

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales · Charity number 1121642

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04349401](#)

Registered 2007-11-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address c/o MFG Solicitors LLP
Adam House
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Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY10 2SH

Phone 01299403055

Email info@floodforum.org.uk

Website www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN PARTICULAR WHERE LIFE AND PROPERTY IS AFFECTED BY OR AT RISK OF BEING AFFECTED BY FLOODING ON A SIGNIFICANT SCALE BY:3.1.1 WORKING EITHER ALONE OR WITH BUSINESSES OR OTHER STRATEGIC ORGANISATIONS, WHETHER PRIVATE, VOLUNTARY, PUBLIC OR STATUTORY, TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING, TO MINIMISE THE MATERIAL DAMAGE CAUSED BY AND THE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF FLOODING AND TO ASSIST IN RECOVERY FROM THE EFFECTS OF FLOODING3.1.2 PROVIDING, OR ASSISTING WITH, PROMOTING OR IMPROVING ACCESS TO EDUCATION OR TRAINING WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING THE RISK OF FLOODING, MINIMISING THE MATERIAL DAMAGE CAUSED BY AND THE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF FLOODING AND TO ASSIST IN RECOVERY FROM THE EFFECTS OF FLOODING.

Activities: Rapid deployment of post recovery advice to flooding communities, individuals and businessesA designated help line that provides support, empathy and a listening earHelp and advice to resolve issues regarding restoration of property, insurance etc.A website containing a wealth of detailed informationAdvice on flood resilience and resistanceProactively helping to form action groups

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL AND OVERSEAS
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£921,135	£850,763	£769,416	17
2024-03-31	£977,158	£708,278	£699,044	15
2023-03-31	£770,550	£539,969	£430,164	13
2022-03-31	£418,992	£360,304	-	-
2021-03-31	£295,447	£306,081	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Goff	Chair	2020-01-01
Cherry Ann Wells		2023-11-01
Craig Hamilton Woolhouse		2021-07-28
Daniel James Martin		2023-11-01
Dr Sally Priest		2021-07-28
Lynne Jones		2020-10-28
Michael Green		2020-01-28
Peter Bide		2020-10-28
Robert Haddon		2019-10-29
Stuart Logue		2025-10-22
TERENCE WILLIAM FULLER		2023-11-01

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1121642

Accounts



The National Flood Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered charity no. 1121642
Company no. 04349401

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 which is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act Purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Objectives and Activities

"The charity's object is the protection of life and property for the benefit of the public in particular where life and property is affected by or at risk of being affected by flooding on a significant scale. This is achieved by:

- a) Working either alone or with business or other strategic organisations, whether private, public or statutory, to reduce the risk of flooding, to minimise the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding; and by
- b) Providing or assisting with, promoting or improving access to education or training with a view to reducing the risk of flooding, minimising the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding"

The charity's aim is to reduce as far as possible the impact of flooding on all those who have already suffered serious flooding or who are at significant risk of flooding. It does this through activities which:

1. Provide information and advice, such as through the website, publications and advice line;
2. Provide practical, face to face support for people who have been flooded throughout the recovery period;
3. Help people to understand their flood risk and to organise flood action groups so that they can engage with risk management authorities proactively to effectively reduce the risk of flooding and its impacts;
4. Improve flood risk management policies and operational delivery through engagement with local and central government, its agencies, the private sector (such as the insurance industry) and the voluntary sector.

In carrying out these activities the charity works extensively with third party organisations:

1. Local government, Environment Agency operational teams, water companies, landowners, other voluntary organisations, loss adjusters and insurers when working directly with people at risk of flooding. Facilitating engagement in recovery situations with these organisations aims to provide direct support to people who have flooded. These organisations may each also have roles in flood risk management, so our work to set up and develop flood action groups is designed to enable and support a constructive and proactive dialogue. Our independence, together with our knowledge of flood risk management and our facilitation skills allows us to work in situations where others can't.
2. Central and local government and its agencies, the insurance industry, consultancies, national voluntary organisations when working on better policies and their delivery for those at flood risk. This also includes encouraging and participating in (as part of steering groups or in gathering information) research and projects that will help people to protect themselves better. For example, the National Flood Forum participated in a project to make available to the general public the information, data and methodology for developing and evaluating flood defence schemes.

The charity's main objectives for the year were:

The overall aim of the charity remained, as reflected in the strapline, supporting and representing flood risk communities.

Our strategic priorities are:

Our Strategy

Working with communities and partners, we support people at risk of flooding and help them recover when it happens. As the impacts of climate change grow, we want to reach and support even more people.

Our long-term goals

All people in England and Wales are better protected from flooding - they can obtain affordable household insurance and the value of their properties and possessions is secured. If they do flood, their health and wellbeing is supported in the short and long term.

Who we are and what we do

As part of the flooded community, the National Flood Forum is a charity that supports communities to tackle the things that matter to them; creating hope and reducing the fear of flooding; helping people to work together to reduce flood exposure and its impacts, both physical and emotional:

- We work with people to help them build local flood action groups and networks that can support their communities. We act as honest brokers and facilitators.
- We support people with advice and guidance.
- We help people to recover from flooding and manage their risks for both the short and the long term.
- We champion issues with government, politicians and officials, to improve flooding policy and increase funding for flood risk management and recovery.
- We work with partners to inform them of the issues and concerns that people at flood risk face and encourage them to work with us in ways that will improve people's lives.
- We encourage partners to support us, so that we can reach out to communities and individuals to help them with the things that we excel at.

Specific targets for the year to help deliver this included:

- Supporting as many flooded and at-risk people as possible through our helpline, website, social media and our work in communities including Recovery Services and Flood Action Groups.
- Building income through partnership, fundraising and identifying new areas of growth and income generation, including training, consultancy and flood exhibitions.
- Developing more and stronger stakeholder relationships being an effective and valued delivery partner. Acting as a critical friend as well as being collaborative.
- Campaigning and advocacy on those things our community cares about most and ensuring our voice is heard on a national stage with an aim to influence policy decisions.
- Developing a way to show our impact and evaluate our work.

- Supporting and developing our team through continued professional training.
- The work of over 230 flood action groups around the country was sustained entirely by voluntary activity.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They are of the opinion that the activities of the charity provide public benefit within the spirit of that guidance.

Achievements and Performance

This year, the National Flood Forum has continued to deliver meaningful impact at both national and local levels, championing community voice, resilience, and systemic change in flood risk management.

National Leadership in Innovation and Resilience

We have played a leading role in shaping the future of flood risk management through our continued involvement in the Defra-funded Resilience and Innovation Programme. The National Flood Forum is a core delivery partner in four of the pioneering projects:

- SMART Sponge Catchments in Slough
- Roch Valley Neighbourhood Flood and Climate Project
- Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project
- A FAIR Approach to Community Flood Risk

These projects are exploring new models for community-led resilience and catchment-scale solutions, placing local people at the heart of innovation.

We have worked with research company Eunomia to understand and develop a detailed picture of how flood recovery unfolds in practice, examining the timing and nature of both the negative impacts and the measures taken to recover and build resilience. Through four contrasting case studies, it explored the factors that influenced recovery outcomes and captured the diverse experiences and perspectives of affected residents and local stakeholders.

We have carried out Recovery Services in several communities in Gloucestershire after the floods in January 2024, supporting them as they started the recovery process and working with agencies to secure better outcomes for those communities.

We have continued to attend the national Property Flood Resilience Roundtable ensuring that communities experiences and concerns are heard.

We remain central to the development and delivery of the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy, leading on public and community engagement as part of the Strategy's roadmap.

As a member of the Floods Resilience Task Force, we have helped shape national thinking on how the UK responds to the growing challenge of flooding, with a focus on community preparedness, long-term resilience, and locally driven solutions.

Through our work with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Flood Prevention, we have continued to influence policy, including launching a national campaign to reform Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (FDGiA) funding criteria. This campaign is grounded in the experiences of flood-affected people and calls for fairer, more effective funding for flood resilience.

Our team has continued to deliver hands-on support across the country:

- Ongoing delivery of Flood Action Group (FAG) projects in Shropshire, Cambridge, Worcestershire, Surrey, and Kent.

- Building FAG Forums in Kent, Surrey, and Shropshire to strengthen local networks and amplify community voices.
- Supporting active Flood Action Groups, through our helpline, bulletin, and direct staff engagement.

We have also continued our strategic role in the Severn Valley Water Management Scheme, helping build flood resilience across the English-Welsh border through deep community engagement.

We have expanded our work with Thames RFCC with the London Flood Action Group Community Project across 10 Flood Action Groups and more London Boroughs.

The NFF Helpline receives around 1,000 calls annually, with many more follow-ups, supporting a wide range of vulnerable people across the UK, including the elderly, those living alone, and individuals recently flooded or newly aware of their flood risk. Our team offers both technical advice and emotional support on topics such as immediate post-flood actions, Property Flood Resilience, insurance navigation, signposting to local services, and flood risk preparation.

Communications, Influence and Profile

Our national profile has grown significantly through a strengthened media and policy presence. We responded to numerous requests from national and local broadcast and print media, and expanded our reach through social media, particularly Facebook.

We have developed a programme of webinars, open to anyone who floods which feature experts discussing issues that flooded people face and attracting high numbers of attendees.

We have developed a Flooded Peoples Panel to ensure that flooded peoples voices are heard at a strategic level within the organisation and enable input into campaigns and communications. Further developing strong relationships with the communities we support.

We made strategic use of the Google Grant scheme, increasing traffic to our website and improving access to key flood information and resources.

Power of Community Action

Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our communities. Over the past year, volunteers contributed more than 2,380 hours, supporting both community projects Flood Action Groups, including policy, communications, and governance.

Financial Review

Income for the year decreased to £921,135 (previous year: £977,158) and charitable expenditure increased to £850,763 (previous year: £708,278) resulting in a surplus for the year of £70,372 (previous year: £268,880). The financial position at the end of the year was improved with un-restricted funds carried forward of £737,922 (2024: £634,091).

Reserves policy

The reserves policy has been set by Trustees as:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that around 3-6 months of the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A designated redundancy fund of £43,000. Current redundancy payments would amount to £43,000.

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary.

Free reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets less designated funds, are currently £694,788 which means the charity currently holds approximately 9-10 months budgeted running costs in reserves, which is in excess of the current reserves policy. However, the Trustees have budgeted a deficit for the coming year and plan to strengthen the current structure in order to maintain the charity's ongoing work

programmes. However, they do still recognise that a continuous process of fundraising is required to ensure that reserves can be maintained at a level that is in line with the reserves policy and reflects the organisations continued desire to increase delivery and activity.

Restricted funds are funds provided for a specific purpose/project and are set aside until spent. Restricted funds at 31 March 2025 were £31,494 (2024: £64,953).

Going concern

At this point in time funding for 2025/26 includes a significant amount of secured funding and is sufficient to meet current staff and other costs. We continue to assess risks around changes in projects and funding and therefore we regularly review possible contingencies that could be put in place to reduce costs should a funding shortfall arise. These include:

- Redeploy staff to maximise efficiency
- Reduce staffing levels – the cost of making all staff redundant (£43,000) has been set aside in reserves to cover this. Reductions will need to be proportionate to the level of income
- Develop funding multiple funding/income streams

Forecasts to 31 March 2026 & beyond suggest free reserves of around £500,000 will be available to carry forward into 2026/27, which is sufficient to meet current reserves policy and running costs. As such the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare these accounts on a going concern basis & confirm that they are confident of the future viability of the Charity for at least 12 months from the date of this report.

Structure, Governance and Management

The National Flood Forum (NFF) is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. It was incorporated on 8th January 2002 and registered as a charity on 21st November 2007. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 14th November 2007, 10th March 2009 and 28th October 2014. As a charity, in the opinion of the Trustees, it complies with the provisions of Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006, which exempts it from the requirement to end its name with "limited". Throughout this report it will be referred to as "the charity".

Responsibility for the governance of the charity resides with the Trustees. Day to day operations is managed by the Chief Executive. There were 13 Trustees who served during the year, as shown below. At the end of the year there were 12 Trustees. Trustee indemnity insurance is in place and is paid for by the charitable company.

Arrangements for setting pay for staff was introduced previously, following a benchmarking exercise against charities, the Environment Agency and local authorities. Pay for the Chief Executive is set by the Board. A review of staff salaries was carried out which included a staff pay rise of 6% slightly above inflation at 1st April 2023.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, new Trustees are appointed by a simple majority vote by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting. The selection of new Trustees considers the particular skills needed by the Board at the time. New Trustees receive an induction pack consisting of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charitable Objects, details of the role and responsibilities of Trustees, strategy and business plans. All Trustees have the right to receive training, at the charity's expense, in order that they may understand their legal obligations and fulfil their roles and statutory duties.

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which, in their view, the charity is exposed and procedures have been implemented to manage those risks.

The main risks for the National Flood Forum relate to funding and staffing.

Funding comes predominantly from the public sector, particularly for work undertaken. This supports core activities such as the advice line. With the contraction of the public sector, there are fewer contracts, and they are taking longer to negotiate (up to 24 months). To mitigate this the National Flood Forum has and continues, to put in significant efforts to diversify funds, building up revenues from Blue Pages, developing bids for Resilience & Innovation projects, developing training and donations. In addition, new partners have been sought, such as Local Resilience Forums and social sector organisations. Nevertheless, funding remains the biggest issue.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered company no.: 04349401 (England and Wales)

Registered charity no.: 1121642

Registered office: MFG Solicitors
Adam House
Birmingham Road
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY10 2SH

Trustees/Directors: D Goff (Chair)
E Isnenghi
P Mehring (resigned)
R Haddon
M Green
S Priest
L Jones
P Bide
C Woolhouse
T Fuller
C Underwood
D Martin

Company Secretary: A S Davies

Chief Executive: Tracey Garrett

Bank: The Co-operative Bank PLC
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Auditors: BK Plus Audit Limited
Azzuri House
Walsall Business Park
Aldridge
WS9 0RB

Website: www.floodforum.org.uk

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd October 2025
And signed on their behalf by

D Goff (Chair)



Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The National Flood Forum for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees Annual Report and Accounts:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the National Flood Forum (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as of 31 March 2025, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
 - the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.
- have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been reappointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

From the preliminary stage of the audit, we ensure our understanding of the entity is up to date. This includes, but is not limited to, current knowledge of their activities, the business and control environments, and their compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory frameworks. This information supports our risk identification and the subsequent design of audit procedures to mitigate those risks; ensuring that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinion.

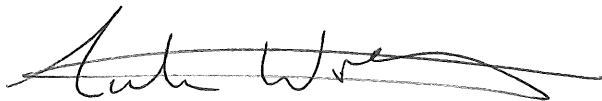
In response to the risks identified, specific to this entity, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, if available;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale for significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Andrew Williams FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)****Date:** 22nd October 2025

For and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Limited
Statutory Auditor
Azzurri House
Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RB

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	20,615	-	20,615	10,092
Charitable activities	3	704,850	195,313	900,163	967,066
Investments – bank interest		357	-	357	-
TOTAL INCOME		725,822	195,313	921,135	977,158
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	17,791	-	17,791	27,241
Charitable activities	5	601,130	231,842	832,972	681,037
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		618,921	231,842	850,763	708,278
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers		106,901	(36,529)	70,372	268,880
Transfer of funds in year		(3,070)	3,070	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		103,831	(33,459)	70,372	268,880
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		634,091	64,953	699,044	430,164
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	737,922	31,494	769,416	699,044

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

National Flood Forum

Annual Report and Accounts y/e 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet As of 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments			
Tangible assets	8	1	1
	9	<u>133</u>	<u>1,182</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		<u>134</u>	<u>1,183</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	10	441,812	384,827
		<u>488,767</u>	<u>399,469</u>
Total current assets		<u>930,579</u>	<u>784,088</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(161,297)	(86,235)
Net current assets		<u>769,282</u>	<u>697,851</u>
NET ASSETS			
	14	<u>769,416</u>	<u>699,044</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted - General		694,922	587,091
Unrestricted - Designated fund		<u>43,000</u>	<u>47,000</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>737,922</u>	<u>634,091</u>
Restricted			
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	<u>31,494</u>	<u>64,953</u>
		<u>769,416</u>	<u>699,044</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd October 2025

And signed on their behalf by

 22/10/2025

D Goff (Chair)

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Registered company number 04349401.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash generated by operations	<u>88,941</u>	325,697
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>88,941</u>	325,697
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Interest received	<u>357</u>	-
Net cash generated by investing activities	<u>357</u>	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	89,298	325,697
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	<u>399,469</u>	73,772
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	<u>488,767</u>	<u>399,469</u>

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	70,372	268,880
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,049	1,857
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Interest received	(357)	-
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(57,185)	43,588
Increase in creditors	75,062	11,372
Net cash generated by operating activities	<u>88,941</u>	<u>325,697</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the Company

The Charitable Company is incorporated in England and Wales, is limited by Guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 per member. It's registered office is MFG Solicitors, Adam House, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 2SH.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements presented are those of the charitable company and not of the group. The group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts on the grounds it qualifies as a small group.

