



Charity Registration No. 1129712

Company Registration No. 06893854 (England and Wales)

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST
CONSOLIDATED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024



WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	L Allason-Jones M W Orde Dr A Best J W Combe O Knight C Deane Cllr C Seymour	(Appointed 2 September 2023)
Charity number	1129712	
Company number	06893854	
Principal address	Woodhorn Charitable Trust Woodhorn Museum QEII Country Park Ashington Northumberland NE63 9YF	
Registered office	Woodhorn Museum QEII Country Park Ashington Northumberland NE63 9YF	
Auditor	Sumer Auditco Limited Unit 2, Gosforth Park Avenue Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 8EG	
Bankers	CafBank PO Box 289 West Malling Kent ME19 4TA The Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	
Solicitors	Ward Hadaway Sandgate House 102 Quayside Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 3DX	

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

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WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019).

Museums Northumberland is the public name for Woodhorn Charitable Trust.

Objectives and activities

Museums Northumberland exists to deliver public benefit by protecting and preserving Northumberland's heritage and improving people's lives through arts, education, and cultural activities. The Trustees are fully aware of their charitable responsibilities and the need to evidence the public benefit they provide, and the summary of 2023/24 achievements below details both the myriad of opportunities that the Trust has delivered for learning, engagement, and enjoyment, as well as its actions in preserving and promoting the county's heritage. The charity manages a portfolio of museums and historic sites, and our principal focus is to deliver a programme of engaging exhibitions and events to enthuse and inspire the public; to provide educational opportunities for all ages; to increase access to arts and culture; to preserve Northumberland's stories, sites, and collections and to deliver off-site engagement opportunities in partnership with communities throughout Northumberland and beyond.

The principal activities of the Trust, as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are:

- to advance the education for the public benefit in the history, culture and heritage of the Woodhorn Colliery in Northumberland and the surrounding area;
- to advance the education for the public benefit in the history, culture and heritage of the county of Northumberland and surrounding local areas;
- to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have a need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their condition of life."

The Trust's mission is to:

Connect people with Northumberland's stories, through cultural programming and cocreation

And our vision is to:

Share Northumberland's stories to connect, enrich and inspire

Through the following strategic aims:

- **People First** Collaborate with our communities and stakeholders to cocreate an inclusive service that embraces all people and perspectives.
- **Champion Northumberland's Stories** Partner with our communities to share Northumberland's stories, past, present, and future.
- **Enrich our Communities** Provide a valued service that raises aspirations by supporting placemaking, sustainable living and community wellbeing.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

The charity's portfolio comprises of Hexham Old Gaol Museum; Hexham Moot Hall; Hexham House of Correction; Berwick-upon-Tweed Museum and Art Gallery; the Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum and Woodhorn Museum. In addition, the Trust delivers a number of capital programmes including the high-profile *Union Chain Bridge: Crossing Borders, Inspiring Communities* Project – a £10.6M NLHF project to conserve the world's oldest vehicular chain suspension bridge and embed STEM skills in communities across the south of Scotland and north of England (the project has been delivered in partnership with Northumberland County Council, Scottish Borders Council and the Friends of the Union Chain Bridge); *Femmer to Firmer*, an innovative project designed to bring museum collecting practise into the public domain, *STEM Communities*, our STFC-funded project to embed STEM skills and acumen across the North East, and our Arts Council England NPO grant which facilitates community creativity in partnership with a plethora of creative practitioners.

Our education activity draws on the themes of the sites, our collections, and our temporary exhibition programme. The charity delivers fully taught education workshops to school groups at Woodhorn and Berwick-upon-Tweed and delivers formal and informal adult learning through a programme of talks, workshops, and creative opportunities. Community engagement is delivered in response to the interests and passion of our local communities. This work ranges from creating new community assets, co-authoring stories and supporting groups to pursue and fund their own projects.

In support of these activities the Trust raises funds through Trusts and Foundations, and operates small shops at Woodhorn, Berwick and Hexham, a popular café at Woodhorn and function rooms at Woodhorn, Hexham and Morpeth. The function rooms are used for meetings, conferences, weddings, performances, and events by a number of organisations and individuals. Though it should be noted that Woodhorn Museum's outstanding repairs have relegated the Winding House (which includes the education spaces, staff offices, a suite of public toilets, a lift, a collections open store and a function suite) inoperable and have necessitated the conversion of a temporary exhibition gallery to a short-term education space, restricting both programme and commercial opportunities.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission, and to the guidance from, and agreements with, our principal funders and stakeholders, Northumberland County Council and Arts Council England, in deciding what activities the charity should undertake in support of our charitable purpose and strategic objectives.

Achievements and performance

The Trust was delighted to achieve a **73%** uplift in Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding for 2023-26, securing **£1,040,040**, an uplift of **£429k** on our 2018-22 NPO grant.

Pleasingly, Museums Northumberland is returning to pre-pandemic numbers, welcoming in excess of **76k** people to our four museum sites this year – a 4% increase on 2022/23 footfall. The Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum welcomed **10,971** visitors, whilst Hexham Old Gaol received **10,515** visitors, exceeding the **7,459** footfall achieved in 2021/22. Berwick Museum & Art Gallery and Woodhorn Museum both exceeded 2019/20 footfall, with Berwick receiving **10,736** visitors and Woodhorn welcoming 43,942 visitors (up **11% on 2022/23**).

Museums Northumberland has been working closely with Northumberland County Council, Arts Council England, and consultancy firm, Counterculture, throughout the year to review options for the future provision of the county's museum service through a Delivery Model Assessment (DMA). Following a competitive application process, Arts Council England increased Museums Northumberland's National Portfolio Organisation grant by 70% for 2023/24, (an increase achieved by just 3% of the portfolio), but the escalating fixed costs of running the service, combined with the 10% grant cut applied by Northumberland County Council are proving difficult to overcome.

The 2023/24 level of investment from Northumberland County Council equates to **£1.84** per head of capita (based on the 2019 population data) well below the English Local Authority average of **£4.22** quoted in the January 2024 Wavehill & DC Research 'Report to Understand the Levels of Public Investment in Museums.' Museums Northumberland is working hard to address these budgetary limitations.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

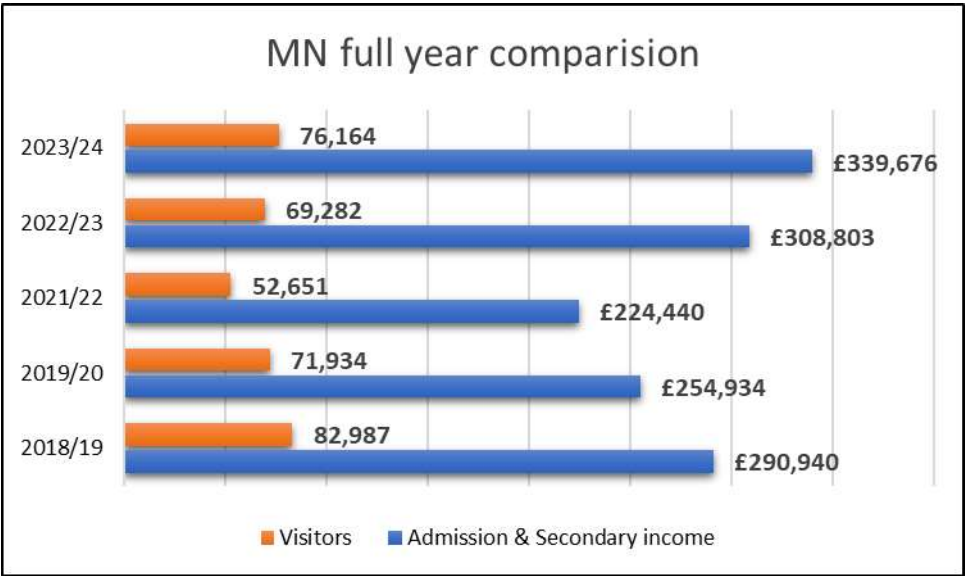
TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Our fundraising performance (excluding our ACE NPO grant) represents a **£34** return for every **£1** invested – well above the Fundraising Industry Standard Benchmark of £12 for every £1 spent.

Visitors

Our charged-for sites – Woodhorn Museum, Berwick Museum & Art Gallery and Hexham Old Gaol have welcomed **10%** more visitors in comparison to 2022/23, and increased Admissions Income and Secondary Spend by **10%**.

Museums Northumberland achieved a **TripAdvisor Travellers’ Choice Award 2023** for the third year running for Woodhorn Museum, putting the Museum in the top rated 10% of reviewed venues worldwide.



