financial year end.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1(c) to the financial statements.

Risk management

The key risks (and their mitigations) for the organisation are as follows:

(1) Risk: Failure to acquire sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation
Mitigation: Charity funding is a primary focus for the organisation; the SocietyWorks team is focused on growing sustainable profits from commercial activity; quarterly financial forecasts are prepared to ensure timely information is available to support critical decision making; relevant consideration will be given to any reductions to the cost base.

(2) Risk: Insufficient free cash to meet financial obligations
Mitigation: Long-term forward planning to ensure that any failure can be addressed by future cost reductions to ensure the organisation remains solvent; cash flow forecasting; robust credit control processes.

(3) Risk: Cyber attack
Mitigation: Strong password policies; access to servers limited; encrypted hard drives; hosting with suppliers experienced in dealing with DOS attacks; project work underway to segregate systems more comprehensively to prevent potential contagion.

(4) Risk: Loss of key staff
Mitigation: Skill sharing across teams to ensure that there is no organisational dependency on a single individual; close line management to identify and address staff concerns; open culture, focus on limiting working hours, and flexible approach to working; Health, Safety & Wellbeing policies and practises implemented and monitored; process mapping and documentation of key knowledge.

(5) Risk: Loss of WhatDoTheyKnow volunteers
Mitigation: Service Manager focused on maintaining a healthy culture between staff and volunteer team; volunteers better integrated with the wider organisation; funding and resource allocation to reduce the administrative burden.

(6) Risk: Publication on one of our sites by users leads to safeguarding failure, reputational damage and / or legal action
Mitigation: Legal mailing list exists to discuss and address any issues raised; Service Manager supports the tracking of and escalation of specific risky issues and deadlines; high-risk issues call every other week to review problematic cases; complaints and escalation processes are established and published; reporting facilities and post-hoc moderation in place across all sites to remove any such material in a timely manner; robust commercial contracts where relevant.

(7) Risk: Capacity planning in our server infrastructure is inadequate
Mitigation: maintenance of multiple server instances and deployment automation allowing quick movement and load balancing of services to manage sudden changes in capacity; monitoring alerts to sudden changes that impact availability, helping to diagnose and manage trends; extensive performance monitoring.

(8) Risk: Disaster Recovery Procedures (DR) are inadequate in the event they are needed
Mitigation: We tested DR processes for FixMyStreet in 2019 and have a broad plan in place that can be followed. We are currently reviewing these plans in order to make them more effective. Server migration work was completed in 2022/23 reducing the risk rating.

(9) Risk: Failure to update services to respond to new technical and societal developments makes our services irrelevant
Mitigation: new strategy development; monitor quantitative and qualitative use of services as proxies for impact; consideration of projects that will allow update of services or creation of new services to reflect new external developments.

Reserves policy
mySociety aims to have sufficient free, unrestricted cash to cover three to six months of the group's unrestricted operational costs.

As at 31 March 2023, three to six months of unrestricted operational costs were estimated at £0.442m-£0.883m. Unrestricted cash held at the year end totalled £0.667m, which is within the parameters of the reserves policy.

mySociety has established a separate designated reserves fund which represents a cash fund to be used if a worst case scenario emerged and the charity had to be closed down. These funds would be used to support an orderly close down in this event. These monies are set aside in a ring-fenced bank account, requiring trustee approval to use. At the end of the financial year this designated reserves fund stood at £0.240m (2021/22: £0.240m).

Plans for future periods

In 2023/24 we'll be working to make progress against each of the five-year goals set out on page 3 of this report. To further our aim of reaching people and communities who are underserved by our democratic system and by our services, we'll undertake research that builds our understanding of how people and organisations are using our democracy services, and what we could do to better meet their needs. We'll seek to build partnerships with organisations that will allow us to present democratic information to people who otherwise have the least opportunity to benefit from it, and we'll conduct outreach to and provide support for grassroots civil society groups to improve their understanding of how FOI can be used to make change.

We'll work to build the foundations of an integrated approach to campaigning, using insights from our services and support from the communities that use them to influence the policy and practice of democratic institutions so that they better align with the kind of democracy people want. We also plan to launch a new supporter programme that deepens our relationship with citizens and understanding of their needs; provides a source of long-term funding; and uses people power to supercharge what our services and campaigning can achieve.

In our Climate programme, we'll work to further develop and launch two new services - on data sharing for climate campaigning, and home energy retrofit - that will support a faster, more informed and effective response to the climate crisis in the UK. Beyond the UK, our TICTeC programme will promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations and other stakeholders working in three fields - parliamentary monitoring, access to information and climate democracy; while in our Transparency programme we'll continue working with partners to strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the network of ATI platforms across Europe.

Fundraising

mySociety solicits donations from the public via its website only, and does not engage in any follow-up activity with individual donors unless consent has been given for further contact. We do not employ outside fundraisers, and are not bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising, but will keep this under review as our fundraising work develops. No complaints have been received about our fundraising activity.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the group and parent charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 19 October 2023 and signed on their behalf by

A. Brown	G. Maitland Hudson
Trustee	Chair

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of mySociety (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated and parent charity balance sheets, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the 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 group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the group and parent charity financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the group and parent charity 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 19 October 2023

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:
GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

mySociety

Consolidated statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2023 Total £**	2022 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	1,074,077	209,869	**1,283,946**	879,648
Charitable activities	4	-	-	**-**	29,172
Other trading activities	5	-	1,202,431	**1,202,431**	954,720
Investments		-	470	**470**	70
Total income		1,074,077	1,412,770	**2,486,847**	1,863,610
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds: raising charitable donations		-	84,017	**84,017**	90,281
Raising funds: trading activity		-	994,863	**994,863**	933,456
Charitable activities		964,226	206,906	**1,171,132**	1,092,421
Total expenditure	7	964,226	1,285,786	**2,250,012**	2,116,158
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	9	109,851	126,984	**236,835**	(252,548)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		33,861	400,171	**434,032**	686,580
Total funds carried forward		143,712	527,155	**670,867**	434,032

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 21 to the accounts.

mySociety

Consolidated balance sheets

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	**The group 2023 £**	The group 2022 £	**The charity 2023 £**	The charity 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	**21,237**	22,304	**21,237**	22,304
Intangible assets	13	**83,382**	105,880	**-**	-
Investments	14	**-**	-	**1**	1
		104,619	128,184	**21,238**	22,305
Current assets					
Debtors	17	**428,979**	220,291	**346,436**	110,835
Cash at bank and in hand		**801,747**	602,469	**322,152**	438,877
		1,230,726	822,760	**668,588**	549,712
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	18	**(664,478)**	(516,912)	**(21,714)**	(140,740)
Net current assets		**566,248**	305,848	**646,874**	408,972
Net assets	20	**670,867**	434,032	**668,112**	431,277
Funds	21				
Restricted funds		**143,712**	33,861	**143,712**	33,861
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**240,482**	240,021	**240,482**	240,021
General funds		**286,673**	160,150	**283,918**	157,395
Total charity funds		**670,867**	434,032	**668,112**	431,277

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 19 October 2023 and signed on their behalf by

A. Brown
Trustee

GE Maitland Hudson

G. Maitland Hudson
Chair

mySociety

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	**236,835**	(252,548)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**6,234**	4,901
Amortisation charges	**47,796**	34,022
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(470)**	(70)
Loss / (profit) on the sale of fixed assets	**662**	1,968
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**(208,688)**	21,379
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	**147,566**	159,197
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**229,935**	(31,151)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**470**	70
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	**840**	84
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(6,669)**	(20,995)
Recognition of intangible fixed assets	**(25,298)**	(45,404)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	**(30,657)**	(66,245)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**199,278**	(97,396)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**602,469**	699,865
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**801,747**	602,469

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

mySociety 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 note.

b) Group accounts

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned (controlled) subsidiary on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

c) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the charitable company’s current and future financial position and the level of unrestricted, general reserves held at 31 March 2023. The charity also has significant confirmed unrestricted funding for the year ended 31 March 2023. Given the above, the trustees consider that the charitable company has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

d) Income

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

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of provision of invoiced consultancy and software services is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Recharges of staff costs between the charitable company and its subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd have not been recognised as income in the charitable company's statement of financial activities, and are instead netted off against expenditure. This has no impact upon the consolidated figures, in which intercompany transactions are eliminated.

1. **Accounting policies (continued)**

e) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

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

g) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Grants payable

Grants payable are recognised as expenditure on the earlier of a) when the charity has a present obligation to transfer resources; and b) when the charity ceases to control the resource (e.g. via transfering funds to the grant recipient).

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of direct costs, as follows:

	2023	2022
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	**6.7%**	7.6%
Charitable activities	**93.3%**	92.4%

1. **Accounting policies (continued)**

k) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 - 5 years straight line basis

l) Intangible fixed assets

Product development expenditure is capitalised only if the expenditure can be measured reliably, the product or process is technically feasible, future economic benefits are probable and the company intends to and has sufficient resources to complete development and to use or sell the asset. Otherwise, it is recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, product development is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of intangible assets over the estimated period that economic benefit attributable to the asset is expected to flow to the company. The amortisation rates in use are as follows:

Software development	3 years straight line basis

m) Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less impairment.

n) Debtors

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

o) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

p) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

q) Financial instruments

The charitable 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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

r) Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

1. **Accounting policies (continued)**

s) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

t) Accounting estimates and key judgements

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

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

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below.

Depreciation

As described in note 1k to the financial statements, depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Amortisation

As described in note 1l to the financial statements, amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Work in progress

Work in progress is calculated by comparing progress on a project against the budgeted cost. The work in progress element of trade debtors in these accounts in relation to the group figures is £Nil (2022: £12,089).

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	805,284	74,364	**879,648**
Charitable activities	-	29,172	**29,172**
Other trading activities	-	954,720	**954,720**
Investments	-	70	**70**
Total income	805,284	1,058,326	**1,863,610**
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	-	90,281	**90,281**
Raising funds: trading activity	-	933,456	**933,456**
Charitable activities	827,167	265,254	**1,092,421**
Total expenditure	827,167	1,288,991	**2,116,158**
Net expenditure and net movement in funds	(21,883)	(230,665)	**(252,548)**

3. Income from donations

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Quadrature	470,000	30,000	**500,000**
Swedish Postcode Foundation	85,041	-	**85,041**
The National Lottery Community Fund	210,875	-	**210,875**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,080	-	**58,080**
Adessium Foundation	85,150	-	**85,150**
National Endowment for Democracy	129,931	-	**129,931**
J and H Cross	25,000	-	**25,000**
Newby Trust	10,000	-	**10,000**
Porticus	-	135,000	**135,000**
Other donations	-	44,869	**44,869**
Total income from donations	1,074,077	209,869	**1,283,946**

3. Income from donations (continued)

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Quadrature	367,000	33,000	400,000
Swedish Postcode Foundation	116,679	-	116,679
The National Lottery Community Fund	88,552	-	88,552
Columbia University	78,064	-	78,064
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority	50,000	-	50,000
Adessium Foundation	42,046	-	42,046
National Endowment for Democracy	37,943	-	37,943
J and H Cross	25,000	-	25,000
Other donations	-	41,364	41,364
Total income from donations	805,284	74,364	879,648

4. Income from charitable activities

	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Charitable consultancy	**-**	29,172

All income from charitable activities in the prior period was unrestricted.

5. Income from other trading activities

	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Sale of software and IT consultancy	**1,202,431**	954,720

All income from other trading activities in the current and prior period was unrestricted.