The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The National Flood Forum meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate as a going concern for the next twelve months from the date of signing the auditor's report. The charitable company's current business plan and secured funding in place shows that it will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Furthermore, the charitable company has no bank borrowing or overdraft facility and has no immediate intention to obtain such facilities on the basis that the directors believe the charitable company can continue to operate within its current cash position.

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' 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, including grants, is deferred as necessary when the donor specifies that the income must only be used in future accounting periods or when the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of staff, publicity and printing in relation to the direct raising of funds plus an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of project delivery undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activity. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charitable company's activities. These costs have been allocated to activities based on time spent and are shown in notes 5 and 6.

Fund accounting

The charity has restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds can be used only for specific purposes within the objects of the charity, as defined by donors or when funds are raised for a specific purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Investments

Investment in subsidiary company is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £500, are recorded at historic cost and depreciated at annual rates to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applicable are:

Computers and equipment	3 years
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Motor vehicles & trailers	10 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

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.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has 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.

Leased assets

Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases. Payments under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

Employees are entitled to join a money purchase pension scheme which is funded by contributions from both employee and employer. During the year employer contributions of £14,474 (2024: £12,274) were made to the scheme. Contributions are allocated to activities in accordance with related salary costs.

Related party transactions

The charitable company discloses transactions with related parties which are not wholly owned with the same group. It does not disclose transactions with members of the same group that are wholly owned.

Judgements and key sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount to assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that we considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Management have reviewed and assessed the above and have confirmed there are no key judgements in place.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Donations - unrestricted	20,615	10,092

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	629,515	195,313	824,828
Other charitable activity:			
Flood Fairs	3,950	-	3,950
Consultancy/training	45,483	-	45,483
Information Services	5,591	-	5,591
Recovery support & Trailer rental	6,010	-	6,010
Expense recoveries and management fees	14,301	-	14,301

Total 2025	704,850	195,313	900,163
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	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	574,404	297,433	871,837
Other charitable activity:			
Flood Fairs	9,055	-	9,055
Consultancy/training	65,560	-	65,560
Information Services	5,233	-	5,233
Recovery support & Trailer rental	500	-	500
Expense recoveries and management fees	14,881	-	14,881

Total 2024	669,633	297,433	967,066
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Income from Charitable Activities includes the following amounts relating to contracts with Governmental organisations:

	2025 £	2024 £
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	100,483	109,010
Worcestershire County Council	65,000	50,000
Kent County Council	32,000	32,000
Gloucestershire County Council	7,500	7,500
Surrey County Council	34,351	45,980
Slough Borough Council	125,000	178,218
Shropshire County Council	35,000	35,000
Shropshire County Council – Business Flood Action Project	37,500	-
Staffordshire County Council	104,600	107,000
Lincolnshire County Council	50,000	82,500
Cambridge County Council	20,313	65,521
Environment Agency	65,000	60,000
Waltham Forest County Council	132,960	96,170
National Resource Wales	15,540	6,250
Hertfordshire County Council	9,375	6,250
Guildford Borough Council	7,950	-
London Borough of Hackney	5,000	-
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham	5,000	-
Camden Council	5,000	-
Southwark Council	5,000	-
Kensington & Chelsea Council	5,000	-

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	9,218	12,294
Consultants	3,475	7,487
Office costs	11	23
Support and governance costs	5,087	7,437
Total	17,791	27,241

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Flood Risk Support		
Staff costs	460,498	361,157
Advertising, publicity, printing & postage	2,941	1,387
Consultancy, training & recruitment	69,451	59,736
Motor Vehicle Costs	270	25
Travel and subsistence	35,148	29,204
Office Costs	6,901	5,196
Legal & professional fees	1,508	3,327
Meetings/events	2,132	2,501
Total Direct Costs	578,849	462,533
Support and governance costs	254,123	218,504
Total	832,972	681,037

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £231,842 in respect of restricted funds (2024 £228,278).

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Support costs:		
Staff costs	139,465	128,895
Marketing, publicity, printing & postage	19,514	16,461
Consultancy, advocacy, training and recruitment	7,834	10,376
Meetings/events	519	476
Motor vehicle costs	6,668	9,854
Travel and subsistence	14,454	11,309
Legal & professional fees	3,250	1,895
Depreciation	1,049	1,857
Office Costs	40,028	24,256
	232,781	205,379
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit services	3,250	3,250
Travel and meetings	842	1,796
Insurance (Trustees liability insurance)	895	771
Legal & professional fees	1,854	1,250
Office costs	1,748	218
Staff costs	17,840	13,277
	26,429	20,562
Total	259,210	225,941
Allocated to:		
Raising funds	5,087	7,437
Charitable activities	254,123	218,504
Total	259,210	225,941

Support costs are allocated to activities in accordance with the amount of time spent by staff on those activities.

7. STAFF COSTS, NUMBERS AND TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries	568,421	462,881
National Insurance costs	44,126	40,468
Pensions	14,474	12,274
Total	627,021	515,623
Allocated as follows:		
Raising funds	9,218	12,294
Direct Charitable activity	460,498	361,157
Support costs	139,465	128,895
Governance	17,840	13,277
Total	627,021	515,623

The charity employed the full-time equivalent of 17 staff during the year (2024: 15). One employee had employee benefits of between £70,000 and £80,000 (2024: between £60,000 and £70,000, one employee).

Key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer and the Operations Coordinator whose employee benefits total £119,010 (2024: £151,702 comprising the Chief Executive Officer, Operations Coordinator and the Community Support & Flood Recovery Specialist) including pension contributions.

During the year severance pay totalling £12,500 was paid to one employee.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

Four Trustees were reimbursed expenses totalling £523 in relation to travel costs incurred on behalf of the charity in relation to their duties as Trustees (2024: Three Trustees £355 for travel).

8. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The charitable company owns the entire share capital of NFF Trading Services C.I.C. (Company number 07535221). The company arranges the supply and installation of sustainable drainage systems under a Providers agreement with the National Flood Forum and is reimbursed for its services. The company has been dormant throughout the period & the prior year.

The charitable company also owns the entire share capital of UK Flood Forum Ltd (Company number 07484668), UK Flood Action Ltd (Company number 07494704) and UK Flood Community Ltd (Company number 07494662). All 3 companies were dormant throughout 2024/5 and prior.

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles & trailers £	Total £
Cost b/fwd & c/fwd	9,194	11,885	75,000	96,079
Depreciation b/fwd	8,012	11,885	75,000	94,897
Charge for year	1,048	-	-	1,048
Depreciation c/fwd	9,061	11,885	75,000	95,946
Net book value 2025	133	-	-	133
Net book value 2024	1,182	-	-	1,182

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade Debtors	304,014	305,598
Prepayments	3,823	2,341
Accrued income	133,975	76,688
Total	441,812	384,627

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade Creditors	24,205	6,521
Social security and other taxes	13,129	11,267
VAT	56,358	43,066
Other creditors	2,645	3,096
Deferred Income (see Note 12)	58,400	-
Accruals	6,560	22,285
Total	161,297	86,235

12. DEFERRED INCOME

Movements in deferred income are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
At beginning of year	-	14,333
Released to income in year	-	(14,333)
Deferred in year	58,400	-
At end of year	58,400	-

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance on contracts relating to flood risk support.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

2025:	Funds b/f £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer of Funds £	Funds c/f £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	587,091	725,822	(618,921)	930	694,922
Designated fund for redundancy costs	47,000	-	-	(4,000)	43,000
Total unrestricted funds	634,091	725,822	(618,921)	(3,070)	737,922
Restricted Funds:					
Slough R & I Project	15,202	125,000	(146,403)	6,201	-
Lincolnshire R & I Project	29,661	50,000	(76,530)	(3,131)	-
Cambridgeshire	20,090	20,313	(8,909)	-	31,494
Total restricted funds	64,953	195,313	(231,842)	3,070	31,494
Total Funds	699,044	921,135	(850,763)	-	769,416

Transfers relate to unspent funds on the Lincolnshire Boune project that, in agreement with the funder, were released to general funds and an overspend on the Slough project that was supplemented by general funds.

Restricted funds are as follows:

- Slough R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Smart Sponge Catchments.
- Lincolnshire R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Groundwater.
- Cambridgeshire – setting up Flood Action Groups.

2024:	Funds b/f	Income	Expenditure	Transfer of Funds	Funds c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	384,023	679,725	(480,000)	3,343	587,091
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	2,000	47,000
Total unrestricted funds	429,023	679,725	(480,000)	5,343	634,091
Restricted Funds:					
Slough R & I Project	1,141	138,319	(124,258)	-	15,202
Lincolnshire R & I Project	-	82,500	(52,839)	-	29,661
Cambridgeshire	-	44,688	(24,598)	-	20,090
Waltham Forest	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Yorkshire 2 Ridings	-	3,000	(1,018)	(1,982)	-
BRIC Project	-	18,926	(15,565)	(3,361)	-
Total restricted funds	1,141	297,433	(228,278)	(5,343)	64,953
Total Funds	430,164	977,158	(708,278)	-	699,044

Transfers in 2023/24 relate to spend on projects in the previous financial year

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2025	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash £	Other £	£
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	133	457,273	280,516	737,922
Restricted Funds	-	31,494	-	31,494
Total Funds	133	488,767	280,516	769,416

2024	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash £	Other £	£
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	1,183	334,516	298,392	634,091
Restricted Funds	-	64,953	-	64,953
Total Funds	1,183	399,469	298,392	699,044

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Expiring:		
Within one year	-	-
Between one and two years	-	-

16. RELATED PARTIES

Donations were received from key management personnel of £nil (2024: £195) during the year. There were no further transactions with related parties in the year.

17. TRUSTEES

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased by the charity (see Note 6 above).

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

19. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	10,092	-	10,092
Charitable activities	669,633	297,433	967,066
TOTAL INCOME	679,725	297,433	977,158
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	27,241	-	27,241
Charitable activities	452,759	228,278	681,037
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	480,000	228,278	708,278
Net income for the year before transfers	199,725	69,155	268,880
Transfer of funds in year	5,343	(5,343)	-
NET INCOME & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	205,068	63,812	268,880
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	429,023	1,141	430,164
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	634,091	64,953	699,044

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1121642

Accounts



The National Flood Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered charity no. 1121642
Company no. 04349401

Annual Report and Accounts **for the year ended 31 March 2024**

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 which is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act Purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Objectives and Activities

"The charity's object is the protection of life and property for the benefit of the public in particular where life and property is affected by or at risk of being affected by flooding on a significant scale. This is achieved by:

- a) Working either alone or with business or other strategic organisations, whether private, public or statutory, to reduce the risk of flooding, to minimise the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding; and by
- b) Providing or assisting with, promoting or improving access to education or training with a view to reducing the risk of flooding, minimising the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding"

The charity's aim is to reduce as far as possible the impact of flooding on all those who have already suffered serious flooding or who are at significant risk of flooding. It does this through activities which:

1. Provide information and advice, such as through the website, publications and advice line;
2. Provide practical, face to face support for people who have been flooded throughout the recovery period;
3. Help people to understand their flood risk and to organise flood action groups so that they can engage with risk management authorities proactively to effectively reduce the risk of flooding and its impacts;
4. Improve flood risk management policies and operational delivery through engagement with local and central government, its agencies, the private sector (such as the insurance industry) and the voluntary sector.

In carrying out these activities the charity works extensively with third party organisations:

1. Local government, Environment Agency operational teams, water companies, landowners, other voluntary organisations, loss adjusters and insurers when working directly with people at risk of flooding. Facilitating engagement in recovery situations with these organisations aims to provide direct support to people who have flooded. These organisations may each also have roles in flood risk management, so our work to set up and develop flood action groups is designed to enable and support a constructive and proactive dialogue. Our independence, together with our knowledge of flood risk management and our facilitation skills allows us to work in situations where others can't.
2. Central and local government and its agencies, the insurance industry, consultancies, national voluntary organisations when working on better policies and their delivery for those at flood risk. This also includes encouraging and participating in (as part of steering groups or in gathering information) research and projects that will help people to protect themselves better. For example, the National Flood Forum participated in a project to make available to the general public the information, data and methodology for developing and evaluating flood defence schemes.

The charity's main objectives for the year were:

The overall aim of the charity remained, as reflected in the strapline, supporting and representing flood risk communities.

Our strategic priorities are:

Our Strategy

Working with communities and partners, we support those at risk from flooding and help them recover.

Our aim

To end the fear of flooding.

Our long-term goals

All people in England and Wales are better protected from flooding - they are able to obtain affordable household insurance and the value of their properties and possessions is secured. If they do flood, their health and wellbeing is supported in the short and long term.

Who we are and what we do

As part of the flooded community, the National Flood Forum is a charity that supports communities to tackle the things that matter to them; creating hope and reducing the fear of flooding; helping people to work together to reduce flood exposure and its impacts, both physical and emotional:

- We work with people to help them build local flood action groups and networks that can support their communities. We act as honest brokers and facilitators.
- We support people with advice and guidance.
- We help people to recover from flooding and manage their risks for both the short and the long term.
- We champion issues with government, politicians and officials, to improve flooding policy and increase funding for flood risk management and recovery.
- We work with partners to inform them of the issues and concerns that people at flood risk face and encourage them to work with us in ways that will improve people's lives.
- We encourage partners to support us, so that we can reach out to communities and individuals to help them with the things that we excel at.

Specific targets for the year to help deliver this included:

- Supporting as many flooded and at-risk people as possible through our helpline, website, social media and our work in communities including Recovery Services and Flood Action Groups.
- Building income through partnership, fundraising and identifying new areas of growth and income generation, including training and consultancy.
- Developing more and stronger stakeholder relationships being an effective and valued delivery partner. Acting as a critical friend as well as being collaborative.
- Developing a carefully targeting and strategic communications and PR plan.
- Campaigning on those things our community cares about most and ensuring our voice is heard on a national stage with an aim to influence policy decisions.
- Developing a way to show our impact and evaluate our work.

- Supporting and developing our team through a professional framework.
- The work of over 350 active flood action groups around the country was sustained entirely by voluntary activity.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They are of the opinion that the activities of the charity provide public benefit within the spirit of that guidance.

Achievements and Performance

The charity has once again had an extremely busy year. The main achievements against objectives have been:

1. Continued work on the Resilience and Innovation projects, leading the way in the future of flood risk management in the UK. These are:
 - a. SMART Sponge Catchments in Slough
 - b. Roch Valley Neighbourhood Flood and Climate
 - c. Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project
 - d. A FAIR approach to community flood risk
2. Continuing to lead on engagement and community programmes as part of the Severn Valley Water Management Scheme, which is working to build resilience along the Severn Valley and working across the English and Welsh border.
3. Continuing to be an integral part of working on the FCERM strategy and action plan. Leading on engagement as part of the FCERM strategy roadmap.
4. Working with MPs and flood action groups as part of the APPG Flood Prevention Group. Launching our campaign to change the Government's FDGiA criteria and using our platform to raise other issues which continue to blight the lives of those who flood.
5. Continuing to work on existing Flood Action Group projects in Shropshire, Cambridge, Worcestershire, Surrey and Kent.
6. Building Flood Action Group Forums in Kent, Surrey and Shropshire.
7. Continuing to work in partnership with Thames Water to deliver the London Flood Action Group Community project funded by the Thames RFCC, completing a successful pilot year and building on that success in other London Boroughs.
8. Smaller projects included working with CIRIA to complete the Enabling Communities Project, Liverpool John Moore University to support a PhD in the Sustainability of Flood Action Groups. Supporting numerous EA projects including new warning systems and mental health impacts of flooding.
9. The previous winter highlighted some of the impacts of climate change with storm after storm hitting the UK, this meant our helpline has been very busy.
10. The national profile of the charity was improved through Policy work, the APPG and communications activity. We have responded to request from national and local broadcast and print media.
11. We took part in the Flooding Roundtable with Philip Duffy, CEO at the Environment Agency.
12. Ongoing support for over 315 active flood action groups, through the advice line, the bulletin and direct contact by staff with the groups.
13. Volunteers working in community projects are central to the success of the work delivered by the National Flood Forum. In addition, there has been support for central office functions and many contributions to policy work. The contribution is more than 3,568 hours.
14. Facebook and other social media channels have been used to communicate with and support groups, as well as disseminate information. We have taken advantage of the Google Grant scheme to increase the profile of the organisation.