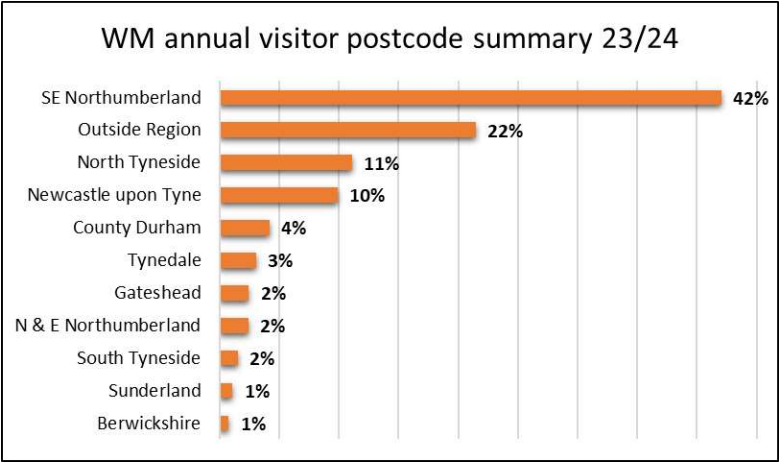
Woodhorn Museum

- **43,942 visitors – 11% increase on 2022/23**
- **25% Under 16s**
-
- **32% Repeat Visitors**
- **83% Excellent/Very Good TripAdvisor & Google Rating**

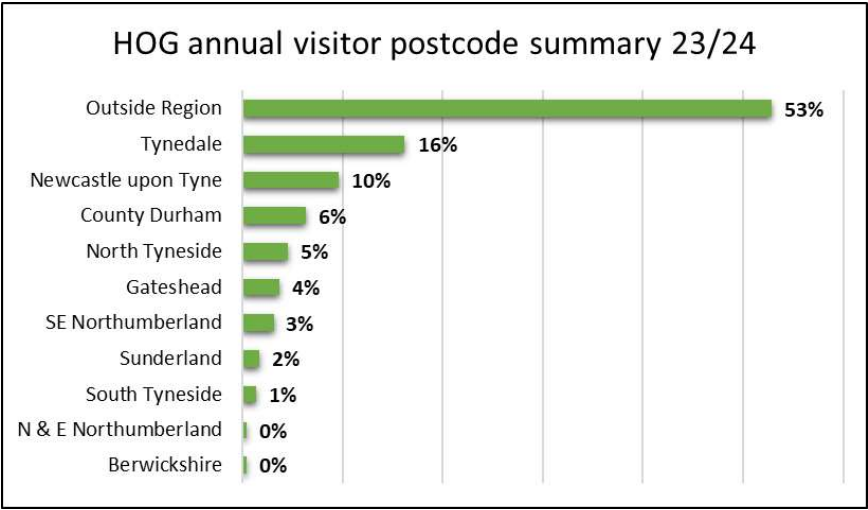
WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

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TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST



- Hexham Old Gaol
- 10,515 visitors – 31% increase on 2022/23
 - 21% under 16s
 - 4% Repeat Visitors
 - 85% Excellent/Very Good TripAdvisor & Google Rating

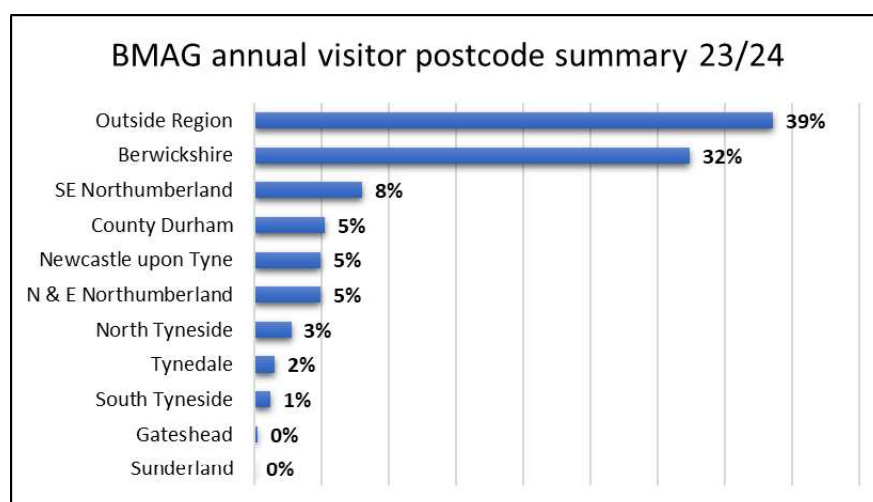


- Berwick Museum & Art Gallery
- 10,736 visitors – 1% decrease on 2022/23
 - 16% under 16s
 - 13% Repeat Visitors
 - 97% Excellent/Very Good TripAdvisor & Google Rating

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TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST



Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum

- 10,971 visitors – a 20% increase on 2022/23

Online Engagement

Website

Users	Sessions	Page Views	Online Shop
102,384 +4.04%	139,813 +3.6%	381,417 +6.86%	314 purchasers +10.95% £6762.20 +8.69%

Email

Subscribers	Open Rate	Click Rate	Revenue
12,010 +10.43%	41% +3.8%	1.6% -34%	£317 -11%

Instagram

Museum	Content Interaction	Followers
Woodhorn Museum	3,844 +100%	2800 +321 followers
Berwick Museum & Art Gallery	336 +100%	1300 +120 followers
Hexham Old Gaol	316 +100%	638 +78 followers

Facebook

Museum	Content Interaction	Followers	Link Clicks
Berwick Museum & Art Gallery	3,751 +15.8%	1,900 +117 net followers	1,606 -8.5%
Hexham Old Gaol	1,232 +59.8%	925 +88 net followers	1,092 +160%
Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum	496 -56.3%	758 +32 net followers	32 -65.6%
Woodhorn Museum	23,936 +1.8%	20,880 +1249 net followers	11,325 +2.7%

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TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Media Engagement

Museums Northumberland is utilising the cultural assets in our care to support our county's vital visitor economy. As the list below testifies, we've achieved significant broadcast and media exposure on a modest annual budget of **£26k**.

Television

- **Sky Arts Painting Birds** with Jim and Nancy – April 2023 – Berwick Museum and Art Gallery featured in the 2nd episode of the series.
- Repeat broadcasts of **The Antiques Roadshow** at Woodhorn Museum x 2 episodes.
- **40th Anniversary Miners' Strikes** – BBC Look North and ITV Tyne Tees live broadcasts and interviews from Woodhorn Museum, plus an additional pre-recorded interview filmed at Woodhorn Museum broadcast an additional night on BBC Look North.
- **Hjem** by Jamie Sinclair featured on ITV Tyne Tees with a 4 minute feature in October 2023 [Northumberland photography exhibition highlights experiences of asylum seekers in Ashington | ITV News Tyne Tees](#)
- **The Union Chain Bridge** – 30 minute feature programme on ITV Borderlife [Exploring the restoration of the world's oldest suspension bridge that's still in use | ITV News Border](#)

Radio

- A series of Radio interviews on **BBC Newcastle Late Show** to promote summer days out to all our museums
- **Borders Radio** interview featuring the Union Chain Bridge Celebration event
- **BBC Radio Newcastle** Summer Holidays interview
- **BBC Radio Newcastle Interview** – The Northumberland Open Exhibition

Newspapers and Magazines:

- 3-page editorial feature in **Living North** to promote Open Exhibition and Ashington Group 90
- Woodhorn Museum featured in **Living North's** Summer Places to visit across the North East
- **Northumberland Gazette / News Post Leader** – 8 articles in print and online
- **Hexham Courant** – 2 articles in print and online
- **Newcastle Chronicle** – 5 articles published online
- **Berwickshire News** - 2 articles in print and online
- **The Berwick Advertiser** - 2 articles in print and online

Programme Delivery

- **Our Past, Your Future:** The North of Tyne Combined Authority and Northumberland County Council funded project, 'Our Past, Your Future' concluded in quarter 1 with the unveiling of the interactive animated STEM banner, at the Northumberland Miners' Picnic, and the launch of new online resources to support future school and community contributions. The project, which ran from Sept 2019 to July 2023, (including an extension of 7 months due to the impacts of the pandemic) was delivered in partnership by Museums Northumberland, NUSTEM of Northumbria University and Historic England. The team engaged with 15 partner primary schools who received workshops, continuing professional development (CPD) for teachers, loan boxes of STEM equipment, family story time sessions, and family and community workshops. Three partner secondary schools took part in a digital animation project and engaged with practitioners working in digital careers. The project also ran a 4-week STEM holiday hunger alleviation Summer School at Woodhorn Museum during the summer of 2022. The 'STEM Person of The Week' resource developed through the project to help demystify STEM careers and diversify the workforce of the future has been used by 34,000+ learners and the feedback has been extremely positive:

"Museums Northumberland is a very unique institution in and of itself in that it celebrates STEM but from a historical perspective. This project also allowed them to look to the future. Making that link between old and new industries, and especially when working with young people, helped them to understand that landscape and where they fit into it, and that they can be the architect of their own destinies." Emma Tominey, Learning and Communications Designer

"All these [OPYF activities] have enhanced learning within our school and given the children a better understanding of the history of the region, where they came from and what opportunities they have within the North East going forward in life." Teacher, Primary Partner School

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“The website is fantastic. Anytime I deliver training in those areas, I always showcase the website and it's so useful. It has section on significant individuals, and I try to encourage teachers to use local significant individuals if they're diverse, or they are women.” Viki Angel, Historic England

“The STEM person of the week now forms part of our school calendar STEM focus and has widened the children's (and staff) horizons” Teacher, Partner Primary School

In the final evaluation survey 89% of primary teachers said they had enough knowledge of science careers to confidently include them in their science lessons, representing an increase of 76% from the start of the project. Whilst 67% of teachers said they had helped students think about career routes available from different subject areas.

