

# annual report and accounts 2024-25



# head of charity foreword



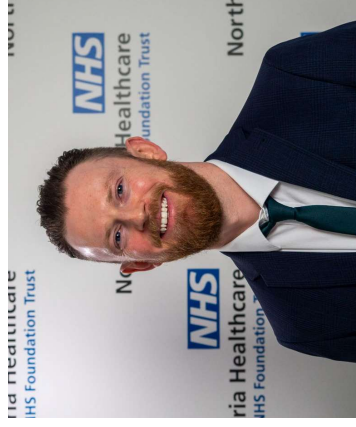
The past year has been one of renewal for Bright. The time was right to review what was needed to manage a modern, ambitious, forward-thinking charity and to create the team and culture which can deliver this.

We now have dedicated fundraising and grants teams which we believe will have a huge impact and go a long way to modernise the work that we do.

We have also strengthened our existing highly regarded areas of the team such as volunteering and healing arts. By enhancing our offer in both of these areas, we feel we have created an environment where they can continue to go from strength to strength for years to come.

This year was also about raising awareness of Bright, with a focus on enhancing this within the Trust. Our hospital staff should be our biggest asset and champions, however, we as a team felt Bright was not known as well as it could be throughout the organisation. Reflecting on the year, it feels like this priority has been one of our biggest success stories.

By getting out into the Trust, meeting staff, having stalls at every event we could, and holding our very first 'Brightest Day' event, it feels like Bright has well and truly raised its profile. Looking forward to the year ahead, it feels like we have a strong foundation to build upon and to be bold, ambitious and bright in our future plans!



Robert Graham, Head of Charity

Finally, at Bright we couldn't do what we do without our incredible supporters. Each and every one of you who has donated or given up your time to support us is valued and very much appreciated by all of Team Bright and everyone who has benefited from your donation or time.

***Thank you and I  
can't wait to see  
what we can  
achieve next  
year!!*** ”

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# message from the chair of northumbria healthcare

## It is once again my great pleasure to introduce the Annual Report of Bright Northumbria Healthcare Charity for 2024/25.

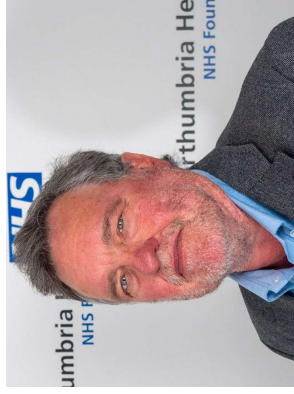
This year has been full of momentum, creativity and meaningful progress – all underpinned by the generosity of our community. I want to thank everyone who has supported Bright this year; from fundraisers and donors to the team behind the scenes and our invaluable volunteers. Your contributions continue to help us go further for patients, staff and families across Northumberland and North Tyneside.

This year we held our first ever “Brightest Day of the Year,” shining a light on the charity’s impact and raising awareness internally across the Trust. It was a great way to connect more people with the work we do and the difference Bright makes every day.

One of the year’s standout projects was “Beyond the Court”, a podcast created in collaboration with the Newcastle Eagles basketball team. Focused on men’s mental health, the podcast aimed to open up honest conversations and encourage more people to seek support. We were proud to see the series shortlisted for a Public Relations and Communications Association (PRCA) award – a recognition of its impact across the region.

We also began work on a beautiful new hanging sculpture for the future Berwick Hospital – a lasting and uplifting installation that will bring art and calm into the heart of the building.

Thanks to your support, Bright continues to fund work that enhances patient care and improves staff wellbeing – from healing environments to the arts, from mental health support to small



**Sir Paul Ennals CBE**  
Chair of Northumbria Healthcare

but significant comforts that can make all the difference.

We are especially grateful to our amazing fundraisers who went the extra mile this year – whether by taking on running challenges or shaving your head, your creativity and commitment are helping us do more for the people we serve.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to our extraordinary volunteers – the heart of our Trust and a constant source of inspiration. This year, their contribution was recognised on a larger scale when they were featured on ITV Tyne Tees, sharing their stories and shining a light on the remarkable role they play in our services. We are so proud of them.

Bright is a powerful example of what can happen when a community comes together – with generosity, compassion and hope – to make a difference where it truly matters.

Sir Paul Ennals CBE

# objectives and activities

The governing documents for the funds consist of a declaration of trust dated 18 May 2000. The governing document states the charity’s principle objective as being: “... for any charitable purpose or purposes relating to the National Health Service”.

More specifically, the charity aims to support charitable initiatives, which would not normally be financed by NHS exchequer funding, to enhance and add additional value to the delivery of healthcare to the residents of the Trust area.

## Key Objectives

Categories of spend approved by Corporate Trustee

### Patient and staff welfare –

to provide additional comforts, over and above that which would be provided as standard by the NHS, to enhance the patient and staff experience.

### Medical equipment –

to ensure that our patients have access to the latest technology and that additional equipment is made available to improve the patient experience and support members of staff who are delivering their care. Charitable funds cannot be used to purchase or replace core NHS equipment.

### Patient environment –

to deliver a high-quality healing arts programme in collaboration with patients, staff, volunteers, and the local community, to improve the hospital environment. To use the arts to develop and deliver high quality interior design projects for areas of special need and sensitivity, that help to support the needs of patients and their relatives. To work with architects and designers to integrate the arts to enhance patient and staff experience.

### Staff education –

to support professional development of members of staff in terms of attendance at speciality events, and allow access to training that would not normally be funded through standard funding streams. The charity cannot support requests from individuals for funding for professional qualifications.

### Research –

to support a continuous programme of research, which aims to improve treatment for thousands of patients across the NHS. To promote innovation and service improvement through providing a platform for staff to share ideas.

### Health Inequalities –

to add value to ongoing public health work by the trust to tackle health inequalities affecting our patients.

### CSR –

to create opportunities to engage with local communities in keeping with the trust’s Community Promise.



## our year in numbers

153

Grants

We awarded over **£2 million** in grants

40

volunteers contributed to  
**420 years** of long service

60

Great North runners

340

Wag & Company visits in total,  
255 patient and 85 staff

800

Patient gifts at Christmas

75

Music in Hospitals visits

Over

£26,000

raised by GNR

Over

46,000

hours of NVS Volunteers' time

Over

211,000

hot drinks sold

447,000

customers in our NVS shops



## Northumbria Volunteer Service

It was a year of celebration for our Northumbria Volunteer Service (NVS) including well-deserved award recognition!

As part of our normal recognition of the amazing contribution our volunteers make to the Trust we celebrated a combined total of 420 years of volunteering at our annual long service awards. These events are an important part of the volunteering calendar both for our volunteers, recognised for their long service and dedication, and for some of our senior Trust colleagues who attend to say 'thank you' on behalf of the organisation



It was an extra special year of celebration though due to the fact it was the 20th anniversary of the NVS. To mark such a special year we held an event at St James' Park, home of Newcastle United Football Club, where our volunteers were treated to dinner and dancing and an opportunity

to take a sneak peek of the hallowed turf of the St James' Park pitch!

The service was also assessed this year for the 'Investing in Volunteers' quality standard which I am delighted to say was achieved for a third time. This was such a special achievement, in particular thanks to the very positive feedback received as part of the assessment results.