Financial Review

Income for the year increased significantly once again, to £977,158 (previous year: £770,550) and charitable expenditure increased accordingly to £708,278 (previous year: £539,969) resulting in a surplus for the year of £268,880 (previous year: £230,581). The financial position at the end of the year was improved with un-restricted funds carried forward of £634,091 (2023: £429,023).

Reserves policy

The reserves policy has been set by Trustees as:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that around 3-6 months of the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A designated redundancy fund of £47,000. Current redundancy payments would amount to £47,091.

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary.

Free reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets less designated funds, are currently £585,909 which means the charity currently holds approximately 8 months budgeted running costs in reserves, which is slightly in excess of the current reserves policy. However, the Trustees have budgeted a deficit for the coming year and plan to strengthen the current structure in order to maintain the charity's ongoing work programmes. However, they do still recognise that a continuous process of fundraising is required to ensure that reserves can be maintained at a level that is in line with the reserves policy and reflects the organisations continued desire to increase delivery and activity.

Restricted funds are funds provided for a specific purpose/project and are set aside until spent. Restricted funds at 31 March 2024 were £64,953 (2023: £1,141).

Going concern

At this point in time funding for 2024/25 includes a significant amount of secured funding and is sufficient to meet current staff and other costs. We continue to assess risks around changes in projects and funding and therefore we regularly review possible contingencies that could be put in place to reduce costs should a funding shortfall arise. These include:

- Redeploy staff to maximise efficiency
- Reduce staffing levels – the cost of making all staff redundant (£47,091) has been set aside in reserves to cover this. Reductions will need to be proportionate to the level of income
- Develop funding multiple funding/income streams

Forecasts to 31 March 2025 & beyond suggest free reserves of around £500,000 will be available to carry forward into 2025/26, which is sufficient to meet current reserves policy and running costs. As such the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare these accounts on a going concern basis & confirm that they are confident of the future viability of the Charity for at least 12 months from the date of this report.

Structure, Governance and Management

The National Flood Forum (NFF) is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. It was incorporated on 8th January 2002 and registered as a charity on 21st November 2007. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 14th November 2007, 10th March 2009 and 28th October 2014. As a charity, in the opinion of the Trustees, it complies with the provisions of Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006, which exempts it from the requirement to end its name with "limited". Throughout this report it will be referred to as "the charity".

Responsibility for the governance of the charity resides with the Trustees. Day to day operations is managed by the Chief Executive. There were 13 Trustees who served during the year, as shown below. At the end of the year there were 12 Trustees. Trustee indemnity insurance is in place and is paid for by the charitable company.

Arrangements for setting pay for staff was introduced previously, following a benchmarking exercise against charities, the Environment Agency and local authorities. Pay for the Chief Executive is set by the Board. A review of staff salaries was carried out which included a staff pay rise of 6% slightly above inflation at 1st April 2023.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, new Trustees are appointed by a simple majority vote by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting. The selection of new Trustees considers the particular skills needed by the Board at the time. New Trustees receive an induction pack consisting of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charitable Objects, details of the role and responsibilities of Trustees, strategy and business plans. All Trustees have the right to receive training, at the charity's expense, in order that they may understand their legal obligations and fulfil their roles and statutory duties.

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which, in their view, the charity is exposed and procedures have been implemented to manage those risks.

The main risks for the National Flood Forum relate to funding and staffing.

Funding comes predominantly from the public sector, particularly for work undertaken. This supports core activities such as the advice line. With the contraction of the public sector, there are fewer contracts, and they are taking longer to negotiate (up to 24 months). To mitigate this the National Flood Forum has and continues, to put in significant efforts to diversify funds, building up revenues from Blue Pages, developing bids for Resilience & Innovation projects, developing training and donations. In addition, new partners have been sought, such as Local Resilience Forums and social sector organisations. Nevertheless, funding remains the biggest issue.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered company no.:	04349401 (England and Wales)
Registered charity no.:	1121642
Registered office:	MFG Solicitors Adam House Birmingham Road Kidderminster Worcestershire DY10 2SH
Trustees/Directors:	D Johns (Chair- resigned 1 November 2023) E Isnenghi P Mehring R Haddon M Green D Goff (Chair – appointed Chair 1 st November 2023) S Priest L Jones P Bide C Woolhouse T Fuller (appointed 1 November 2023) C Wells (appointed 1 November 2023) D Martin (appointed 1 November 2023)
Company Secretary:	A S Davies
Chief Executive:	Tracey Garrett
Bank:	The Co-operative Bank PLC PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

National Flood Forum

Annual Report and Accounts y/e 31 March 2024

Auditors:

BK Plus Audit Limited
Azzurri House
Walsall Business Park
Aldridge
WS9 0RB

Website:

www.floodforum.org.uk

Approved by the Trustees on 5 November 2024
And signed on their behalf by



D Goff (Chair)

5/11/24

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The National Flood Forum for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees Annual Report and Accounts:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the National Flood Forum (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as of 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been reappointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

From the preliminary stage of the audit, we ensure our understanding of the entity is up to date. This includes, but is not limited to, current knowledge of their activities, the business and control environments, and their compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory frameworks. This information supports our risk identification and the subsequent design of audit procedures to mitigate those risks; ensuring that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinion.

In response to the risks identified, specific to this entity, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, if available;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale for significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Christopher Hession C.A. (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Date: 5 November 2024

For and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Limited
Statutory Auditor
Azzurri House
Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RB

Statement of Financial Activities
(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	10,092	-	10,092	5,984
Charitable activities	3	669,633	297,433	967,066	764,566
TOTAL INCOME		679,725	297,433	977,158	770,550
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	27,241	-	27,241	24,615
Charitable activities	5	452,759	228,278	681,037	515,354
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		480,000	228,278	708,278	539,969
Net income for the year before transfers		199,725	69,155	268,880	230,581
Transfer of funds in year		5,343	(5,343)	-	-
NET INCOME & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		205,068	63,812	268,880	230,581
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		429,023	1,141	430,164	199,583
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	634,091	64,953	699,044	430,164

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

As of 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	8	1	1
Tangible assets	9	1,182	3,039
		<u>1,183</u>	<u>3,040</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	384,627	428,215
Cash at bank and in hand		399,469	73,772
Total current assets		<u>784,096</u>	<u>501,987</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(86,235)	(74,863)
Net current assets		<u>697,861</u>	<u>427,124</u>
NET ASSETS	14	<u>699,044</u>	<u>430,164</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted - General		587,091	384,023
Unrestricted – Designated fund		47,000	45,000
Total unrestricted funds		<u>634,091</u>	<u>429,023</u>
Restricted		64,953	1,141
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	<u>699,044</u>	<u>430,164</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 5 November 2024

And signed on their behalf by



5/11/24.

D Goff (Chair)

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Registered company number 04349401.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash generated/(absorbed) from operations	<u>325,697</u>	<u>(95,531)</u>
Net cash provided/(absorbed) by operating activities	<u>325,697</u>	<u>(95,531)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(1,354)
Interest received	-	-
Net cash generated/(used) by investing activities	<u>325,697</u>	<u>(96,885)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	325,697	(96,885)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	<u>73,772</u>	<u>170,657</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	<u>399,469</u>	<u>73,772</u>

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net Income for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	268,880	230,581
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,857	2,015
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Interest received	-	-
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	43,588	(305,516)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	11,372	(22,611)
Net cash provided/(absorbed) by operating activities	<u>325,697</u>	<u>(95,531)</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the Company

The Charitable Company is incorporated in England and Wales, is limited by Guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 per member. It's registered office is MFG Solicitors, Adam House, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 2SH.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements presented are those of the charitable company and not of the group. The group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts on the grounds it qualifies as a small group.

The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The National Flood Forum meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate as a going concern for the next twelve months from the date of signing the auditor's report. The charitable company's current business plan and secured funding in place shows that it will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Furthermore, the charitable company has no bank borrowing or overdraft facility and has no immediate intention to obtain such facilities on the basis that the directors believe the charitable company can continue to operate within its current cash position.

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' 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, including grants, is deferred as necessary when the donor specifies that the income must only be used in future accounting periods or when the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of staff, publicity and printing in relation to the direct raising of funds plus an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of project delivery undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activity. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charitable company's activities. These costs have been allocated to activities based on time spent and are shown in notes 5 and 6.

Fund accounting

The charity has restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds can be used only for specific purposes within the objects of the charity, as defined by donors or when funds are raised for a specific purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Investments

Investment in subsidiary company is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £500, are recorded at historic cost and depreciated at annual rates to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applicable are:

Computers and equipment	3 years
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Motor vehicles & trailers	10 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

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.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has 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.

Leased assets

Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases. Payments under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

Employees are entitled to join a money purchase pension scheme which is funded by contributions from both employee and employer. During the year employer contributions of £12,274 (2023: £10,320) were made to the scheme. Contributions are allocated to activities in accordance with related salary costs.

Related party transactions

The charitable company discloses transactions with related parties which are not wholly owned with the same group. It does not disclose transactions with members of the same group that are wholly owned.

Judgements and key sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount to assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that we considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Donations	10,092	-	10,092
Grants	-	-	-
Total 2023	10,092	-	10,092
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Donations	5,984	-	5,984
Grants	-	-	-
Total 2023	5,984	-	5,984

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	574,404	297,433	871,837
Other charitable activity:			
Flood Fairs	9,055	-	9,055
Consultancy/training	65,560	-	65,560
Information Services	5,233	-	5,233
Recovery support & Trailer rental	500	-	500
Expense recoveries and management fees	14,881	-	14,881
Total 2024	669,633	297,433	967,066
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	446,601	236,381	682,982
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	46,283	-	46,283
Information Services	7,183	-	7,183
Recovery support & Trailer rental	16,745	-	16,745
Expense recoveries and management fees	11,373	-	11,373
Total 2023	528,185	236,381	764,566

Income from Charitable Activities includes the following amounts relating to contracts with Governmental organisations:

	2024 £	2023 £
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	109,010	71,583
Worcestershire County Council	50,000	50,000
Kent County Council	32,000	55,000
Gloucestershire County Council	7,500	-
Surrey County Council	45,980	35,802
Slough Borough Council	178,218	88,801
Shropshire County Council	35,000	35,000
Staffordshire County Council	107,000	90,860
Lincolnshire County Council	82,500	50,000
Cambridge County Council	65,521	29,167
Environment Agency	60,000	50,000
Waltham Forest County Council	96,170	-
Hertfordshire County Council	6,250	-

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	12,294	12,643
Consultants	7,487	2,490
Office costs	23	74
Support and governance costs	7,437	9,408
Total	27,241	24,615

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2024 Total £
Staff costs	361,157	-	361,157
Advertising, publicity, printing & postage	1,387	-	1,387
Consultancy, training & recruitment	59,736	-	59,736
Motor Vehicle Costs	25	-	25
Travel and subsistence	29,204	-	29,204
Office Costs	5,196	-	5,196
Legal & professional fees	3,327	-	3,327
Conference/events	2,501	-	2,501
Total Direct Costs	462,533	-	462,533
Support and governance costs	218,504	-	218,504
Total Costs 2023	681,037	-	681,037

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £228,278 in respect of restricted funds.

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2023 Total £
Staff costs	258,454	2,087	260,541
Publicity, printing & postage	1,397	70	1,467
Consultancy, training & recruitment	23,932	-	23,932
Motor Vehicle Costs	438	-	438
Travel and subsistence	22,371	367	22,738
Office Costs	8,462	653	9,115
Legal & professional fees	1,500	-	1,500
Conference/events	1,749	-	1,749
Total Direct Costs	318,303	3,177	321,480
Support and governance costs	192,321	1,553	193,874
Total Costs 2023	510,624	4,730	515,354

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £272,594 in respect of restricted funds.

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Support costs:		
Staff costs		
Advertising, publicity, printing & postage	128,895	129,353
Consultancy, advocacy, training and recruitment	16,461	7,540
Meetings/events	10,376	380
Motor vehicle costs	476	1,930
Travel and subsistence	9,854	14,404
Legal & professional fees	11,309	6,124
Depreciation	1,895	-
Office Costs	1,857	2,015
	24,256	18,084
	205,379	179,830
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit services	3,250	3,300
Travel and meetings	1,796	2,222
Insurance (Trustees liability insurance)	771	771
Legal & professional fees	1,250	3,173
Office costs	218	184
Staff costs	13,277	13,802
	20,562	23,452
Total	225,941	203,282
Allocated to:		
Raising funds	7,437	9,408
Charitable activities	218,504	193,874
Total	225,941	203,282

Support costs are allocated to activities in accordance with the amount of time spent by staff on those activities.

7. STAFF COSTS, NUMBERS AND TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries	462,881	374,409
National Insurance costs	40,468	31,610
Pensions	12,274	10,320
	515,623	416,339
Total		
Allocated as follows:		
Raising funds	12,294	12,643
Direct Charitable activity	361,157	260,541
Support costs	128,895	129,353
Governance	13,277	13,802
	515,623	416,339
Total		

The charity employed the full-time equivalent of 15 staff during the year (2023: 13). One employee had employee benefits of between £60,000 and £70,000 (2023: one).

Key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer, the Community Support & Flood Recovery Specialist and the Operations Coordinator whose employee benefits total £151,702 (2023: £127,594) including pension contributions.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

Three Trustees were reimbursed expenses totalling £355 in relation to travel costs incurred on behalf of the charity in relation to their duties as Trustees (2023: Four Trustees £643 for travel).

8. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The charitable company owns the entire share capital of NFF Trading Services C.I.C. (Company number 07535221). The company arranges the supply and installation of sustainable drainage systems under a Providers agreement with the National Flood Forum and is reimbursed for its services. The company has been dormant throughout the period & the prior year.

The charitable company also owns the entire share capital of UK Flood Forum Ltd (Company number 07484668), UK Flood Action Ltd (Company number 07494704) and UK Flood Community Ltd (Company number 07494662). All 3 companies were dormant throughout 2023/4 and prior.

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles & trailers £	Total £
Cost b/fwd & c/fwd	9,194	11,885	75,000	96,079
Depreciation b/fwd	6,155	11,885	75,000	93,040
Charge for year	1,857	-	-	1,857
Depreciation c/fwd	8,012	11,885	75,000	94,897
Net book value 2024	1,182	-	-	1,182
Net book value 2023	3,039	-	-	3,039

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade Debtors	305,598	402,545
Prepayments	2,341	1,641
Accrued income	76,688	24,029
Total	384,627	428,215

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade Creditors	6,521	4,051
Social security and other taxes	11,267	8,914
VAT	43,066	38,581
Other creditors	3,096	2,499
Deferred Income (see Note 12)	-	14,333
Accruals	22,285	6,485
Total	86,235	74,863

12. DEFERRED INCOME

Movements in deferred income are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
At beginning of year	14,333	50,000
Released to income in year	(14,333)	(44,000)
Deferred in year	-	8,333
At end of year	-	14,333

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance on contracts relating to flood risk support.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

2024:	Funds b/f	Income	Expenditure	Transfer of Funds	Funds c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	384,023	679,725	(480,000)	3,343	587,091
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	2,000	47,000
Total unrestricted funds	429,023	679,725	(480,000)	5,343	634,091
Restricted Funds:					
Slough R & I Project	1,141	138,319	(124,258)	-	15,202
Lincolnshire R & I Project	-	82,500	(52,839)	-	29,661
Cambridgeshire	-	44,688	(24,598)	-	20,090
Waltham Forest	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Yorkshire 2 Ridings	-	3,000	(1,018)	(1,982)	-
BRIC Project	-	18,926	(15,565)	(3,361)	-
Total restricted funds	1,141	297,433	(228,278)	(5,343)	64,953
Total Funds	430,164	977,158	(708,278)	-	699,044

2023:	Funds b/f	Income	Expenditure	Transfer of Funds	Funds c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	148,057	534,169	(267,375)	(30,828)	384,023
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	193,057	534,169	(267,375)	(30,828)	429,023
Restricted Funds:					
APPG Donation	6,526	-	(7,017)	491	-
Yorkshire 2 Ridings	-	9,500	(15,546)	6,046	-
Waltham Forest Project	-	50,000	(55,735)	5,735	-
Lincolnshire R & I Project	-	50,000	(53,513)	3,513	-
Slough R & I Project	-	88,801	(87,660)	-	1,141
BRIC Project	-	38,080	(53,123)	15,043	-
Total restricted funds	6,526	236,381	(272,594)	30,828	1,141
Total Funds	199,583	770,550	(539,969)	-	430,164

Transfers in 2023/24 relate to spend on projects in the previous financial year. In 2022/23 they relate to overspends on projects that were supplemented by general funds.