- **Northumberland Open Exhibition 2023 ‘Wild Northumberland’:** The annual Northumberland Open Exhibition at Woodhorn Museum was themed to ‘Wild Northumberland’ this year. The largest exhibition of its type in Northumberland, it showcases work by artists of all career stages from across the North East region and beyond. The open call saw **260** artworks submitted by **126** artists. 199 artworks by 113 artists were selected for exhibition. The exhibition was attended by over **10,000** people and the preview event was attended by over 140 people, bringing broad exposure to the artists exhibiting. An overall winner and two highly commended artworks were selected by North East artist, Narbi Price, and the People’s Choice Award saw a record **2,995** visitors voting for their favourite artwork.
- **The Ord Cross:** The tiny gold cross was found on the banks of the River Tweed at Ord, near Berwick, in 2019. After it was declared to be a Treasure Trove item, Museums Northumberland raised the funds to secure it. The Ord Cross is a very rare example of Anglo-Saxon gold jewellery, unique because of its shape and its runic lettering and dating to between the 7th and 10th century. Eadruf – or Eardwulf - the name inscribed on the cross - may belong to the earliest known Northumbrian represented in Museums Northumberland collections. Intriguingly, Eardwulf was the name of the last Bishop of Lindisfarne on Holy Island, who led the cathedral community off the island to what was intended to be the greater safety and security of the site at Norham, not far from East Ord. That was around the year 875. It was deep within the Viking Period, although in fact a few years after a Viking force had conquered Northumbria and begun to rule from its principal city of York; it was the start of a period of peregrination for the Lindisfarne community with the venerated remains of their early Bishop, St Cuthbert, successively to Norham, then to Chester-le-Street, and by the end of the 10th century, finally to Durham. Our ‘inspired by’ Ord Cross retail collection, of pendants, keyrings, and pin badges, designed by Northumbrian artisan Nik Strode sold out before October seasonal closure.
- **STEM Communities:** The pioneering STEM Communities project (launched in early 2024) aims to build a self-sustaining community of family scientists in south east Northumberland. The project, funded by the Science Technology Facilities Council (STFC) encourages engagement with physics through local heritage. The project, delivered in partnership with Northumbria University’s NUSTEM, targets families with children aged 8-11 from schools in the local area, and uses a multi-disciplinary approach to develop and deliver workshops that are tailored to the lived experiences of the children and their families, to create coherent, compelling, and enjoyable workshops. Our learning team have delivered 4 outreach sessions in schools as well as the very first session for families onsite at Woodhorn Museum, with many more to come.
- **STEM Holiday Hunger Club:** Throughout the year, Museums Northumberland has focussed on families. Our Platten Fund sponsored STEM Holiday Hunger Club supported **40** children at risk of poverty and exclusion to engage in a free week-long summer club. The Club offered fun STEM activities in partnership with Kielder Observatory and Akzo Nobel, and the children had fun, ate well, and importantly, developed STEM and social skills. From learning how to make slime to taking the giant tetrahedron challenge. The club’s unique STEM focus offers a great alternative to the plethora of summer sports clubs, and the feedback has been tremendous:

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TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

"I would love for Eve to attend again. She has loved every minute of it. She has been inspired to look at STEM as a career. Thank you!" Parent Feedback

"This is the only holiday club my children have ever enjoyed" Parent Feedback

- **Mini Pride with Curious Arts:** In June 2023 we contributed to the first Hexham Pride event in partnership with Queens Halls Arts and other Hexham-wide organisations. This activity supported our Inclusivity and Relevance aims of improving access and relevance for underrepresented members of our communities and working with more diverse creative practitioners. We commissioned North East based LGBTQA+ Cultural Champions Curious Arts to deliver a family-friendly Mini Pride Event at Hexham Old Gaol on 24th June. **65** people attended the event with 38 people (28 Adults and 8 children) taking part in art and storytelling sessions. **100%** of participants rated the event 5/5, and **100%** said the event brightened their day and in response to 'How did it make you feel?'

"Proud that Hexham is hosting a pride event" Visitor Feedback

"Happy! a huge relief to see this in Hexham for our family" Visitor Feedback

- **'Hjem' exhibition:** 'Hjem', an exhibition by Ashington-born artist Jamie Sinclair, launched at Woodhorn Museum in October 2023. Pronounced 'yem' the exhibition title means 'home' in Pitmatic, a dialect spoken in the coalpits of Ashington. 'Hjem' comprised a series of photographs and a short film that shared the stories of people seeking sanctuary in south east Northumberland and was made in partnership with the Northumberland County of Sanctuary (NCOS). The exhibition ran from 14th October 2023 to 25th February 2024, and was experienced by over **11,000** visitors. We hosted a celebration event on Thursday 12th October which was attended by **87** people including members of the NCOS community. The NCOS community were welcomed back at the end of the exhibition to start a conversation about how the service and Museums Northumberland could develop their relationship in the longer term. The Collections CAP discussed the potential acquisition of content from the exhibition, and it was agreed that artist Jamie Sinclair would donate a full set of photographic prints from 'Hjem' to the permanent collection. This acquisition supports our inclusivity and relevance ambitions by increasing the representation of Northumberland's diverse communities within our collections. The exhibition provoked powerful and moving Visitor Feedback including:

"Being able to see people care. Watching how human connections form and shape, the power they have. Also, the fact that filming and pictures taken were done with such care and respect for the people featured and their stories. It gave me hope for the future of the place I came from." Visitor Feedback

"It was very enlightening and inspiring to see so many varied cultures and people come together. Ashington is a wonderful place and it truly shows when you see people support each other with love."
Visitor Feedback

"Hjem is an incredible moving and humbling project. Jamie has shed greater light on an issue very much in our locality, but not necessarily local public consciousness. A beautiful story for all involved of support, struggle, bravery and love. Thank you to all involved for sharing it with us." Visitor Feedback

- **'Notice' by Imogen Cloët at Woodhorn Museum** 'Notice' shared local people's hopes for the environment through sound, imagery and text. Over **300** people contributed their thoughts and ideas to the project, many of which were included in the installation. Artist Imogen Cloët drew on her work with local people, families, and our Age UK Gardening Group to create the installation for Woodhorn Museum which was on display from July to November 2023. This work was inspired by the iconic Mining Banners and hand-painted colliery notices on display at the museum.

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“I was drawn back again and again to the bright colours, theatricality, bold typography, curling natural motifs and positive language of the Banner Ramp. The banners seem particularly resonant in the current times of environmental and political unrest, protest and activism. I found them powerful and uplifting with the idea of hope for the future captured in each one.” Imogen Cloët

The artist chose to create work for our former Tanky Engine Shed and Cage Shop, as it was originally a place where essential colliery equipment was maintained and repaired. The installation invited us to ‘notice’, maintain and repair our natural environment, reflecting the concerns and hopes raised by our community contributors.

During the exhibition run **16,165** people visited the exhibition, and we have negotiated to retain the large ‘HOPE’ sign and window boxes from the commission to enhance the Cage Shop as a space for community engagement.

“So simple but effective. Love the notice on the door and to hear it is a quote from a kid is fantastic. Love it. Always hope for the future.” Visitor Feedback

“The big HOPE sign is very inspiring!” Visitor Feedback

“I love the soundtrack using local voices and birdsong. The reference to miners’ banners. The coal flowers display under the banner, again references site history. Let’s hope!” Visitor Feedback

“Notice makes one take stock of what is really important and vital to our well being. Well done to the artist for conceiving such a gentle yet inspirational installation.” Visitor Feedback

- **Northumberland Miners’ Picnic:** Our largest free family event of the year, the Northumberland Miners’ Picnic 2023 took place on Saturday 10th of June at Woodhorn Museum. Nearly **1,800** people attended the event with over **230** people participating as performers and creative practitioners. The event featured a fantastic programme of heritage-inspired performances on our main stage including the ‘Brass Marras’ comprising all four brass bands local to South East Northumberland, Newcastle Rock Choir, Northern Monkey Brass and New York Brass Band. Pop up performances included a Wildflower Walkabout with Curious Arts, Ednie Wilson on the Northumbrian small pipes and the Blyth Tall Ship Sea Shanty Singers. Gem Arts led a marvellous Mini Mela with family-friendly crafts and activities running all day in our Pit yard Marquee. Additional family friendly activities included learning the science behind bubbles, nautical knot tying, how to play the Northumbrian pipes and caring for museum objects. We worked closely with event partners Ashington Town Council to deliver the Miners’ Memorial Service to remember the people, places and industry that brought us the tradition of the Northumberland Miners’ Picnic.