The NVS also had a brilliant night at Northumbria's annual staff awards ceremony where our North Tyneside General Hospital Buggy Team won 'Team of the Year – Non-Clinical' and one of our volunteers won 'Volunteer of the Year.' These awards highlighted just how valued our volunteers are within the Northumbria family.

Other highlights have included a full feature on our volunteer service with ITV Tyne Tees news, coverage in local newspapers, and an increase in volunteers recruited into the service.

To round out a year of celebration and recognition for our incredible volunteers, Bright Northumbria Healthcare Charity would like to thank all who have given their time and commitment, it is very much appreciated.

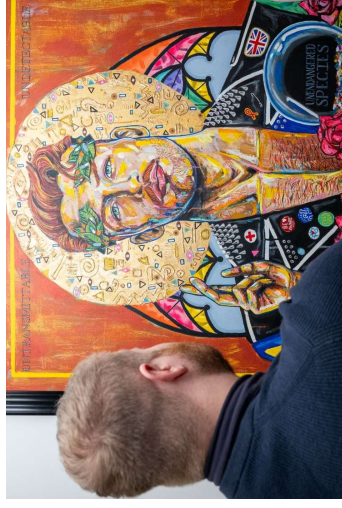


## Healing Arts Programme

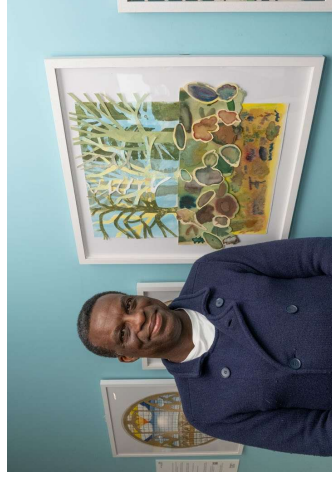
The last year has been a particularly busy yet extremely fulfilling period for our Healing Arts Programme.

This year saw the continuation of many of our much-loved activities, including a successful staff photography competition on the theme 'What Northumbria means to you', creative writing workshops for staff, and monthly live musical performances across our wards and public areas in partnership with Music in Hospitals.

We have continued to focus on curating numerous impactful exhibitions throughout the year. One we are particularly proud of is our work with the organisation Eyes Open UK who kindly loaned us an artwork called 'Monument One' by the artist Henry Hate. The artwork's aim is to raise awareness of HIV in the UK whilst also challenging the stigma surrounding the virus. We all agree this is a great cause, and we are extremely proud to have been chosen as a venue to show this important work.



This period has also been a time of considerable hard work and excitement around two big projects which we are involved in for two new buildings, which the organisation is investing in.



The first has been to provide the artwork for the Trust's new Health and Care Academy. This new building is a state-of-the-art environment which combines a GP practice, training facilities to develop our clinical staff of the future as well as conference centre facilities. By working with staff, local communities and local schools we have managed to create artwork which captures the new building's purpose with imagery unique to the organisation and local environment. This has already proven to be very impactful and has shown how necessary art is within a new environment.

The second project this year has been to begin the process of procuring an artist to create an impactful mobile artwork for the artium of the Trust's new Berwick Hospital. We successfully appointed the art production practice Sum.Place to create this artwork and have started to work with them on this long-term project.

Sum.Place's concept for the mobile sculpture is to create a shoal of salmon (more than 2,000 individual fish) in the shape of the River Tweed, which runs through Berwick. The fish will be made locally in North Shields from recycled NHS plastic. This is an incredibly exciting project for Bright to be involved in alongside Sum.Place and the local Berwick community who will also be involved in creating this artwork.



## patient and staff environment

Our patient and staff environment work has continued to go from strength to strength this year. We have received many requests to fund and manage projects throughout the year.

This year we have made a particular impact on some of the environments that our youngest and most vulnerable patients would use.

Areas such as our Blyth Community Hospital Children's Unit, Wansbeck General Hospital Children's Outpatient Courtyard, and Albion Road Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service facilities have all been refreshed and enhanced through Bright's funding and project management expertise.

As you can see from the photographs below, these environments are designed to support children and their families during hospital visits or outpatient appointments.

Before at Blyth Community Hospital Children's Unit...



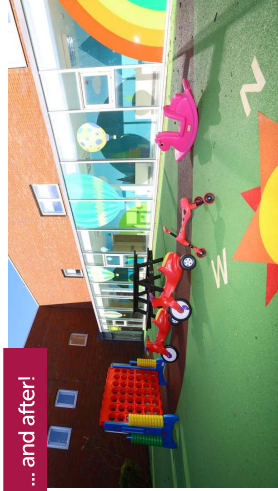
... and after!



Before at Wansbeck General Hospital Children's Unit courtyard...



... and after!



Before at North Tyneside General Hospital Memory clinic...



... and after!



## raising awareness

As part of our general renewal of the charity, this year we felt it was important to focus on raising awareness of Bright and what we do, both internally, among staff and patients within the Trust, and externally to the wider public and corporate organisations.

*We took a step into the unknown, holding events and activities which we have never attempted before.*

We held our very first charity day within the Trust called 'Brightest Day.' This involved a range of activities across the organisation to raise awareness of the work of Bright and how staff can get involved. It was a fantastic day which well and truly painted the organisation yellow!



As part of our Brightest Day celebrations, we also welcomed a new member of the team: our very own Bright mascot, Sunny, who joined in the celebrations. Sunny is now a key part of the team and will be used to help raise awareness of the charity whilst also bringing a bit of fun and brightness to the work we do.

At Christmas, we wanted to do something a little different by bringing together our external corporate supporters, along with others interested in supporting us, for a special celebration and showcase of everything Bright has to offer.

It was a brilliant day where everyone could get in the Christmas spirit, whilst also gaining a greater understanding and appreciation of the amazing work Bright does for our patients, staff and communities.





## our partners

Over the years, Bright Charity has worked with partners to help deliver our aims and objectives. The charity also feels it is important to work with other regional voluntary sector organisations,

### Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation

We continue to partner with Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation on their Hoops4Health programme. This programme works with schools to use basketball and sport as a driver to



encourage children to engage with healthy eating and physical activity.

Our partnership with Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation enables schools in North Tyneside and Northumberland to benefit from this programme, which in turn plays an important part in encouraging children from a young age to eat healthily and be active. This not only helps prevent illness but also contributes to reducing health inequalities.

This year we also collaborated on a special project called 'Beyond the Court', a podcast focused on men's mental health. The podcast aimed to open up honest conversations and encourage more people to seek support. We were proud to see the series shortlisted for a PRCA award – a recognition of its impact across the region.

### Wag & Co

Our partnership with Wag & Company has continued to go from strength to strength and very much deserves its reputation as our very own 'doggy prescription service.'

Our Wag volunteers, both human and canine, have well and truly established themselves both with patients and staff as a key part of our organisation. The charity has continued to receive positive feedback on this initiative and the areas covered by Wag have expanded during the year.



### Whitley Warriors Ice Hockey Team

We continued our partnership with our local ice hockey team, Whitley Warriors.

The Warriors continued to promote their 'Face off to Stigma' mental health awareness campaign and this year we collaborated with North Tyneside Council to give local children, who may not otherwise have had the chance, the opportunity to learn to ice skate.

This programme was very well received and welcomed by the team at North Tyneside Council and the children involved.

