

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06972185 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132353

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2024
FOR
LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in January 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity name Lincoln & Lindsey Blind Society

Company registration number 6972185 (England & Wales)

Registered Charity number 1132353

Registered office
Bradbury House
Ramsgate
Louth
LN11 0NB

Trustees

Mr T Dixon (Chair)

Mr J Durham (Vice Chair)

Mrs A Moore

Mr H Genn

Mr K Kelsey

Mrs D Selfe

Mr R Edmonds

Ms L A Peacock

Mr J Coles

Miss C Challis (Co-opted 28th November 2023)

Company Secretary

Mrs M Johnson

Independent Examiner

Mrs Susan Kitchen FCCA

The Old School House

Wainfleet Road

Irby in the Marsh

Skegness

Lincs

PE24 5AY

Bankers

Unity Trust

Nine Brindley Place

Birmingham

B1 2HB

HSBC Bank PLC

Stonebow Branch

221 High Street

Lincoln

LN1 1TS

Investment Advisers

Investec Wealth & Management

2 Gresham Street

London

EC2V 7QP

Chief Executive

Mrs M Johnson

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The charity is an incorporated company limited by guarantee and controlled by its Memorandum and Articles of Association (M&A's).

The society was originally established in 1921 and incorporated in July 2009.

Organisational Structure

Overall control is exercised by the Trustees who form the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists of not less than 3 and not more than 18 members. One third of the Trustees are subject to retirement by rotation at the Annual General Meeting each year.

The Executive Committee met 4 times during the last year. They were supported by the Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee.

The head office, Bradbury House, is the administrative base.

The day-to-day activities include the provision of a resource centre, social clubs in hired premises, a Talking News and transcribing service, a befriending service managed by Volunteer Co-ordinators, eye clinic support desks, IT training and a team of five Sight Impairment Officers who support the clients in their own homes. Many volunteers help with the activities as well as the befriending service.

Management is delegated to a Chief Executive. Sight Impairment Officers are managed by a Community Services Manager, volunteers are managed by Volunteer Co-ordinators and finances are managed by a Finance Manager.

The Trustee's investment powers are prescribed in the Society's governing document. The Trustees are permitted to invest any monies of the charity not immediately required for its purpose in or upon such investments, securities or property as the Executive Committee shall think fit and is allowed by law.

The Trustees have maintained the investment portfolio throughout the year with the assistance of investment advisors. There has been a realised gain of £26,819 in the year on the investment assets.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Risk Management

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that there are effective and adequate risk management and internal control systems in place to manage the major risks to which the charity is exposed. It discharged this responsibility through its annual Risk Management Audit.

This is designed to support informed decision making regarding risks that affect the charity's performance and its ability to achieve its objectives. It also provides for a consistent approach to identifying, assessing and dealing with the risks facing Lincoln and Lindsey Blind Society. It should be noted that the audit is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risks to the charity's objectives and to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The major risks and uncertainties facing the charity, together with a summary of our plans and strategies for mitigating those risks are provided below –

Risk	Management
Resources: Increased competition for statutory and grant income, changes in market conditions and client behaviour and continued economic pressure on income. More clients using the service	Robust financial framework, cost reduction strategies, contingency plans to protect core services, reserves policy. It is accepted that the long term sustainability of remaining an independent charity is something that requires careful monitoring. Staffing levels are monitored regularly by the Chief Executive and reported to the Executive Committee where necessary.
Staffing: Talented staff are not attracted, developed and retained in an increasingly competitive labour market. We also need to be aware that some staff could retire at similar times.	Recruitment policies and procedures. Formal reviews, appraisals and development plans. Salary Reviews. Staff training and progression to be encouraged.
Reputation and Operation: Events that could impact reputation and operations. This could include a serious fraud or significant health and safety incident. Safeguarding of staff, clients and volunteers	Comprehensive training and awareness programme for all staff. Regular reviews and reports to the Executive Committee. Risk assessments and policies are in place.
Governance and Processes: No adequate or appropriate governance and processes in place. Data Protection Breach Cyber Security	Governance Policy and Trustee Manual in place. Five year strategy in place. Stringent data protection and cyber security policies in place, along with privacy statements. Programme of training for staff.
External Environment: Inability to respond effectively to a significant change in the external environment.	Focusing on the needs of people with a visual impairment and increased involvement of clients in the development of the organisation and services. Partnership working. Monitor sector and act on any significant change.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

We seek to enhance the quality of life of blind, partially sighted and visually impaired people, whatever their age, disability, gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, (which includes colour and ethnic/national origin), religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation throughout the whole of North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, the City of Lincoln and the East and West Lindsey districts of Lincolnshire County Council.

Our objectives for the year were as follows:

- To further develop services for clients in all areas
- Promote fundraising to improve the Society finances by having a standing item on the Executive Committee agenda.
- To continue our volunteer recruitment and development programme.
- To further develop the Benefit Advice project and obtain continuation funding for the project.
- Further development of our funding sources.
- The employment of a Publicity Co-ordinator to raise the awareness of the Society with local people and businesses to help visually impaired people in our area.
- To further develop an IT equipment/support fund to provide training for clients.
- Encouragement of staff training and progression and review of pay scales.
- To work with other societies to obtain the services required for our clients

To achieve the objects of the Society we employ domiciliary visitors to enable our clients to lead as independent and fulfilling lives as possible. Social clubs and a befriending service are established throughout the area to provide social interaction and activities.

Significant activities

Throughout the three local authority areas, across 1600 square miles, we have provided information, support and assistance via our Sight Impairment Officers on an individual basis 1807 times this year. Over 76% of our total client group of 1479 are over 65, many experience other disabilities which, when added to sight loss, can be debilitating.