- **Halloween Seasonal Fun at Museums Northumberland:** The seasonal Halloween programme was delivered across three museum sites: Woodhorn Museum, Hexham Old Gaol and Berwick Museum and Art Gallery. This included the reintroduction of daily facilitated Family Learning craft activities which were not part of the 2020-2022 programme due to Covid restrictions. At Hexham Old Gaol, **382** people, including **185** under-16s took part in the Hexham Skull Trail, and **165** people participated in Family Crafts. At Berwick Museum & Art Gallery, **86** people followed the Berwick Bat Trail and **95** participated in Bat Family Crafts. Whilst at Woodhorn Museum, rain reduced footfall to **650** for the annual Birds of Prey Display and drew **1,418** participants to Facilitated Family Crafts. The Pumpkin Trail continues to go from strength to strength with 1,889 participants (only 50% of whom were under-16s) – an uplift of 600 visitors from 2022.

“Great day with my boys today! Loved the Pumpkin Trail and Spider Craft too!”
Facebook Feedback

“Had a wonderful visit with our 6 year old Grandson on Friday! Thank you!”
Facebook Feedback

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- **Sharing Northumberland's Stories:** The Collections Team formed a partnership with the Novus Education & Functional Skills Team (Foundations for Change) at HMP Durham, a category B prison in Durham town centre. Preliminary work included a PowerPoint for use by the Durham Education Team and viewing on the Prison TV channel. The aim was to co-curate an exhibition themed around the life of James Allan - a legendary nineteenth century Piper from the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Community - combining Museum artefacts alongside the prisoners' own work (crafts, creative writing, art and poetry) over 2 days in the prison chapel on 13th & 14th June. These dates were chosen to coincide with the "Weaving Journeys" programme celebrating Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller History month.
- Museums Northumberland hosted two special musical performances at the Bagpipe Museum in quarter 3. Andy May and Andrew Cadie presented a concert of Northumbrian music on Monday 9th of October, and local group Spindlestone performed the following month, on 22nd of November. Both concerts were well-attended and well-received. Our regular piping programme continued with St. Oswald's Piping Group, organised by Louise Woodman, playing drop-in sessions for the public on Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings, whilst the Northumbrian Pipers' Society continue to hold their meetings on the 3rd Saturday afternoon of each month. The performances are attracting audiences from far and wide:

"Brilliant – keeping all this "alive". James (Ayrshire)

"Wonderful musical group. Glad to have come here in time to listen to them. Nice exhibition too! Good to listen to the live music played by the bagpipe band. The musicians were very kind. You should keep this place open." Florine & Isabelle (Hamburg, Germany)

"Twelve pipers piping! What a treat:)" Susan (Rothbury)

- **Seasonal Winter Family Learning at Woodhorn Museum:** Winter Family Learning activities returned to Woodhorn Museum for the first-time post covid restrictions. The 'Winter Heart' activity was linked to themes of the 'Hjem' exhibition and delivered in parallel to the Father Christmas experience, leading up to and during the Christmas School Holidays. **1,128** people (559 Adult and 573 Children and Young People) took part in making Winter Hearts.

"This activity made me feel happy. I don't have a lot of money for these activities, I am grateful."
Visitor Feedback

"Really nice workshop and a keepsake. Time together in a lovely space. Peaceful time! Crafts is a little bit of mindfulness for all of the family." Visitor Feedback

- **Hexham Art Club:** We were thrilled to partner with the Hexham Art Club and support their residency at Hexham Old Gaol. The exhibition was displayed in conjunction with the Hexham Christmas Market and featured over 100 artworks created by 28 local artists. To encourage local participation, Museums Northumberland waived the entrance fee to the exhibition, and Hexham Old Gaol welcomed **1,276** visitors over the exhibition's 9-day run.
- **ESDC:** Museums Northumberland has been a longstanding partner and supporter of Eliot Smith Dance Company, providing free performance and rehearsal space since 2021. We were delighted to support the rehearsals of ESDC's 'The Three Jolly Ghosts of Christmas' in preparation for their North East tour, and to host a special performance, participatory workshop, and dancer 'meet and greet' at Woodhorn Museum on the 28th of December.
- **Heritage in Partnership:** As a conclusion to the 'Union Chain Bridge: Crossing Borders, Inspiring Communities Project' we hosted a Heritage in Partnership event at Berwick Guild Hall on the 27th of October. The event was intended to build on the legacy of the project and support future partnership working on the Border. We brought a host of community grassroots partners together to share their visions and priorities with peers and the public alike, through a heritage fayre incentivised by Bridge-themed cake. The programme also included a networking lunch and a series of short presentations from the Berwick-upon-Tweed Civic Society, the Border Archaeological Society, Horncliffe Memorial Hall, the Fishers Arms, the Berwickshire Naturalists Club, the Berwick Archives, the King's Own Scottish Borderers, the Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, the Berwickshire Marine Reserve and the Friends of

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TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Castle Parks. Partners were invited to share hopes and ideas for collaboration, as well as recruit new volunteers. Bridge postcards were issued to all attendees to record future actions. Feedback has been phenomenal, and Museums Northumberland is now supporting widespread community efforts to celebrate Berwick Old Bridge's 400th anniversary in 2024, coordinating efforts between Northumberland County Council's Engineering Team and community partners. A follow up event on the Bridge 400 theme is planned for quarter 4, and a bid has been submitted to the Reece Foundation for community celebrations and new interpretation and landscaping.

"Thank you so much for the event today. It was really interesting to hear the presentations from the other groups and see what everyone is doing. It was a very positive event and was great for networking and putting names to faces. Lunch was also delicious!" Participant Feedback

"A note to thank you and the team at Museums Northumberland for a very positive Heritage Fayre. Congratulations to you all again on the Chainbridge. A great achievement on all fronts."
Participant Feedback

Learning

The Education Team welcomed over 2,900 school visits throughout the year, operating within the confines of the temporary exhibition space, owing to the outstanding MEND repairs referenced above. A further 2,932 individual learners were engaged through schools' outreach sessions, and over 7,000 participants of all ages engaged in offsite informal learning activity. **Sharing STEM Best Practice:** We are pleased to report that we had a second Group for Education in Museums (GEM) Journal case study published in quarter 3. The journal's theme was 'Social Impact', and our case study was entitled 'The Union Chain Bridge and its Travelling Canvas.' The case study was co-authored by Museum Northumberland's Becki Cooper, and artist, Claire Beattie:

https://gem.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/GM169-Gem-Case-Studies-31_v2-1.pdf

Schools Sample Feedback:

'I just wanted to take the time to say thank you for our recent visit to Woodhorn. Everything has been fantastic from organisation prior to the visit up until the moment we left. The staff were brilliant and very engaging.'

'I had 2 pupils in my group who struggle to stay in a whole lesson on a typical day in school, yet they were engaged and interested the whole day at Woodhorn which is credit to the museum and the staff themselves'

'The children (and staff!) had a great time visiting the museum. The activities were interesting and engaging and yourself and your colleagues were friendly and knowledgeable. The children have all given very positive feedback to me and are all very keen to come back with their grown ups to show off their new knowledge'.

Collections

In addition to delivering the innovative Femmer to Firmer Project, referenced above, the Collections Team supported 426 collections enquiries, and accepted 2 donations for the Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum, and 406 items for Woodhorn Museum from 17 donors.

Notable 23/24 acquisitions include:

- **The Kingfisher Sprint:** the only factory-built car to be built in Northumberland, manufactured in 1984 by Kingfisher Motors in Rothbury, with accompanying paperwork, newspaper cuttings and magazine articles. The car has a fibre glass bodyshell built on a Mini chassis from 1962.
 - **The Backworth Banner:** an important item of mining history, the Backworth Banner languished in the attics of Backworth Hall (now an events venue) for several years after being on permanent display in a sunlit part of the building to detrimental effect.
-

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

- **Robert Lyon's Projector:** the slide projector, slides, camera, and other items used by Robert Lyon, the King's College lecturer who was an initiator of the Ashington Group (the Pitmen Painters) have been donated by the Lyons family and will be shown at the Ashington Group 90th Anniversary exhibition in autumn 2024.
- **Len Robinson's Inspiration:** a photograph of the bowler featured in Len Robinson's portrait "The Bowler" came to light recently and was donated by the artist's granddaughter.

Cultural Collaboration

Museums Northumberland has engaged in a range of activities supporting organisations large and small. In addition to our sector partnership working on the steering groups of the English Civic Museums Network, Hexham Cultural Partnership, North East Cultural Partnership and Ashington Town Board, Museums Northumberland has worked with a range of third sector and charitable organisations, including Age UK, the Northumberland Wildlife Trust and the Northumberland County of Sanctuary, and welcomed hundreds of visitors through free community passes and free entry for carers and those in residential care.

Our Age UK over-50s Gardening Group (a.k.a. the Woodhorn Weeders) have contributed over 100 volunteered hours, renovating the planters at Woodhorn Museum, and working with the artist, Imogen Cloet to create programme-themed planting. They've worked in partnership with the Northumbrian Wildlife Trust to create a wildlife area on site, with wildflower planting, crown lifting, dry hedging, and bug hotels.