### Charlotte Tilbury

Bright's partnership with Charlotte Tilbury at Fenwick's in Newcastle city centre has become a firm favourite among Trust staff. Our 'Breakfast at Tilbury's' events for staff continue to be extremely popular and are a special treat for the staff lucky enough to attend.

### Music in Hospitals

Musical performances in hospital are incredibly popular with patients, visitors and staff and can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing. This is why the charity has continued its partnership with Music in Hospitals.

These performances have been very well received and have produced some heart-warming stories that have meant a great deal to patients, staff, and visitors.

## grants and funding

This has been such an exciting year for our grants and funding team. We have not only made it easier and simpler for staff to apply for grants, but we have also been inundated with brilliant ideas for both large and small projects all of which will have a significant collective impact on patient care.



We are

proud to say that Bright has supported more than 130 grant applications, with a total value of around £2 million. This is a real testament to both the grants team and the high quality of applications received. We are sure this will have such an impact on enhancing patient care and looking after our staff members' health and wellbeing.





## finance review

The net assets of the Charitable Funds as at the 31st March 2025, were £5,991,000 (31 March 2024 £6,481,000). This represents a reduction of £490,000 over the year.

Unrestricted funds decreased by £46,000, bringing the total to £2,461,000. Restricted funds saw a

more significant reduction of £444,000, resulting in a closing balance of £3,530,000. The primary driver behind these reductions was an increase in the number of grant approvals during the period, reflecting the strategic decision to deepen the charity's reach and effectiveness.

Income Source	2024/25	%	2023/24	%
Donations	£586,000	25	£495,000	16
Legacies	£111,000	5	£1,117,000	37
Charitable Activities	£1,448,000	60	£1,204,000	40
Investment Income	£240,000	10	£195,000	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,385,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>£3,011,000</b>	<b>100</b>

Expenditure during 2024/25 totalled £2,671,000 and the "Contribution towards the NHS" in the form of Charitable Grants totalled £1,054,000. This expenditure relates to medical and other equipment purchases such as IT and furniture to

enhance patient and staff welfare. The remaining expenditure comprised the costs of purchasing goods to be resold in the Charity run on site hospital shops and administrative and support costs.

Total Expenditure	2024/25	%	2023/24	%
Purchase of new equipment	£0	0	£25,000	2
New building and refurbishments	£297,000	11	£19,000	1
Patient education and welfare	£497,000	19	£213,000	13
Staff Education and welfare	£198,000	8	£43,000	3
Information technology	£0	0	£34,000	2
Grants to other charities	£62,000	2	£51,000	3
Support costs and overheads	£356,000	13	£222,000	13
Fundraising Costs	£33,000	1	£31,000	2
NVS Shop purchases and overheads	£1,228,000	46	£1,003,000	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,671,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>£1,641,000</b>	<b>100</b>

## Reserves and Investments

The Trustee has established a Reserves and an Investment Policy to achieve its aim of supporting a healthy future by assisting the long-term future of Bright Charity.

The charity's Reserves Policy is designed to ensure that sufficient funds are retained to meet known commitments and to support the delivery of future plans. Trustees have determined that, in the medium term, the target level of free reserves should be equivalent to 12 months of non-committed expenditure. This approach provides a financial buffer to safeguard operational continuity and enables the charity to respond flexibly to emerging needs or opportunities.

The Trustees consider that this level of reserves is consistent with applying income on a measured, planned and coordinated basis. The level of reserves is reported to the Bright Charity Strategic Committee on a quarterly basis. In the short term the Trustees consider that a level of reserves greater than this amount is acceptable as it provides the Charity with an appropriate level of investment income.

Appropriate action to establish or maintain reserves at the required level will be decided upon by the Committee.

The free reserves of the charity (those available for use by the trustees) stood at £2,461,000 which is a reduction of £46,000 from 2023/24. The decrease was primarily attributable to the increase volume and value of grants approval during the financial year, reflecting the charity's continued commitment to supporting its beneficiaries.

The investment policy which the Charity operated during 2023/24 was established in July 2013. It remained under regular scrutiny and was most recently reviewed by the Charitable Funds Committee in March 2025.

The main objectives of the investments are:

- To achieve sufficient income to cover the administrative costs of the Charity
- Only use deposit funds with institutions with a AAA or equivalent short-term risk rating
- Use funds not held on deposit to achieve medium to long term capital growth whilst minimising risks

The Charity seeks to invest ethically and ensure that its investments are not opposed to the objects of the Charity. Therefore, the investment policy eschews, as much as practicable, investments in tobacco and alcohol related holdings.

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust has no authority over the investments which the Charity holds.

The Charity holds investments with CCLA Ltd COIF funds. At March 31st 2025 the investments are summarised as:

Investments	2024/25	2023/24
COIF - historical book cost	£2,899,000	£2,899,000
Opening Unrealised gain	£995,000	£558,000
Additions in year – book cost	£0	£0
Unrealised gain – in year	£0	£437,000
Unrealised loss – in year	£204,000	£0
Closing Unrealised Gain	£791,000	£995,000
<b>Market value at 31 March</b>	<b>£3,690,000</b>	<b>£3,894,000</b>

Investments are recorded at market value as at 31st March 2025. No other investments are held. The Charitable Funds Committee meets annually with a representative from CCLA to discuss the general investment climate and outlook, and reviews the Charity's investments accordingly.

Risk Management

The Corporate Trustee has identified the major risks to the Charity which can be summarised as:

1. That the Charity is not operating within its objects as defined in the Charity's governing document.
2. That accounting transactions are inappropriately or inadequately reported.
3. Expenditure is inappropriately high resulting in a faster depletion of funds than approved by the Corporate Trustee.
4. That expenditure is inappropriately low resulting in lost opportunities for charitable funds.
5. Investments are not properly safeguarded, resulting in loss of funds.

The Corporate Trustee has established systems to ensure that these risks are kept at a minimum. Namely:

1. A Charitable Funds Strategic Committee which reviews policy, financial activity and investment performance. The members of the committee are all Executive and Non-executive directors of the Trust.
2. The existence and compliance with Standing Financial Instructions.
3. An adequately qualified and resourced finance function.
4. The establishment of internal financial control systems which are reviewed regularly by an Internal Audit department.
5. Reporting and review of audit findings to an Audit Committee.
6. Annual audit of systems and accounts by external auditors.
7. A Risk Register submitted to the Charitable Funds Strategic Committee every quarter.

Our Future Plans

Following a year of renewal and refresh the charity is looking forward to utilising its new fundraising and grants team resources. This will include a real focus on further raising awareness both internally and externally and also to ensure our governance processes and procedures are of the highest standard.

The Charity's charitable expenditure will continue to be determined by the needs of the Trust's hospitals and community services and will be monitored by categorising expenditure into the following areas of spend:

- Purchase of Medical equipment
- Environment Improvement
- Patient and Education Welfare
- Staff Education and Welfare
- Research
- Health Inequalities/ Public Health
- Corporate Social Responsibilities

Based on the accounts for the financial year the Trust Board, on behalf of the Corporate Trustee, believes that the Charity can meet all its current and future foreseeable commitments.

Charity Information

Governance and Management

The Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust Charity was registered with the Charity Commission as an NHS Umbrella Charity by Declaration of Trust in May 2000, Charity number 1083122. In 2011, it was decided to adopt the brand name of "Bright Northumbria".