Restricted funds are as follows:

- Waltham Forest – Working with Thames Water and local authorities helping to deliver the London Community Flood Plan Programme.
- Lincolnshire R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Groundwater.
- Slough R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Smart Sponge Catchments.
- Cambridgeshire – setting up Flood Action Groups
- Shropshire – Shropshire Business Flood Action Group

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2024	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
		£	£	
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	1,183	334,516	298,392	634,091
Restricted Funds	-	64,953	-	64,953
Total Funds	1,183	399,469	298,392	699,044

2023	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
		£	£	
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	3,040	72,631	353,352	429,023
Restricted Funds	-	1,141	-	1,141
Total Funds	3,040	73,772	353,352	430,164

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Expiring:	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	-	2,987
Between one and two years	-	-

16. RELATED PARTIES

Donations were received from key management personnel of £195 (2023: £210) during the year. There were no further transactions with related parties in the year.

17. TRUSTEES

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased by the charity (see Note 6 above).

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

19.COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	5,984	-	5,984
Charitable activities	528,185	236,381	764,566
TOTAL INCOME	534,169	236,381	770,550
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	24,615	-	24,615
Charitable activities	242,760	272,594	515,354
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	267,375	272,594	539,969
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers	266,794	(36,213)	230,581
Transfer of funds in year	(30,828)	30,828	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	235,966	(5,385)	230,581
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	193,057	6,526	199,583
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	429,023	1,141	430,164

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1121642

Accounts



The National Flood Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered charity no. 1121642
Company no. 04349401

Annual Report and Accounts **for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 which is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act Purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Objectives and Activities

"The charity's object is the protection of life and property for the benefit of the public in particular where life and property are affected by or at risk of being affected by flooding on a significant scale. This is achieved by:

- a) Working either alone or with business or other strategic organisations, whether private, public or statutory, to reduce the risk of flooding, to minimise the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding; and by
- b) Providing or assisting with, promoting or improving access to education or training with a view to reducing the risk of flooding, minimising the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding"

The charity's aim is to reduce as far as possible the impact of flooding on all those who have already suffered serious flooding or who are at significant risk of flooding. It does this through activities which:

1. Provide information and advice, such as through the website, publications and advice line.
2. Provide practical, face to face support for people who have been flooded throughout the recovery period.
3. Help people to understand their flood risk and to organise flood action groups so that they can engage with risk management authorities proactively to effectively reduce the risk of flooding and its impacts.
4. Improve flood risk management policies and operational delivery through engagement with local and central government, its agencies, the private sector (such as the insurance industry) and the voluntary sector.

In carrying out these activities the charity works extensively with third party organisations:

1. Local government, Environment Agency operational teams, water companies, landowners, other voluntary organisations, loss adjusters and insurers when working directly with people at risk of flooding. Facilitating engagement in recovery situations with these organisations aims to provide direct support to people who have flooded. These organisations may each also have roles in flood risk management, so our work to set up and develop flood action groups is designed to enable and support a constructive and proactive dialogue. Our independence, together with our knowledge of flood risk management and our facilitation skills allows us to work in situations where others can't.
2. Central and local government and its agencies, the insurance industry, consultancies, national voluntary organisations when working on better policies and their delivery for those at flood risk. This also includes encouraging and participating in (as part of steering groups or in gathering information) research and projects that will help people to protect themselves better. For example, the National Flood Forum participated in a project to make available to the general public the information, data and methodology for developing and evaluating flood defence schemes.

The charity's main objectives for the year were:

The overall aim of the charity remained, as reflected in the strapline, supporting and representing flood risk communities.

Our strategic priorities are:

Our Strategy

Working with communities and partners, we support those at risk from flooding and help them recover.

Our aim

To end the fear of flooding.

Our long term goals

All people in England and Wales are better protected from flooding - they are able to obtain affordable household insurance and the value of their properties and possessions is secured. If they do flood, their health and wellbeing is supported in the short and long term.

Who we are and what we do

As part of the flooded community, the National Flood Forum is a charity that supports communities to tackle the things that matter to them; creating hope and reducing the fear of flooding; helping people to work together to reduce flood exposure and its impacts, both physical and emotional:

- *We work with people to help them build local flood action groups and networks that can support their communities. We act as honest brokers and facilitators.*
- *We support people with advice and guidance.*
- *We help people to recover from flooding and manage their risks for both the short and the long term.*
- *We champion issues with government, politicians and officials, to improve flooding policy and increase funding for flood risk management and recovery.*
- *We work with partners to inform them of the issues and concerns that people at flood risk face and encourage them to work with us in ways that will improve people's lives.*
- *We encourage partners to support us, so that we can reach out to communities and individuals to help them with the things that we excel at.*

Specific targets for the year to help deliver this included:

External Objectives

1. Reach more people at risk of flooding and those least able to cope
2. Help more people become self-reliant and able to protect themselves from flooding
3. To be available to help whenever and wherever needed
4. Work in partnership with all bodies dealing with flooding.
5. Persuade government to invest in flood risk management and recovery, using the power of our flood group network.

Internal objectives

1. Build more resources to fulfil our mission and vision
2. Generate greater support from the people of England and Wales
3. Raise profile so people know to come to us for help
4. Strengthen our networks and partnerships to improve our knowledge and effectiveness
5. Build our membership of community flood groups and ensure their voice is heard
6. Gather robust data on the nature of the flooding risk people face and the progress we are making
7. Offer a more hopeful message to those at risk of flooding or recently flooded, backed up by practical ideas
8. We need to focus our influencing work on its contribution to ending the fear of flooding
9. We should deliver current projects on time and to a high standard so that they are able to continue if needed

The work of over 320 active flood action groups around the country was sustained entirely by voluntary activity.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They are of the opinion that the activities of the charity provide public benefit within the spirit of that guidance.

Achievements and Performance

The charity has once again had an extremely busy year. The main achievements against objectives have been:

1. Starting work on the Resilience and Innovation projects, leading the way in the future of flood risk management in the UK. These are:
 - a. SMART Sponge Catchments in Slough
 - b. Roch Valley Neighbourhood Flood and Climate
 - c. Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project
 - d. A FAIR approach to community flood risk
2. Continuing to lead on engagement and community programmes as part of the Severn Valley Water Management Scheme, which is working to build resilience along the Severn Valley and working across the English and Welsh border.
3. Completion of two-year cross channel Interreg project Building Resilience in Flood Disadvantaged Communities BRIC project, leading to knowledge sharing and learning on flood risk management across French and English partners in this European Fund scheme.
4. Continuing to be an integral part of working on the FCERM strategy and action plan. Leading on engagement as part of the FCERM strategy roadmap.
5. Working with MPs and flood action groups as part of the APPG Flood Prevention Group. Launching our campaign to change the Government's FDGiA criteria and using our platform to raise other issues which continue to blight the lives of those who flood.
6. Continuing to work on existing Flood Action Group projects in Shropshire, Cambridge, Worcestershire, Surrey and Kent.
7. Securing innovative new project working with flooded communities across London and securing funding from Thames RFCC to work in partnership with Thames Water.
8. Smaller projects included working with TCPA to increase understanding of the planning process among Flood Action Groups, working with CABA on the completion of joint research and carrying out a number of seminars and workshops. We have collaborated with Liverpool John Moore University to deliver a research project on the sustainability of Flood Action Groups. Continued working with CIRIA on the enabling communities project. The Middlesex University Solaris project has continued with NFF collaboration and support.
9. Without large scale flooding this year the advice line was less busy than other years but still received more than 400 calls from people needing advice, information and support.
10. The national profile of the charity was improved through Policy work, the APPG and communications activity. We have responded to requests from national and local broadcast and print media.
11. Ongoing support for over 320 active flood action groups, through the advice line, the bulletin and direct contact by staff with the groups.
12. Volunteers working in community projects are central to the success of the work delivered by the National Flood Forum. In addition, there has been support for central office functions and many contributions to policy work. The contribution is more than 3,568 hours.
13. Facebook and other social media channels have been used to communicate with and support groups, as well as disseminate information. Our current follower counts are LinkedIn 1200 followers, Facebook 1300 followers and Twitter 6200 followers. We have taken advantage of the Google Grant scheme to increase the profile of the organisation.

Financial Review

Income for the year increased significantly to £770,550 (previous year: £418,992) while charitable expenditure also increased to £539,969 (previous year: £360,304) resulting in a surplus for the year of £230,581 (previous year: £58,688). The financial position at the end of the year was improved with unrestricted funds carried forward of £429,023 (2022: £193,057).

Reserves policy

The reserves policy has been set by Trustees as:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that around 3-6 months of the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A designated redundancy fund of £45,000. Current redundancy payments would amount to £45,805.

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary.

Free reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets less designated funds, are currently £380,983 which means the charity currently holds approximately 6 months budgeted running costs in reserves, which is within its reserves policy. Although the Trustees consider these reserves adequate for maintaining the charity's ongoing work programmes, they recognise that a continuous process of fundraising is required to ensure that reserves can be maintained at a level that is in line with the reserves policy and reflects the organisations continued desire to increase delivery and activity.

Restricted funds are funds provided for a specific purpose and are set aside until spent. Restricted funds at 31 March 2023 were £1,141 (2022: £6,526).

Going concern

At this point in time funding for 2023/24 includes a significant amount of secured funding and is sufficient to meet current staff and other costs. Most projects are up and running with just one still awaiting commencement, thereby the budget for 2023-4 is predominantly secured.

Forecasts to 31 March 2024 & beyond suggest free reserves of around £200,000 will be available to carry forward into 2024/25, which is sufficient to meet current reserves policy and running costs. As such the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare these accounts on a going concern basis & confirm that they are confident of the future viability of the Charity for at least 12 months from the date of this report.

Plans for the Future**External Objectives**

1. Continue to build services for flood risk communities, both new services and build access to existing services.
2. Further develop the networks of flood groups and wider networks within the flooding community.
3. Work with partners to deliver the FCRM Strategy Action Plan, based upon the commitments secured in policy and strategy and including influencing the development of the approach to recovery.
4. Build NFF's reputation as a delivery partner, expert on communities and flooding. Ensure NFF is recognised as the voice of flooded people.
5. Encourage partners to refer to NFF during flood events and use NFF recovery services.
6. Build a programme of Policy activity around the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Flood Prevention.

Internal objectives

1. Maintain 3-6 months reserves.
2. Develop and implement products that donors can easily contribute to.
3. Launch updated NFF strategy.
4. Build NFF profile through social media and public relations activity.
5. Develop fundraising strategy.
6. Redevelopment of Blue Pages.

7. Look to develop the NFF CIC.
8. Develop a communications strategy targeting those at flood risk and the vulnerable.
9. Ensure that we are working most effectively through networks to deliver our objectives.
10. Develop long term partnerships with more secure funding.

Structure, Governance and Management

The National Flood Forum (NFF) is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. It was incorporated on 8th January 2002 and registered as a charity on 21st November 2007. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 14th November 2007, 10th March 2009 and 28th October 2014. As a charity, in the opinion of the Trustees, it complies with the provisions of Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006, which exempts it from the requirement to end its name with "limited". Throughout this report it will be referred to as "the charity".

Responsibility for the governance of the charity resides with the Trustees. Day to day operations is managed by the Chief Executive. There were 10 Trustees who served during the year, as shown below. At the end of the year there were 10 Trustees. A recruitment drive for Trustees is underway. Trustee indemnity insurance is in place and is paid for by the charitable company.

Arrangements for setting pay for staff was introduced previously, following a benchmarking exercise against charities, the Environment Agency and local authorities. An updated review has taken place, taking into account the high levels of inflation and increased competition for staff. This resulted in some staff salaries being reviewed individually and a 10% pay rise (in line with inflation at April 2023) being implemented for other staff. Pay for the Chief Executive is set by the Board.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, new Trustees are appointed by a simple majority vote by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting. The selection of new Trustees considers the particular skills needed by the Board at the time. New Trustees receive an induction pack consisting of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charitable Objects, details of the role and responsibilities of Trustees, strategy and business plans. All Trustees have the right to receive training, at the charity's expense, in order that they may understand their legal obligations and fulfil their roles and statutory duties.

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which, in their view, the charity is exposed and procedures have been implemented to manage those risks.

The main risks for the National Flood Forum relate to funding and staffing.

Funding comes predominantly from the public sector, particularly for work undertaken. This supports core activities such as the advice line. With the contraction of the public sector, there are fewer contracts, and they are taking longer to negotiate (up to 24 months). To mitigate this the National Flood Forum has and continues, to put in significant efforts to diversify funds, building up revenues from Blue Pages, developing bids for Resilience & Innovation projects, developing training and donations. In addition, new partners have been sought, such as Local Resilience Forums and social sector organisations. Nevertheless, funding remains the biggest issue.

There have been several new members of staff, but the senior leader team has remained static, and this has allowed the organisation to focus on delivery and enabled staff to build their skills and knowledge.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered company no.: 04349401 (England and Wales)

Registered charity no.: 1121642

Registered office: MFG Solicitors
Adam House
Birmingham Road
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY10 2SH

Trustees/Directors: D Johns (Chair)
E Isnenghi
P Mehring
R Haddon
M Green
D Goff
S Priest
L Jones
P Bide
C Woolhouse

Company Secretary: A S Davies

Chief Executive: Tracey Garrett

Bank: The Co-operative Bank PLC
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Auditors: BK Plus Audit Limited
Azzurri House
Walsall Business Park
Aldridge
WS9 0RB

Website: www.floodforum.org.uk

Small Companies Exemption

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption in the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees on 2nd August 2023
And signed on their behalf by



David Goff (Vice-Chair)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The National Flood Forum for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees Annual Report and Accounts:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the National Flood Forum (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as of 31 March 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other Information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been reappointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

From the preliminary stage of the audit, we ensure our understanding of the entity is up to date. This includes, but is not limited to, current knowledge of their activities, the business and control environments, and their compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory frameworks. This information supports our risk identification and the subsequent design of audit procedures to mitigate those risks; ensuring that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinion.

In response to the risks identified, specific to this entity, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, if available;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale for significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Christopher Hession C.A. (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Date: 2/8/23

For and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Limited
Statutory Auditor
Azzurri House
Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RB

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	5,984	-	5,984	29,595
Charitable activities	3	528,185	236,381	764,566	389,397
TOTAL INCOME		534,169	236,381	770,550	418,992
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	24,615	-	24,615	15,010
Charitable activities	5	242,760	272,594	515,354	345,294
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		267,375	272,594	539,969	360,304
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers		266,794	(36,213)	230,581	58,688
Transfer of funds in year		(30,828)	30,828	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		235,966	(5,385)	230,581	58,688
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		193,057	6,526	199,583	140,895
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	429,023	1,141	430,164	199,583

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

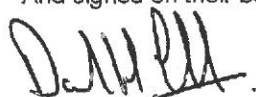
As of 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	8	1	1
Tangible assets	9	3,039	3,700
		<u>3,040</u>	<u>3,701</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	428,215	122,699
Cash at bank and in hand		73,772	170,657
Total current assets		<u>501,987</u>	<u>293,356</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(74,863)	(97,474)
Net current assets		<u>427,124</u>	<u>195,882</u>
NET ASSETS	14	<u>430,164</u>	<u>199,583</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted - General		384,023	148,057
Unrestricted – Designated fund		45,000	45,000
Total unrestricted funds		<u>429,023</u>	<u>193,057</u>
Restricted		<u>1,141</u>	<u>6,526</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	<u>430,164</u>	<u>199,583</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 2nd August 2023

And signed on their behalf by



David Goff (Vice-Chair)

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Registered company number 04349401.

