

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

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<b>Company number</b>	03277032																								
<b>Charity number</b>	1076346																								
<b>Registered office and operational address</b>	483 Green Lanes London N13 4BS																								
<b>Trustees</b>	<p>Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>A Adewunmi</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>A Brown</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>C Brown</td><td>resigned 6 July 2023</td></tr><tr><td>A J H Burton</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>F Mainoo</td><td>appointed 1 December 2022</td></tr><tr><td>G Maitland Hudson</td><td>appointed 6 July 2023</td></tr><tr><td>J A F Keutgen</td><td>resigned 18 September 2022</td></tr><tr><td>D O'Shaughnessy</td><td>appointed 1 December 2022</td></tr><tr><td>R E Rank</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>C Ross</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S Skelton</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>J Thornton</td><td>appointed 1 December 2022</td></tr></table>	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
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S Skelton																									
J Thornton	appointed 1 December 2022																								
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	L Crow																								
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank 27-31 White Hart Street High Wycombe HP11 2HL																								
<b>Auditors</b>	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 2023**

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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.

## **mySociety**

### **Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **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.



**Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**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.

**Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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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.

**Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**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.

## **mySociety**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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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.

**Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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(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.

## **Report of the trustees**

### **For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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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.

## Report of the trustees

### For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### 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.

**mySociety**

**Report of the trustees**

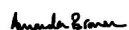
**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**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  
Trustee



G. Maitland Hudson  
Chair



## **Independent auditors' report**

**To the members of**

**mySociety**

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### **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.

## **Independent auditors' report**

### **To the members of**

#### **mySociety**

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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.

## **Independent auditors' report**

### **To the members of**

#### **mySociety**

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#### **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**

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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](http://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**

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

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

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*

A. Brown  
Trustee

*GE Maitland Hudson*

G. Maitland Hudson  
Chair

## Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash used in operating activities:</b>		
Net movement in funds	236,835	(252,548)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
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
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>229,935</b>	<b>(31,151)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
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)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(30,657)</b>	<b>(66,245)</b>
<b>Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>	<b>199,278</b>	<b>(97,396)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	602,469	699,865
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>801,747</b>	<b>602,469</b>

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 2023

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### 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.



## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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**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 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:

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

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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### 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.

## Notes to the financial statements

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **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).

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

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

## 3. Income from donations

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

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 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
<b>Total income from donations</b>	<b>805,284</b>	<b>74,364</b>	<b>879,648</b>

## 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.

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 7. Total expenditure

	Raising funds: raising 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
<b>Sub-total</b>	70,822	994,863	987,198	197,129	2,250,012
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,195	-	183,934	(197,129)	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>84,017</b>	<b>994,863</b>	<b>1,171,132</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,250,012</b>

## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 March 2023

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
<b>Sub-total</b>	70,223	933,456	849,716	262,763	2,116,158
Allocation of support and governance costs	20,058	-	242,705	(262,763)	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>90,281</b>	<b>933,456</b>	<b>1,092,421</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,116,158</b>

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

## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 March 2023

**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
	<b>175,201</b>	<b>67,995</b>

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.



## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 March 2023

**10. Staff costs and numbers**

Staff costs were as follows:

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

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

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
£60,001 to £65,000	<b>5</b>	2
£65,001 to £70,000	<b>1</b>	1
£70,001 to £75,000	<b>-</b>	1
£75,001 to £80,000	<b>1</b>	1
£85,001 to £90,000	<b>1</b>	-
£90,001 to £95,000	<b>1</b>	-
£135,001 to £140,000	<b>-</b>	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).

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Average number of employees (full-time equivalent)	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>31</u></b>

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.

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 12. Tangible fixed assets (Group and Charity)

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

## 13. Intangible fixed assets (Group)

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

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

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 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
<i>Changes in equity</i>		
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)
<b>Total retained profit carried forward</b>	<b>2,755</b>	<b>2,755</b>

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

## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 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	<u>236,838</u>	<u>(252,548)</u>

## 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	<u>18,851</u>	<u>8,851</u>	<u>18,851</u>	<u>8,851</u>
	<u>428,979</u>	<u>220,291</u>	<u>346,436</u>	<u>110,835</u>

## 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)	<u>528,474</u>	<u>321,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>664,478</u>	<u>516,912</u>	<u>21,714</u>	<u>140,740</u>

## 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	<u>(321,426)</u>	<u>(265,615)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>528,474</u>	<u>321,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

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

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 20. Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,237	<b>21,237</b>
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	83,382	<b>83,382</b>
Current assets	144,387	240,482	845,857	<b>1,230,726</b>
Current liabilities	(675)	-	(663,803)	<b>(664,478)</b>
<b>Net assets at 31 March 2023</b>	<b><u>143,712</u></b>	<b><u>240,482</u></b>	<b><u>286,673</u></b>	<b><u>670,867</u></b>
<b>Prior period comparative:</b>				
	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	22,304	<b>22,304</b>
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	105,880	<b>105,880</b>
Current assets	41,361	240,021	541,378	<b>822,760</b>
Current liabilities	(7,500)	-	(509,412)	<b>(516,912)</b>
<b>Net assets at 31 March 2022</b>	<b><u>33,861</u></b>	<b><u>240,021</u></b>	<b><u>160,150</u></b>	<b><u>434,032</u></b>

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

## 21. Movements in funds

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

## Purposes of restricted funds

<b>ATI in Europe</b>	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.
<b>Alaveteli</b>	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.
<b>BEIS</b>	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.
<b>Columbia University</b>	Grant to cover the costs of a seconded employee.
<b>The Joseph Rowntree Charitable</b>	A grant that funds mySociety's Transparency programme, ensuring the right to information can be used by all.
<b>The Legal Education Foundation</b>	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 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
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
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>55,744</b>	<b>805,284</b>	<b>(827,167)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,861</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<i>Designated fund:</i> Reserve fund	180,004	-	-	60,017	240,021
General funds	450,832	1,058,326	(1,288,991)	(60,017)	160,150
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>630,836</b>	<b>1,058,326</b>	<b>(1,288,991)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>400,171</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>686,580</b>	<b>1,863,610</b>	<b>(2,116,158)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>434,032</b>

**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.