The Charity has a Corporate Trustee: Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Bright is a registered member of the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to the Codes of Fundraising Practice. Members of the Trust's Board who have acted on behalf of the Corporate Trustee, are members of the Charity Board of Trustee with voting rights. In 2024/2025 these members were:

Name	Title
Birju Bartoli	Chief Executive
Paul Dunn	Executive Director of Finance
Kate Thompson	Executive Director of People and OD
Jeremy Rushmer	Executive Medical Director
David Elliott	Executive Chief Digital Information Officer
Marion Dickson	Executive Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals
Alistair Blair	Executive Medical Director
Simon Eaton	Interim Executive Director of Medicine and Emergency Care Business Unit (from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025)
Hannah Powell	Executive Director of Operations (from 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2025)

Name	Title
Sir Paul Ennals	Chair (Chair from 1st September 2023 and Interim Joint Chair with Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospital NHS Foundation Trust from 18th July 2024. Shared Chair for Gateshead, Newcastle and Northumbria NHS Foundation Trusts from 1st October 2025)
Ruth Connorton	Non- Executive Director (Vice Chair since 18th July 2024)
Margaret Rowe	Non-Executive Director
Richard Dale	Non-Executive Director
Bernard McCardle	Non-Executive Director (to 31st October 2024)
Sir Alan Craft	Non-Executive Director (to 31st March 2025)
Andrew Besford	Non-Executive Director
Stephen McKinlay	Non-Executive Director
Philip Lobb	Non-Executive Director
Katie Stevens	Non-Executive Director (from November 2024 previously Associate Non-Executive Director to 31st October 2024)
Dr Maria Clement	Non-Executive Director (From 1st April 2025, previously Associate Non-Executive Director from 25th November 2024)
Sarat Pediredla	Associate Non-Executive Director (From 1st September 2025)

The Corporate Trustee of the Charity acts through the decisions and actions of the executive and non-executive members of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Board. Where statute permits, the Board delegates authority for the review of strategy, activity and compliance to a sub-committee of the Board called the Bright Charity Strategic Committee, the 'BCSC'. In particular the BCSC is required to:

- Control, manage and monitor the use of the fund's resources;
- Provide support, guidance and encouragement for all its income raising activities whilst managing and monitoring the receipt of all income;
- Ensure that 'best practice' is followed in the conduct of all its affairs fulfilling all of its legal responsibilities;
- Ensure that the Investment Policy approved by the Corporate Trustee is adhered to and that performance is continually reviewed whilst being aware of ethical considerations; and,
- Keep the Corporate Trustee fully informed on the activity, performance and risks of the Charity.

In order to ensure the Committee always acts in the interests of the Charity rather than the NHS corporate body, representatives of both staff and public governors are co-opted onto the Committee in a non-voting capacity to observe and to contribute to the decision-making process.

The Bright Charity Strategic Committee comprises the following members:

- Three Non-Executive Directors (one member is nominated as Chair and a second is nominated as vice-chair of the committee).
- Executive Director of Finance or their nominated deputy
- Head of the Charity
- Executive Director of Nursing or their nominated deputy
- Representatives from the Council of Governors

No member of the Trust Board received remuneration from the Charity during the year. The Trust Board is remunerated by the Trust for their role as Executive and Non-Executive Directors of the Trust.

The Charity is constituted of approximately 264 individual funds as at 31 March 2025 (2023/24: 243) and the notes to the accounts distinguish the types of funds held and disclose separately all material funds.

There is a central budget for administration (including finance, publicity and audit costs) which is funded from investment income.

For day to day operational and management purposes the charity is divided into some 230 funds. The notes to the accounts distinguish the types of accounts held and disclose separately all material funds. These are managed by Trust officers such as Heads of Service and Ward Managers who have delegated authority to apply the funds within the objects of the Charity.

The Corporate Trustee does not set detailed budgets for the Charity's activities except occasionally in the case of specific projects. Instead, responsibility is delegated to the managers of each fund. Upon request managers of funds are required to submit annual fundraising and spending plans for review.

The BCSC regularly monitors fund balances to ensure that funds do not go into deficit, or if they do, to ensure that funds are brought back into surplus as soon as possible.

Activities

Bright ensures that all activities carried out to raise funds are in line with the Fundraising Regulator and Codes of Practice and the Charity's internal processes and policies. The team is aware of donor's wishes ensuring that these are honoured and communicated with the donor. In the year 2024/25 we received no complaints. The Charity team have mandatory training each year on safeguarding for vulnerable adults and this is then integrated into supporting vulnerable donors to ensure they are protected.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm they have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity have undertaken during the year and have continued to support a wide range of charitable activities. These include charitable grant funding for the Trust and fundraising across a number of platforms to raise more funds.

In awarding grants the Trustee is aware of its responsibilities under charity law in ensuring the maintenance of public benefit in all aspects of its work. Funding patient and staff welfare, improvements and amenities is, by definition, meeting public benefit.

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust is the main beneficiary of the Charity and is a related party by virtue of being the Corporate Trustee of the Charity. However, when the Trust Board is making decisions regarding the Charity it does so with the best interests of the Charity in mind and with consideration of Charity Commission guidance, Charity law and the expressed wishes of donors.

By working in partnership with the Trust, charitable funds are used to best effect for the benefit of patients and staff. When deciding upon the most beneficial way to use funds, the Corporate Trustee has regard to the main activities, objectives, strategies, and plans of the Trust.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered and Working Name  
Bright Charity

Registered Charity Number  
1083122

Registered Address  
North Tyneside General Hospital  
Rake Lane  
North Shields  
NE29 8NH

Auditors

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited  
Fernwood Road  
Jesmond  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE2 1TJ

Bankers

Government Banking Service  
c/o Royal Bank of Scotland  
200 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2M 4NR

Legal Advisors

DAC Beachcroft LLP  
Bank House, East Pilgrim Street  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 6QF

Investment Managers

CCLA  
One Angel Lane  
London  
EC4R 3AB



A large, thick white outline of a heart shape, centered on the page. Inside the heart, the text 'thank you to all our supporters who made it possible for us to do so much' is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

**thank  
you to  
all our  
supporters  
who made it  
possible for us  
to do so much**

## **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements**

Under charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The trustees are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed [and rules], subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The corporate trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed of the charity, within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132(1) of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They are responsible 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, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

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

# **NORTHUMBRIA HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

## **FUNDS HELD ON TRUST**

### **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2024-25**

The accounts of the funds held on trust by the Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

### **FOREWORD**

These accounts have been prepared by the Trustees under section 98(2) of the National Health Service Act 1977 (as amended) which the Secretary of State has, with the approval of the Treasury, directed.

### **STATUTORY BACKGROUND**

The Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is the corporate trustee of the funds held on trust under paragraph 16(c) of Schedule 2 of the NHS and Community Care Act 1990 unless Trustees have been appointed under s11 of the NHS and Community Care Act 1990.

The Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust charitable funds are registered with the Charity Commission.

### **MAIN PURPOSE OF THE FUNDS HELD ON TRUST**

The main purpose of the charitable funds held on trust is to apply income for any charitable purpose relating to the National Health Service wholly or mainly for the services provided by the Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Signed  on behalf of the Corporate Trustee

Dated.....27<sup>th</sup> November 2025.....



# Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust Charity

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust Charity (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and 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 FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the 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 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 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

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

## **Responsibilities of Trustee**

As explained more fully in the trustee responsibilities statement set out in the trustees annual report, the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustee 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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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 the financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

The risk of material misstatement due to error or fraud has been assessed in conjunction with how internal controls may mitigate any such risk. These controls are reviewed as part of the audit by performing systems walkthroughs to ensure they are operating effectively. Analytical review and substantive testing is also performed on all material balances and therefore any instances of non-compliance should be identified or considered as insignificant. In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team;

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the industry and sector, including the legal and regulatory framework, in which the charity operates and how the charity complies with that legal and regulatory framework
- inquired with management and those charged with governance about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud
- discussed with management and those charged with governance any non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessments of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

The risk of management override of controls was also considered an area of potential misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included testing of manual journal entries and other adjustments and evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as



these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

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 the audit report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed: 

Nicholas Cunningham MSc BSc FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Robson Laidler Accountants Limited, Statutory Auditor

Statutory Auditor

Fernwood House

Fernwood Road

Jesmond

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE2 1TJ

Date: 17/12/2025

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### Income

				Year Ended 2025 Total Funds £000	Year Ended 2024 Total Funds £000
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000		
Donations and legacies	2	550	147	<b>697</b>	1,612
Charitable activities	3	1,448	0	<b>1,448</b>	1,204
Investment income	4	95	145	<b>240</b>	195
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>2,093</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>3,011</b>

### Expenditure

Fundraising costs	5	33	0	<b>33</b>	31
Charitable activities	6	1,981	657	<b>2,638</b>	1,610
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>2,014</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>2,671</b>	<b>1,641</b>
Gains / (loss) on revaluation of investment assets	8, 11	(125)	(79)	(204)	437
Gains on disposal of investment assets	8, 11	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Total gains on investment assets		(125)	(79)	<b>(204)</b>	437
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		<b>(46)</b>	<b>(444)</b>	<b>(490)</b>	<b>1,807</b>
Gross transfer between funds		0	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(46)</b>	<b>(444)</b>	<b>(490)</b>	<b>1,807</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 31 March 2024		2,507	3,974	<b>6,481</b>	4,674
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2025</b>		<b>2,461</b>	<b>3,530</b>	<b>5,991</b>	<b>6,481</b>

The notes at pages 29 to 41 form part of these accounts.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Year Ended 2025 Total Funds £000	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Year Ended 2024 Total Funds £000
Investments	8	1,516	2,174	<b>3,690</b>	1,506	2,388	3,894
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		1,516	2,174	<b>3,690</b>	1,506	2,388	3,894

**Current assets:**

Debtors	9	15	22	<b>37</b>	43	67	110
Short term investments and deposits	11	396	569	<b>965</b>	373	592	965
Cash at bank and in hand		632	905	<b>1,537</b>	628	995	1,623
<b>Total current assets</b>		1,044	1,495	<b>2,539</b>	1,044	1,654	2,698

**Liabilities:**

Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	98	140	<b>238</b>	43	68	111
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>946</b>	<b>1,355</b>	<b>2,301</b>	1,001	1,586	2,587
<b>Total net assets</b>		2,462	3,529	<b>5,991</b>	2,507	3,974	6,481

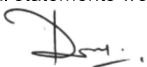
**Funds of the charity**

## Income Funds

Unrestricted	12	2,461	0	<b>2,461</b>	2,507	0	2,507
Restricted	12	0	3,530	<b>3,530</b>	0	3,974	3,974
<b>Total funds of the charity</b>		2,461	3,530	<b>5,991</b>	2,507	3,974	6,481

The notes at pages 29 to 41 form part of these accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the Corporate Trustee on 27th of November 2025 and signed by:



..... on behalf of the Corporate Trustee

Date.....27th November 2025

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

### 1. Accounting Policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at fair value.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of recommended practice: accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The presentation currency of these financial statements is sterling. All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest £1,000.

The Corporate Trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about Northumbria Healthcare's charitable funds ability to continue as a going concern. There are no material uncertainties affecting the current year's accounts.

The charity's accounts are prepared on a going concern basis. The only obligated expenditure the charity is committed to in the next twelve months is the administration costs of running the charity. There are sufficient reserves to meet this commitment for the foreseeable future.

The Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The charity's Corporate Trustee and parent undertaking, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, includes the charity in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust are prepared in accordance with FRS 102 and are available to the public and may be obtained from the Trust website ([www.northumbria.nhs.uk](http://www.northumbria.nhs.uk)). In these financial statements, the charity is considered to be a qualifying entity (for the purposes of this FRS) and has applied the exemptions available under FRS 102 in respect of the following disclosures:

- Cash Flow Statement and related notes; and
- Key Management Personnel compensation.

As the consolidated financial statements of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust include the equivalent disclosures, the charity has also taken the exemptions under FRS 102 available in respect of the following disclosures:

- The disclosures required by FRS 102.11 Basic Financial Instruments and FRS 102.12 Other Financial Instrument Issues in respect of financial instruments not falling within the fair value accounting rules of Paragraph 36(4) of Schedule 1.

As the charity is a wholly owned subsidiary of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, it has taken advantage of the exemption contained in FRS 102.33A and has not disclosed transactions or balances with wholly owned members of this group.

## **1.1 Accounting Convention**

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, as modified for the revaluation of certain investments which are included at fair value.

## **1.2 Income**

**a)** Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities. Income is recognised in the accounts of the charity when all of the following conditions are met;

- i) Entitlement – control over the rights or other assets to the economic benefit has passed to the charity;
- ii) Probable – it is more likely than not that the economic benefits associated with the transaction or gift will flow to the charity; and
- iii) Measurement - the monetary value or amount of the income can be measured reliably and the costs incurred for the transaction and the costs to complete the transaction can be measured reliably.

### **b) Gifts in kind**

i) Assets given for distribution by the funds are included in the Statement of Financial Activities only when distributed.

ii) Assets given for use by the funds (e.g. property for its own occupation) are included in the Statement of Financial Activities as income when receivable.

iii) Gifts made in kind but on trust for conversion into cash and subsequent application by the funds are included in the accounting period in which the gift is sold.

In all cases the amount at which gifts in kind are brought into account is either a reasonable estimate of their value to the funds or the amount actually realised. The basis of the valuation is disclosed in the annual report.

### **c) Donations in kind**

Donations in kind (e.g. the provision of free accommodation) is included in the accounts with an equivalent amount in ongoing resources, if there is a financial cost borne by another party. The value placed on such income is the financial cost of the third party providing the resources.

### **d) Legacies**

Pecuniary and residuary legacies are accounted for as income once the receipt of the legacy is probable. This will be once confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate that payment of the legacy will be made or property transferred, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled. If there is uncertainty as to the amount of the legacy and it cannot be reliably estimated then the legacy is shown as a contingent asset until all of the conditions for income recognition are met.

Income from reversionary interest of 'life interest' legacies is treated as receivable when conditions associated with the payment have been recognised (e.g. death of a life tenant). Any material assets bequeathed to the charity but subject to a life tenancy interest held by a third party are disclosed in the accounts.

### **e) NVS Shops**

All sales made in the NVS shops are in cash and are recognised at the point of sale. The principal purchases of goods to be sold are paid for on a direct debit basis at the end of each month and hence no creditors are required



to be recognised. Any year end inventory in shops is excluded from the accounts as the Corporate Trustee does not consider it to be material.