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the Company

The Charitable Company is incorporated in England and Wales, is limited by Guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 per member. It's registered office is MFG Solicitors, Adam House, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 2SH.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements presented are those of the charitable company and not of the group. The group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts on the grounds it qualifies as a small group.

The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

In preparing these financial statements Update Bulletin 1 to the Charities SORP (FRS102) has been adopted and consequently a Statement of Cash flows has not been prepared.

The National Flood Forum meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate as a going concern for the next twelve months from the date of signing the auditor's report. The charitable company's current business plan and secured funding in place shows that it will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Furthermore, the charitable company has no bank borrowing or overdraft facility and has no immediate intention to obtain such facilities on the basis that the directors believe the charitable company can continue to operate within its current cash position.

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' 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, including grants, is deferred as necessary when the donor specifies that the income must only be used in future accounting periods or when the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of staff, publicity and printing in relation to the direct raising of funds plus an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of project delivery undertaken to further

the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activity. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charitable company's activities. These costs have been allocated to activities based on time spent and are shown in notes 5 and 6.

Fund accounting

The charity has restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds can be used only for specific purposes within the objects of the charity, as defined by donors or when funds are raised for a specific purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Investments

Investment in subsidiary company is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £500, are recorded at historic cost and depreciated at annual rates to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applicable are:

Computers and equipment	3 years
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Motor vehicles & trailers	10 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

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.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has 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.

Leased assets

Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases. Payments under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

Employees are entitled to join a money purchase pension scheme which is funded by contributions from both employee and employer. During the year employer contributions of £10,320 (2022: £6,682) were made to the scheme. Contributions are allocated to activities in accordance with related salary costs.

Related party transactions

The charitable company discloses transactions with related parties which are not wholly owned with the same group. It does not disclose transactions with members of the same group that are wholly owned.

Judgements and key sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount to assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that we considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Donations	5,984	-	5,984
Grants	-	-	-
Total 2023	5,984	-	5,984
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Donations	6,981	10,000	16,981
Grants:			
- Furlough receipts	3,539	-	3,539
- Postcode Lottery	-	9,075	9,075
Total 2022	10,520	19,075	29,595

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	446,601	236,381	682,982
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	46,283	-	46,283
Information Services	7,183	-	7,183
Recovery support & Trailer rental	16,745	-	16,745
Expense recoveries and management fees	11,373	-	11,373
Total 2023	528,185	236,381	764,566
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	298,454	34,385	332,839
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	32,643	-	32,643
Information Services	8,092	-	8,092
Recovery support & Trailer rental	7,000	-	7,000
Expense recoveries and management fees	8,823	-	8,823
Total 2022	355,012	34,385	389,397

Income from Charitable Activities includes the following amounts relating to contracts with Governmental organisations:

	2023 £	2022 £
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	71,583	52,500
Worcestershire County Council	50,000	22,500
Kent County Council	55,000	27,500
Gloucestershire County Council	-	9,800
Surrey County Council	35,802	11,900
Slough Borough Council	88,801	5,848
Shropshire County Council	35,000	18,328
Staffordshire County Council	90,860	-
Lincolnshire County Council	50,000	-
Cambridge County Council	29,167	-
Environment Agency	50,000	55,450

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	12,643	11,653
Consultants	2,490	-
Office costs	74	-
Support costs	9,408	3,357
Total	24,615	15,010

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2023 Total £
Staff costs	258,454	2,087	260,541
Publicity, printing & postage	1,397	70	1,467
Consultancy, training & recruitment	23,932	-	23,932
Motor Vehicle Costs	438	-	438
Travel and subsistence	22,371	367	22,738
Office Costs	8,462	653	9,115
Legal & professional fees	1,500	-	1,500
Conference/events	1,749	-	1,749
Total Direct Costs	318,303	3,177	321,480
Support and governance costs	192,321	1,553	193,874
Total Costs 2023	510,624	4,730	515,354

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £272,594 in respect of restricted funds.

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2022 Total £
Staff costs	180,950	53,546	234,496
Material costs	8,295	-	8,295
Publicity, printing & postage	(109)	407	298
Consultancy, training and recruitment	5,934	566	6,500
Motor Vehicle Costs	-	5,172	5,172
Travel and subsistence	7,624	3,929	11,553
Office Costs	3,094	5,745	8,839
Legal & professional fees	697	-	697
Depreciation	-	1,100	1,100
Conference/events	252	545	797
Total Direct Costs	206,737	71,010	277,747
Support and governance costs	52,123	15,424	67,547
Total Costs 2022	258,860	86,434	345,294

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £51,332 in respect of restricted funds.

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Support costs:		
Staff costs	129,353	32,215
Publicity, printing & postage	7,540	825
Consultancy, training and recruitment	380	2,540
Meetings/events	1,930	460
Premises costs	-	962
Motor vehicle costs	14,404	4,143
Travel and subsistence	6,124	932
Depreciation	2,015	-
Office Costs	18,084	16,009
	179,830	58,086
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit services	3,300	2,805
Travel and meetings	2,222	98
Insurance (Trustees liability insurance)	771	877
Legal & professional fees	3,173	220
Office costs	184	-
Staff costs	13,802	8,818
	23,452	12,818
Total	203,282	70,904
Allocated to:		
Raising funds	9,408	3,357
Charitable activities	193,874	67,547
Total	203,282	70,904

Support costs are allocated to activities in accordance with the amount of time spent by staff on those activities.

7. STAFF COSTS, NUMBERS AND TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries	374,409	260,738
National Insurance costs	31,610	19,762
Pensions	10,320	6,682
Total	416,339	287,182
Allocated as follows:		
Raising funds	12,643	11,653
Direct Charitable activity	260,541	234,496
Support costs	129,353	32,215
Governance	13,802	8,818
Total	416,339	287,182

The charity employed the full-time equivalent of 13 staff during the year (2022: 9). One employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2022: none).

Key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer, the Community Support & Flood Recovery Specialist and the Operations Coordinator whose employee benefits total £127,594 (2022: £110,874) including pension contributions.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

Four Trustees were reimbursed expenses totalling £643 in relation to travel costs incurred on behalf of the charity in relation to their duties as Trustees (2022: One Trustee £98 for travel).

8. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The charitable company owns the entire share capital of NFF Trading Services C.I.C. (Company number 07535221). The company commenced trading on 31 March 2019. The company arranges the supply and installation of sustainable drainage systems under a Providers agreement with the National Flood Forum and is reimbursed for its services.

A summary of its accounts to 31 March are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover	-	8,016
Cost of sales	-	(6,434)
Gross profit	-	1,582
Administrative expenses	-	(1,582)
Net profit for year	-	-
Current assets	1,438	16,069
Current liabilities	(1,295)	(15,926)
Net assets at end of year	143	143

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles & trailers £	Total £
Cost b/fwd	7,840	11,885	75,000	94,725
Additions	1,354	-	-	1,354
Cost c/fwd	<u>9,194</u>	<u>11,885</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>96,079</u>
Depreciation b/fwd	4,140	11,885	75,000	91,025
Charge for year	2,015	-	-	2,015
Depreciation c/fwd	<u>6,155</u>	<u>11,885</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>93,040</u>
Net book value 2023	<u>3,039</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,039</u>
Net book value 2022	<u>3,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,700</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Debtors	402,545	67,008
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	582
Prepayments	1,641	1,691
Accrued income	24,029	43,418
Loan to subsidiary (see note 8)	-	10,000
Total	<u>428,215</u>	<u>122,699</u>

The loan to subsidiary is non-interest bearing, un-secured and is repayable on demand.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	4,051	10,273
Amounts owed to subsidiary	-	5,420
Social security and other taxes	8,914	6,437
VAT	38,581	19,502
Other creditors	2,499	57
Deferred Income (see Note 12)	14,333	50,000
Accruals	6,485	5,785
Total	<u>74,863</u>	<u>97,474</u>

12. DEFERRED INCOME

Movements in deferred income are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
At beginning of year	50,000	107,370
Released to income in year	(44,000)	(107,370)
Deferred in year	8,333	50,000
At end of year	14,333	50,000

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance on contracts relating to flood risk support.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

2023:	Funds b/f £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer of Funds £	Funds c/f £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	148,057	534,169	(267,375)	(30,828)	384,023
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	193,057	-	(267,375)	(30,828)	429,023
Restricted Funds:					
APPG Donation	6,526	-	(7,017)	491	-
Yorkshire 2 Ridings	-	9,500	(15,546)	6,046	-
Waltham Forest Project	-	50,000	(55,735)	5,735	-
Lincolnshire R & I Project	-	50,000	(53,513)	3,513	-
Slough R & I Project	-	88,801	(87,660)	-	1,141
BRIC Project	-	38,080	(53,123)	15,043	-
Total restricted funds	6,526	236,381	(272,594)	30,828	1,141
Total Funds	199,583	770,550	(539,969)	-	430,164

Transfers relate to overspends on projects that were supplemented by general funds

Restricted funds are as follows:

- APPG – The NFF operate the Secretariat function for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Flood Prevention.
- Yorkshire2 Ridings project to support 2 Ridings Community Foundation with work in Bellerby and Ryedale areas.
- Waltham Forest – Working with Thames Water and local authorities helping to deliver the London Community Flood Plan Programme.
- Lincolnshire R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Groundwater.
- Slough R & I Project – helping to deliver the Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Project Smart Sponge Catchments.
- BRIC Project – helping to deliver an Interreg Channel Programme Building Resilience in Communities.

2022:	Funds b/f	Income	Expenditure	Transfer of Funds	Funds c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	88,827	365,532	(308,972)	2,670	148,057
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	133,827	365,532	(308,972)	2,670	193,057
Restricted Funds:					
Postcode lottery	7,068	9,075	-	(16,143)	-
APPG Donation	-	10,000	(3,474)	-	6,526
BRIC Project	-	34,385	(47,858)	13,473	-
Total restricted funds	7,068	53,460	(51,332)	(2,670)	6,526
Total Funds	140,895	418,992	(360,304)	-	199,583

Funds were transferred from the Postcode Lottery fund in 2022 agreement with the funder to enable any unused funds, granted prior to Covid-19, to be used for general purposes.

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2023	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
		£	£	
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	3,040	72,631	353,352	429,023
Restricted Funds	-	1,141	-	1,141
Total Funds	3,040	73,772	353,353	430,164

2022	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
		£	£	
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	3,701	164,131	25,225	193,057
Restricted Funds	-	6,526	-	6,526
Total Funds	3,701	170,657	25,225	199,583

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Expiring:		
Within one year	2,987	3,330
Between one and two years	-	-

16. RELATED PARTIES

Donations were received from key management personnel of £210 (2022: £170) during the year. There were no further transactions with related parties in the year.

17. TRUSTEES

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased by the charity (see Note 6 above).

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

19. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	10,520	19,075	29,595
Charitable activities	355,012	34,385	389,397
TOTAL INCOME	365,532	53,460	418,992
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	15,010	-	15,010
Charitable activities	293,962	51,332	345,294
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	308,972	51,332	360,304
Net Income for the year before transfers	56,560	2,128	58,688
Transfer of funds in year	2,670	(2,670)	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	59,230	(542)	58,688
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	133,827	7,068	140,895
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	193,057	6,526	199,583

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1121642

Accounts



The National Flood Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered charity no. 1121642
Company no. 04349401

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 which is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act Purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Objectives and Activities

"The charity's object is the protection of life and property for the benefit of the public in particular where life and property is affected by or at risk of being affected by flooding on a significant scale. This is achieved by:

- a) Working either alone or with business or other strategic organisations, whether private, public or statutory, to reduce the risk of flooding, to minimise the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding; and by
- b) Providing or assisting with, promoting or improving access to education or training with a view to reducing the risk of flooding, minimising the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding"

The charity's aim is to reduce as far as possible the impact of flooding on all those who have already suffered serious flooding or who are at significant risk of flooding. It does this through activities which:

1. Provide information and advice, such as through the website, publications and advice line;
2. Provide practical, face to face support for people who have been flooded throughout the recovery period;
3. Help people to understand their flood risk and to organise flood action groups so that they can engage with risk management authorities proactively to effectively reduce the risk of flooding and its impacts;
4. Improve flood risk management policies and operational delivery through engagement with local and central government, its agencies, the private sector (such as the insurance industry) and the voluntary sector.

In carrying out these activities the charity works extensively with third party organisations:

1. Local government, Environment Agency operational teams, water companies, landowners, other voluntary organisations, loss adjusters and insurers when working directly with people at risk of flooding. Facilitating engagement in recovery situations with these organisations aims to provide direct support to people who have flooded. These organisations may each also have roles in flood risk management, so our work to set up and develop flood action groups is designed to enable and support a constructive and proactive dialogue. Our independence, together with our knowledge of flood risk management and our facilitation skills allows us to work in situations where others can't.
2. Central and local government and its agencies, the insurance industry, consultancies, national voluntary organisations when working on better policies and their delivery for those at flood risk. This also includes encouraging and participating in (as part of steering groups or in gathering information) research and projects that will help people to protect themselves better. For example, the National Flood Forum participated in a project to make available to the general public the information, data and methodology for developing and evaluating flood defence schemes.

The charity's main objectives for the year were:

The overall aim of the charity remained, as reflected in the strapline, supporting and representing flood risk communities.

Our strategic priorities are:

Our Strategy

Working with communities and partners, we support those at risk from flooding and help them recover.

Our aim

To end the fear of flooding.

Our long term goals

All people in England and Wales are better protected from flooding - they are able to obtain affordable household insurance and the value of their properties and possessions is secured. If they do flood, their health and wellbeing is supported in the short and long term.

Who we are and what we do

As part of the flooded community, the National Flood Forum is a charity that supports communities to tackle the things that matter to them; creating hope and reducing the fear of flooding; helping people to work together to reduce flood exposure and its impacts, both physical and emotional:

- *We work with people to help them build local flood action groups and networks that can support their communities. We act as honest brokers and facilitators.*
- *We support people with advice and guidance.*
- *We help people to recover from flooding and manage their risks for both the short and the long term.*
- *We champion issues with government, politicians and officials, to improve flooding policy and increase funding for flood risk management and recovery.*
- *We work with partners to inform them of the issues and concerns that people at flood risk face and encourage them to work with us in ways that will improve people's lives.*
- *We encourage partners to support us, so that we can reach out to communities and individuals to help them with the things that we excel at.*

Specific targets for the year to help deliver this included:

External Objectives

1. Reach more people at risk of flooding and those least able to cope
2. Help more people become self-reliant and able to protect themselves from flooding
3. To be available to help whenever and wherever needed
4. Work in partnership with all bodies dealing with flooding.
5. Persuade government to invest in flood risk management and recovery, using the power of our flood group network.

Internal objectives

1. Build more resources to fulfil our mission and vision
2. Generate greater support from the people of England and Wales
3. Raise profile so people know to come to us for help
4. Strengthen our networks and partnerships to improve our knowledge and effectiveness
5. Build our membership of community flood groups and ensure their voice is heard
6. Gather robust data on the nature of the flooding risk people face and the progress we are making
7. Offer a more hopeful message to those at risk of flooding or recently flooded, backed up by practical ideas
8. We need to focus our influencing work on its contribution to ending the fear of flooding
9. We should deliver current projects on time and to a high standard so that they are able to continue if needed

The work of over 300 active flood action groups around the country was sustained entirely by voluntary activity.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They are of the opinion that the activities of the charity provide public benefit within the spirit of that guidance.