The Woodhorn Narrow Gauge Railway Men's Shed has grown from 3 to 12 regular volunteers who have collectively contributed over 1,000 volunteering hours this year. The Team have cleared the Railway sheds and Station areas and created a new inventory of rolling stock and tools. They are engaged in constituting their group, with the support of the NCVA and raising funds to carry out much needed track and station repairs. The Team have also supported conversation activity, helping to repair and maintain the colliery winding engine in Winding House 2.

Our 11 regular Collections Volunteers are a diverse group, including an individual with severe autism and their carer, an individual with Refugee status and two individuals with mobility impairments. To date, they have contributed **3,294** hours to collections care and preventative conservation, collections documentation and conservation compliant repacking. Meanwhile, the 17 members of our Collections Advisory Panel (CAP) have continued their research visits and collections training to shape their contribution to our new Collections Development Policy. As part of their research and development, they've taken collections into community spaces, co-curating a display on Jamie Allan for the Morpeth Chantry Bagpipe Museum and a display on Polish immigration to South East Northumberland for Wansbeck General Infirmary.

Museums Northumberland launched several new ranges of environmentally sustainable products in partnership this year. A new range of pencils, mugs and jute bags made from recycled materials were created by several designers in response to a Northumberland Miners' safety badge. The new Ord Cross 'inspired by' range features notebooks made from recycled leather by Crawford Henderson and pin badges by Nik Strode.

Financial review

The statement of financial activities shows total incoming resources of the group to be £1,942,179 (2023: £1,972,072), with a net deficit of £151,205 (2023: deficit £311,745). Restricted funds at the end of the period amounted to £194,315 (2023: £246,893) and designated funds £4,114 (2023: £6,550).

The 'free reserves' of the group (defined as those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or tied up in fixed assets) stood at £193,980 (March 2023: £280,092).

The Trustees remain grateful for the support of Northumberland County Council during the year which provides a large proportion of the charity's revenue as part of a Service Level Agreement. The Council sets performance measures associated with this funding, has a nominated Trustee on the Board and receives full quarterly updates and copies of all Board papers.

Museums Northumberland is delivering a number of externally funded projects which is reflected in the level of restricted funding and expenditure that the Trust has experienced during the year. Museums Northumberland is able to use some of this funding to cover a share of its own administrative and office costs associated with the project.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Going Concern

When preparing financial statements, the management of the charitable group are required to make an assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. An entity is a going concern unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease trading or has no realistic alternative but to do so. In assessing whether the going concern assumption is appropriate, management considers all available information about the future, which is at least, but is not limited to, twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue. In view of the information below the accounts have been prepared on an other than going concern basis

In October 2024 the decision was made by Northumberland County Council (NCC) to bring the provision of museum services back in-house in order to join a local partnership managed by the Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums. NCC provide approximately half of the charity grant income and are the owners of the museum sites. The target date for the planned transfer is 1 April 2025.

The charitable group will continue to operate as normal up to 31 March 2025 and will facilitate a smooth transfer of contracts and staff, to the new entity to ensure continuity of provision of cultural services across the county. Once the transfer is complete, the charitable group will continue to exist for what is expected to be a relatively short period for any final remaining net assets to be disposed of and the companies wound up.

No adjustments in respect of the above have been made to the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Board of Trustees and Management Team have prepared detailed forecasts for the remainder of the 2024/25 financial year to facilitate the smooth transfer to the partnership and are satisfied that adequate resources will be available. A Transition Board has been appointed to oversee the process, including representatives from Northumberland County Council, Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums and Museums Northumberland, led by Northumberland County Council.

Fundraising practices

Woodhorn Charitable Trust (operating as Museums Northumberland) does not use a commercial participator to raise funds, nor have we engaged volunteers on our behalf/in aid of our charity, during the period relating to this report; all our fundraising has been conducted by Trust staff, with the support of a freelance consultant under contract with the charity (this arrangement is subject to annual appraisal and renewal). Any monies raised directly from the public follow all guidelines set out by the Charity Commission, the Code of Fundraising Practice and English & Welsh law in every respect. There have been no fundraising compliance issues nor have we received any complaints in relation to our public fundraising during the period relating to this report. We have robust protections in place for vulnerable people, through our Safeguarding Policy and annual training programme, and respect the privacy and contact preferences of donors.

Investment powers

The Trustees may invest funds after seeking advice from financial advisors so long as legal requirements and those referred to in the Constitution are followed, and the Trust abides by both the Museums Association's Code of Ethics and the Charity Commission's guidelines.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Risk Management

The Trustees monitor risks via a Risk Register which is tabled at each Board Meeting. Risks and mitigating factors are assessed, and actions regularly reported. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Plans for the future

The Trust's relationship with its principal funder, Northumberland County Council is underpinned by a Service Level Agreement and Property Leases. The Trustees are aware that the Council's own financial position remains under pressure, and we are working hard to ensure that we continue to deliver excellent value for money and effective services that align with, and support Northumberland County Council's aims and ambitions.

Budget projections for the financial year of 2024/25 are predicated on the following key assumptions:

- The continued escalation of fixed costs – despite a 45% decrease in energy use at Hexham Old Gaol and Moot Hall, costs have increased by 25% on the same period in 2021/22. At Woodhorn, usage decreased by 23%, and costs have increased by 96% in comparison with 2021/22
- The certainty of ongoing impacts for communities, stakeholders and staff of the cost-of-living crisis
- The necessity of capitalising on our fundraising success in 2023/24, and building relationships with key partners and stakeholders, to seek further opportunities for funded projects and generating unrestricted income
- The need to mitigate risk by considering significant cost-cutting measures – e.g., seeking alternative suppliers/reducing stock quantities
- Recognition of local price sensitivity and the need to encourage public access through affordability; but also, the opportunity to improve the average yield of admissions through a new admission model
- Strict focus on core service delivery on the understanding that the spine of the MN business model is the value it brings to the County, its communities, and their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing.
- The implementation of our new Staff Structure, designed to align with the ambitions of our audience Development Plan.

Museums Northumberland has been working closely with Northumberland County Council, Arts Council England, and consultancy firm, Counterculture, throughout the year to review options for the future provision of the county's museum service through a Delivery Model Assessment (DMA).

Following this and the councils decision to bring these services back in house and join the Tyne and Wear Museums & Archives partnership (TWAM), MN is working closely with NCC and TWAM to facilitate a smooth transition and maintain provision of cultural services across the county.

Museums Northumberland is grateful to the following partners & collaborators:

Northumberland County Council, Arts Council England, Ashington Town Council, The Society of Antiquaries Newcastle, The 1991 Society, The Friends of Berwick Museum & Record Office, IT, Supanaught, Eliot Smith Dance Company, The Northumbria Healthcare Trust, Heart of Hirst, Blast, The Bedlington Creatives, Northumberland College, The Northumberland CVA, Northumberland & Scottish Borders Councils Land Services, Historic England, Historic Environment Scotland, The Friends of the Union Chain Bridge, Headland, Arts & Heritage, Wessex Archaeology, Northumbria University NU STEM, The Ashington Group Trustees, The English Civic Museums Network, The North East Cultural Partnership, The Hexham Cultural Partnership, The North East Cultural Venues Partnership, The Museums Association, Akzo Nobel, The Artists' Union, Newcastle University, The Ashington Town Development Board, Ashington Town Council, The Spencer Group, The National Heritage Lottery Fund, The Art Fund, Action for Children, CELL Big Local, Heart of Hirst, Imogen Cloet, Ednie Wilson, Age UK, Partnership Network, Barnardo's, The Bridge Project, NCC Resettlement Team, Robson's Choice, JIB, Kielder Observatory, The Berwick Preservation Trust, Glasgow Life, National Galleries Scotland, Claire Beattie, Kathryn Elkin, Emma Tominey, The Berwick Youth Project, The Chain Bridge Honey Farm, the Tweed Forum, the National Trust for Scotland, Jim Gibson, NCWEA, Bridge 400, the Berwick Literary Society, the Berwick-upon-Tweed Civic Society, the Border Archaeological Society, Hornccliffe Memorial Hall, the Fishers Arms, the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, the Berwick Archives, the King's Own Scottish Borderers, the Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, the Berwickshire Marine Reserve, the Friends of Castle Parks, Jamie Sinclair, the Northumberland County of Sanctuary.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 19th April 2009 as amended on 15 March 2018.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

L Allason-Jones	
M W Orde	
Dr A Best	
A Edwards	Resigned 16 December 2024
J W Combe	
B Flux	Resigned 1 September 2023
S Martin	Resigned 16 December 2024
A C Willey	Resigned 1 August 2024
O Knight	
C Deane	
Cllr C Seymour	Appointed 2 September 2023

Chief Executive Officer

R J Brown

Chief Operating Officer

J Raw

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of association Northumberland County Council is entitled to nominate up to two Trustees. The Board of Trustees may from time to time by resolution appoint further Trustees. When considering recruitment for the Board, the organisational priorities are considered, and the skills of the Board and the Executive Team are reviewed to prioritise the acquisition of complementary and business-sensitive skillsets.