6. Government grants

The charitable company receives a government grant, defined as funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the year ending 31 March 2023 was £210,875 (2022: £88,552). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

7. Total expenditure

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2023 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	62,717	832,974	773,778	126,133	**1,795,602**
Servers and subscriptions	-	38,481	38,219	-	**76,700**
Team meetings and retreats	-	14,332	-	14,077	**28,409**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	10,659	-	19,921	**30,580**
General administration costs	-	5,306	-	8,331	**13,637**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	175,201	-	**175,201**
UK travel and subsistence	-	7,780	-	7,212	**14,992**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	13,588	-	9,782	**23,370**
Amortisation	-	47,796	-	-	**47,796**
Depreciation	-	-	-	6,234	**6,234**
Training	-	-	-	4,777	**4,777**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	662	**662**
Marketing	8,105	23,947	-	-	**32,052**
Sub-total	70,822	994,863	987,198	197,129	**2,250,012**
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,195	-	183,934	(197,129)	-
Total expenditure	**84,017**	**994,863**	**1,171,132**	**-**	**2,250,012**

7. Total expenditure (continued)

Prior period comparative:

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2022 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	68,047	796,815	749,148	171,063	**1,785,073**
Servers and subscriptions	-	31,638	32,573	-	**64,211**
Team meetings and retreats	-	10,806	-	11,962	**22,768**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	9,490	-	18,931	**28,421**
General administration costs	-	4,363	-	13,091	**17,454**
Recruitment	-	-	-	29,395	**29,395**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	67,995	-	**67,995**
UK travel and subsistence	-	4,290	-	-	**4,290**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	5,093	-	5,377	**10,470**
Amortisation	-	34,022	-	-	**34,022**
Depreciation	-	-	-	4,901	**4,901**
Training	-	-	-	6,075	**6,075**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	1,968	**1,968**
Marketing	2,176	36,939	-	-	**39,115**
Sub-total	70,223	933,456	849,716	262,763	**2,116,158**
Allocation of support and governance costs	20,058	-	242,705	(262,763)	-
Total expenditure	**90,281**	**933,456**	**1,092,421**	**-**	**2,116,158**

Total governance costs were £12,840 (2022: £10,440).

8. Grants payable

Included within 'partner payments' in note 7 are sub-grant 'partner payments' made to the following institutions:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Access Info Europe	**53,266**	-
Climate Emergency UK Ltd	**40,000**	56,000
Fundacion Multitudes	**3,291**	-
GES Savjetovanje d.o.o	**-**	1,000
Im23 Ltd	**5,000**	-
Lynsted Community Kitchen Garden	**5,000**	-
Open Knowledge Foundation Deutschland	**47,570**	-
Open North Inc	**3,233**	-
People Powered Global Hub	**3,224**	-
Policy Lab Africa	**3,187**	-
Technoloxia Ytech Strategic Studies Center	**3,198**	-
The 10:10 Foundation (working name Possible)	**5,000**	-
The Demography Project	**3,232**	-
Vouliwatch	**-**	4,783
Other grants payable <£1,000	**-**	6,212
	175,201	67,995

No grants were paid to individuals in the current or prior period, and no support costs have been allocated to grant-making activities.

9. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:	2023	2022
	£	£
Amortisation	**47,796**	34,022
Depreciation	**6,234**	4,901
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**289**	367
Foreign exchange gains / (losses)	**1,854**	-
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (excluding VAT)	**10,400**	8,100
▪ Other services (excluding VAT)	**300**	600

Trustees' reimbursed expenses comprised payments to 3 trustees for travel costs.

10. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**1,558,101**	1,583,345
Social security costs	**186,097**	177,560
Pension costs	**35,199**	32,330
Contractors	**41,504**	37,242
Less: capitalised product development within SocietyWorks Ltd	**(25,299)**	(45,404)
	1,795,602	1,785,073

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £65,000	**5**	2
£65,001 to £70,000	**1**	1
£70,001 to £75,000	**-**	1
£75,001 to £80,000	**1**	1
£85,001 to £90,000	**1**	-
£90,001 to £95,000	**1**	-
£135,001 to £140,000	**-**	1

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £105,424 (2022: £151,064).

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Average number of employees (full-time equivalent)	**33**	31

In 2022, redundancy and termination payments relating to three employees amounted to £35,473 for the year. Payments of £13,250 were made during the year with a further amount of £22,223 owed as of 31 March 2022. There were no redundancy and termination costs in 2023.

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, has gift aided its available profits to the charity.

12. Tangible fixed assets (Group and Charity)

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	**31,152**
Additions in year	**6,669**
Disposals in year	**(2,495)**
At 31 March 2023	**35,326**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2022	**8,848**
Charge for the year	**6,234**
On disposal	**(993)**
At 31 March 2023	**14,089**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	**21,237**
At 31 March 2022	22,304

13. Intangible fixed assets (Group)

	Software development £
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	**139,902**
Additions in year	**25,298**
At 31 March 2023	**165,200**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2022	**34,022**
Charge for the year	**47,796**
At 31 March 2023	**81,818**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	**83,382**
At 31 March 2022	105,880

All intangible assets are held within the trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd.

14. Investments

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Investment in subsidiary company	**-**	-	**1**	1

The investment represents 100% of the ordinary share capital of SocietyWorks Ltd, whose principal activity is to carry out trading activities in support of the charity. A summary of the financial results and position of SocietyWorks Ltd is given below (see note 15).

15. Subsidiary undertakings

SocietyWorks Ltd

SocietyWorks Ltd (company number 05798215) is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of mySociety. It trades in software and IT consultancy.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	**1,202,431**	954,720
Cost of sales	**(599,380)**	(589,507)
Gross profit	**603,051**	365,213
Administrative expenses	**(395,483)**	(343,949)
Profit on ordinary activities	**207,568**	21,264
Corporation tax	**-**	-
Profit for financial year after taxation	**207,568**	21,264
Changes in equity		
Total retained profit brought forward	**2,755**	2,755
Total comprehensive income for the year	**207,568**	21,264
Gift aid distribution to parent charity	**(207,568)**	(21,264)
Total retained profit carried forward	**2,755**	2,755

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Assets	**929,696**	459,021
Liabilities	**(926,940)**	(456,265)
Funds	**2,756**	2,756

16. Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross income	**1,491,984**	930,154
Results for the year	**236,838**	(252,548)

17. Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	**353,090**	185,140	**-**	16,000
Accrued Income	**30,660**	12,089	**30,660**	-
Prepayments	**26,378**	14,211	**12,748**	5,891
Amounts owing by group undertakings	**-**	-	**284,177**	80,093
Other debtors	**18,851**	8,851	**18,851**	8,851
	428,979	220,291	**346,436**	110,835

18. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	**4,705**	8,845	**2,724**	8,845
Accruals	**17,360**	70,166	**13,860**	66,416
Other taxation and social security	**108,809**	106,562	**-**	55,566
Other creditors	**5,130**	9,913	**5,130**	9,913
Deferred income (see note 19)	**528,474**	321,426	**-**	-
	664,478	516,912	**21,714**	140,740

19. Deferred income

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	**321,426**	265,615	**-**	-
Deferred during the year	**528,474**	321,426	**-**	-
Released during the year	**(321,426)**	(265,615)	**-**	-
At 31 March 2023	**528,474**	321,426	**-**	-

Deferred income relates to contract income invoiced by SocietyWorks Ltd in advance of provision of services.

20. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,237	**21,237**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	83,382	**83,382**
Current assets	144,387	240,482	845,857	**1,230,726**
Current liabilities	(675)	-	(663,803)	**(664,478)**
Net assets at 31 March 2023	**143,712**	**240,482**	**286,673**	**670,867**

Prior period comparative:	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	22,304	**22,304**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	105,880	**105,880**
Current assets	41,361	240,021	541,378	**822,760**
Current liabilities	(7,500)	-	(509,412)	**(516,912)**
Net assets at 31 March 2022	**33,861**	**240,021**	**160,150**	**434,032**

21. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2023 £**
Restricted funds					
ATI in Europe	-	170,191	(132,335)	-	**37,856**
Alaveteli	25,000	25,000	(25,000)	-	**25,000**
Columbia University	229	-	(229)	-	**-**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	58,080	(40,833)	-	**17,247**
National Endowment for Democracy	(1,560)	129,931	(119,415)	-	**8,956**
Newby Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	**-**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	10,192	680,875	(636,414)	-	**54,653**
Total restricted funds	33,861	1,074,077	(964,226)	-	**143,712**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	240,021	-	-	461	**240,482**
General funds	160,150	1,412,770	(1,285,786)	(461)	**286,673**
Total unrestricted funds	400,171	1,412,770	(1,285,786)	-	**527,155**
Total funds	434,032	2,486,847	(2,250,012)	-	**670,867**

Purposes of restricted funds

ATI in Europe A project co-funded by grants from Adessium Foundation and Swedish Postcode Foundation. The project aims to build a cohesive, wide and activated community that is working to strengthen the right of access to information across the European region, so that Access to Information (ATI) delivers the information needed for democratic debate and accountability.

Alaveteli Fund from a private donor and it is restricted to the work on the open-source software for making freedom of information requests to public bodies.

BEIS Grant to enable the development of the council climate action plans service with a focus on the needs of councils and government stakeholders, resulting in a substantially improved service for these user groups.

Columbia University Grant to cover the costs of a seconded employee.

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable A grant that funds mySociety's Transparency programme, ensuring the right to information can be used by all.

The Legal Education Foundation Grant to fund collaboration with advocacy group Tower Blocks UK on an online tool to help residents address safety and maintenance concerns in their buildings.

21. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Newby Trust	A grant for the Democracy programme and in particular the work needed to update and improve voting record information on TheyWorkForYou.
National Endowment for Democracy	Grant to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work enhancing public participation, transparency, and accountability worldwide via TICTeC Surgeries and Action Labs.
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	Grants to accelerate local climate action through data and digital services.

Purposes of designated funds

Reserve fund	A target level of unrestricted funds to enable mySociety to: cover emergency cash flow shortfalls; respond to an extraordinary event, campaign or project; or wind down the organisation in an orderly fashion should this become necessary.

Prior period comparative

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2022 £**
Restricted funds					
Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation	44,460	158,725	(203,185)	-	**-**
Alaveteli	-	25,000	-	-	**25,000**
BEIS	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	**-**
Columbia University	-	78,064	(77,835)	-	**229**
The Legal Education Foundation	11,284	-	(11,284)	-	**-**
National Endowment for Democracy	-	37,943	(39,503)	-	**(1,560)**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	-	455,552	(445,360)	-	**10,192**
Total restricted funds	55,744	805,284	(827,167)	-	**33,861**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	180,004	-	-	60,017	**240,021**
General funds	450,832	1,058,326	(1,288,991)	(60,017)	**160,150**
Total unrestricted funds	630,836	1,058,326	(1,288,991)	-	**400,171**
Total funds	686,580	1,863,610	(2,116,158)	-	**434,032**

22. Related party transactions

mySociety has a wholly owned subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd, a company limited by shares (company no. 05798215). At 31 March 2023, SocietyWorks Ltd owed mySociety £284,177 (2022: £80,093).