### **1.3 Expenditure**

Charitable expenditure is expenditure related to the aims and objectives of the charity.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under heading that aggregate all costs related to each category of expense shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. Expenditure is recognised when the following criteria are met;

- There is a present level of constructive obligation resulting from a past event;
- It is more likely than not that a transfer of benefits (usually a cash payment) will be required in settlement; and
- The amount of the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

#### **a) Cost of raising funds**

The costs of generating funds are the costs associated with generating income for the funds held on trust.

#### **b) Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments made to linked, related party or third party NHS bodies and non NHS bodies, in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the funds held on trust, primarily for the relief of those who are sick. Grant payments are recognised as expenditure when the conditions for their payments have been met or where there is a constructive obligation to make a payment.

A constructive obligation arises when;

- We have communicated our intention to award a grant to a recipient who then has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant;
- We have a public announcement about a commitment which is specific enough for the recipient to have a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant; and
- There is an established pattern of practice which indicates to the recipient that we will honour our commitment.

The Corporate Trustee has control over the amount and timing of grant payments and consequently where approval has been given by the Corporate Trustee and any of the above criteria have been met then a liability is recognised. However, when they are then those conditions have to be met before the liability is recognised. Where an intention has been communicated, then no expenditure is recognised but an appropriate designation is made in the appropriate fund. If a grant has been offered but there is uncertainty as to whether it will be accepted or whether conditions will be met then no liability is recognised but a contingent liability will be disclosed.

#### **c) Governance Costs**

Governance costs are classified as a support cost and therefore have been apportioned between fundraising activities and charitable activities.

#### **d) Support costs**

Support costs are those costs which do not relate directly to a single activity. These include some staff costs, costs of administration, internal and external audit costs and IT support. Support costs have been apportioned between fundraising costs and charitable activities on an appropriate basis.

#### **e) Fundraising costs**

The costs of generating funds are those costs attributable to generating income for the charity, other than those costs incurred in undertaking charitable activities or the costs incurred in undertaking trading activities in furtherance of the charity's objects.

#### **f) Charitable Activities**

Costs of charitable activities comprise all costs incurred in the pursuit of charitable objects of the charity. These costs, where not wholly attributable, are apportioned between the categories of charitable expenditure in addition to the direct costs. The total costs of each category of charitable expenditure include an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 6.

### **1.4 Investment Fixed Assets**

- i) Investment fixed assets are shown at market value.
- ii) Quoted stocks and shares are included in the balance sheet at mid-market price, ex-div.
- iii) Other investment fixed assets are included at Corporate Trustee's best estimate of market value.

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument. Fixed asset investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and are subsequently measured at their fair value (market value) as at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

Quoted stocks and shares are included in the Balance Sheet at the current market value quoted by the investment analyst, excluding dividend. Other investments are included at the Corporate Trustee's best estimate of market value.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk and changes in sentiment concerning equities within particular sector sub sectors.

### **1.5 Staff and Pension Costs**

No staff were directly employed by the charity during the year. Northumbria Healthcare Care NHS Foundation Trust fully re-charged Bright charity for the 12 whole time equivalent members of staff who work full time for the charity. 4 of these staff work in charity management, administration and fundraising with the remaining 8 whole time equivalent staff working in the Northumbria Volunteer Service shops. Some of these staff members belong to the NHS Pension Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme which is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The recharge from the Trust includes the employee contributions to that scheme. For more information on the NHS Pension Scheme refer to the Trust annual report and accounts.

## **1.6 Structure of Funds**

When there is a legal restriction on the purpose to which a fund may be put, the fund is classified in the accounts as:

- a restricted fund or
- an endowment fund

Restricted funds are those where the donor has provided for the donation to be spent in furtherance of a specified charitable purpose.

Endowment funds arise when the donor has expressly provided that the gift is to be invested and only the income of the fund may be spent.

Other funds are classified as unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds which the Corporate Trustee has chosen to earmark for set purposes are also classified as designated funds. The major funds held within these categories are disclosed on notes 12.1 and 12.2.

## **1.7 Realised and unrealised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening market value (or date of purchase if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between market value at the year end and open market value (or the date of purchase if later).

## **1.8 Debtors**

Debtors are amounts owed to the charity. They are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

## **1.9 Cash and Cash equivalents**

Cash at bank and in hand is held to meet the day to day running costs of the charity as they fall due. Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments.

## **1.10 Creditors**

Creditors are amounts owed by the charity. They are measured at the amount that the charity expects to have to pay to settle the debt.

Amounts which are owed in more than a year are shown as long term creditors.

## **1.11 Related Party Transactions**

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is the corporate trustee of the Bright Charity as well as its main grant beneficiary – they are therefore related parties. Northumbria Healthcare makes a number of clerical and transaction services available to the charity.

These include:

Management and governance services at a cost of £243,000 (£110,000 in 2023/24)

- fundraising services at a cost of £14,000 (£31,000 in 2023/24) – see note 7.

- accountancy and administrative services at a cost of £70,000 (£64,000 in 2023/24) in support of the charity's grant making activities which are included within support costs - see note 7.

None of the members of the NHS Trust Board or parties related to them has undertaken any transactions with the Bright charity or received any benefit from the charity in payment or kind. Board members received no honoraria or emoluments in the year and no expenses paid to them in the year (2024/25 -Nil).

## 2. Donations and Legacies

			Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Donations from individuals	250	36	<b>286</b>	195
Corporate Donations	300	0	<b>300</b>	300
Legacies	0	111	<b>111</b>	1,117
<b>Total voluntary income</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>1,612</b>

## 3. Income from charitable activities

			Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total Funds £000	Total Funds £000
HVS Shops	1,398	0	<b>1,398</b>	1,180
Other	50	0	<b>50</b>	24
<b>Total activities for generating funds</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>1,204</b>

The above income relates to shops at The Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital at Cramlington, North Tyneside General Hospital, Wansbeck and Hexham Hospitals and Blyth Hospital.

The shops sell refreshments and general provisions to patients and visitors to the hospital. The shops are staffed principally by volunteers working under the name of the Northumbria Volunteer Service (NVS). In addition to the volunteers there 13.63 whole time equivalent paid staff working the shops who are directly employed by the Foundation Trust (paragraph 1.5 Accounting Policies)

All income from operation are made available to the charity and expenditure of the profits is included under Note 6 under Charitable Activities.

## 4. Investment income

Total gross income			Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Investments listed on Stock Exchange	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Investments in a Common Deposit Fund or Common Investment Fund	40	61	<b>101</b>	98
Other investments and deposit accounts	55	84	<b>139</b>	97
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>195</b>



## 5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2025 Total Funds £000	Total 2024 Total Funds £000
Fundraising costs	33	0	<b>33</b>	31
<b>Total cost of generating funds</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>

## 6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2025 Total Funds £000	Total 2024 Total Funds £000
Purchase of New Equipment		0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
New Building and Refurbishment		116	181	<b>297</b>	<b>19</b>
Staff Education and Welfare		73	125	<b>198</b>	<b>43</b>
Patient Education and Welfare		360	137	<b>497</b>	<b>213</b>
IT Equipment and Software		0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>
Grants to Other Charities		62	0	<b>62</b>	<b>51</b>
Support Costs and Overheads	7	142	214	<b>356</b>	<b>222</b>
Costs of good sold - HVS Shops		1,228		<b>1,228</b>	<b>1,003</b>
<b>Total cost of charitable activities</b>		<b>1,981</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>2,638</b>	<b>1,610</b>

## 7. Allocation of Governance, support costs and overheads

	Raising Funds £000	Allocated to cost of charitable activities £000	Total 2025 £000	Total 2024 £0002
Governance - External Audit	0	8	8	8
Governance - Other costs	0	15	15	17
<b>Total governance costs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>
Financial administration and accountancy costs	0	70	70	64
Direct managerial and operational costs	14	229	243	110
Computer expenses	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	20	20	23
<b>Total other support costs</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Total governance, support costs and overheads</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>222</b>

Financial Services and Governance costs are allocated on the basis of time spent by Trust employees providing these services to the charity. External Audit fees are a direct cost to the charity.