Trustees are appointed to serve a term of three years and upon completion of a term may be reappointed with the Board's consent to serve a maximum of two further terms. No paid employee may be a Trustee of the charity and no individual who has been deregistered from Companies House may serve on the Board. The Trust has a conflicts of interest policy, and a register of interests is maintained by the Board. At each meeting, Trustees are asked to share potential conflicts so that matters may be dealt with responsibly and managed within the context of the policy. Scheme of Delegation which is subject to annual review.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the management of the charity. The Board meets at least quarterly and has a Finance Committee which meets regularly throughout the year. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Board to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and the duties and responsibilities are outlined in a

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees undergo an induction meeting with the Chair and CEO to brief them on their legal obligations, the responsibilities of Charity Trustees, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the policies and procedures which underpin the charity's day to day operations. New Trustees are given an induction pack containing relevant documents and are required to submit an Appointment Form to Companies House, an Emergency Contact Form, a Declaration of Interests, and a Résumé.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Related parties

The charity's wholly owned subsidiary, Woodhorn Enterprises Limited was established to run the trading arm of the charity comprising the retail, catering and commercial events. Profits from the subsidiary are to be gift aided annually to the charity.

The charity provides a service to Northumberland County Council as defined by the service level agreement. The Council owns five of the sites on which the charity operates (the sixth, the Berwick Barracks which is home to the Berwick-upon-Tweed Museum and Art Gallery is owned by DCMS).

There is no structural connection between the parties.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Woodhorn Charitable Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Sumer Auditco Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Signed by:

Michael Orde

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M W Orde
Trustee

Dated: 23 January 2025

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Woodhorn Charitable Trust (the 'parent company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the group statement of financial activities, the group balance sheet, the charitable company balance sheet, the group statement of cash flows and the 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 group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter – financial statements prepared on a basis other than going concern

We draw attention to accounting policy 1.2 to the financial statements which explains that the charitable group will cease to provide museum services from 1 April 2025 and therefore the trustees do not consider it to be appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. Accordingly the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than going concern as described in accounting policy 1.2. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, 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' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 group's and the parent 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.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities, including fraud

Discussions with and enquiries of management and those charged with governance were held with a view to identifying those laws and regulations that could be expected to have a material impact on the financial statements. During the engagement team briefing, the outcomes of these discussions and enquiries were shared with the team, as well as consideration as to where and how fraud may occur in the entity.

The following laws and regulations were identified as being of significance to the entity:

- Those laws and regulations considered to have a direct effect on the financial statements including UK financial reporting standards, Company Law and Charity Law.
- Those laws and regulations for which non-compliance may be fundamental to the operating aspects of the business and therefore may have a material effect on the financial statements include health and safety legislation.

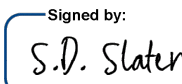
Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: inquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the entity complies with such laws and regulations; enquiries with the same concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims; inspection of relevant legal correspondence; review of board minutes; testing the appropriateness of journal entries; and the performance of analytical review to identify unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified. However, the likelihood of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is limited by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the entity's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the 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 auditors' 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.

Signed by:

15B4AADB6E574F4...
Mr Stephen Slater (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Sumer Auditco Limited
Statutory Auditor
Unit 2, Gosforth Park Avenue
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE12 8EG

Date: 23 January 2025

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds general 2024	Unrestricted funds designated 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	625,419	3,736	553,654	1,182,809	1,220,412
Charitable activities	4	37,157	-	-	37,157	28,199
Investments	5	18,122	-	-	18,122	15,724
Other trading activities	6	177,079	-	-	177,079	196,373
Other income	7	527,012	-	-	527,012	511,364
Total income		1,384,789	3,736	553,654	1,942,179	1,972,072
Expenditure on:						
Trading subsidiary	6	225,986	-	-	225,986	204,534
Charitable activities	8	1,254,994	6,172	606,232	1,867,398	2,079,283
Total resources expended		1,480,980	6,172	606,232	2,093,384	2,283,817
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(96,191)	(2,436)	(52,578)	(151,205)	(311,745)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		314,722	6,550	246,893	568,165	879,910
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		218,531	4,114	194,315	416,960	568,165

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	690,904	-	529,508	1,220,412
Charitable activities	4	25,679	2,520	-	28,199
Investments	5	15,724	-	-	15,724
Other trading activities	6	196,373	-	-	196,373
Other income	7	511,364	-	-	511,364
Total income		<u>1,440,044</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>529,508</u>	<u>1,972,072</u>
Expenditure on:					
Trading subsidiary	6	204,534	-	-	204,534
Charitable activities	8	<u>1,313,895</u>	<u>26,766</u>	<u>738,622</u>	<u>2,079,283</u>
Total resources expended		<u>1,518,429</u>	<u>26,766</u>	<u>738,622</u>	<u>2,283,817</u>
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(78,385)	(24,246)	(209,114)	(311,745)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		<u>393,107</u>	<u>30,796</u>	<u>456,007</u>	<u>879,910</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u>314,722</u>	<u>6,550</u>	<u>246,893</u>	<u>568,165</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

GROUP BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	124,946		160,124	
Heritage assets	14	175,866		175,866	
			300,812		355,990
Current assets					
Stock		29,894		30,668	
Debtors	17	228,455		268,186	
Cash at bank and in hand		361,157		477,803	
			619,506		776,657
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(327,492)		(368,616)	
Net current assets			292,014		408,041
Total assets less current liabilities			592,826		744,031
Provisions for liabilities	19	(175,866)		(175,866)	
Net assets			416,960		568,165
Income funds					
Restricted funds	21	194,315		246,893	
Designated funds	22	4,114		6,550	
General unrestricted funds	22	218,531		314,722	
			416,960		568,165

23 January 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

Signed by:



7857A00594BD4F8...

M W Orde

Trustee

Company registration number 06893854

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST**CHARITY BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	124,946		160,124	
Heritage assets	14	175,866		175,866	
Investments	15	1		1	
			300,813		335,991
Current assets					
Debtors	17	353,286		383,693	
Cash at bank and in hand		322,576		465,237	
			675,862		848,930
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(302,813)		(352,761)	
Net current assets			373,049		496,169
Total assets less current liabilities			673,862		832,160
Provisions for liabilities	19	(175,866)		(175,866)	
Net assets			497,996		656,294
Income funds					
Restricted funds	21	194,315		246,893	
Designated funds	22	4,114		6,550	
General unrestricted funds	22	299,567		402,851	
			497,996		656,294

As permitted by s408 of the Companies Act 2006, the charity has not presented its own income and expenditure account and related notes. The charity's net outgoing resources for the year was £158,298 (2023: £303,584).

23 January 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

Signed by:

Michael Orde

7857A00594BD4F8...

M W Orde
Trustee

Company registration number 06893854

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	26		(134,768)		(506,559)
Investing activities					
Investment income received		18,122		15,724	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			18,122		15,724
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			(116,646)		(490,835)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			477,803		968,638
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			361,157		477,803

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Woodhorn Charitable Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Woodhorn Museum, QEII Country Park, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 9YF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

When preparing financial statements, the management of the charitable group are required to make an assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. An entity is a going concern unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease trading or has no realistic alternative but to do so. In assessing whether the going concern assumption is appropriate, management considers all available information about the future, which is at least, but is not limited to, twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue. In view of the information below the accounts have been prepared on an other than going concern basis

In October 2024 the decision was made by Northumberland County Council (NCC) to bring the provision of museum services back in-house in order to join a local partnership managed by the Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums. NCC provide approximately half of the charity grant income and are the owners of the museum sites. The target date for the planned transfer is 1 April 2025.

The charitable group will continue to operate as normal up to 31 March 2025 and will facilitate a smooth transfer of contracts and staff, to the new entity to ensure continuity of provision of cultural services across the county. Once the transfer is complete, the charitable group will continue to exist for what is expected to be a relatively short period for any final remaining net assets to be disposed of and the companies wound up.

No adjustments in respect of the above have been made to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Board of Trustees and Management Team have prepared detailed forecasts for the remainder of the 2024/25 financial year to facilitate the smooth transfer to the partnership and are satisfied that adequate resources will be available. A Transition Board has been appointed to oversee the process, including representatives from Northumberland County Council, Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums and Museums Northumberland, led by Northumberland County Council.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts, VAT and other sales related taxes.

Grants receivable are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in full in the year which they become receivable, that is when the conditions for receipt have been met.

1.5 Resources expended

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under the headings that aggregate all costs to that category. Charitable activity costs includes expenditure relating to the operation of the charity and includes both direct and support costs relating to those activities. Support costs include central function expenditure and are allocated on the basis of staff allocated to each activity. Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets, and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Property improvements	20% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10-20% straight line and 20% reducing balance
Museum displays	20% reducing balance

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

Individual fixed assets in excess of £3,000 are capitalised otherwise items below this amount are charged to revenue.