There were no other related party transactions in the current or prior reporting period.

mySociety

England & Wales - Charity number 1076346

Accounts

Company no. 3277032
Charity no. 1076346

mySociety

Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 March 2022

mySociety

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Company number	3277032
Charity number	1076346
Registered office and operational address	483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

A Adewunmi	appointed 1 April 2021
A Brown	
C Brown	
A J H Burton	
J P I Flowers	resigned 2 December 2021
T Hunt	resigned 9 December 2021
J A F Keutgen	
R E Rank	
C Ross	appointed 1 April 2021
S Skelton	appointed 1 April 2021

Bankers	Lloyds Bank 27-31 White Hart Street High Wycombe HP11 2HL
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

mySociety is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under a Memorandum & Articles of Association, and is registered as a charity in England and Wales (registered charity no. 1076346).

mySociety is governed by a board of volunteer trustees. Trustees serve four-year terms, and may be reappointed for one further four-year term after completion of their first. Trustees are generally recruited through an open call for applications, or may occasionally be directly appointed following a period of service as an observer of one of the board's committees. Following their appointment trustees participate in a series of briefings with key staff and fellow trustees as part of their induction; which includes briefings on financial procedures, our priority areas of work, ongoing strategy and organisational setup.

mySociety operates a number of civic and democratic websites, and has a wholly owned commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, governed by its own board of directors comprising a combination of trustees from mySociety, executive directors and independent non-executive directors. Trustees and non-executive directors are not remunerated.

Day-to-day management of mySociety and its subsidiaries is delegated to the Chief Executive except for the following matters which are reserved to the trustees:

- Approval of strategy, values and policy;
- Establishing and disbanding committees of the board;
- The creation, selection and appointment to any post with a total remuneration package of £60,000 p.a. or greater, or FTE;
- Approval of the group's annual report and accounts; and
- Significant financial commitments as set out in a delegations policy.

At any one time, mySociety typically employs around 30 permanent members of staff and a small additional number on temporary contracts. SocietyWorks Ltd employs no staff directly, but buys in labour as required from mySociety.

There is an annual review of pay for all staff members, encompassing two elements:

- Cost of living; and
- Performance.

The Chief Executive makes recommendations to the board of trustees based on performance, affordability and the financial health of mySociety, and changes in averages of salaries for comparable roles (particularly for technical roles), except for the Chief Executive's own pay which is discussed by the board of trustees alone. The board of trustees either accepts or amends the recommendations, and makes the revised pay offer to the staff.

Salary ranges for new roles are set using both industry benchmarks and salaries of staff members already employed by the organisation in similar roles.

mySociety

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

Aims and goals

The objectives of mySociety are "to conduct and promote research into the use and effects of information and communication technologies in the context of the operation of any body or bodies which has or have an electorate, and to disseminate the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public".

mySociety uses its UK websites and the international websites it supports to undertake active research to explore what is effective in delivering on this mission.

In November 2021 we launched our new strategy, all about the shifts we need to make in how we work, and why we think that, as a society, we need to repower democracy. As part of this thinking, we defined our *why* , *how* and *what* :

Why : We believe people can and want to work together to build a fairer society – the web can help do this at scale.

How : Our role is to repower democracy: using our digital and data skills to put more power in more people's hands.

What : We work in partnership with people, communities and institutions to harness digital technology in service of civic participation.

In order to do this, over the next several years we will:

- Seek to evolve our portfolio of existing services to become hubs of motivated and empowered community building and action; develop new models of action to directly address the most urgent crises facing society; and expand the ways we operate, bringing in new skills and expertise beyond our core tech, delivery and research staff;
- Look to adopt a model where we spend more time enabling participation and collaboration between people, communities and institutions — increasing participation and prising open institutions;
- Increasingly seek to support others to deliver more meaningful impact with our help; adopting our shared technology and open approach, convening and enabling new communities of practice; and
- Help people understand and influence how decisions are made; not just provide better tools by which to choose and challenge politicians.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Social investment policies

mySociety's ongoing provision of services via its subsidiary trading company, SocietyWorks Ltd, represents a social investment; projects are chosen based on alignment with the charity's purposes, as well as with the aim of achieving a financial return.

Achievements and performance

Our work is organised under four interlinked practice areas, all underpinned by research and sector-building:

- Democracy;
- Transparency;
- Community; and
- Climate.

Our communications, fundraising, events and administrative personnel support the activities of these practice areas.

In 2021/22, mySociety's 31 permanent UK staff continued to help citizens in the UK and around the world to meaningfully engage with their government and within their communities - through the running of our services FixMyStreet.com, TheyWorkForYou.com, WhatDoTheyKnow.com and the Climate Action Plan Explorer; by supporting the work of local organisations in over 40 countries worldwide; and by researching the efficacy and impact of digital tools on government accountability, transparency and citizen engagement.

Democracy

Our UK parliament monitoring site TheyWorkForYou saw over 7.5 million visits in 2021/22. Peaks in traffic reflected major news events, including the murder of David Amess MP on 15th October, and the debate and vote on MP Standards (including Owen Paterson MP's conduct) on 4th November. WriteToThem saw over 2.7 million visits, and over 183,000 emails sent. The highest daily numbers of visits similarly coincided with big events in the news: the start of COP26, where Boris Johnson sat next to Sir David Attenborough and didn't wear a face mask (3rd November), and the end of COP26 and the taxi explosion outside Liverpool Women's hospital (15th November).

To inform our ongoing work around TheyWorkForYou, we worked with Opinium to ask the public some questions. The polling showed that 62% of the public think parties should be public with how they instruct their MPs to vote; 55% of the public think MPs are personally responsible for their vote, regardless of party instruction; and most people are undecided on whether the fact that an MP was elected on a party manifesto means they should follow party instructions.

Transparency

Our Freedom of Information (FOI) platform WhatDoTheyKnow.com makes it easier for people to access information from public authorities in the UK. In 2021/22 around 105,000 FOI requests were sent via the site - a 17% increase on the previous year. We launched two new FOI tools: support for users to challenge a refused FOI request (with support from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust), and the Projects feature that enables journalists, researchers and campaigners gathering large quantities of data though FOI requests to use volunteers to crowdsource the extraction of data. In an effort to make our own work more transparent, we published our first WhatDoTheyKnow moderation report, detailing the requests reported for admin attention, the actions taken - such as removing or hiding requests - and the reasons why.

Working with local partners, and with support from Adessium Foundation and Swedish Postcode Foundation, we launched three new FOI platforms - arthro5a.gr, iastatullaintrebari.ro and askgov.ge - giving online access to information for the citizens of Greece, Romania and Georgia respectively. We added the Pro package (for professional FOI users such as journalists) to the imamopravoznati.org platform in Croatia and kimittud.atlatszo.hu in Hungary. A great example of this growing network of FOI platforms being put to good use is the Lost in Europe continent-wide investigation into young migrants who go missing at the border, which involved submitting FOI requests to authorities across Europe via the platforms.

mySociety's research team has presented evidence-based arguments for improving the way FOI is handled in the UK, including in our Reforming Freedom of Information report launched in April 2021, our submission to the PACAC inquiry into the Cabinet Office's FOI 'clearing house', and our response to the government's plans for a new data protection framework. We argued that high quality FOI oversight is a cost-effective way of strengthening anti-corruption and good policymaking approaches: FOI regulators should be independent from government, have specialist knowledge of FOI, have the power to compel compliance, and have good quality statistics on the full workings of the FOI system.

Climate

With support from Quadrature Climate Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund, we're working to help local councils and communities better tackle the climate emergency. In collaboration with Climate Emergency UK, we made significant improvements to the Climate Action Plan Explorer (CAPE) service at data.climateemergency.uk: the first site to collect UK council climate action plans in a single database. By extracting the headline pledges and carbon zero target dates from councils' websites and plans, the site now enables users to compare councils' climate plans with their promises. We've dramatically improved the display of emissions data, to help people understand which sectors are responsible for the most emissions, and added information to help users understand which councils are responsible for what sort of climate action.

We also provided technical support to Climate Emergency UK for their Council Climate Plan Scorecards project, launched in January 2022, which assesses every UK council's climate action plan against several criteria of excellence. This is a significant step forward in terms of structured, accessible and comparative information on what councils are doing well, and where there is room for improvement. The CAPE and Scorecards sites are already proving to be valuable tools both for citizens and campaigners, and for councils seeking to use the data to learn from other councils and improve their planned climate action.

The Climate team participated in and presented at a range of events to raise awareness among the people and groups who could benefit from our work. This included events at the COP26 Climate Law and Governance Day and the People's Summit for Climate Justice hosted by the COP26 Coalition.

Community

In 2021 we completed work on the FixMyBlock website, which had been enabled by a grant from the Legal Education Foundation, and handed over the site's ongoing operation to information and advocacy group Tower Blocks UK. Under their stewardship, the site will continue to help social housing tenants get problems resolved, and provide advice and tools for advocacy and activism around fire safety and disrepair.

We did not receive any new funding for work in our Community practice area.

TICTeC
While health and travel restrictions meant that we were again unable to hold our annual TICTeC conference in person, throughout 2021 mySociety hosted a number of short and lively Show & Tell events. The topics covered ranged from lessons learned from online deliberation projects, to empowering communities using geospatial technology, to an exploration of the use and impacts of FOI across Europe.

In 2021/22 we launched the new TICTeC Labs programme, with support from the National Endowment for Democracy. The programme convenes the global civic tech sector in a series of 'surgeries' to identify challenges facing the sector and discuss potential steps forward. Working groups are then created to commission solutions, with grant funding available for those who build the identified solutions. So far, we've explored how civic tech can work effectively with public and private institutions; how to ensure civic tech is accessible; and how to overcome barriers to accessing good data.

Financial review
Total Group income in 2021/22 was £1.864m, a decrease of 5% from the £1.966m received in 2020/21. Significantly, the profile of grant income changed, with £0.805m income received from restricted grants, 93% increase on the £0.417m received in 2020/21; and £0.033m unrestricted grant income received in 2021/22 (2020/21: £0.422m). This is reflective of the changing landscape of grant funding, with unrestricted grant funding proving more difficult to secure.

Income from other trading activities decreased by 6% to £0.955m (2020/21: £1.016m). Underlying these figures is £0.955m income from core product sales, an increase of 17% against the prior year (2020/21: £0.813m); and negligible income from one-off work for hire contracts (2020/21: £0.203m).

Total expenditure in 2021/22 was £2.116m, an increase of 42% from £1.487m in 2020/21. This increase represents significant investment in additional staff roles on the funded climate programme; as well as additional investment in marketing, account management, and finance and commercial resourcing to support a period of organisational stabilisation, and enable future growth.

2021/22 saw a net deficit outturn of £0.253m, a decrease on the £0.480m surplus reported in 2020/21. The significant reduction in year-on-year net income represents the combination of the increase in investment in staff roles across our climate funded programme, as well as investment in roles to support stabilisation and future growth; as well as not securing unrestricted grant income in the charity, and the change of income profile in the trading subsidiary with the strategic decision to move away from work for hire projects to focus mainly on core product sales and delivery. The deficit outturn for the financial year was funded through reserves. Our closing reserves at the year end totalled £0.434m made up of unrestricted reserves of £0.400m and restricted reserves of £0.034m.

mySociety's major charitable supporters in 2021/22 have included:
- Quadrature Climate Foundation and National Lottery Community Fund, which together fund our Climate programme;
- Adessium Foundation and Swedish Postcode Foundation, supporting our FOI work in the UK and Europe; and
- National Endowment for Democracy, supporting our TICTeC Labs programme.

A number of other funders supported specific projects which mySociety would otherwise have been unable to undertake. These include:

- The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, enabling the development of the CAPE service with a focus on the needs of councils and government; and
- The Legal Education Foundation, which continued to fund our work with Tower Blocks UK on an online platform to empower high rise residents.