Achievements and Performance

The charity has once again had an extremely busy year. The main achievements against objectives have been:

1. Success in securing involvement with four of the Resilience and Innovation fund projects up to 2027
 - a. SMART Sponge Catchments in Slough
 - b. Roch Valley Neighbourhood Flood and Climate
 - c. Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project
 - d. A FAIR approach to community flood risk
2. Working on the Severn Valley Water Management Scheme on an ambitious programme to build resilience along the Severn Valley and working across the English and Welsh border.
3. Continued delivery of the two-year cross channel Interreg project Building Resilience In Flood Disadvantaged Communities BRIC project, led by Plymouth County Council but with European partners across England and in France
4. Sitting on the steering group and working with partners and the EA on the FCERM action plan FCERM Strategy and the development of the FCERM strategy roadmap
5. Working to deliver Flood Recovery Services across several locations including Surrey, Shropshire, Severn Valley and Worcestershire which also included supporting communities who have flooded for the third time in two years
6. Working with MPs and flood action groups as part of the APPG Flood Prevention Group. NFF became the Secretariat, giving an opportunity to put flooding and flood risk communities' concerns on the national political agenda.
7. Working with Anglian Water on innovative community projects in East Anglia
8. Significant projects are still on going in Rochdale, Worcestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Shropshire
9. Online zoom meetings for the flood risk community continued throughout 2021-22, providing vital information and support to communities at risk of flooding. Providing high quality and relevant speakers to increase the knowledge and understanding within the flood risk community and at no charge
10. Smaller projects included working with TCPA and the production of materials to help at risk communities. Working on the Solaris project with Middlesex University, and a stakeholder engagement review with Severn Rivers Trust.
11. Research, in partnership with CABA to achieve closer collaboration with Flood Action Groups
12. The advice line continues to be busy with more than 800 calls being received. The helpline gives people access to information and support on a variety of topics
13. The national profile of the charity was improved through Policy work, the APPG and public relations activity.
14. Ongoing support for over 300 active flood action groups, through the advice line, the bulletin and direct contact by staff with the groups
15. Volunteers working in community projects are central to the success of the work delivered by the National Flood Forum. In addition, there has been support for central office functions and many contributions to policy work. The contribution is more than 3400 hours
16. Thirty-three media requests have been received and social media has seen at least 20% growth across all channel and social media activity
17. Facebook and other social media channels have been used to communicate with and support groups, as well as disseminate information

Financial Review

Income for the year increased to £418,992 (previous year: £295,447) while charitable expenditure also increased to £360,304 (previous year: £306,081) resulting in a surplus for the year of £58,688 (previous year: deficit of £10,634). The financial position at the end of the year was improved with un-restricted funds carried forward of £193,057 (2021: £133,827).

Reserves policy

The reserves policy has been set by Trustees as:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that around 3-6 months of the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A designated redundancy fund of £45,000. Current redundancy payments would amount to £44,282

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary.

Free reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets less designated funds, are currently £144,357 which means the charity currently holds approximately 3 months budgeted running costs in reserves, which is just within its reserves policy. Although the Trustees consider these reserves adequate for maintaining the charity's ongoing work programmes, they recognise that a continuous process of fundraising is required to ensure that reserves can be maintained at a level that is in line with the reserves policy and reflects the organisations continued desire to increase delivery and activity.

Going concern

At this point in time funding for 2022/23 includes a significant amount of secured funding and is sufficient to meet current staff and other costs. However certain projects are not as far advanced as originally anticipated at this stage and whilst we continue to believe they are highly likely to go ahead, the start date may be delayed within the financial year. Where new projects require additional staff to current levels those staff will not be recruited until such projects are more secure.

Furthermore, Trustees have reviewed possible contingencies that could be put in place to reduce costs should a funding shortfall arise. These include:

- Redeploy staff to maximise efficiency
- Reduce staffing levels – the cost of making all staff redundant (£45,000) has been set aside in reserves to cover this. Reductions will need to be proportionate to the level of income
- Develop funding multiple funding/income streams

Forecasts to 31 March 2023 & beyond suggest free reserves of around £200,000 will be available to carry forward into 2023/24, which is sufficient to meet current reserves policy and running costs. As such the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare these accounts on a going concern basis & confirm that they are confident of the future viability of the Charity for at least the next 12 months.

Plans for the Future

External Objectives

1. Continue to build services for flood risk communities, both new services and build access to existing services
2. Further develop the networks of flood groups and wider networks within the flooding community
3. Work with partners to deliver the FCRM Strategy Action Plan, based upon the commitments secured in policy and strategy and including influencing the development of the approach to recovery
4. Encourage partners to refer to us during flood events and use us during recovery
5. Build a programme of Policy activity around the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Flood Prevention

Internal objectives

1. Maintain 3-6 months reserves
2. Further develop and implement products that donors can easily contribute to
3. Refresh NFF strategy
4. Build NFF profile through social media and public relations activity
5. Develop fundraising strategy
6. Develop Phase 2 of Blue Pages
7. Develop a communications strategy targeting those at flood risk and the vulnerable.
8. Ensure that we are working most effectively through networks to deliver our objectives
9. Develop long term partnerships with more secure funding

Structure, Governance and Management

The National Flood Forum (NFF) is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. It was incorporated on 8th January 2002 and registered as a charity on 21st November 2007. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 14th November 2007, 10th March 2009 and 28th October 2014. As a charity, in the opinion of the Trustees, it complies with the provisions of Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006, which exempts it from the requirement to end its name with “limited”. Throughout this report it will be referred to as “the charity”.

Responsibility for the governance of the charity resides with the Trustees. Day to day operations is managed by the Chief Executive. There were 11 Trustees who served during the year, as shown below. At the end of the year there were 10 Trustees. Trustee indemnity insurance is in place and is paid for by the charitable company.

Arrangements for setting pay for staff was introduced previously, following a benchmarking exercise against charities, the Environment Agency and local authorities. Pay for the Chief Executive is set by the Board. Staff pay was increased by 7% in line with inflation on 1 April 2022.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, new Trustees are appointed by a simple majority vote by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting. The selection of new Trustees considers the particular skills needed by the Board at the time. New Trustees receive an induction pack consisting of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charitable Objects, details of the role and responsibilities of Trustees, strategy and business plans. All Trustees have the right to receive training, at the charity's expense, in order that they may understand their legal obligations and fulfil their roles and statutory duties.

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which, in their view, the charity is exposed and procedures have been implemented to manage those risks.

The main risks for the National Flood Forum relate to funding and staffing.

Funding comes predominantly from the public sector, particularly for work undertaken. This supports core activities such as the advice line. With the contraction of the public sector, there are fewer contracts, and they are taking longer to negotiate (up to 24 months). To mitigate this the National Flood Forum has and continues, to put in significant efforts to diversify funds, building up revenues from Blue Pages, developing bids for Resilience & Innovation projects, developing training and donations. In addition, new partners have been sought, such as Local Resilience Forums and social sector organisations. Nevertheless, funding remains the biggest issue.

There have been several new members of staff, but the senior leader team has remained static, and this has allowed the organisations to focus on delivery and enabled staff to build their skills and knowledge.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered company no.:	04349401 (England and Wales)
Registered charity no.:	1121642
Registered office:	MFG Solicitors Adam House Birmingham Road Kidderminster Worcestershire DY10 2SH
Trustees/Directors:	D Johns (Chair) Prof. Penning-Rowse (retired November 21) E Isnenghi P Mehring R Haddon M Green D Goff S Priest (appointed July 21) L Jones P Bide C Woolhouse (appointed July 21)
Company Secretary:	A S Davies
Chief Executive:	P Cobbing
Bank:	The Co-operative Bank PLC PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
Auditors:	BK Plus Audit Limited Azzurri House Walsall Business Park Aldridge WS9 0RB
Website:	www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

Approved by the Trustees on 21 July 2022
And signed on their behalf by

D Johns (Chair)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The National Flood Forum for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees Annual Report and Accounts:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the National Flood Forum (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as of 31 March 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

From the preliminary stage of the audit, we ensure our understanding of the entity is up to date. This includes, but is not limited to, current knowledge of their activities, the business and control environments, and their compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory frameworks. This information supports our risk identification and the subsequent design of audit procedures to mitigate those risks; ensuring that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinion.

In response to the risks identified, specific to this entity, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, if available;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale for significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Christopher Hession C.A. (Senior Statutory Auditor)**Date:**

For and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Limited

Azzurri House
Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RB

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	10,520	19,075	29,595	39,281
Charitable activities	3	355,012	34,385	389,397	256,166
TOTAL INCOME		365,532	53,460	418,992	295,447
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	15,010	-	15,010	19,630
Charitable activities	5	293,962	51,332	345,294	286,451
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		308,972	51,332	360,304	306,081
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before transfers		56,560	2,128	58,688	(10,634)
Transfer of funds in year		2,670	(2,670)	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		59,230	(542)	58,688	(10,634)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		133,827	7,068	140,895	151,529
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	193,057	6,526	199,583	140,895

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

As of 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	8	1	1
Tangible assets	9	3,700	1,015
		<u>3,701</u>	<u>1,016</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	122,699	51,746
Cash at bank and in hand		170,657	230,109
		<u>293,356</u>	<u>281,855</u>
Total current assets			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(97,474)	(141,976)
		<u>195,882</u>	<u>139,879</u>
Net current assets			
NET ASSETS	14	<u>199,583</u>	<u>140,895</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted - General		148,057	88,827
Unrestricted – Designated fund		45,000	45,000
Total unrestricted funds		<u>193,057</u>	<u>133,827</u>
Restricted		6,526	7,068
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	<u>199,583</u>	<u>140,895</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 21 July 2022

And signed on their behalf by

D Johns (Chair)

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Registered company number 04349401.

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the Company

The Charitable Company is incorporated in England and Wales, is limited by Guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 per member.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements presented are those of the charitable company and not of the group. The group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts on the grounds it qualifies as a small group.

In preparing these financial statements Update Bulletin 1 to the Charities SORP (FRS102) has been adopted and consequently a Statement of Cash flows has not been prepared.

The National Flood Forum meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate as a going concern for the next twelve months. The charitable company's current business plan and secured funding in place shows that it will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Furthermore, the charitable company has no bank borrowing or overdraft facility and has no immediate intention to obtain such facilities on the basis that the directors believe the charitable company can continue to operate within its current cash position.

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' 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, including grants, is deferred as necessary when the donor specifies that the income must only be used in future accounting periods or when the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of staff, publicity and printing in relation to the direct raising of funds plus an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of project delivery undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activity. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charitable company's activities. These costs have been allocated to activities based on time spent and are shown in notes 5 and 6.

Fund accounting

The charity has restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds can be used only for specific purposes within the objects of the charity, as defined by donors or when funds are raised for a specific purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Investments

Investment in subsidiary company is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £500, are recorded at historic cost and depreciated at annual rates to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applicable are:

Computers and equipment	3 years
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Motor vehicles & trailers	10 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

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.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has 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.

Leased assets

Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases. Payments under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

Employees are entitled to join a money purchase pension scheme which is funded by contributions from both employee and employer. During the year employer contributions of £6,682 (2021: £5,860) were made to the scheme. Contributions are allocated to activities in accordance with related salary costs.

Related party transactions

The charitable company discloses transactions with related parties which are not wholly owned with the same group. It does not disclose transactions with members of the same group that are wholly owned.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Donations	6,981	10,000	16,981
Grants:			
- Furlough receipts	3,539	-	3,539
- Postcode Lottery	-	9,075	9,075
Total 2022	10,520	19,075	29,595

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Donations	9,397	-	9,397
Grants:			
- Awards for All	-	2,392	2,392
- SIB REACH Fund	-	12,000	12,000
- Wye Forest Covid Support grant	10,000	-	10,000
- Furlough receipts	5,492	-	5,492
Total 2021	24,889	14,392	39,281

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	298,454	34,385	332,839
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	32,643	-	32,643
Information Services	8,092	-	8,092
Recovery support & Trailer rental	7,000	-	7,000
Expense recoveries and management fees	8,823	-	8,823
Total 2022	355,012	34,385	389,397

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total funds £
	£	£	£
Flood Risk Support	172,494	-	172,494
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	27,928	-	27,928
Information Services	7,637	-	7,637
Recovery support & Trailer rental	40,000	-	40,000
Expense recoveries and management fee	8,107	-	8,107
Total 2021	256,166	-	256,166

Income from Charitable Activities includes the following amounts relating to contracts with Governmental organisations:

	2022 £	2021 £
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	52,500	47,500
Worcestershire County Council	22,500	5,000
Kent County Council	27,500	55,000
Gloucestershire County Council	9,800	-
Surrey County Council	11,900	-
Slough Borough Council	5,848	-
Shropshire County Council	18,328	-
Environment Agency	55,450	-

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs	11,653	14,483
Consultants	-	2,250
Office costs	-	35
Support and governance costs	3,357	2,862
Total	15,010	19,630

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Flood risk support	Other	2022 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	180,950	53,546	234,496
Material costs	8,295	-	8,295
Publicity, printing & postage	(109)	407	298
Consultancy, training and recruitment	5,934	566	6,500
Motor Vehicle Costs	-	5,172	5,172
Travel and subsistence	7,624	3,929	11,553
Office Costs	3,094	5,745	8,839
Legal & professional fees	697	-	697
Depreciation	-	1,100	1,100
Conference/events	252	545	797
Total Direct Costs	206,737	71,010	277,747
Support and governance costs	52,123	15,424	67,547
Total Costs 2022	258,860	86,434	345,294

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £51,332 in respect of restricted funds.

	Flood risk support	Other	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	142,743	72,202	214,945
Material costs	9,984	-	9,984
Publicity, printing & postage	106	9	115
Consultancy, training and recruitment	10,000	-	10,000
Motor Vehicle Costs	-	3,871	3,871
Travel and subsistence	502	-	502
Office Costs	1,001	3,242	4,243
Depreciation	-	291	291
Conference/events	25	-	25
Total Direct Costs	164,361	79,615	243,976
Support and governance costs	28,207	14,268	42,475
Total Costs 2021	192,568	93,883	286,451

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £18,603 in respect of restricted funds.

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Support costs:		
Staff costs	32,215	5,978
Publicity, printing & postage	825	2,355
Consultancy, training and recruitment	2,540	300
Meetings/events	460	103
Premises costs	962	7,048
Motor vehicle costs	4,143	4,783
Travel and subsistence	932	-
Office Costs	16,009	14,586
	58,086	35,153
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit services	2,805	2,903
Travel and meetings	98	-
Insurance (Trustees liability insurance)	877	865
Legal & professional fees	220	-
Staff costs	8,818	6,416
	12,818	10,184
Total	70,904	45,337
Allocated to:		
Raising funds	3,357	2,862
Charitable activities	67,547	42,475
Total	70,904	45,337

Support costs are allocated to activities in accordance with the amount of time spent by staff on those activities.

7. STAFF COSTS, NUMBERS AND TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries	260,738	219,382
National Insurance costs	19,762	16,580
Pensions	6,682	5,860
	287,182	241,822
Total		
Allocated as follows:		
Raising funds	11,653	14,483
Direct Charitable activity	234,496	214,945
Support costs	32,215	5,978
Governance	8,818	6,416
	287,182	241,822
Total		

The charity employed the full-time equivalent of 9.15 staff during the year (2021: 8). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: none).

Key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer, the Community Support & Flood Recovery Specialist and the Operations Coordinator whose employee benefits total £110,874 (2021: £109,865) including pension contributions.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

One Trustees was reimbursed expenses totalling £98 in relation to travel costs incurred on behalf of the charity in relation to their duties as Trustees (2021: £nil).

8. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The charitable company owns the entire share capital of NFF Trading Services C.I.C. (Company number 07535221). The company commenced trading on 31 March 2019. The company arranges the supply and installation of sustainable drainage systems under a Providers agreement with the National Flood Forum and is reimbursed for its services.

A summary of its accounts to 31 March are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Turnover	8,016	9,984
Cost of sales	(6,434)	(7,545)
Gross profit	1,582	2,439
Administrative expenses	(1,582)	(2,061)
Net profit for year	-	378
Current assets	16,069	15,536
Current liabilities	(15,926)	(15,393)
Net assets at end of year	143	143

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles & trailers £	Total £
Cost b/fwd	4,055	11,885	75,000	90,940
Additions	3,785	-	-	3,785
Cost c/fwd	7,840	11,885	75,000	94,725
Depreciation b/fwd	3,040	11,885	75,000	89,925
Charge for year	1,100	-	-	1,100
Depreciation c/fwd	4,140	11,885	75,000	91,025
Net book value 2022	3,700	-	-	3,700
Net book value 2021	1,015	-	-	1,015

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade Debtors	67,008	38,505
Amounts owed by subsidiary	582	1,255
Prepayments	1,691	1,986
Accrued income	43,418	-
Loan to subsidiary (see note 8)	10,000	10,000
Total	122,699	51,746

The loan to subsidiary is non-interest bearing, un-secured and is repayable on demand.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade Creditors	10,273	2,148
Amounts owed to subsidiary	5,420	3,130
Social security and other taxes	6,437	5,269
VAT	19,502	17,783
Other creditors	57	71
Deferred Income (see Note 12)	50,000	107,370
Accruals	5,785	6,205
Total	97,474	141,976

12. DEFERRED INCOME

Movements in deferred income are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
At beginning of year	107,370	169,536
Released to income in year	(107,370)	(62,166)
Deferred in year	50,000	-
At end of year	50,000	107,370

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance on contracts relating to flood risk support.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

2022:	Funds b/f £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer of Funds £	Funds c/f £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	88,827	365,532	(308,972)	2,670	193,057
Designated fund for redundancy costs	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	133,827	365,532	(308,972)	2,670	193,057
Restricted Funds:					
Postcode lottery	7,068	9,075	-	(16,143)	-
APPG Donation	-	10,000	(3,474)	-	6,526
BRIC Project	-	34,385	(47,858)	13,473	-
Total restricted funds	7,068	53,460	(51,332)	(2,670)	6,526
Total Funds	140,895	418,992	(360,304)	-	199,583

Transfers relate to an overspend on the BRIC project that was supplemented by general funds. Funds were transferred from the Postcode Lottery fund in agreement with the funder to enable any unused funds, granted prior to Covid-19, being used for general purposes

2021:	Funds b/f	Income	Expenditure	Transfer of Funds	Funds c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	99,250	281,055	(287,478)	(4,000)	88,827
Designated fund for redundancy costs	41,000	-	-	4,000	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	140,250	281,055	(287,478)	-	133,827
Restricted Funds:					
Postcode lottery	7,068	-	-	-	7,068
National Lottery					
Community Fund	4,211	2,392	(6,603)	-	-
SIB Reach Fund	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	11,279	14,392	(18,603)	-	7,068
Total Funds	151,529	295,447	(306,081)	-	140,895

Funding was received from The National Lottery Awards for All towards the carrying out of workshops in flood prone areas to improve community flood resilience.