1.7 Heritage assets

The Trust has a collection of heritage assets which are held in support of the charity's objectives. These assets fall into the following categories:

- Objects on short-term loan
- Objects on long-term loan
- Objects owned by the Trust

It is not possible for these assets to be capitalised as a current value for the items is not readily available and cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate to the benefit of including these items. The Trust has a clear duty of care for these assets and to make them available for the enjoyment and education of the public as far as is possible, commensurate with their long-term care and preservation. The highest possible standards of collection management are applied, and the catalogues are made available as widely as possible to facilitate all enquiries and requests for information, subject to appropriate security and data protection guidelines.

Conservation expenditure incurred on heritage assets is recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust acquired a number of paintings and a pendant, through grant funding, which meet the definition of heritage assets as per section 34 of FRS 102. Following guidance laid down in the provisions of FRS 102, heritage assets are to be initially recognised at cost and then subsequently measured at fair value, however it is the policy of the Trust to take into account cost implications that would be associated with the realisation of value from Heritage Assets and therefore only to attribute a valuation where the Heritage Assets are capable of realising a net value to the Trust upon disposal. Such cost implications include the consequent repayments of grants, including acquisition grants, as shown in Note 14.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at cost.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.12 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value, the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in net income/(expenditure) in the period in which it arises.

1.13 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1.14 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.15 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.16 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of 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 are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised 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.

Critical judgements

Assessing indicators of impairment

In assessing whether there have been any indicators of impairment of assets, the trustees have considered both external and internal sources of information such as market conditions and experience of recoverability.

Determining residual values and useful economic lives of tangible fixed assets

The charity depreciates tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives. The estimation of the useful lives of assets is based on historic performance as well as expectations about future use and therefore requires estimates and assumptions to be applied by management. The actual lives of these assets can vary depending on a variety of factors, including technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes.

Judgement is applied by trustees when determining the residual values for tangible fixed assets. When determining the residual value trustees aim to assess the amount that the company would currently obtain for the disposal of the asset, if it were already of the condition expected at the end of its useful economic life. Where possible this is done with reference to external market prices.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	39,488	-	-	39,488	35,719
Grants received	585,931	3,736	553,654	1,143,321	1,184,693
	<u>625,419</u>	<u>3,736</u>	<u>553,654</u>	<u>1,182,809</u>	<u>1,220,412</u>

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	35,719	-	35,719
Grants received	655,185	529,508	1,184,693
	<u>690,904</u>	<u>529,508</u>	<u>1,220,412</u>

4 Charitable activities

	Public programme 2024 £	Public programme 2023 £
Sales within charitable activities	<u>37,157</u>	<u>28,199</u>

	Public programme 2024 £	Public programme 2023 £
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	37,157	25,679
Designated funds	-	2,520
	<u>37,157</u>	<u>28,199</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Rental income	14,198	13,718
Interest receivable	3,924	2,006
	<u>18,122</u>	<u>15,724</u>

6 Commercial trading operations and investments in trading subsidiary

The wholly owned subsidiary, Woodhorn Enterprises Limited (company number 07135083), which is incorporated in the United Kingdom pays its taxable profits to the charity by gift aid, when available. Woodhorn Enterprises Limited provides the trading services of the charity. The charity owns the entire issued share capital of 1 ordinary £1 share.

A summary of the trading results is shown below.

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	177,079	196,373
Cost of sales	<u>(82,833)</u>	<u>(80,194)</u>
Gross Profit	<u>94,246</u>	<u>116,179</u>
Administration expenses	<u>(143,153)</u>	<u>(124,340)</u>
Loss before taxation	(48,907)	(8,161)
Tax on loss	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Loss for the financial year	<u>(48,907)</u>	<u>(8,161)</u>
The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were		
Current assets	70,053	49,989
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	<u>(207,087)</u>	<u>(138,116)</u>
Net current liabilities	<u>(137,034)</u>	<u>(88,127)</u>
Aggregate share capital and reserves	<u>(137,034)</u>	<u>(88,127)</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Other income	74,000	76,073
Parking fees and Annual Pass	152,160	138,366
Consultancy	125,413	133,382
Archive storage recharge	175,439	163,543
	<u>527,012</u>	<u>511,364</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Public Programme 2024 £	Visitor & building services 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Public programme 2023 £	Visitor & building services 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	383,749	252,231	635,980	605,864	241,329	847,193
Depreciation and impairment	25,099	10,079	35,178	23,856	17,972	41,828
Other charitable costs	204,741	110,957	315,698	347,779	39,316	387,095
	<u>613,589</u>	<u>373,267</u>	<u>986,856</u>	<u>977,499</u>	<u>298,617</u>	<u>1,276,116</u>
Share of support costs (see note 9)	397,355	473,561	870,916	454,314	341,440	795,754
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	9,626	-	9,626	4,233	3,180	7,413
	<u>1,020,570</u>	<u>846,828</u>	<u>1,867,398</u>	<u>1,436,046</u>	<u>643,237</u>	<u>2,079,283</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds – general	421,001	833,993	1,254,994	786,738	527,157	1,313,895
Unrestricted funds - designated	6,172	-	6,172	26,766	-	26,766
Restricted funds	593,397	12,835	606,232	622,542	116,080	738,622
	<u>1,020,570</u>	<u>846,828</u>	<u>1,867,398</u>	<u>1,436,046</u>	<u>643,237</u>	<u>2,079,283</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2024	Support costs	Governance costs	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	226,531	-	226,531	172,670	-	172,670
Rent, rates, heat and light	228,847	-	228,847	204,717	-	204,717
Repairs and maintenance	138,695	-	138,695	110,338	-	110,338
Insurance	46,549	-	46,549	41,735	-	41,735
Computer and software costs	48,020	-	48,020	44,881	-	44,881
Travel and subsistence	1,167	-	1,167	1,797	-	1,797
Marketing	53,008	-	53,008	68,204	-	68,204
Security	78,066	-	78,066	72,381	-	72,381
Other administrative costs	50,033	-	50,033	79,031	-	79,031
Audit fees	-	9,626	9,626	-	7,413	7,413
	<u>870,916</u>	<u>9,626</u>	<u>880,542</u>	<u>795,754</u>	<u>7,413</u>	<u>803,167</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>870,916</u>	<u>9,626</u>	<u>880,542</u>	<u>795,754</u>	<u>7,413</u>	<u>803,167</u>

Governance costs includes auditors remuneration of £5,500 (2023: £4,000).

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

During the year none of the trustees claimed expenses (2023: none) in respect of travel costs.

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Collections	3	2
Audience development	5	11
Visitor and building services	15	37
Administration	5	5
Marketing	1	1
Trading subsidiary	9	10
	<u>38</u>	<u>66</u>

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	888,535	988,515
Social security costs	59,860	63,579
Other pension costs	52,241	85,826
	<u>1,000,636</u>	<u>1,137,920</u>

The total employment costs includes an amount of £138,125 (2023: £118,057), which relates to the activities of the subsidiary.

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£70,000 - £79,999	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Employment costs

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

Key management personnel remuneration and benefits, including pension contributions amount to £76,527 (2023: £76,356).

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 Tangible fixed assets – Group and Charity

	Property improvements	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Museum displays	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	84,307	493,191	250,000	827,498
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	84,307	493,191	250,000	827,498
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2023	30,396	386,978	250,000	667,374
Depreciation charged in the year	10,782	24,396	-	35,178
At 31 March 2024	41,178	411,374	250,000	702,552
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2024	43,129	81,817	-	124,946
At 31 March 2023	53,911	106,213	-	160,124

14 Heritage assets

	Artwork £
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	175,866

Throughout the years the Trust has acquired, through grant funding, pieces of Northumberland Folk Artwork and an early medieval gold cross pendant. In accordance with the Trust's accounting policies this has been recognised as a heritage asset. Conditions imposed by the funders are such that in the event that the painting is sold the funds would be returned to the funders, accordingly a provision has been recognised, as shown in Note 19.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Fixed asset investments

Charity	Other investments	
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2023 & 31 March 2024		1
	2024	2023
	£	£
Other investments comprise:		
Investments in subsidiaries	1	1

16 Financial instruments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	91,683	63,679
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	176,100	157,340

17 Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	91,683	63,679	91,683	59,747
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	126,409	122,262
Other debtors	4,540	6,012	4,540	6,012
Prepayments and accrued income	132,232	198,495	130,654	195,672
	<u>227,491</u>	<u>268,186</u>	<u>353,286</u>	<u>383,693</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one

	Group 2024	2023	Charity 2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade Creditors	133,435	125,637	128,138	119,221
Other taxation and social security	42,665	31,703	38,038	32,090
Accruals and deferred income	151,391	211,276	136,637	202,450
	<u>327,491</u>	<u>368,616</u>	<u>302,813</u>	<u>352,761</u>

19 Provisions for liabilities

	2024 £	2023 £
Heritage asset funding provisions	<u>175,866</u>	<u>175,866</u>
Movements on provisions:		£
At 1 April 2023		175,866
Provision made in the year		-
At 31 March 2024		<u>175,866</u>

20 Pension and other post-retirement benefit commitments

Defined benefit schemes

The charity participates in the local government pension scheme, the Northumberland County Council Pension Fund, a statutory, funded, final salary scheme. The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme and it is not possible in the normal course of events to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme that are attributable to the charity. Accordingly the scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension cost charge in the financial statements in relation to the scheme amounted to £27,689 (2023: £43,408).