We are also grateful to all the individuals and small private foundations who provide one-off or recurring donations to support mySociety's work.

mySociety's commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, provides sustainable commercial income streams within each of our practice areas, building on and related to the work we do charitably. In particular, our FixMyStreet Pro business brings in substantial commercial income aligned with our overall mySociety mission and work with local government, and generates profits that are passed on to the charity as unrestricted income.

In 2021/22, SocietyWorks Ltd generated a net profit of £0.021m (2020/21: £0.346m) which has contributed to reducing the net deficit of mySociety for the year. In spite of an increase in core product income in the 2021/22, the reduction in year-on-year net profit is explained by a number of factors: exceptional work for hire income projects in 2020/21; the impact of accounting recognition of intangible assets, with investment in capitalised development work more significant in 2021/22; and increased investment in 2021/22 in relation to additional staff roles, marketing and advertising to enable future business growth.

Going concern

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted reserves of £0.401m;
- The charity's key funders for 2021/22 are committed to providing grant payments of £0.812m in the new financial year;
- The trading subsidiary has £0.776m of forward commitments from commercial customers to be recognised in the 2022/23 financial year; and
- 66% of income against the group's budgeted expenditure for the upcoming 12 months is secured.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1(c) to the financial statements.

Risk management

The key risks (and their mitigations) for the organisation are as follows:

(1) Risk: Failure to acquire sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation
Mitigation: A key risk - we have not acquired sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation at its current size for any great length of time. Primary focus for Fundraising Manager, supported by Chief Executive and Senior Management Team. As needed, consideration may be given to what reductions need to be made to the cost base. Quarterly financial reforecasts will be prepared to ensure timely information is available to support critical decision making.

(2) Risk: Loss of key staff
Mitigation: Skill sharing across team to ensure that there is no organisational dependency on a single individual. Close line management to identify and address staff concerns. Open culture, focus on limiting working hours, flexible approach to working. Health, Safety & Wellbeing project, and Rewards & Benefits project, now underway.

(3) Risk: Legal action against WhatDoTheyKnow
Mitigation: Legal mailing list exists to discuss and address any issues raised. A Service Manager was appointed in 2021/22 to support tracking of and escalation of specific risky issues and deadlines.

(4) Risk: Climate emergency
Mitigation: Developing strategy and opportunities around democracy and climate change as an area of positive contribution.

(5) Risk: Disaster Recovery Procedures (DR) are complex and may result in loss of up to 24 hours of data
Mitigation: We tested DR process for FMS in Q4 2019. We have a broad plan in place that can be followed. We are currently reviewing these plans in order to make them more effective. The server migration work that was completed in Q1 2022/23 should make this work easier.

Reserves policy
mySociety aims to have sufficient free, unrestricted cash to cover three to six months of the group's unrestricted operational costs.

At 31 March 2022, three to six months unrestricted operational costs are estimated at £0.395m-£0.790m. Unrestricted reserves held at the year end totalled £0.400m, which is within the parameters of the reserves policy.

mySociety has established a separate designated reserves fund which represents a cash fund to be used if a worst case scenario emerged and the charity had to be closed down. These funds would be used to support an orderly close down in this event. These monies are set aside in a ring-fenced bank account, requiring trustee approval to use. At the end of the financial year this designated reserves fund stood at £0.240m (2020/21: £0.180m).

Plans for future periods
In November 2021 we launched our new strategy, all about the shifts we need to make in how we work, and why we think that, as a society, we need to repower democracy. We have identified high level aims (see page 3) that will be developed over the next year into a set of tangible objectives and outcomes, alongside a robust theory of change. We recognise that our strategic positioning is critical in the current environmental context, where we are living in a time of overlapping crises: a crisis of the climate, fuelled by a crisis of democracy.

In the next financial year, we will be revisiting the strategic direction of the commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd. 2022/23 will be a year that focuses on consolidation and strengthening of organisational foundations to ensure we have a secure base to enable business growth as well as alignment with the charitable purposes for greater impact in future years.

Fundraising
mySociety solicits donations from the public only via its website, and does not engage in any follow-up activity with individual donors unless consent has been given for further contact. We do not employ outside fundraisers, and are not bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising, but will keep this under review as our fundraising work develops. No complaints have been received about our fundraising activity.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees
The trustees (who are also directors of the charity 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the group and parent charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown	*catherine brown*
A. Brown	C. Brown
Trustee	Chair

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of mySociety (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated and parent charity balance sheets, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the 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 group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the group and parent charity financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the group and parent charity 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 26 September 2022

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:
GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

mySociety

Consolidated statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2022 Total £**	2021 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	805,284	74,364	**879,648**	883,106
Charitable activities	4	-	29,172	**29,172**	65,529
Other trading activities	5	-	954,720	**954,720**	1,016,050
Investments		-	70	**70**	82
Other		-	-	**-**	1,428
Total income		805,284	1,058,326	**1,863,610**	1,966,195
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds: raising charitable donations		-	90,281	**90,281**	84,050
Raising funds: trading activity		-	933,456	**933,456**	670,501
Charitable activities		827,167	265,254	**1,092,421**	732,040
Total expenditure	7	827,167	1,288,991	**2,116,158**	1,486,591
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	9	(21,883)	(230,665)	**(252,548)**	479,604
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		55,744	630,836	**686,580**	206,976
Total funds carried forward		33,861	400,171	**434,032**	686,580

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 21 to the accounts.

mySociety

Consolidated balance sheets

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	**The group 2022 £**	The group 2021 £	**The charity 2022 £**	The charity 2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	**22,304**	8,262	**22,304**	8,262
Intangible assets	13	**105,880**	94,498	**-**	-
Investments	14	**-**	-	**1**	1
		128,184	102,760	**22,305**	8,263
Current assets					
Debtors	17	**220,291**	241,670	**110,835**	374,053
Cash at bank and in hand		**602,469**	699,865	**438,877**	317,423
		822,760	941,535	**549,712**	691,476
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	18	**(516,912)**	(357,715)	**(140,740)**	(15,913)
Net current assets		**305,848**	583,820	**408,972**	675,563
Net assets	20	**434,032**	686,580	**431,277**	683,825
Funds	21				
Restricted funds		**33,861**	55,744	**33,861**	55,744
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**240,021**	180,004	**240,021**	180,004
General funds		**160,150**	450,832	**157,395**	448,077
Total charity funds		**434,032**	686,580	**431,277**	683,825

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown *catherine brown*

A. Brown
Trustee

C. Brown
Chair

mySociety

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	**(252,548)**	479,604
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**4,901**	3,389
Amortisation charges	**34,022**	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(70)**	(82)
Loss / (profit) on the sale of fixed assets	**1,968**	-
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**21,379**	(988)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	**159,197**	66,057
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**(31,151)**	547,980
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**70**	82
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	**84**	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(20,995)**	(7,183)
Recognition of intangible fixed assets	**(45,404)**	(94,498)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	**(66,245)**	(101,599)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(97,396)**	446,381
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**699,865**	253,484
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**602,469**	699,865

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

mySociety 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 note.

b) Group accounts

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned (controlled) subsidiary on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

c) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the charitable company’s current and future financial position and the level of unrestricted, general reserves held at 31 March 2022. The charity also has significant confirmed unrestricted funding for the year ended 31 March 2023. Given the above, the trustees consider that the charitable company has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

d) Income

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

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of provision of invoiced consultancy and software services is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Recharges of staff costs between the charitable company and its subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd have not been recognised as income in the charitable company's statement of financial activities, and are instead netted off against expenditure. This has no impact upon the consolidated figures, in which intercompany transactions are eliminated.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

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

g) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Grants payable

Grants payable are recognised as expenditure on the earlier of a) when the charity has a present obligation to transfer resources; and b) when the charity ceases to control the resource (e.g. via transfering funds to the grant recipient).

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of direct costs, as follows:

	2022	2021
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	**7.6%**	10.3%
Charitable activities	**92.4%**	89.7%

1. Accounting policies (continued)

k) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 - 5 years straight line basis

l) Intangible fixed assets

Product development expenditure is capitalised only if the expenditure can be measured reliably, the product or process is technically feasible, future economic benefits are probable and the company intends to and has sufficient resources to complete development and to use or sell the asset. Otherwise, it is recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, product development is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of intangible assets over the estimated period that economic benefit attributable to the asset is expected to flow to the company. The amortisation rates in use are as follows:

Software development	3 years straight line basis

m) Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less impairment.

n) Debtors

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

o) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

p) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

q) Financial instruments

The charitable 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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

r) Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

s) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

t) Accounting estimates and key judgements

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

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

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below.

Depreciation

As described in note 1k to the financial statements, depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Amortisation

As described in note 1l to the financial statements, amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Work in progress

Work in progress is calculated by comparing progress on a project against the budgeted cost. The work in progress element of trade debtors in these accounts in relation to the group figures is £12,089 (2021: £3,075).

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	417,143	465,963	**883,106**
Charitable activities	-	65,529	**65,529**
Other trading activities	-	1,016,050	**1,016,050**
Investments	-	82	**82**
Other income	-	1,428	**1,428**
Total income	417,143	1,549,052	**1,966,195**
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	-	84,050	**84,050**
Raising funds: trading activity	-	670,501	**670,501**
Charitable activities	432,829	299,211	**732,040**
Total expenditure	432,829	1,053,762	**1,486,591**
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	(15,686)	495,290	**479,604**

3. Income from donations

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Quadrature	367,000	33,000	**400,000**
Swedish Postcode Foundation	116,679	-	**116,679**
The National Lottery Community Fund	88,552	-	**88,552**
Columbia University	78,064	-	**78,064**
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority	50,000	-	**50,000**
Adessium Foundation	42,046	-	**42,046**
National Endowment for Democracy	37,943	-	**37,943**
J and H Cross	25,000	-	**25,000**
Other donations	-	41,364	**41,364**
Total income from donations	805,284	74,364	**879,648**

3. Income from donations (continued)

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Adessium Foundation	157,880	-	157,880
Columbia University	71,703	-	71,703
The Legal Education Foundation	90,000	-	90,000
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,560	-	56,560
Nesta Future News Fund	41,000	-	41,000
The Paragon Trust	-	733	733
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	100,000	100,000
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	-	320,892	320,892
Other donations	-	44,338	44,338
Total income from donations	417,143	465,963	883,106

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2022 Total £**	2021 Total £
Charitable consultancy	-	29,172	**29,172**	65,529
Total income from charitable activities	-	29,172	**29,172**	65,529

All income from charitable activities in the prior period was unrestricted.

5. Income from other trading activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2022 Total £**	2021 Total £
Sale of software and IT consultancy	-	954,720	**954,720**	1,016,050
Total other trading activities	-	954,720	**954,720**	1,016,050

All income from other trading activities in the prior period was unrestricted.