The £356,000 (2024: £222,000) of support costs is included within the Cost of Charitable Activities (Note 6).

The charity does not directly employ any members of staff. The governance and financial services used by the charity are provided by employees of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The cost of providing these services is recharged to the charity by the Foundation Trust. Costs are calculated on the basis outlined above.

## 8. Analysis of Fixed Asset Investments

8.1 Fixed Asset Investments	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Year Ended 2025 Total Funds £000	Year Ended 2024 Total Funds £000
Market value at start of year	1,506	2,388	3,894	3,457
Purchased- book cost	0	0	0	0
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation unrealised	(125)	(79)	(204)	437
Gross transfer between funds	135	(135)	0	0
<b>Market value at end of year</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>2,174</b>	<b>3,690</b>	<b>3,894</b>

All investments are held primarily to provide an investment return for the charity.

8.2 Market value at 31 March	Total 2025 £000	Total 2024 £0002
Investments in a Common Deposit Fund or Common Investment Fund;		
COIF Ethical Income Fund	1,733	2,084
COIF Global Equity Fund	1,957	1,810
<b>Total fixed assets investments</b>	<b>3,690</b>	<b>3,894</b>

There are no direct investments held outside the UK. Both common investment fund holdings are considered to be material and are disclosed. There are no individual listed investments in fixed asset investments.

## 9. Analysis of Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Accrued income	15	22	37	110
<b>Total debtors</b>	15	22	37	110

Accrued income represents income earned but not yet received on investments and legacies where the receipt of the legacy is probable.

## 10. Analysis of Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Trade creditors	98	140	238	111
<b>Total creditors</b>	98	140	238	111

Creditors consist of money owed to Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust in respect of goods and services bought by the charity but initially paid for by the Trust

## 11. Short Term Investments and Deposits

Short term Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Market value at start of year	0	0	0	0
Net gain on revaluation unrealised	0	0	0	0
Net gain on revaluation realised	0	0	0	0
Proceeds of sale - book cost	0	0	0	0
Proceeds of sale - Realised gain on disposal	0	0	0	0
<b>Market value at end of year</b>	0	0	0	0

Deposits	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£000	£000	£000	£000
COIF Deposit account	390	560	950	950
Building Society Accounts	6	9	15	15
<b>Total deposits</b>	396	569	965	965
<b>Total short term investments and deposits</b>	396	569	965	965

## Analysis of Funds

## 12. Endowment Funds

The charity held no endowment funds at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024 - nil.)

## Material funds

12.1 Unrestricted Funds	Balance 31 March 2024 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains / (losses) on Revaluation £000	Other Transfers £000	Balance 31 March 2025 £000
NVS Fund (Blyth)	0	39	(43)	(1)	0	(5)
NVS Fund (Cramlington)	1	640	(522)	17	0	136
NVS Fund (Hexham)	0	79	(79)	0	0	0
NVS Fund (North Tyneside)	0	408	(359)	7	0	56
NVS Fund (Wansbeck)	0	233	(230)	0	0	3
NVS Surplus	410	4	(323)	(70)	0	21
Berwick General Fund	35	0	0	(2)	0	33
Cardiology Fund (WGH)	56	0	0	(3)	0	53
Caroline's Comet Fund	66	2	0	(3)	0	65
Charisma Study Research	46	0	0	(3)	0	43
Chemo Unit Berwick	50	0	0	(3)	0	47
Diabetic Education Fund	44	0	0	(2)	0	42
Esprit Research Fund	46	0	0	(3)	0	43
Hexham Cancer Equipment Fund	102	22	(6)	(3)	0	115
ITU Trustwide	57	3	(3)	(3)	0	54
Oncology Day Unit (WGH)	103	6	(10)	(6)	0	93
Oncology Fund (NTGH)	40	10	(11)	(2)	0	37
Palliative Care Northumbria	384	58	(100)	(27)	0	315
Parkinson Disease Fund	66	3	(1)	(3)	0	65
Profess Research Fund	28	0	0	(2)	0	26
Special Care Baby Unit - Trustwide	29	2	0	(1)	0	30
Tanzania Educational Fund	13	8	(1)	0	0	20
Teardrop Project	108	20	(29)	(7)	0	92
WGH Palliative Care (Oasis Room)	34	1	(3)	(2)	0	30
Haltwhistle Hospital Fund	64	5	(4)	(3)	0	62
Hexham Hospital General Fund	16	2	(23)	(4)	0	(9)
Breast Disease Fund	24	1	0	(1)	0	24
NTGH - Ward 22 Stroke Ward	100	1	0	(5)	0	96
Pharmacy Charitable Fund	39	6	(7)	(2)	0	36
Covid 19 Donations Fund	36	0	0	(2)	0	34
NHFML 2025	0	300	0	44	0	344
Others	510	240	(260)	(30)	0	460
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>(2,014)</b>	<b>(125)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,461</b>

Other unrestricted funds of the charity are designated funds i.e. there is no legal restriction on the use of the funds however the Corporate Trustee has earmarked the funds to be used for a particular purpose in the future. This purpose is indicated by the name given to these designated funds.

12.2 Restricted Funds	Balance 31 March 2024 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains / (losses) on Revaluation £000	Other Transfers £000	Balance 31 March 2025 £000
Covid 19 Donations Fund	307	0	(129)	(21)	0	157
Legacy - MR	828	0	0	(4)	0	824
NHFM Limited Donation	348	0	(60)	(11)	0	277
Legacy - SA	345	0	(5)	(3)	0	337
Legacy - IE	336	0	(112)	(19)	0	205
Legacy - PS	323	14	(32)	(5)	0	300
Legacy - SL	319	0	(5)	(2)	0	312
Legacy - DW	207	0	0	(2)	0	205
Legacy - FA	189	0	0	(1)	0	188
Legacy - PD	168	0	(54)	(9)	0	105
Legacy - RS	89	(38)	0	(6)	0	45
Legacy - JP	87	0	0	0	0	87
Legacy - CM	80	0	(1)	0	0	79
Legacy - DM	75	0	0	0	0	75
Legacy - MM	65	0	(2)	(1)	0	62
Legacy - WG	61	0	0	0	0	61
Legacy - LR	47	0	0	(1)	0	46
Legacy - AP	35	0	0	0	0	35
Legacy - VK	0	125	0	19	0	144
Development Group - Wansbeck	9	1	(4)	0	0	6
North Northumberland CDG Fund	3	0	0	0	0	3
North Tyneside CDG Fund	33	3	(23)	(3)	0	10
Community CDG Fund	96	29	(10)	3	0	118
Blyth CDG Fund	(8)	0	0	0	0	(8)
Others	(68)	158	(220)	(13)	0	(143)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>3,974</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>(657)</b>	<b>(79)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,530</b>