Actuarial valuations are made every 3 years and the latest report at 31 March 2019 indicates that the scheme had an overall deficit of £1.2m with a funding ratio of 110%. The charity has been requested to make employer contributions of 9.7% for the 3 years to 31 March 2025, at which point the rate will be revised, based on the 31 March 2024 actuarial valuation.

Defined contribution schemes

The company also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for new staff. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to Group and Charity £24,563 (2023: £38,477).

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

Current financial year

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
National Portfolio Organisation	-	346,680	(346,680)	-
Ready to Borrow - Capital assets	10,896	-	(2,180)	8,716
MN: bait - Creative People and Places	31,669	-	(26,501)	5,168
Bridge funding – Creative People and Places	15,630	-	-	15,630
Summer STEM Club	-	8,550	(8,537)	13
Collections engagement	36,886	19,598	(34,896)	21,588
StART Project	6,292	-	(662)	5,630
STEM Learning (NUCLEUS)	-	15,032	(15,032)	-
Volunteer Gardening Group	-	5,250	-	5,250
Conservation materials	1,560	1,000	(1,620)	940
Playpark phase II	57,118	-	(10,316)	46,802
Ashington Group 90	-	36,000	(12,000)	24,000
Miners' Picnic	-	3,000	(2,960)	40
Pop up Ashington Group Hut	-	7,000	(7,000)	-
Our Past, Your future	-	61,239	(61,239)	-
Respond and Reimagine	4,969	-	-	4,969
Recovery Funding	81,006	-	(25,437)	55,569
Ord Cross Acquisition	867	-	(867)	-
Critical Winding House 1 repairs	-	50,305	(50,305)	-
	<u>246,893</u>	<u>553,654</u>	<u>(606,232)</u>	<u>194,315</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Restricted funds (continued)

Prior financial year

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Ready to Borrow - Capital assets	16,208	-	(5,312)	10,896
MN: bait - Creative People and Places	121,036	100,064	(189,431)	31,669
Bridge funding – Creative People and Places	62,000	74,000	(120,370)	15,630
Collections engagement	21,455	51,640	(36,209)	36,886
StART Project	6,831	-	(539)	6,292
Conservation materials	2,051	1,000	(1,491)	1,560
Playpark phase II	70,013	-	(12,895)	57,118
National Portfolio Organisation	-	203,680	(203,680)	-
Our Past, Your Future	4,654	97,424	(102,078)	-
Respond and Reimagine	12,662	-	(7,693)	4,969
Recovery Funding	138,847	-	(57,841)	81,006
Ord Cross Acquisition	250	1,700	(1,083)	867
	<u>456,007</u>	<u>529,508</u>	<u>(738,622)</u>	<u>246,893</u>

National Portfolio Organisation 2023 to 2027 – This award is a National Portfolio grant from Arts Council England, supporting Museums Northumberland to deliver Arts Council England's Let's Create programme.

Ready to borrow fund – This relates to two grants from Tyne and Wear Museums to upgrade the security and monitoring systems at Berwick and Woodhorn Museum, providing enhanced protection for valuable artworks housed or on loan.

MN:bait - Creative People and Places, National Peer Learning & Communication Network and bait Legacy Funds – These funds relate to grants from Arts Council England, Public Health Services (NCC), Northumberland County Council and several small community grants to deliver a programme of activity to increase arts engagement in South East Northumberland and to delivery and to support, develop and deliver a national peer learning programme for funded Creative People and Places programmes, nationally.

Bridge Funding – This fund relates to a grant from Arts Council England to support the continuation of the Creative People & Places programme until 31st March 2023.

Summer STEM club – This fund relates to a grant from the Community Foundation to support the delivery of a Summer STEM Club at Woodhorn Museum for primary school age children.

Collections Appraisal and Engagement – Grants received from Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund to strengthen Collections planning and engagement.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

StART Project – A grant from Children and the Arts to develop the arts provision for the cultural sector for the benefit of children and young people.

STEM Learning (NUCLEUS) – Funds from the University of Northumbria, on behalf of the Science & Technology Facilities Council, to support the delivery of STEM family activity in South-East Northumberland.

Volunteer Gardening Group – This fund relates to a grant from the Community Foundation to support the Age UK Volunteer Gardening Group at Woodhorn Museum.

Gardening Group – This fund relates to a grant from the Community Foundation to support the Age UK Volunteer Gardening Group at Woodhorn Museum.

Collections Conservation – This fund relates to income received from the Society of Antiquaries towards the conservation of the Museums Northumberland collections.

Play Park (phase II) – This fund relates to grants from Suez Communities Trust and Ridley Family Charity and will see the expansion of the play park at Woodhorn Museum to improve accessibility.

Ashington Group 90 – This fund relates to a grant from the Paul Mellon Foundation to undertake a curatorial project relating to Ashington Group at 90 years at Woodhorn Museum.

Miners' Picnic – This fund relates to a grant from the Ridley Family Charity to support the engagement at the annual Miners' Picnic held at Woodhorn Museum.

Pop up Ashington Group Hut – A grant from the Sir James Knott Trust to support delivery of the Pop up Ashington Group Hut family learning activity at Woodhorn Museum.

Our Past, Your Future (Heritage STEM) – This project relates to STEM learning for school aged children, will be delivered in collaboration with AkzoNobel, Historic England and NUSTEM. The project is funded by the North of Tyne Combined Authority and Northumberland County Council.

Respond & Reimagine – These funds relate to grants from Art Fund and Community Foundation to increase the learning and engagement, primarily at Hexham Old Gaol and Berwick Museum & Art Gallery.

Recovery Funding – These funds relate to grants from Northumberland County Council and National Lottery Heritage Fund to support organisation pandemic recovery.

Ord Cross Acquisition – Grants received from Berwick and District Museum and Archives to support the exhibition of the Ord Cross at Berwick Museum & Art Gallery.

Critical Winding House 1 repairs – This fund relates to the full cost recovery of carrying out repairs to Winding House No. 1. Costs fully recovered from Northumberland County Council. ACE MEND fund award novated to Northumberland County Council in line with current MN lease arrangement.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

Current financial year

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	Incoming resources	Expenditure	£
General funds	314,722	1,384,789	(1,480,980)	218,531
Open Exhibition Fund	6,550	3,736	(6,172)	4,114
	<u>321,272</u>	<u>1,388,525</u>	<u>(1,487,152)</u>	<u>222,645</u>

Prior financial year

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	Incoming resources	Transfers	£
General funds	393,107	1,440,044	(1,518,429)	314,722
Open Exhibition Fund	5,796	2,520	(1,766)	6,550
Contingency	25,000	-	(25,000)	-
	<u>423,903</u>	<u>1,442,564</u>	<u>(1,545,195)</u>	<u>321,272</u>

Open Exhibition Fund – this fund relates to the de-stall costs of the annual open selling exhibition which is open annually between February and April to the public.

Contingency - A contingency of £nil (2023: £25,000) was in place to cover unexpected costs incurred by circumstances that are beyond the Trust's control and which may arise during the course of the financial year.

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current financial year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Group				
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	24,551	-	100,395	124,946
Heritage assets	-	-	175,866	175,866
Current assets/(liabilities)	193,980	4,114	93,920	292,014
Provisions	-	-	(175,866)	(175,866)
	<u>218,531</u>	<u>4,114</u>	<u>194,315</u>	<u>416,960</u>

Charity

Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:

Tangible assets	24,551	-	100,395	124,946
Heritage assets	-	-	175,866	175,866
Investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	275,015	4,114	93,920	373,049
Provisions	-	-	(175,866)	(175,866)
	<u>299,567</u>	<u>4,114</u>	<u>194,315</u>	<u>497,996</u>

Prior financial year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Group				
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	34,630	-	125,494	160,124
Heritage assets	-	-	175,866	175,866
Current assets/(liabilities)	280,092	6,550	121,399	408,041
Provisions	-	-	(175,866)	(175,866)
	<u>314,722</u>	<u>6,550</u>	<u>246,893</u>	<u>568,165</u>

Charity

Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:

Tangible assets	34,630	-	125,494	160,124
Heritage assets	-	-	175,866	175,866
Investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	368,220	6,550	121,399	496,196
Provisions	-	-	(175,866)	(175,866)
	<u>402,851</u>	<u>6,550</u>	<u>246,893</u>	<u>656,294</u>

WOODHORN CHARITABLE TRUST

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

24 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

25 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.

26 Cash generated from operations	2024	2023
	£	£
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(151,205)	(311,745)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(18,122)	(15,724)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	35,178	41,828
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/ (increase) in stock	774	(15,599)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	39,731	(117,055))
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(41,124)	(88,264)
Cash generated from operations	(134,768)	(506,559)