6. Government grants

The charitable company receives a government grant, defined as funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the year ending 31 March 2022 was £88,552 (2021: £Nil). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

7. Total expenditure

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2022 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	68,047	796,815	749,148	171,063	**1,785,073**
Servers and subscriptions	-	31,638	32,573	-	**64,211**
Team meetings and retreats	-	10,806	-	11,962	**22,768**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	9,490	-	18,931	**28,421**
General administration costs	-	4,363	-	13,091	**17,454**
Recruitment	-	-	-	29,395	**29,395**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	67,995	-	**67,995**
UK travel and subsistence	-	4,290	-	-	**4,290**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	5,093	-	5,377	**10,470**
Amortisation	-	34,022	-	-	**34,022**
Depreciation	-	-	-	4,901	**4,901**
Training	-	-	-	6,075	**6,075**
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	1,968	**1,968**
Marketing	2,176	36,939	-	-	**39,115**
Sub-total	70,223	933,456	849,716	262,763	**2,116,158**
Allocation of support and governance costs	20,058	-	242,705	(262,763)	-
Total expenditure	**90,281**	**933,456**	**1,092,421**	**-**	**2,116,158**

Prior period comparative:	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2021 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	68,714	617,909	517,458	113,400	**1,317,481**
Servers and subscriptions	-	24,493	21,621	-	**46,114**
Team meetings and retreats	-	3,391	-	3,391	**6,782**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	7,479	-	12,156	**19,635**
General administration costs	-	1,691	-	6,786	**8,477**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	63,013	-	**63,013**
TICTeC and TICTeC local events	-	-	(3,620)	-	**(3,620)**
UK travel and subsistence	-	99	-	98	**197**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	3,957	-	3,957	**7,914**
Depreciation	-	-	-	3,389	**3,389**
Training	-	-	-	5,727	**5,727**
Marketing	-	11,482	-	-	**11,482**
Sub-total	68,714	670,501	598,472	148,904	**1,486,591**
Allocation of support and governance costs	15,336	-	133,568	(148,904)	-
Total expenditure	**84,050**	**670,501**	**732,040**	**-**	**1,486,591**

Total governance costs were £10,440 (2021: £9,660).

8. Grants payable

Included within 'partner payments' in note 7 are sub-grant 'partner payments' made to the following institutions:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Climate Emergency UK Ltd	**56,000**	-
Vouliwatch	**4,783**	-
GES Savjetovanje d.o.o	**1,000**	-
Shift Foundation	**-**	50,010
Association Open Knowledge Foundation France ('OKF France')	**-**	4,048
Informace pro Všechny, o.s.	**-**	2,273
Orrudden Konsult AB	**-**	1,883
Liset Hamming	**-**	1,500
Other grants payable <£1,000	**6,212**	3,299
	67,995	63,013

No grants were paid to individuals in the current or prior period, and no support costs have been allocated to grant-making activities.

9. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:	**2022**	2021
	£	£
Amortisation	**34,022**	-
Depreciation	**4,901**	3,389
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**367**	Nil
Foreign exchange gains / (losses)	**-**	1,428
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (including VAT)	**9,720**	9,360
▪ Other services (including VAT)	**720**	300

Trustees' reimbursed expenses comprised payments to 3 trustees for travel costs.

10. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**1,583,345**	1,232,511
Social security costs	**177,560**	145,665
Pension costs	**32,330**	25,936
Contractors	**37,242**	7,867
Less: capitalised product development within SocietyWorks Ltd	**(45,404)**	(94,498)
	1,785,073	1,317,481

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £65,000	**3**	1
£65,001 to £70,000	**2**	2
£70,001 to £75,000	**1**	2
£75,001 to £80,000	**1**	-
£80,001 to £85,000	**1**	-
£85,001 to £90,000	**1**	1
£145,001 to £150,000	**1**	-

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £151,064 (2021: 99,765).

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Average number of employees (full-time equivalent)	**31**	25

Redundancy and termination payments relating to three employees amount to £35,473 for the year. Payments of £13,250 were made during the year with a further amount of £22,223 owed as of 31 March 2022.

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, has gift aided its available profits to the charity.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	**14,844**
Additions in year	**20,995**
Disposals in year	**(4,687)**
At 31 March 2022	**31,152**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2021	**6,582**
Charge for the year	**4,901**
On disposal	**(2,635)**
At 31 March 2022	**8,848**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2022	**22,304**
At 31 March 2021	8,262

13. Intangible fixed assets

	Software development £
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	**94,498**
Additions in year	**45,404**
At 31 March 2022	**139,902**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2021	**-**
Charge for the year	**34,022**
At 31 March 2022	**34,022**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2022	**105,880**
At 31 March 2021	94,498

14. Investments

	The group		The charity	
	2022	2021	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Investment in subsidiary company	**-**	-	**1**	1

The investment represents 100% of the ordinary share capital of SocietyWorks Ltd, whose principal activity is to carry out trading activities in support of the charity. A summary of the financial results and position of SocietyWorks Ltd is given below (see note 15).

15. Subsidiary undertakings

SocietyWorks Ltd

SocietyWorks Ltd (company number 05798215) is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of mySociety. It trades in software and IT consultancy.

	2022	Restated 2021
	£	£
Turnover	**954,720**	1,016,050
Cost of sales	**(691,410)**	(520,188)
Gross profit	**263,310**	495,862
Administrative expenses	**(242,046)**	(150,313)
Profit on ordinary activities	**21,264**	345,549
Corporation tax	**-**	-
Profit for financial year after taxation	**21,264**	345,549
Changes in equity		
Total retained profit brought forward	**2,755**	2,755
Total comprehensive income for the year	**21,264**	345,549
Gift aid distribution to parent charity	**(21,264)**	(345,549)
Total retained profit carried forward	**2,755**	2,755

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Assets	**459,021**	709,741
Liabilities	**(456,265)**	(706,985)
Funds	**2,756**	2,756

16. Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross income	**930,154**	1,295,693
Results for the year	**(252,548)**	479,604

17. Debtors

	The group		**The charity**	
	2022	2021	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade debtors	**185,140**	229,725	**16,000**	-
Accrued Income	**12,089**	3,075	**-**	-
Prepayments	**14,211**	4,782	**5,891**	4,782
Amounts owing by group undertakings	**-**	-	**80,093**	365,183
Other debtors	**8,851**	4,088	**8,851**	4,088
	220,291	241,670	**110,835**	374,053

18. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	The group		**The charity**	
	2022	2021	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade creditors	**8,845**	-	**8,845**	-
Accruals	**70,166**	9,180	**66,416**	6,780
Other taxation and social security	**106,562**	75,199	**55,566**	1,412
Other creditors	**9,913**	7,721	**9,913**	7,721
Deferred income (see note 19)	**321,426**	265,615	**-**	-
	516,912	357,715	**140,740**	15,913

19. Deferred income

	The group		**The charity**	
	2022	2021	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
At 1 April 2021	**265,615**	212,204	**-**	-
Deferred during the year	**321,426**	265,615	**-**	-
Released during the year	**(265,615)**	(212,204)	**-**	-
At 31 March 2022	**321,426**	265,615	**-**	-

Deferred income relates to contract income invoiced by SocietyWorks Ltd in advance of provision of services.

20. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	22,304	**22,304**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	105,880	**105,880**
Current assets	41,361	240,021	541,378	**822,760**
Current liabilities	(7,500)	-	(509,412)	**(516,912)**
Net assets at 31 March 2022	**33,861**	**240,021**	**160,150**	**434,032**

Prior period comparative:	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,262	**8,262**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	94,498	**94,498**
Current assets	55,744	180,004	705,787	**941,535**
Current liabilities	-	-	(357,715)	**(357,715)**
Net assets at 31 March 2021	**55,744**	**180,004**	**450,832**	**686,580**

21. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2022 £**
Restricted funds					
Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation	44,460	158,725	(203,185)	-	**-**
Alaveteli	-	25,000	-	-	**25,000**
BEIS	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	**-**
Columbia University	-	78,064	(77,835)	-	**229**
The Legal Education Foundation	11,284	-	(11,284)	-	**-**
National Endowment for Democracy	-	37,943	(39,503)	-	**(1,560)**
Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation	-	455,552	(445,360)	-	**10,192**
Total restricted funds	55,744	805,284	(827,167)	-	**33,861**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	180,004	-	-	60,017	**240,021**
General funds	450,832	1,058,326	(1,288,991)	(60,017)	**160,150**
Total unrestricted funds	630,836	1,058,326	(1,288,991)	-	**400,171**
Total funds	686,580	1,863,610	(2,116,158)	-	**434,032**

Purposes of restricted funds

Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation Grant to launch new FOI services across Europe, and provide support to investigative journalists to use FOI in their stories. Also funds the general administration and support of our UK FOI service WhatDoTheyKnow.com.

Alaveteli Fund restricted to work on the open-source software for making freedom of information requests to public bodies.

BEIS Grant to enable the development of the council climate action plans service with a focus on the needs of councils and government stakeholders, resulting in a substantially improved service for these user groups.

Columbia University Grant to cover the costs of a seconded employee.

The Legal Education Foundation Grant to fund collaboration with advocacy group Tower Blocks UK on an online tool to help residents address safety and maintenance concerns in their buildings.

National Endowment for Democracy Grant to promote learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among civic technology organisations to undertake effective, evidence-based, impactful work enhancing public participation, transparency, and accountability worldwide via TICTeC Surgeries and Action Labs.

21. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Quadrature / National Lottery Community Foundation Grants to accelerate local climate action through data and digital services.

Funds in deficit

The deficit arising on the National Endowment for Democracy restricted fund represents a recoverable overspend on the first installment of an 18-month grant.

Purposes of designated funds

Reserve fund A target level of unrestricted funds to enable mySociety to: cover emergency cash flow shortfalls; respond to an extraordinary event, campaign or project; or wind down the organisation in an orderly fashion should this become necessary.

Prior period comparative

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2021 £**
Restricted funds					
Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation	41,893	157,880	(155,313)	-	**44,460**
Columbia University	7,939	71,703	(79,642)	-	**-**
The Legal Education Foundation	-	90,000	(78,716)	-	**11,284**
Nesta Future News Fund	-	41,000	(41,000)	-	**-**
Power to Change Trust	21,598	-	(21,598)	-	**-**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	56,560	(56,560)	-	**-**
Total restricted funds	71,430	417,143	(432,829)	-	**55,744**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	-	-	-	180,004	**180,004**
General funds	135,546	1,549,052	(1,053,762)	(180,004)	**450,832**
Total unrestricted funds	135,546	1,549,052	(1,053,762)	-	**630,836**
Total funds	206,976	1,966,195	(1,486,591)	-	**686,580**

22. Operating lease commitments

The group and charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	**-**	360
Within 1 - 5 years	**-**	-
	-	360

23. Related party transactions

mySociety has a wholly owned subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd, a company limited by shares (company no. 05798215). At 31 March 2022, SocietyWorks Ltd owed mySociety £80,093 (2021: £365,183).

There were no other related party transactions in the current or prior reporting period.

mySociety

England & Wales - Charity number 1076346

Accounts

Company no. 3277032
Charity no. 1076346

mySociety

Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 March 2021

mySociety

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Company number	3277032
Charity number	1076346
Registered office and operational address	483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

A Adewunmi	appointed 1 April 2021
A Brown	
C Brown	appointed 6 July 2020
A J H Burton	
J P Cronin	resigned 6 July 2020
J P I Flowers	
T Hunt	appointed 1 April 2021
M M Hussain	resigned 9 December 2020
K L Jones	resigned 27 January 2021
J A F Keutgen	
R E Rank	
C Ross	appointed 1 April 2021
S Skelton	appointed 1 April 2021

Chief executive officer	M Cridge
Company secretary	J P Cronin resigned 6 July 2020
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 27-31 White Hart Street High Wycombe HP11 2HL
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective from January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

mySociety is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under a Memorandum & Articles of Association, and is registered as a charity in England and Wales (registered charity no. 1076346).

mySociety is governed by a board of volunteer trustees. Trustees serve three-year terms, and may be reappointed for one further three-year term after completion of their first. Trustees are generally recruited through an open call for applications, or may occasionally be directly appointed following a period of service as an observer of one of the board's committees. Following their appointment trustees participate in a series of briefings with key staff and fellow trustees as part of their induction; which includes briefings on financial procedures, our priority areas of work, ongoing strategy and organisational setup.

mySociety operates a number of civic and democratic websites, and has a wholly owned commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, governed by its own board of directors comprising a combination of trustees from mySociety, executive directors and independent non-executive directors. Trustees and non-executive directors are not remunerated.