### 12.3 Details of Material Funds

<u>Name of fund</u>	<u>Description of the nature and purpose of each fund</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	
Legacy - MR	Legacy received for the purchase of medical equipment
Legacy - SA	Legacy received for the general purposes of the Trust
Legacy - IE	Legacy received for use at Berwick Hospital
Legacy - PS	Legacy received for use at North Tyneside General Hospital
Legacy - SL	Legacy received for at Berwick Hospital
Legacy - DW	Legacy received for cancer services in Northumberland
Legacy - FA	Legacy received for health services in the Morpeth area
Legacy - PD	Legacy received for equipment at Hexham hospital
Legacy - RS	Legacy received for use at North Tyneside General Hospital
Legacy - JP	Legacy received for use within stroke services
Legacy - CM	Legacy received for use in mental health services
Legacy - DM	Legacy received for use at North Tyneside General Hospital
Legacy - MM	Legacy received for use within elderly medicine
Legacy - WG	Legacy received for Intensive Care service
Legacy - LR	Legacy received for oncology services
Legacy - AP	Legacy received for palliative care services
Legacy - VK	Legacy received for use within Oncology Day Unit at North Tyneside General Hospital
Covid 19 Donations Fund	For donations made in response to the pandemic restricted to specific purposes
NHFM Limited Donation 2024	Donation from Northumbria Facilities Management Limited for the upgrade of the Trusts buildings
Development Group - Wansbeck	General purposes restricted to the Wansbeck area
North Northumberland CDG Fund	General purposes restricted to the North Northumberland area
North Tyneside CDG Fund	General purposes restricted to the North Tyneside area
Community CDG Fund	General purposes restricted to Northumberland Community Services
Blyth CDG Fund	General purposes restricted to the Blyth area
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	
NVS Fund (Blyth)	General purposes in the Blyth area
NVS Fund (Cramlington)	General purposes at Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital
NVS Fund (Hexham)	General purposes in the Hexham area
NVS Fund (North Tyneside)	General purposes in the North Tyneside area
NVS Fund (Wansbeck)	General purposes in the Wansbeck area
NVS Surplus Fund	For unrestricted use Trustwide
Berwick General Fund	General purposes of Berwick hospital
Cardiology Fund	Improving cardiology services at Wansbeck Hospital
Caroline's Comet Fund	Promote the understanding of practices in palliative care
Charisma Study Research	Researching stroke prevention
Chemo Unit Berwick	Chemotherapy Unit at Berwick Hospital
Diabetic Education Fund	To support education for Diabetes staff
Esprit Research Fund	For research into causes of strokes
Hexham Cancer Equipment Fund	To purchase equipment for cancer services at Hexham hospital
ITU Trustwide	For the Trustwide Intensive Care Service
Oncology Day Unit WGH	For improving patient experience at the Oncology day unit
Oncology Fund	For oncology treatments and staff education
Palliative Care Northumbria	Support for palliative care patients in North Tyneside and Northumberland
Parkinson's Disease Fund	For research into Parkinson's disease
Profess Research Fund	To promote stroke prevention research
Special Care Baby Unit	For improving facilities within SCBU Trustwide
Tanzania Education Fund	Undertake research supported by British Council
Teardrop Project	Support for bereaved families after infant death
WGH Palliative Care (Oasis Room)	Improving palliative care services at Wansbeck Hospital
Haltwhistle Hospital Fund	For the general purposes of Hexham Hospital
Hexham Hospital General Fund	For general purposes at Haltwhistle Hospital
Breast Disease Fund	Improving Breast disease services Trustwide
Ward 22 Stroke Fund	For the general purposes of the Stroke Ward North Tyneside
Pharmacy Charitable Fund	For support of Pharmacy services Trustwide
Covid 19 Donations Fund	For the general purpose of the charity Trustwide
NHFM Limited Donation 2025	Donation from Northumbria Facilities Management Limited for general purposes

### 13. Commitments, Liabilities and Provisions

The charity had no commitments, liabilities or provisions at the 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024 - nil).

### 14. Connected Organisations

Name, nature of connection, description of activities undertaken and details of any qualifications expressed by their auditors	2024-2025		2023-2024	
	Turnover of Connected Organisation £	Net deficit for the Connected Organisation £	Turnover of Connected Organisation (Restated) £	Net surplus for the Connected Organisation £
The Charity is administered by Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The Trust Board members are representatives of the Corporate Trustee of the Charity	882,033,000	(29,930,000)	806,358,000	29,486,000



### 15. Related Party Transactions

The Charity is connected to Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, it being the sole Corporate Trustee of the Charity. The Board of Directors of the Foundation Trust therefore have direct control of the charity through their control of the Foundation Trust. The Charity's objectives are to apply income and capital for any charitable purpose relating to services provided by the Foundation Trust and therefore the resources expended relate to the Foundation Trust in this way.

During the year the charity had a number of inter-company transactions with the Foundation Trust. At the 31 March the value of the inter-company balance was £238,000, that is the charity owed £238,000 to the Foundation Trust.

During the year none of the members of the Foundation Trust Board or members of the key management staff or parties related to them has undertaken any material transactions with the Charitable Trust.

The charity is included within the consolidated financial statements of the Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, for which copies may be obtained from the Trust website ([www.northumbria.nhs.uk](http://www.northumbria.nhs.uk)).

Members of the Foundation Trust Board:

#### Executive Directors

Birju Bartoli	Chief Executive Officer
Paul Dunn	Executive Director of Finance
Kate Thompson	Executive Director of People and OD
Jeremy Rushmer	Executive Medical Director
David Elliott	Executive Chief Digital Information Officer
Marion Dickson	Executive Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals
Alistair Blair	Executive Medical Director
Simon Eaton	Interim Executive Director of Medicine and Emergency Care Business Unit (from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025)
Hannah Powell	Executive Director of Operations (from 6th October 2025)

#### Non-Executive Directors

Sir Paul Ennals	Chair (Chair from 1st September 2023 and Interim Joint Chair with Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospital NHS Foundation Trust from 18th July 2024. Shared Chair for Gateshead, Newcastle and Northumbria NHS Foundation Trusts from 1st October 2025)
Ruth Connorton	Non- Executive Director (Vice Chair since 18th July 2024)
Margaret Rowe	Non-Executive Director
Richard Dale	Non-Executive Director
Bernard McCardle	Non-Executive Director (to 31st October 2024)
Sir Alan Craft	Non- Executive Director (to 31st March 2025)
Andrew Besford	Non-Executive Director
Stephen McKinlay	Non-Executive Director
Philip Lobb	Non-Executive Director
Katie Stevens	Non-Executive Director (from November 2024 previously Associate Non-Executive Director to 31st October 2024)
Dr Maria Clement	Non-Executive Director (From 1st April 2025, previously Associate Non-Executive Director from 25th November 2024)
Sarat Pediredla	Associate Non-Executive Director (From 1st September 2025)

No remuneration was paid to members of the Trust Board in 2024/25 (2023/24- Nil). No expenses were paid to Trust Board members in 2024/25 (2023/24 - Nil). No Trustee indemnity insurance was paid in 2024/25 (2023/24 - Nil).