Funding was received from the Postcode Lottery towards work with flood risk communities in the Isle of Sheppey. It was subsequently agreed that these funds could be released to general funds as the project was unable to continue due to the Covid 19 pandemic (see above).

Funding was received from the Social Investment Business Reach Fund towards developing a business plan for Blue Pages.

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2022	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	3,701	164,131	25,225	193,057
Restricted Funds	-	6,526	-	6,526
Total Funds	3,701	170,657	25,225	199,583

2021	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash	Other	£
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:				
General Funds	1,016	223,041	(90,230)	133,827
Restricted Funds	-	7,068	-	7,068
Total Funds	1,016	230,109	(90,230)	140,895

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022	2021
Expiring:	£	£
Within one year	3,330	3,330
Between one and two years	-	-

16. RELATED PARTIES

Donations were received from key management personnel of £170 (2021: £nil) during the year. There were no further transactions with related parties in the year.

17. TRUSTEES

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased by the charity (see Note 6 above).

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

19. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	24,889	14,392	39,281
Charitable activities	256,166	-	256,166
TOTAL INCOME	281,055	14,392	295,447
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	19,630	-	19,630
Charitable activities	267,848	18,603	286,451
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	287,478	18,603	306,081
Net expenditure for the year before transfers	(6,423)	(4,211)	(10,634)
Transfer of funds in year	-	-	-
NET EXPENDITURE & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(6,423)	(4,211)	(10,634)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	140,250	11,279	151,529
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	133,827	7,068	140,895

THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1121642

Accounts



The National Flood Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered charity no. 1121642
Company no. 04349401

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 which is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act Purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Objectives and Activities

"The charity's object is the protection of life and property for the benefit of the public in particular where life and property is affected by or at risk of being affected by flooding on a significant scale. This is achieved by:

- a) Working either alone or with business or other strategic organisations, whether private, public or statutory, to reduce the risk of flooding, to minimise the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding; and by
- b) Providing or assisting with, promoting or improving access to education or training with a view to reducing the risk of flooding, minimising the material damage caused by and the social, environmental and economic effects of flooding and to assist in recovery from the effects of flooding"

The charity's aim is to reduce as far as possible the impact of flooding on all those who have already suffered serious flooding or who are at significant risk of flooding. It does this through activities which:

1. Provide information and advice, such as through the website, publications and advice line;
2. Provide practical, face to face support for people who have been flooded throughout the recovery period;
3. Help people to understand their flood risk and to organise flood action groups so that they can engage with risk management authorities proactively to effectively reduce the risk of flooding and its impacts;
4. Improve flood risk management policies and operational delivery through engagement with local and central government, its agencies, the private sector (such as the insurance industry) and the voluntary sector.

In carrying out these activities the charity works extensively with third party organisations:

1. Local government, Environment Agency operational teams, water companies, landowners, other voluntary organisations, loss adjusters and insurers when working directly with people at risk of flooding. Facilitating engagement in recovery situations with these organisations aims to provide direct support to people who have flooded. These organisations may each also have roles in flood risk management, so our work to set up and develop flood action groups is designed to enable and support a constructive and proactive dialogue. Our independence, together with our knowledge of flood risk management and our facilitation skills allows us to work in situations where others can't.
2. Central and local government and its agencies, the insurance industry, consultancies, national voluntary organisations when working on better policies and their delivery for those at flood risk. This also includes encouraging and participating in (as part of steering groups or in gathering information) research and projects that will help people to protect themselves better. For example, the National Flood Forum participated in a project to make available to the general public the information, data and methodology for developing and evaluating flood defence schemes.

The charity's main objectives for the year were:

The overall aim of the charity remained, as reflected in the strapline, supporting and representing flood risk communities.

Our strategic priorities are:

Our Strategy

Working with communities and partners, we support those at risk from flooding and help them recover.

Our aim

To end the fear of flooding.

Our long term goals

All people in England and Wales are better protected from flooding - they are able to obtain affordable household insurance and the value of their properties and possessions is secured. If they do flood, their health and wellbeing is supported in the short and long term.

Who we are and what we do

As part of the flooded community, the National Flood Forum is a charity that supports communities to tackle the things that matter to them; creating hope and reducing the fear of flooding; helping people to work together to reduce flood exposure and its impacts, both physical and emotional:

- *We work with people to help them build local flood action groups and networks that can support their communities. We act as honest brokers and facilitators.*
- *We support people with advice and guidance.*
- *We help people to recover from flooding and manage their risks for both the short and the long term.*
- *We champion issues with government, politicians and officials, to improve flooding policy and increase funding for flood risk management and recovery.*
- *We work with partners to inform them of the issues and concerns that people at flood risk face and encourage them to work with us in ways that will improve people's lives.*
- *We encourage partners to support us, so that we can reach out to communities and individuals to help them with the things that we excel at.*

Specific targets for the year to help deliver this included:

External Objectives

1. Stimulate a focus with partners on reaching all those at flood risk, especially the most vulnerable
2. Build our network of supporters
3. Finalise evaluation tools and use them
4. Influence the development of the approach to recovery
5. Encourage partners to refer to us during flood events
6. Develop networks of flood groups
7. The FCERM Strategy 2050/2100 focus provides a new frame to view community involvement and a social contract
8. Encourage national policy to set the ambition and scope necessary to create an adaptive society with low levels of managed flood risk.

Internal objectives

1. Develop 3-6 months reserves
2. Develop and implement products that donors can easily contribute to.
3. Implement fundraising through all staff and trustees
4. Increase income through Blue Pages by seeking funding to develop Phase 2
5. Start to migrate name change, reviewed as part of the strategy
6. Develop a communications strategy that targets those at flood risk and the vulnerable.
7. Ensure that we are working most effectively through networks to deliver our objectives
8. Work with flood groups to shape what a strong network looks like
9. Develop a suite of indicators that can be used to map progress
10. Use the tools developed to hold organisations to account and monitor progress
11. Identify a policy area to focus on in 2020/21

12. Develop long term partnerships with more secure funding
13. Review policies

The work of over 200 affiliated flood action groups around the country was sustained entirely by voluntary activity.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They are of the opinion that the activities of the charity provide public benefit within the spirit of that guidance.

Achievements and Performance

The charity has once again had an extremely busy year. The main achievements against objectives have been:

1. Significant projects in and with communities were delivered in Kent, Worcestershire, Lincolnshire, Rochdale and Norfolk. The most significant new projects were:
 - a. Approval of Building Resilience in Flood Disadvantaged Communities (BRIC) an Interreg Channel Project led by Plymouth City Council and with partners in England and France. This is a two year project operating in Kent alongside English and French partners starting in 2021/22 required significant development over the previous 18 months.
 - b. A 2 year Flood Poverty Project with Rochdale Borough Council, funded by the North west Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Committee.
2. Smaller projects included work with CIWEM on new training for the delivery of Property Flood Resilience measures and a project funded by Flood Re for the creation of guidance on planning for flood risk communities
3. Further work was done on building networks of supporters. The West Sussex Flood Action Group Forum continued to meet and networks in Kent and Shropshire were set up and are now active.
4. Covid 19 created significant challenges throughout the year, principally around not being able to meet people at risk of flooding, or who had flooded. In response the NFF developed new approaches:
 - a. The development of a virtual multi-agency approach to flood recovery. This was delivered first in Worcestershire and Shropshire, and again in Dinas Powys. In the latter example, work is now being taken forward to set up a Dinas Powys Flood Action Group
 - b. The development of virtual approaches to working with communities where we are not able to meet them. A great deal of development and learning took place, both on the part of the NFF and communities. However, almost all groups have been sustained through this very difficult period and new groups have been formed virtually
 - c. Covid 19 prevented the running of a national conference
 - d. NFF Zoom meetings were set up for people at risk of flooding around the country. People who want to find out more about flooding, flood risk, the institutions involved and how to contribute have found the meetings extremely useful. 30 meetings have been held throughout the year, each with between 25 and 60 participants.
5. There was significant work with flood risk communities across the country to ensure that their issues and concerns and ambitions were fed in to national policy. The principal activities included:
 - a. Input to the England Flood and Coast Risk Management Strategy (FCERM) and the UK Government Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Policy Statement to bring about a much greater focus on the needs of flood risk communities. This was the policy area identified as the priority for 2019/20 and 2020/21. The final documents were published in the financial year. The focus of attention included:
 - i. Ensuring that communities are centre stage in national policy for the first time, to work in partnership with professional organisations.
 - ii. Those who are affected the most by flooding
 - iii. Much greater ambition on managing water
 - iv. Involving communities proactively in flood risk management
 - v. A focus on longer term recovery

- b. Input to the England FCERM Action Plan, including being a member of the England FCERM Strategy Steering Group. The Action Plan has several specific commitments:
 - i. *Measure 3.2.4: By 2025 risk management authorities will support people living in places at high risk of flooding and coastal change to setup flood groups, where they are wanted, and to develop and test local flood plans.*
 - 1. *By December 2021, the National Flood Forum and the Environment Agency will develop a network of community-led flood groups and volunteers. This network will facilitate peer-to-peer learning.*
 - 2. *By April 2022, the National Flood Forum and the Environment Agency will identify how to address gaps in support for at-risk communities and flood groups.*
 - ii. *Measure 3.3.1: From 2020 risk management authorities, local responders, the insurance sector and other partners will continue to work together to help people and businesses recover more quickly after flooding.*
 - 1. *By March 2022, the National Flood Forum and the Environment Agency will publish lessons learnt on the measures needed to install property flood resilience. This will ensure people have the most effective support.*
 - iii. *Measure 3.3.2: By 2025 the Environment Agency will work with government, other risk management authorities and public health services to ensure the mental health impacts from flooding and coastal change are factored into long-term recovery planning.*

During the 2020 coronavirus pandemic, the National Flood Forum developed virtual recovery support for flood victims. They did this by collaborating with the Environment Agency, local authorities and water companies. The work included support for ongoing mental health impacts from flooding.

 - 1. *By December 2022, the Environment Agency will work with local responders and health bodies to establish good practice to manage community wellbeing after a flood.*
- c. Organising a private session of the Efra Select Committee Inquiry on Floods for flood risk communities to speak directly to the Committee.
- d. Consultation responses that facilitated community voices:
 - i. Efra Select Committee Inquiry on Flooding
 - ii. MHCLG Select Committee Inquiry on Planning
 - iii. MHCLG consultation on the Future of Planning
 - iv. Defra ELMS consultation
 - v. Defra Flood Re consultation
 - vi. Defra Partnership Funding and PfR
- 6. The ABI updated their [Responding to Major Floods](#) guide in collaboration with the National Flood Forum.
- 7. On research,
 - a. The National Flood Forum has collected feedback from property owners with property flood resilience measures. This has shown what did and did not work well during and after the winter 2019 and winter 2020 floods.
 - b. An MBA student completed their dissertation of valuing the work of Flood Action Groups under the supervision of staff and trustees.
- 8. The advice line continues to be busy, despite there being a relatively low level of flooding during the year. 606 calls were recorded with the majority taking 30-40 minutes. Of these 152 were from people who had flooded and 129 were related to Property Flood Resilience, especially grant funded schemes. Many calls covered more than one topic.
- 9. Due to the established project pipeline Covid 19 did not affect the NFFs finances as significantly as it could have done. There were drops in donations to £9397 and new projects were difficult to start up. Nevertheless finances remained resilient, aided by a grant of £10,000 from Wye Forest for Covid Support and over £5,000 of Furlough receipts. A review of finances led to:
 - a. Closing the office in May 2021, saving around £7,500, per annum;
 - b. Review of travelling and subsistence, which were already low due to COVID;

- c. Redeployment of staff to maximise efficiency;
 - d. Reduced staffing levels – the cost of making all staff redundant (£45,000) has been set aside in reserves to cover this.
 - e. Risk management processes monitored financial, project and staff resilience throughout the year.
10. Funding was received from SIB REACH to carry out a review of Blue Pages and create a business plan. Funding is being sought to implement this.
 11. A revised approach was developed to monitor progress against objectives and report to the Board of Trustees
 12. The national profile of the charity was improved through its willingness to be an active partner in many programmes, including the England FCERM Strategy Steering Group, the Property Level Resilience Action Plan, British Standards 851188 Board on Property Flood Resilience products, among many more, the Advisory Board for the Environment Agency's 3 day Flood and Coast Conference 2019 and 2020 and organising the Efra Select Committee session for flood communities as part of their inquiry on Flooding
 13. Ongoing support for over 300 affiliated flood action groups, through the advice line, the bulletin and direct contact by staff with the groups
 14. Volunteers working in community projects are central to the success of the work delivered of the National Flood Forum. In addition, there has been support for central office functions and many contributions to policy work. The contribution is in excess of 2,500 hours.
 15. The lack of flooding during the year resulted in very few media requests throughout the year. However, social media activity has expanded significantly on several platforms, especially Facebook and LinkedIn.

Financial Review

Income for the year dropped to £295,447 (previous year: £419,143) while charitable expenditure also reduced to £306,081 (previous year: £386,876) resulting in a deficit for the year of £10,634 (previous year: surplus of £36,266). The financial position at the end of the year was improved with un-restricted funds carried forward of £133,827 (2020: £140,250).

Reserves policy

The reserves policy has been set by Trustees as:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that around 3-6 months of the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A designated redundancy fund of £45,000. Current redundancy payments would amount to £45,435

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary.

Free reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets less designated funds, are currently £87,811 which means the charity currently holds approximately 3 months budgeted running costs in reserves, which is just within its reserves policy. Although the Trustees consider these reserves adequate for maintaining the charity's ongoing work programmes, they recognise that a continuous process of fundraising is required in order to ensure that reserves can be maintained at a level that is in line with the reserves policy and reflects the organisations continued desire to increase delivery and activity.

Covid 19 has had an enormous impact on society and increased future uncertainty and risks significantly. The risks to project funders and partners are also significant. A number of approaches have been taken to mitigate this, including:

- Closer attention to financial management, cash flow and reserves;
- Contingency planning discussed at each Board meeting and bringing forward budgeting for 2021 in the planning cycle;
- Significant effort input to funding bids, recognising that with increased competition funding may be more difficult to secure;
- Conversations initiated with Environment Agency and Defra about core funding.

Going concern

At this point in time funding for 2022/23 includes secured funding of £303,000, with an additional £114,000 pending and four major bids being explored or in preparation. This is significantly more than at this stage in previous years and totals £417,000. Nevertheless, given Covid 19, the potential lack of grants from charitable foundations and the impact of resource constraints on the public sector, Trustees have reviewed possible contingencies that could be put in place to reduce costs should a funding shortfall arise. These include:

- Redeploy staff to maximise efficiency;
- Reduce staffing levels – the cost of making all staff redundant (£45,000) has been set aside in reserves to cover this. Reductions will need to be proportionate to the level of income.
- Increase income outside of projects, including refreshing Blue Pages, generating training courses and national conferences. A business case has been prepared for Blue Pages and funding is being sought for its implementation. Conferences look risky in the current climate, unless a sponsor can be found. Training does offer possibilities. None of these opportunities will provide significant sums in the short term.