Day-to-day management of mySociety and its subsidiaries is delegated to the Chief Executive except for the following matters which are reserved to the trustees:

- Approval of strategy, values and policy;
- Establishing and disbanding committees of the board;
- The creation, selection and appointment to any post with a total remuneration package of £60,000 p.a. or greater, or FTE equivalent;
- Approval of the group's annual report and accounts; and
- Significant financial commitments as set out in a delegations policy.

At any one time, mySociety typically employs around 25 permanent members of staff and a small additional number on temporary contracts. SocietyWorks Ltd employs no staff directly, but buys in labour as required from mySociety.

There is an annual review of pay for all staff members, encompassing two elements:

- Cost of living; and
- Performance

The Chief Executive makes recommendations to the board of trustees based on performance, affordability and the financial health of mySociety, and changes in averages of salaries for comparable roles (particularly for technical roles), except for the Chief Executive's own pay which is discussed by the board of trustees alone. The board of trustees either accepts or amends the recommendations, and makes the revised pay offer to the staff.

Salary ranges for new roles are set using both industry benchmarks and salaries of staff members already employed by the organisation in similar roles.

mySociety

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Objectives and activities

Aims and goals

The objectives of mySociety are “to conduct and promote research into the use and effects of information and communication technologies in the context of the operation of any body or bodies which has or have an electorate, and to disseminate the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public”.

mySociety operates under the mission statement “We help people be active citizens”, using its UK websites and the international websites it supports to undertake active research to explore what is effective in delivering on this mission.

The key objectives over the 2019-2022 strategy period are:

1) To enhance the ability of people in the UK and around the world to meaningfully participate in democratic processes, make their voices heard and hold governments to account;
2) To enable citizens to improve their neighbourhoods, protect places of community value, and engage with local government, thereby helping to promote resilient and flourishing communities;
3) To enhance government transparency, in particular through enabling citizens, journalists and campaigners to make greater and more effective use of their right to access information; and
4) To enable the global community to make more informed decisions concerning digital solutions for increasing transparency, accountability and public engagement, through growing the evidence base and convening the sector.

In 2020/21, mySociety's 25 permanent UK staff continued to help citizens in the UK and around the world to meaningfully engage with their government and within their communities - through the running of our established services FixMyStreet.com, TheyWorkForYou.com and WhatDoTheyKnow.com, supporting the work of local organisations in over 40 countries worldwide, and researching the efficacy and impact of digital tools on government accountability, transparency and citizen engagement.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Social investment policies

mySociety's ongoing provision of services via its subsidiary trading company, SocietyWorks Ltd, represents a social investment; projects are chosen based on alignment with the charity’s purposes, as well as with the aim of achieving a financial return.

Achievements and performance

Our work is organised under four interlinked practice areas, all underpinned by research and sector-building:

- Democracy;
- Transparency;
- Community; and
- Climate.

Our communications, fundraising, events and administrative personnel support the activities of these practice areas.

In 2020/21, use of mySociety's flagship services continued to grow. In 2020/21 there were over 9 million visits to our UK parliamentary monitoring site TheyWorkForYou.com. Around 230,000 of those visits were on the day after the Commons vote on free school meals, an issue highlighted by footballer Marcus Rashford. In June, as people took to the streets to protest the murder of George Floyd and systemic racism, we saw 23 times the usual visitors to WriteToThem.com, our service that makes it easy to contact your local or national elected representative. More than 300,000 messages were sent via the service in the course of the year.

Our Freedom of Information site, WhatDoTheyKnow.com, saw a 13% increase in FOI requests sent through the site - and our Pro service for journalists and other professional FOI users was used in several high profile investigations (further information below under Transparency). And we launched a new service: the first searchable database of local council climate action plans in the UK. Our crowdsourced data shows that 322 out of 406 councils (79%) have a current public plan outlining their response to the climate emergency.

Our research team's expertise in digital democracy was in high demand as parliaments around the world sought to improve their digital infrastructure and offering to citizens - a need brought into sharp focus by the COVID-19 pandemic. And while health and travel restrictions meant that we were again unable to hold our annual TICTeC conference in person, we brought the sector together in a series of online conversations around civic tech and open data's role in global crises.

More examples of key successes and progress over 2020/21 are outlined below, against each of our practice areas:

Democracy
With the Westminster Foundation for Democracy and the United Nations Development Programme, we worked with parliaments in Armenia, Bhutan, Morocco and Myanmar to assist them through the process of digitalisation and identify pathways to enhance parliamentary transparency, engagement and accountability. We also worked with the Inter-Parliamentary Union to produce their biannual report on Youth participation in national parliaments — the main global resource on the topic.

We worked with The Content Creatives to produce training modules that will help young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to understand more about our democracy — including how to write to your MP effectively and making your voice heard with TheyWorkForYou.

Our report on *Councillor attitudes towards citizen engagement* explored how elected decision makers can and do influence the result of participatory exercises - through decisions around the scope of the exercise, and the ability to selectively accept or reject recommendations - and showed that councillors attitudes towards participatory exercises are based on a mix of political and practical factors.

Transparency
We continued to develop our open source FOI software Alaveteli that now powers 29 active FOI platforms around the world. With funding from the Nesta Future News Fund we built new capabilities into WhatDoTheyKnow Pro, enabling membership-based newsrooms and campaigning organisations to harness help from their supporters in sorting through FOI responses. And with support from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, we provided increased support to WhatDoTheyKnow users in taking the next steps when their requests for information are denied - a problem that has reached record levels in recent years.

With support from Adessium and Swedish Postcode foundations, we worked to increase access to and impactful use of FOI across Europe, including bringing Pro functionality (FOI tools for journalists and campaigners) to platforms in Belgium, the Czech Republic, France and Sweden.

In the UK and Europe, our FOI services were instrumental in uncovering information used in several high profile stories and campaigns, including the Give Them Time campaign to ensure funding for deferred school starters in Scotland; the Million Moments for Democracy anti-corruption campaign in the Czech Republic; an investigation into EU lobbying and the practice of 'revolving doors'; and numerous stories on how governments across Europe have managed the COVID-19 pandemic.

Community
With support from the Legal Education Foundation, we co-launched the FixMyBlock website in August 2020, in partnership with information and advocacy group Tower Blocks UK. Born from the desire for action after the Grenfell disaster, the site is designed to help social housing tenants get problems resolved, and provides advice and tools for advocacy and activism around fire safety and disrepair.

We continued to work on Keep It In The Community (KIITC), the database of assets of community value and community spaces, with funding from Power to Change. We published a report with recommendations for policymakers to improve the Assets of Community Value process and funding provisions for community spaces, in order to support more assets on the path towards community ownership. To ensure the long term future of KIITC, we made the decision to transition the data to Plunkett and Locality - organisations with members who run/own community spaces and who are embedded in the community ownership ecosystem - who will be able to utilise and update the data more effectively than mySociety.

Climate
In November 2020, we launched the alpha service data.climateemergency.uk – the first site to collect UK council climate action plans in a single database, alongside some data on local authority CO2 emissions estimates. The site allows anyone to quickly and easily find out if their council has a plan, and put those plans into context. We developed the service together with Climate Emergency UK, through a discovery and prototyping process that involved input from a range of council climate officers, climate specialists, researchers, journalists and climate campaigners. It's the first proof of concept that data can accelerate and facilitate action, and we have ambitious plans to help councils, civil society groups and individual citizens to take faster, more informed and effective action to cut emissions at the local level.

Financial review

Income in 2020/21 was £1.966m, an increase of 35% from the £1.462m received in 2019/20. Significantly, donations increased by 38% to £0.883m (2019/20: £0.642m), and other trading activities increased by 30% to £1.016m (2019/20: £0.784m).

Total expenditure in 2020/21 was £1.487m, a decrease of 13% from £1.715m in 2019/20. This has been reduced due to efficiencies made in staff resourcing allocations against trading and charitable activities in the year.

Net income in 2020/21 was £0.480m, an increase of 289% from the net expenditure of £0.254m in 2019/20. This increase is the combination of an increase in donations, and efficiencies made in staff resourcing allocations across trading and charitable activities.

mySociety's major charitable supporters in 2020/21 have included:

- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the major source of unrestricted funding for mySociety's international and UK charitable endeavours;
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, which provides unrestricted funding for mySociety's charitable work in the UK; and
- Adessium Foundation and Swedish Postcode Foundation, supporting our FOI work in the UK and Europe.

A number of other funders supported specific projects which, without this support, mySociety would have been unable to undertake. These include:

- The Legal Education Foundation, which continued to fund our work with Tower Blocks UK on digital solutions to empower high rise residents;
- Power to Change, which continued to fund our online open directory of community assets, KeepItInTheCommunity.org; and
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and Nesta, which funded development work on WhatDoTheyKnow aimed at journalists and citizen users.

We are also grateful to all the individuals and small private foundations who provide one-off or recurring donations to support mySociety's work.

mySociety's commercial subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, provides sustainable commercial income streams within each of our practice areas, building on and related to the work we do charitably. In particular, our FixMyStreet Pro business brings in substantial commercial income aligned with our overall mySociety mission and work with local government, and generates profits that are passed on to the charity as unrestricted income.

In 2020/21, SocietyWorks Ltd generated a net profit of £0.346m (2019/20: £0.022m) which has contributed significantly to the net income surplus of mySociety in the year.

Going concern

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted reserves of £625,000+;
- The charity's key funders for 2021-22 are due to provide grant payments of £500k+ during the first two months of the new financial year; and

- The trading subsidiary has close to £600,000 of forward commitments from commercial customers, most of which falls in the 2021-22 financial year; and 75% of income against the group's budgeted expenditure for the upcoming 12 months is secured or highly likely.

The trustees do not consider that the COVID-19 pandemic will have any severe impact on the activities of the charity at this time. The trustees continue to assess the emerging situation to ensure that all government restrictions and guidelines are met and that the health and welfare of our staff is continually monitored and supported.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1(c) to the financial statements.

Risk management

The key risks (and their mitigations) for the organisation are as follows:

1) Risk: Failure to acquire sufficient future funding to sustain organisation
   Mitigation: A key risk - we have not acquired sufficient future funding to sustain the organisation at its current size for any great length of time. Primary focus for Fundraising Manager, supported by Chief Executive and Senior Management Team. As needed, consideration may be given to what reductions need to be made to the cost base.

2) Risk: Legal action against WhatDoTheyKnow
   Mitigation: Legal mailing list exists to discuss and address any issues raised. New User Support Assistant now in place to keep track of and escalate specific risky issues and deadlines.

3) Risk: Bytemark (our hosting / data centre) fails
   Mitigation: We hold multiple onsite and offsite backups and have management software to enable deployment of new servers elsewhere.

4) Risk: Climate emergency
   Mitigation: Developing strategy and opportunities around democracy and climate change as an area of positive contribution.

5) Risk: Privilege escalation on a single host leads to wider access
   Mitigation: Strong password policies; applications run as unprivileged users wherever possible; ongoing review to remove this vulnerability.

6) Disaster Recovery Procedures (DR) are complex and may result in loss of up to 24 hours of data
   Mitigation: we tested DR process for FMS in Q4 2019. We have a broad plan in place that can be followed. We are currently reviewing these plans in order to make them more effective.

Reserves policy

mySociety aims to have sufficient free, unrestricted cash, or known future cash, to cover six months of the group's operational costs. Known future cash includes deferred income from grant monies on hand that will be released within the six-month time frame, and known future grant payments that will be received in the same period.

At 31 March 2021, 6 months operational costs was estimated at £1.115m. Net current assets (£0.584m) less restricted funds (£0.056m) plus 6 months unrestricted committed income from the 2021/22 budget income pipeline (£0.526m) totalled £1.054m, close to the target unrestricted reserves aim under the current reserves policy.

mySociety has established a separate designated reserves fund which represents a cash fund to be used if a worst case scenario emerged and the charity had to be closed down. These funds would be used to support an orderly close down in this event. These monies are set aside in a ring-fenced bank account, requiring trustee approval to use. At the end of the financial year this designated reserves fund stood at £0.180m (2019/20: £0.180m).

Plans for future periods

We are in the process of developing a new strategy for mySociety to cover the years leading towards 2030. This involves revisiting our vision, mission and theory of change – describing the type of society we want to see and what we need to do to get there. We will set goals that will need to be reached in order to achieve the outcomes we want to see happen, and define the activities that we will undertake to deliver these goals, in each of our core programmes (Climate, Community, Democracy, Transparency).

Alongside this, SocietyWorks Ltd has developed its own three-year impact strategy (2021-2024), setting out how it will increase profitability for reinvestment into mySociety whilst delivering outcomes for clients that are consistent with the charity's overall aims.

Fundraising

mySociety solicits donations from the public only via its website, and does not engage in any follow-up activity with donors unless consent has been given for further contact. We do not employ outside fundraisers, and are not bound by any voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising, but will keep this under review as our fundraising work develops. No complaints have been received about our fundraising activity.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the group and parent charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 22 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown

A. Brown
Treasurer

catherine brown

C. Brown
Chair

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of mySociety (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated and parent charity balance sheets, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the 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 group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the group and parent charity financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the group and parent charity 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.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the parent charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

mySociety

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 2 November 2021

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:
GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

mySociety

Consolidated statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**The group 2021 Total £**	The group 2020 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	417,143	465,963	**883,106**	641,791
Charitable activities	4	-	65,529	**65,529**	34,805
Other trading activities	5	-	1,016,050	**1,016,050**	783,622
Investments		-	82	**82**	255
Other		-	1,428	**1,428**	1,040
Total income		417,143	1,549,052	**1,966,195**	1,461,513
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds: raising charitable donations		-	84,050	**84,050**	86,049
Raising funds: trading activity		-	670,501	**670,501**	694,996
Charitable activities		432,829	299,211	**732,040**	934,263
Total expenditure	6	432,829	1,053,762	**1,486,591**	1,715,308
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	9	(15,686)	495,290	**479,604**	(253,795)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		71,430	135,546	**206,976**	460,771
Total funds carried forward		55,744	630,836	**686,580**	206,976

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 21 to the accounts.

mySociety

Charity only statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**The Charity 2021 Total £**	The Charity 2020 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	417,143	811,511	**1,228,654**	661,791
Charitable activities	4	-	65,529	**65,529**	34,805
Other trading activities	5	-	-	**-**	66,523
Investments		-	82	**82**	255
Other		-	1,428	**1,428**	1,040
Total income		417,143	878,550	**1,295,693**	764,414
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	84,050	**84,050**	86,049
Charitable activities		432,829	299,210	**732,039**	934,263
Total expenditure	7	432,829	383,260	**816,089**	1,020,312
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds		(15,686)	495,290	**479,604**	(255,898)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		71,430	132,791	**204,221**	460,119
Total funds carried forward		55,744	628,081	**683,825**	204,221

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

mySociety

Consolidated balance sheets

As at 31 March 2021

	Note	**The group 2021 £**	The group 2020 £	**The charity 2021 £**	The charity 2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	**8,262**	4,468	**8,262**	4,468
Intangible assets	13	**94,498**	-	**-**	-
Investments	14	**-**	-	**1**	1
Current assets					
Debtors	17	**241,670**	240,682	**374,053**	95,819
Cash at bank and in hand		**699,865**	253,484	**317,423**	150,687
		941,535	494,166	**691,476**	246,506
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	18	**(357,715)**	(291,658)	**(15,913)**	(46,753)
Net current assets		**583,820**	202,508	**675,563**	199,753
Net assets	20	**686,580**	206,976	**683,825**	204,221
Funds	21				
Restricted funds		**55,744**	71,430	**55,744**	71,430
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**180,004**	-	**180,004**	-
General funds		**450,832**	135,546	**448,077**	132,791
Total charity funds		**686,580**	206,976	**683,825**	204,221

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 22 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Brown

A. Brown
Treasurer

catherine brown

C. Brown
Chair

mySociety

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	The group 2021 £	The group 2020 £
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	**479,604**	(253,795)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**3,389**	4,079
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**(82)**	(255)
Loss / (profit) on the sale of fixed assets	**-**	(38)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**(988)**	(23,746)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	**66,057**	57,473
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**547,980**	(216,282)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	**82**	255
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	**-**	659
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(7,183)**	(2,525)
Recognition of intangible fixed assets	**(94,498)**	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	**(101,599)**	(1,611)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**446,381**	(217,893)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**253,484**	471,377
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**699,865**	253,484

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

mySociety 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 note.

b) Group accounts

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned (controlled) subsidiary on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is presented in addition to that of the group by choice.

c) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the charitable company’s current and future financial position, particularly in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the level of unrestricted, general reserves held at 31 March 2021. The charity also has significant confirmed unrestricted funding for the year ended 31 March 2022. Given the above, the trustees consider that the charitable company has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

d) Income

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

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of provision of invoiced consultancy and software services is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Recharges of staff costs between the charitable company and its subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd have not been recognised as income in the charitable company's statement of financial activities, and are instead netted off against expenditure. This has no impact upon the consolidated figures, in which intercompany transactions are eliminated.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

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

g) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of direct costs, as follows:

	2021	2020
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	**10.3%**	8.4%
Charitable activities	**89.7%**	91.6%

1. Accounting policies (continued)

j) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 - 5 years straight line basis

k) Intangible fixed assets

Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The amortisation rates in use are as follows:

Software development	3 years straight line basis

l) Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are held at cost less impairment.

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

o) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

p) Financial instruments

The charitable 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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

q) Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

r) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

s) Accounting estimates and key judgements

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

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

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below.

Depreciation

As described in note 1j to the financial statements, depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Amortisation

As described in note 1k to the financial statements, amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

Work in progress

Work in progress is calculated by comparing progress on a project against the budgeted cost. The work in progress element of trade debtors in these accounts in relation to the group figures is £3,075 (2020: £28,065).

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	The group 2020 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	471,452	170,339	**641,791**
Charitable activities	-	34,805	**34,805**
Other trading activities	-	783,622	**783,622**
Investments	-	255	**255**
Other income	-	1,040	**1,040**
Total income	471,452	990,061	**1,461,513**
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: raising charitable donations	-	86,049	**86,049**
Raising funds: trading activity	-	694,996	**694,996**
Charitable activities	464,646	469,617	**934,263**
Total expenditure	464,646	1,250,662	**1,715,308**
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	6,806	(260,601)	**(253,795)**

3. Income from donations

The group

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	The group 2021 Total £
Adessium Foundation	157,880	-	**157,880**
Columbia University	71,703	-	**71,703**
The Legal Education Foundation	90,000	-	**90,000**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,560	-	**56,560**
Nesta Future News Fund	41,000	-	**41,000**
The Paragon Trust	-	733	**733**
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	100,000	**100,000**
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	-	320,892	**320,892**
Other donations	-	44,338	**44,338**
Total income from donations	417,143	465,963	**883,106**

The charity

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	The charity 2021 Total £
Total income from donations as above:	417,143	465,963	**883,106**
Add: gift aid distribution from SocietyWorks Ltd	-	345,548	**345,548**
Total income from donations	417,143	811,511	**1,228,654**

3. Income from donations (continued)
Prior period comparative:
The group

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Adessium Foundation	128,792	-	128,792
Columbia University	72,119	-	72,119
The Democratic Society	45,585	-	45,585
Indigo Trust	19,250	-	19,250
The Involve Foundation	36,600	-	36,600
The Legal Education Foundation	51,315	-	51,315
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	3,089	-	3,089
Nesta Future News Fund	29,000	-	29,000
Norwegian Unix User Group Foundation	1,450	-	1,450
Power to Change Trust	40,000	-	40,000
Access - The Foundation for Social Investment	26,777	-	26,777
TheyWorkForYou crowdfunding donations	17,475	-	17,475
The Paragon Trust	-	6,500	6,500
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	100,000	100,000
The David Family Foundation	-	10,000	10,000
Nesta	-	10,000	10,000
Other donations	-	43,839	43,839
Total income from donations	471,452	170,339	641,791

The charity

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Income from donations as above:	471,452	170,339	641,791
Add: gift aid distribution from SocietyWorks Ltd	-	20,000	20,000
Total income from donations	471,452	190,339	661,791

4. Income from charitable activities

			The group and charity	
			2021	2020
	Restricted	Unrestricted	**Total**	Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Charitable consultancy	-	65,529	**65,529**	30,430
Event ticket sales	-	-	**-**	4,375
Total income from charitable activities	-	65,529	**65,529**	34,805

All income from charitable activities in the prior period was unrestricted.

5. Income from other trading activities

			The group	The group
			2021	2020
	Restricted	Unrestricted	**Total**	Total
	£	£	**£**	£
Sponsorship	-	-	**-**	66,523
Sale of software and IT consultancy	-	1,016,050	**1,016,050**	717,099
Total other trading activities	-	1,016,050	**1,016,050**	783,622

All income from other trading activities in the prior period was unrestricted. Income from other trading activities in the charity (only) in the prior period comprise £66,523 relating to sponsorship.

6. Total expenditure (the group)

	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**The group 2021 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	68,714	617,909	517,458	113,400	**1,317,481**
Servers and subscriptions	-	24,493	21,621	-	**46,114**
Team meetings and retreats	-	3,391	-	3,391	**6,782**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	7,479	-	12,156	**19,635**
General administration costs	-	1,691	-	6,786	**8,477**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	63,013	-	**63,013**
TICTeC and TICTeC local events	-	-	(3,620)	-	**(3,620)**
UK travel and subsistence	-	99	-	98	**197**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	3,957	-	3,957	**7,914**
Depreciation	-	-	-	3,389	**3,389**
Training	-	-	-	5,727	**5,727**
Marketing	-	11,482	-	-	**11,482**
Sub-total	68,714	670,501	598,472	148,904	**1,486,591**
Allocation of support and governance costs	15,336	-	133,568	(148,904)	-
Total expenditure	**84,050**	**670,501**	**732,040**	**-**	**1,486,591**

Prior period comparative:	Raising funds: raising charitable donations £	Raising funds: trading activity £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**The group 2020 Total £**
Staff costs (note 10)	66,858	616,010	686,376	96,013	**1,465,257**
Servers and subscriptions	-	19,886	25,708	-	**45,594**
Team meetings and retreats	-	6,380	-	8,526	**14,906**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	11,062	-	38,710	**49,772**
General administration costs	-	2,905	-	2,288	**5,193**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	-	27,042	-	**27,042**
TICTeC and TICTeC local events	-	-	21,272	-	**21,272**
AlaveteliCon event	-	-	14,279	-	**14,279**
Other events	-	-	2,500	-	**2,500**
UK travel and subsistence	-	16,941	-	10,367	**27,308**
International travel	-	-	3,934	-	**3,934**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	7,289	-	7,275	**14,564**
Depreciation	-	-	-	4,079	**4,079**
Marketing	5,085	14,523	-	-	**19,608**
Sub-total	71,943	694,996	781,111	167,258	**1,715,308**
Allocation of support and governance costs	14,106	-	153,152	(167,258)	-
Total expenditure	**86,049**	**694,996**	**934,263**	**-**	**1,715,308**

Total governance costs were £9,660 (2020: £9,300).