Forecasts to 31 March 2022 suggest free reserves of around £100,000 will be available to carry forward into 2022/23. Worst case scenario planning has been carried out which demonstrates that with no new funding, the NFF is viable due to the Resilience and Innovation Fund projects, though significant savings would have to be made. As such the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare these accounts on a going concern basis & confirm that they are confident of the future viability of the Charity for at least the next 12 months.

Plans for the Future**External Objectives**

1. Continue to build services for flood risk communities, both new services and build access to existing services
2. Further develop the networks of flood groups and wider networks with the flooding community
3. Work with partners to develop and deliver the FCRM Strategy Action Plan, based upon the commitments secured in policy and strategy and including influencing the development of the approach to recovery
4. Encourage partners to refer to us during flood events and use us during recovery
5. Select a policy area to focus on

Internal objectives

1. Maintain 3-6 months reserves
2. Further develop and implement products that donors can easily contribute to
3. Further develop social media networks
4. Implement fundraising through all staff and trustees
5. Develop Phase 2 of Blue Pages
6. Develop a communications strategy that targets those at flood risk and the vulnerable.
7. Ensure that we are working most effectively through networks to deliver our objectives
8. Identify a policy area to focus on in 2022
9. Develop long term partnerships with more secure funding
10. Review policies
11. Revise the NFF Strategy

Structure, Governance and Management

The National Flood Forum (NFF) is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. It was incorporated on 8th January 2002 and registered as a charity on 21st November 2007. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 14th November 2007, 10th March 2009 and 28th October 2014. As a charity, in the opinion of the Trustees, it complies with the provisions of Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006, which exempts it from the requirement to end its name with “limited”. Throughout this report it will be referred to as “the charity”.

Responsibility for the governance of the charity resides with the Trustees. Day to day operations are managed by the Chief Executive. There were 13 Trustees who served during the year, as shown below. At the end of the year there were 7 Trustees. Trustee indemnity insurance is in place and is paid for by the charitable company.

Arrangements for setting pay for staff was introduced previously, following a benchmarking exercise against charities, the Environment Agency and local authorities. Pay for the Chief Executive is set by the Board. Staff pay was increased by 1.94% in line with inflation.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, new Trustees are appointed by a simple majority vote by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting. The selection of new Trustees takes into account the particular skills needed by the Board at the time. New Trustees receive an induction pack consisting of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charitable Objects, details of the role and responsibilities of Trustees, strategy and business plans. All Trustees have the right to receive training, at the charity's expense, in order that they may understand their legal obligations and fulfil their roles and statutory duties.

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which, in their view, the charity is exposed and procedures have been implemented to manage those risks.

The main risks for the National Flood Forum relate to funding and staffing.

Funding comes predominantly from the public sector, particularly for work undertaken. This supports core activities such as the advice line. With the contraction of the public sector, there are fewer contracts and they are taking longer to negotiate (up to 24 months). To mitigate this the National Flood Forum has put in significant efforts to diversify funds, building up revenues from Blue Pages, bidding for European funds through Interreg projects, developing training, running a conference and developing donations. In addition, new partners have been sought, such as Local Resilience Forums and social sector organisations. Nevertheless, funding remains the biggest issue.

There have been no staff changes this year. This stability has allowed the organisations to focus on delivery and staff to build their skills and knowledge.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered company no.:	04349401	(England and Wales)
Registered charity no.:	1121642	
Registered office:	Old Snuff Mill Warehouse Park Lane Bewdley Worcestershire DY12 2EL	
Trustees/Directors:	D Johns (Chair) Prof. Penning-Rowsell E Isnenghi P Mehring R Haddon M Green L Jones (appointed 28 October 2020) P Bide (appointed 28 October 2020)	
Company Secretary:	A S Davies	
Chief Executive:	P Cobbing	

Bank: The Co-operative Bank PLC
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Auditors: Burrows & Lewis Limited
5-6 Long Lane
Rowley Regis
West Midlands
B65 0JA

Website: www.floodforum.org.uk

Approved by the Trustees on 28 July 2021
And signed on their behalf by

D Johns (Chair)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The National Flood Forum for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees Annual Report and Accounts:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the National Flood Forum (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 charitable company 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's 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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the company and the industry in which it operates, and considered the risk of acts by the company that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud. We designed audit procedures to respond to the risk, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

We focused on laws and regulations which could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities SORP. Our tests included agreeing the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and enquiries with management. We also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud. We did not identify any key audit matters relating to irregularities, including fraud.

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. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Date: 28 July 2021

David Burrows (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Burrows & Lewis Limited, Statutory Auditor
5-6 Long Lane
Rowley Regis
West Midlands
B65 0JA

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	24,889	14,392	39,281	38,037
Charitable activities	3	256,166	-	256,166	381,106
TOTAL INCOME		281,055	14,392	295,447	419,143
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	19,630	-	19,630	12,428
Charitable activities	5	267,848	18,603	286,451	374,449
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		287,478	18,603	306,081	386,877
Net (expenditure)/ income for the year before transfers		(6,423)	(4,211)	(10,634)	32,266
Transfer of funds in year		-	-	-	-
NET /(EXPENDITURE)/INCOME & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(6,423)	(4,211)	(10,634)	32,266
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		140,250	11,279	151,529	119,263
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	13	133,827	7,068	140,895	151,529

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	8	1	1
Tangible assets	9	1,015	-
		<u>1,016</u>	<u>1</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	51,746	262,135
Cash at bank and in hand		230,109	140,205
		<u>281,855</u>	<u>402,340</u>
Total current assets			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(141,976)	(250,812)
		<u>139,879</u>	<u>151,528</u>
Net current assets			
NET ASSETS	12	<u>140,895</u>	<u>151,529</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted - General		88,827	99,250
Unrestricted – Designated fund		45,000	41,000
Total unrestricted funds		<u>133,827</u>	<u>140,250</u>
Restricted		<u>7,068</u>	<u>11,279</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	<u>140,895</u>	<u>151,529</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 28 July 2021

And signed on their behalf by

D Johns (Chair)

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Registered company number 04349401.

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the Company

The Charitable Company is incorporated in England and Wales, is limited by Guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 per member.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements presented are those of the charitable company and not of the group. The group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts on the grounds it qualifies as a small group.

In preparing these financial statements Update Bulletin 1 to the Charities SORP (FRS102) has been adopted and consequently a Statement of Cash flows has not been prepared.

The National Flood Forum meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate as a going concern for the next twelve months. The charitable company's current business plan and secured funding in place shows that it will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Furthermore, the charitable company has no bank borrowing or overdraft facility and has no immediate intention to obtain such facilities on the basis that the directors believe the charitable company can continue to operate within its current cash position.

Income

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' 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, including grants, is deferred as necessary when the donor specifies that the income must only be used in future accounting periods or when the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of staff, publicity and printing in relation to the direct raising of funds plus an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of project delivery undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activity. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and governance costs which support the charitable company's activities. These costs have been allocated to activities based on time spent and are shown in notes 5 and 6.

Fund accounting

The charity has restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds can be used only for specific purposes within the objects of the charity, as defined by donors or when funds are raised for a specific purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Investments

Investment in subsidiary company is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £500, are recorded at historic cost and depreciated at annual rates to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applicable are:

Computers and equipment	3 years
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Motor vehicles & trailers	10 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

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.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has 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.

Leased assets

Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases. Payments under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

Employees are entitled to join a money purchase pension scheme which is funded by contributions from both employee and employer. During the year employer contributions of £5,860 (2020: £6,416) were made to the scheme. Contributions are allocated to activities in accordance with related salary costs.

Related party transactions

The charitable company discloses transactions with related parties which are not wholly owned with the same group. It does not disclose transactions with members of the same group that are wholly owned.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Donations	9,397	-	9,397
Grants:			
- Awards for All	-	2,392	2,392
- SIB REACH Fund	-	12,000	12,000
- Wye Forest Covid Support grant	10,000	-	10,000
- Furlough receipts	5,492	-	5,492
Total 2021	24,889	14,392	39,281
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Donations	21,784	-	21,784
Grants	-	16,253	16,253
Total 2020	21,784	16,253	38,037

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	172,494	-	172,494
Other charitable activity:			
Consultancy/training	27,928	-	27,928
Information Services	7,637	-	7,637
Recovery support & Trailer rental	40,000	-	40,000
Expense recoveries and management fee	8,107	-	8,107
Total 2021	256,166	-	256,166
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total funds £
Flood Risk Support	325,193	-	325,193
Other charitable activity:			
Conference	15,264	-	15,264
Consultancy/training	19,592	-	19,592
Information Services	10,845	-	10,845
Recovery support & Trailer rental	1,750	-	1,750
Expense recoveries and management fee	8,462	-	8,462
Total 2020	381,106	-	381,106

Flood Risk Support and Recovery Services include the following amounts relating to contracts with Governmental organisations:

	2021 £	2020 £
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	47,500	47,500
Warwickshire County Council	-	30,000
Worcestershire County Council	5,000	15,000
Kent County Council	55,000	55,000
Nottinghamshire County Council	-	41,520

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs	14,483	9,106
Consultants	2,250	1,050
Office costs	35	285
Support and governance costs	2,862	1,987
Total	19,630	12,428

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2021 Total £
Staff costs	142,743	72,202	214,945
Material costs	9,984	-	9,984
Publicity, printing & postage	106	9	115
Consultancy, training and recruitment	10,000	-	10,000
Motor Vehicle Costs	-	3,871	3,871
Travel and subsistence	502	-	502
Office Costs	1,001	3,242	4,243
Depreciation	-	291	291
Conference/events	25	-	25
Total Direct Costs	164,361	79,615	243,976
Support and governance costs	28,207	14,268	42,475
Total Costs 2021	192,568	93,883	286,451

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £18,603 in respect of restricted funds.

	Flood risk support £	Other £	2020 Total £
Staff costs	186,237	46,861	233,098
Material costs	46,048	-	46,048
Publicity, printing & postage	880	226	1,106
Consultancy, training and recruitment	383	487	870
Motor Vehicle Costs	199	8,453	8,652
Travel and subsistence	16,192	3,899	20,091
Office Costs	2,615	5,429	8,044
Conference/events	334	5,337	5,671
Total Direct Costs	252,888	70,692	323,580
Support and governance costs	40,642	10,227	50,869
Total Costs 2020	293,530	80,919	374,449

Flood Risk Support includes costs totalling £4,974 in respect of restricted funds.

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Support costs:		
Staff costs	5,978	12,133
Publicity, printing & postage	2,355	1,332
Consultancy, training and recruitment	300	627
Meetings/events	103	-
Premises costs	7,048	6,127
Motor vehicle costs	4,783	3,717
Travel and subsistence	-	937
Office Costs	14,586	14,107
	35,153	38,980
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit services	2,903	2,952
Travel and meetings	-	1,474
Insurance (Trustees liability insurance)	865	865
Legal & professional fees	-	19
Staff costs	6,416	8,566
	10,184	13,876
Total	45,337	52,856
Allocated to:		
Raising funds	2,862	1,987
Charitable activities	42,475	50,869
Total	45,337	52,856

Support costs are allocated to activities in accordance with the amount of time spent by staff on those activities.

7. STAFF COSTS, NUMBERS AND TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries	219,382	237,431
National Insurance costs	16,580	19,056
Pensions	5,860	6,416
Total	241,822	262,903
Allocated as follows:		
Raising funds	14,483	9,106
Direct Charitable activity	214,945	233,098
Support costs	5,978	12,133
Governance	6,416	8,566
Total	241,822	262,903

The charity employed the full-time equivalent of 8 staff during the year (2020: 9). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020: none).

Key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer, the Community Support & Flood Recovery Specialist and the Operations Coordinator whose employee benefits total £120,950 (2020: £118,571) including pension contributions.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

No Trustees were reimbursed expenses in relation to travel costs incurred on behalf of the charity in relation to their duties as Trustees (2020: £1,332 by 7 trustees).

8. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

The charitable company owns the entire share capital of NFF Trading Services C.I.C. (Company number 07535221). The company commenced trading on 31 March 2019. The company arranges the supply and installation of sustainable drainage systems under a Providers agreement with the National Flood Forum and is reimbursed for its services.

A summary of its accounts to 31 March are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	9,984	46,048
Cost of sales	(7,545)	(39,917)
Gross profit	2,439	6,131
Administrative expenses	(2,061)	(6,299)
Net profit/(loss) for year	378	(168)
Current assets	15,535	19,358
Current liabilities	(15,325)	(19,526)
Net assets/(liabilities) at end of year	210	(168)

9. FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles & trailers £	Total £
Cost b/fwd	2,749	11,885	75,000	89,634
Additions	1,306	-	-	1,306
Cost c/fwd	4,055	11,885	75,000	90,940
Depreciation b/fwd	2,749	11,885	75,000	89,634
Charge for year	291	-	-	291
Depreciation c/fwd	3,040	11,885	75,000	89,925
Net book value 2021	1,015	-	-	1,015
Net book value 2020	-	-	-	-

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade Debtors	38,505	169,771
Amounts owed by subsidiary	1,255	6,161
Prepayments	1,987	12,509
Accrued income	-	63,695
Loan to subsidiary (see note 18)	10,000	10,000
Total	51,747	262,136

The loan to subsidiary is non-interest bearing, un-secured and is repayable on demand.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade Creditors	2,148	16,027
Amounts owed to subsidiary	3,130	9,245
Social security and other taxes	5,269	5,722
VAT	17,783	43,126
Other creditors	71	1,496
Deferred Income (see Note 12)	107,370	169,536
Accruals	6,205	5,660
Total	141,976	250,812

12. DEFERRED INCOME

Movements in deferred income are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
At beginning of year	169,536	82,884
Released to income in year	(62,166)	(75,065)
Deferred in year	-	161,717
At end of year	107,370	169,536

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance on contracts relating to flood risk support.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

2021:	Funds b/f £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer of Funds £	Funds c/f £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	99,250	281,055	(287,478)	(4,000)	88,827
Designated fund for redundancy costs	41,000	-	-	4,000	45,000
Total unrestricted funds	140,250	281,055	(287,478)	-	133,827
Restricted Funds:					
Postcode lottery	7,068	-	-	-	7,068
National Lottery					
Community Fund	4,211	2,392	(6,603)	-	-
SIB Reach Fund	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	11,279	14,392	(18,603)	-	7,068
Total Funds	151,529	295,447	(306,081)	-	140,895

2020:	Funds b/f £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer of Funds £	Funds c/f £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	88,263	402,890	(381,903)	(10,000)	99,250
Designated fund for redundancy costs	31,000	-	-	10,000	41,000
Total unrestricted funds	119,263	402,890	(381,903)	-	140,250
Restricted Funds:					
Postcode lottery	-	9,075	(2,007)	-	7,068
National Lottery					
Community Fund	-	7,178	(2,967)	-	4,211
Total restricted funds	-	16,253	(4,974)	-	11,279
Total Funds	119,263	419,143	(386,877)	-	151,529

Funding was received from The National Lottery Awards for All towards the carrying out of workshops in flood prone areas to improve community flood resilience.

Funding was received from the Postcode Lottery towards work with flood risk communities in the Isle Of Sheppey

Funding was received from the Social Investment Business Reach Fund towards developing a business plan for Blue Pages.

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2021	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash £	Other £	£
Unrestricted Funds: General Funds	1,016	223,040	(90,229)	133,827
Restricted Funds	-	7,068	-	7,068
Total Funds	1,016	230,108	(90,230)	140,895

2020	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets		Total
	£	Cash £	Other £	£
Unrestricted Funds: General Funds	1	128,925	11,324	140,250
Restricted Funds	-	11,279	-	11,279
Total Funds	1	140,204	11,324	151,529

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Expiring:		
Within one year	3,330	-
Between one and two years	-	6,700

16. RELATED PARTIES

Donations were received from key management personnel of £nil (2020: £4,500) during the year. There were no further transactions with related parties in the year.

17. TRUSTEES

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased by the charity (see Note 6 above).

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

19. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	21,784	16,253	38,037
Charitable activities	381,106	-	381,106
TOTAL INCOME	402,890	16,253	419,143
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	12,428	-	12,428
Charitable activities	369,475	4,974	374,449
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	381,903	4,974	386,877
Net income for the year before transfers	20,987	11,279	32,266
Transfer of funds in year	-	-	-
NET INCOME & NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	20,987	11,279	32,266
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	119,263	-	119,263
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	140,250	11,279	151,529