7. Total expenditure (the charity)

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**The charity 2021 Total £**
Staff costs	68,714	517,459	113,400	**699,573**
Servers and subscriptions	-	21,619	-	**21,619**
Team meetings and retreats	-	-	3,391	**3,391**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	-	12,156	**12,156**
General administration costs	-	-	6,786	**6,786**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	63,013	-	**63,013**
TICTeC and TICTeC local events	-	(3,620)	-	**(3,620)**
UK travel and subsistence	-	-	98	**98**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	-	3,957	**3,957**
Depreciation	-	-	3,389	**3,389**
Training	-	-	5,727	**5,727**
Sub-total	68,714	598,471	148,904	**816,089**
Allocation of support and governance costs	15,336	133,568	(148,904)	-
Total expenditure	**84,050**	**732,039**	**-**	**816,089**

Prior period comparative:

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**The charity 2020 Total £**
Staff costs	66,858	686,376	96,013	**849,247**
Servers and subscriptions	-	25,708	-	**25,708**
Team meetings and retreats	-	-	8,526	**8,526**
Legal, financial and insurance	-	-	38,710	**38,710**
General administration costs	-	-	2,288	**2,288**
Partner payments (note 8)	-	27,042	-	**27,042**
TICTeC and TICTeC local events	-	21,272	-	**21,272**
AlaveteliCon event	-	14,279	-	**14,279**
Other events	-	2,500	-	**2,500**
UK travel and subsistence	-	-	10,367	**10,367**
International travel	-	3,934	-	**3,934**
Desk rentals and meeting rooms	-	-	7,275	**7,275**
Depreciation	-	-	4,079	**4,079**
Marketing	5,085	-	-	**5,085**
Sub-total	71,943	781,111	167,258	**1,020,312**
Allocation of support and governance costs	14,106	153,152	(167,258)	-
Total expenditure	**86,049**	**934,263**	**-**	**1,020,312**

8. Grants payable

Included within 'partner payments' in notes 6 and 7 are sub-grant 'partner payments' made to the following institutions:

	The group and charity	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Shift Foundation	**50,010**	13,465
Association Open Knowledge Foundation France ('OKF France')	**4,048**	-
Informace pro Všechny, o.s.	**2,273**	-
Orrudden Konsult AB	**1,883**	-
Liset Hamming	**1,500**	-
Vereniging van Onderzoeksjournalisten	**-**	7,246
Access Info Europe	**-**	5,403
Other grants payable <£1,000	**3,299**	928
	63,013	27,042

No grants were paid to individuals in the current or prior period, and no support costs have been allocated to grant-making activities.

9. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:	**The group**	The group
	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation	**3,389**	4,079
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**Nil**	484
Foreign exchange gains / (losses)	**1,428**	1,265
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (including VAT)	**9,360**	8,700
▪ Other services (including VAT)	**300**	600

In the prior year, trustees' reimbursed expenses comprised payments to 2 trustees for travel costs.

10. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	The group 2021	The group 2020
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**1,232,511**	1,277,286
Social security costs	**145,665**	140,538
Pension costs	**25,936**	27,251
Contractors	**7,868**	20,182
Less: capitalised product development within SocietyWorks Ltd	**(94,498)**	-
	1,317,482	1,465,257

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	The group 2021	The group 2020
	No.	No.
£60,001 to £65,000	**1**	-
£65,001 to £70,000	**2**	2
£70,001 to £75,000	**2**	1
£80,001 to £85,000	**-**	-
£85,001 to £90,000	**1**	1

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £99,765 (2020: £96,284).

	The group 2021	The group 2020
	No.	No.
Average number of employees (full-time equivalent)	**25**	25

In the prior year, redundancy and termination payments relating to three employees were paid amounting to £33,530. This figure included both statutory and ex gratia elements. No further amounts were owed as of 31 March 2020.

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary, SocietyWorks Ltd, has gift aided its available profits to the charity.

12. Tangible fixed assets

Group and charity	**Computer equipment £**
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	**8,992**
Additions in year	**7,183**
Disposals in year	**(1,331)**
At 31 March 2021	**14,844**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	**4,524**
Charge for the year	**3,389**
On disposal	**(1,331)**
At 31 March 2021	**6,582**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	**8,262**
At 31 March 2020	4,468

13. Intangible fixed assets

The group (only)	**Software development £**
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	**-**
Additions in year	**94,498**
At 31 March 2021	**94,498**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2020	**-**
Charge for the year	**-**
At 31 March 2021	**-**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	**94,498**
At 31 March 2020	-

Software development costs relating to three software projects have been recognised as intangible assets during the year. Amortisation will begin on 1 April 2021.

14. Investments

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Investment in subsidiary company	**-**	-	**1**	1

The investment represents 100% of the ordinary share capital of SocietyWorks Ltd, whose principal activity is to carry out trading activities in support of the charity. A summary of the financial results and position of SocietyWorks Ltd is given below (see note 15).

15. Subsidiary undertakings

SocietyWorks Ltd

SocietyWorks Ltd (company number 05798215) is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of mySociety. It trades in software and IT consultancy.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	**1,016,050**	717,099
Cost of sales	**-**	-
Gross profit	**1,016,050**	717,099
Administrative expenses	**(670,501)**	(694,995)
Profit on ordinary activities	**345,549**	22,104
Corporation tax	**-**	-
Profit for financial year after taxation	**345,549**	22,104
Changes in equity		
Total retained profit brought forward	**2,755**	651
Total comprehensive income for the year	**345,549**	22,104
Gift aid distribution to parent charity	**(345,549)**	(20,000)
Total retained profit carried forward	**2,755**	2,755

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Assets	**709,741**	270,638
Liabilities	**(706,985)**	(267,882)
Funds	**2,756**	2,756

16. Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and results for the year are disclosed in the charity only Statement of Financial Activities.

17. Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade debtors	**232,800**	220,980	**-**	82,725
Prepayments	**4,782**	14,677	**4,782**	8,069
Amounts owing by group undertakings	**-**	-	**365,183**	-
Other debtors	**4,088**	5,025	**4,088**	5,025
	241,670	240,682	**374,053**	95,819

18. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Trade creditors	**-**	9,639	**-**	7,119
Accruals	**9,180**	10,092	**6,780**	8,042
Other taxation and social security	**75,199**	56,065	**1,412**	4,956
Amounts owed to group undertakings	**-**	-	**-**	22,978
Other creditors	**7,721**	3,658	**7,721**	3,658
Deferred income (see note 19)	**265,615**	212,204	**-**	-
	357,715	291,658	**15,913**	46,753

19. Deferred income

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
At 1 April 2020	**212,204**	117,016	**-**	-
Deferred during the year	**265,615**	212,204	**-**	-
Released during the year	**(212,204)**	(117,016)	**-**	-
At 31 March 2021	**265,615**	212,204	**-**	-

Deferred income relates to contract income invoiced by SocietyWorks Ltd in advance of provision of services.

20. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,262	**8,262**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	94,498	**94,498**
Current assets	55,744	180,004	705,787	**941,535**
Current liabilities	-	-	(357,715)	**(357,715)**
Net assets at 31 March 2021	**55,744**	**180,004**	**450,832**	**686,580**

Prior period comparative:	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	4,468	**4,468**
Current assets	71,430	-	422,736	**494,166**
Current liabilities	-	-	(291,658)	**(291,658)**
Net assets at 31 March 2020	**71,430**	**-**	**135,546**	**206,976**

21. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2021 £**
Restricted funds					
Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation	41,893	157,880	(155,313)	-	**44,460**
Columbia University	7,939	71,703	(79,642)	-	**-**
The Legal Education Foundation	-	90,000	(78,716)	-	**11,284**
Nesta Future News Fund	-	41,000	(41,000)	-	**-**
Power to Change Trust	21,598	-	(21,598)	-	**-**
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	56,560	(56,560)	-	**-**
Total restricted funds	71,430	417,143	(432,829)	-	**55,744**
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund: Reserve fund	-	-	-	180,004	**180,004**
General funds	135,546	1,549,052	(1,053,762)	(180,004)	**450,832**
Total unrestricted funds	135,546	1,549,052	(1,053,762)	-	**630,836**
Total funds	206,976	1,966,195	(1,486,591)	-	**686,580**

Purposes of restricted funds

Adessium Foundation / Swedish Postcode Foundation	Grant to launch new FOI services across Europe, and provide support to investigative journalists to use FOI in their stories. Also funds the general administration and support of our UK FOI service WhatDoTheyKnow.com. Co-funded.
Columbia University	Grant to cover the costs of a seconded employee.
The Legal Education Foundation	"FixMyBlock" - a collaboration with advocacy group Tower Blocks UK, looking into the potential for an online tool to help residents address safety and maintenance concerns in their buildings.
Nesta Future News Fund	Grant to develop a new 'Projects' feature in WhatDoTheyKnow, which will allow teams of journalists, citizen investigators and others to collaborate on FOI requests and analyse the information released.
Power to Change Trust	Grant towards the development and piloting of an online open directory of community assets - "Keep It In The Community".
The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	Grant to add context-specific advice and guidance to WhatDoTheyKnow (including the Pro service used by journalists, researchers and campaigners) to support users to more effectively challenge FOI refusals.

21. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of designated funds

Reserve fund A target level of unrestricted funds to enable mySociety to: cover emergency cash flow shortfalls; respond to an extraordinary event, campaign or project; or wind down the organisation in an orderly fashion should this become necessary.

Prior period comparative

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	**At 31 March 2020 £**
Restricted funds					
Adessium Foundation	-	128,792	(86,899)	-	**41,893**
Columbia University	6,909	72,119	(71,089)	-	**7,939**
The Democratic Society	51,155	45,585	(96,740)	-	**-**
Indigo Trust	-	19,250	(19,250)	-	**-**
The Involve Foundation	-	36,600	(36,600)	-	**-**
The Legal Education Foundation	3,300	51,315	(54,615)	-	**-**
MacArthur	-	3,089	(3,089)	-	**-**
Nesta Future News Fund	-	29,000	(29,000)	-	**-**
The NUUG Foundation	-	1,450	(1,450)	-	**-**
Open Society Foundation London	2,843	-	(2,843)	-	**-**
Power to Change Trust	417	40,000	(18,819)	-	**21,598**
Reach Fund	-	26,777	(26,777)	-	**-**
TheyWorkForYou crowdfunder	-	17,475	(17,475)	-	**-**
Total restricted funds	64,624	471,452	(464,646)	-	**71,430**
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	396,147	990,061	(1,250,662)	-	**135,546**
Total unrestricted funds	396,147	990,061	(1,250,662)	-	**135,546**
Total funds	460,771	1,461,513	(1,715,308)	-	**206,976**

22. Operating lease commitments

The group and charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	Group and charity	
	2021 £	2020 £
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	**360**	13,829
Within 1 - 5 years	**-**	360
	360	14,189

23. Related party transactions

mySociety has a wholly owned subsidiary SocietyWorks Ltd, a company limited by shares (company no. 05798215). At 31 March 2021, SocietyWorks Ltd owed mySociety £365,183 (2020: £22,978 owed to Societyworks Ltd from mySociety).

There were no other related party transactions in the current or prior reporting period.