Many referrals for assistance come to us via Social Services departments and these 'partnership' relationships require us to be able to prove outcomes.

Matters considered by the Executive Committee included:-

- The development of funding sources.
- Employment of a Publicity Co-ordinator to help raise the awareness of the Society.
- The updating of the Head Office telephone system to ensure compliance with the upgrading of landlines to digital technology.
- Updating of the Society website.
- Increased presence on social media to raise awareness for visually impaired people in the area.
- Providing new laptops for community staff to ensure they are up to date with technology to meet the needs of our clients.
- Ensuring the Sight Impairment Officers are adequately trained to provide the Benefit Advice Project.
- Changes brought about by the Charities Act 2022.
- Ensuring the Sight Impairment Officer's equipment is as up to date as possible, meeting the needs of our clients.
- Changes to Employment Law.
- Completing salary reviews to ensure we help to meet the needs of our staff in the present cost of living crisis.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

Sight Impairment Officers

Our Officers visit clients in their own homes and give advice and help which allows them to live an independent life. In some cases it is the family of the blind or partially sighted person who needs advice and assistance and they will also work with them.

Benefit Advice

The benefit advice service removes the barriers and difficulties, both mental and physical, that visually impaired people face in claiming benefits to which they are entitled, as soon as possible after diagnosis.

Our specialist advisors visit visually impaired people in their own homes. They provide Welfare Benefits advice and information, help complete applications for a range of in-work and out-of-work benefits, and provide advocacy and representation at appeal.

Befriending Service

Volunteers provide a befriending service to our clients, under the supervisions of our Volunteer Co-ordinators.

We currently have clients matched with volunteers on a one to one basis, engaging in various activities such as walking, swimming, shopping and social visits, the volunteers also provide telephone support.

We have clients and volunteers attending groups and the activities they take part in include reading, carpet bowls, ten pin bowling, craft, rambling, gardening and games.

Talking Newspapers

Volunteers produce the Louth Leader, Skegness Standard, Lincolnshire Echo, Grimsby Telegraph and Gainsborough Standard as a Talking Newspaper weekly, which is sent out to members referred by Sight Impairment Officers. We also provide information regarding local talking newspapers for other areas.

Eye Clinic Support and Information Service

We have an Eye Clinic Support Desk in Scunthorpe hospital, where volunteers offer advice and support to people at the point of diagnosis. Our trained volunteers help patients with any enquiries or concerns they may have about coping with eyesight problems.

IT Project

Blind and partially sighted people face restrictions and barriers in undertaking tasks that most of us take for granted, especially in using the internet.

We run the IT project to provide a basic understanding of tablets and smart phones. Training sessions are usually on a one-to-one basis with volunteers who understand visually impaired people's needs.

Resource Centre

We provide a Resource Centre in Louth where advice and information can be found and equipment seen and tested. We can supply a variety of specialist equipment, including daily living aids, talking clocks, watches and games, etc.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Financial Review

Funding for objectives comes from a number of sources as set out in the statement of financial activities, which the Trustees continue to look to develop.

Reserves Policy

The Society has a Designated Reserve Funds, the "Benefit Advice Project" (BAP) which runs until April 2024.

The BAP was established to fund over a four-year period from April 2020 the Society's contribution of the costs of this service. The Trustees considered it was necessary to establish this fund to ensure the Society could meet its obligations under the terms of the funding agreement by the Big Lottery.

Additional to the above the Trustees have established a reserves policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible assets or designated funds (being the "free reserves") held by the Society should be sufficient to enable the Society to continue its activities in the event of a significant drop in its income from legacies, donations and gifts. The Trustees consider the level of free reserves should represent adequate working capital for twelve months expenditure. After taking account of the tangible fixed assets which total £ 157,964 and designated funds of £21,927 the free reserves of the Society as at the 31st March 2024 amounted to £192,270.

Asset cover for funds

The balance sheet sets out an analysis of the assets attributable to the various funds and description of the trusts. These assets are sufficient to meet the charity's obligations on a fund by fund basis.

Future Developments

We will continue our fundraising efforts towards the funding and development of our services.

Continuation and development of the befriending service.

We will continue to develop working relationships with other societies to obtain the services required for our clients, to be able to respond to their changing needs.

Continued provision of the IT project and change with the needs of our clients as well as new technology.

Ensure funding is available for the continuation of the Benefit Advice Project, to ensure we maximise our clients' finances.

Work with our Publicity Co-ordinator, to raise awareness of the Society, ensuring we meet the needs of visually impaired people in our area.

Ensuring all staff are trained and adequately equipped to provide for the needs of the visually impaired people in our area.

Regularly reviewing our staffing structure to ensure it meets the needs of our clients.

Ensure all the Society services continue to meet the needs of the people we serve.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year.

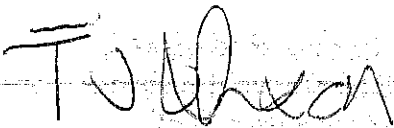
Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom

Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Mr Tim Dixon (Chairperson) - Trustee

Date

17th September 2024

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 10 to 21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 396 of the 2006 Act other than the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102))

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....S. Kitchen.....

Mrs Susan Kitchen FCCA

The Old School House, Wainfleet Road, Irby in the Marsh, Skegness, Lincs, PE24 5AY

Date:

.....9.8.2024.....

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	113,536	156,198	269,734	326,874
Activities for generating funds	3	8,517	0	8,517	1,453
Investment income	4	4,241	0	4,241	3,695
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	5	35,478	0	35,478	32,731
Total Incoming Resources		161,772	156,198	317,970	364,753
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	19,342	0	19,342	11,442
Charitable activities					
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	7	208,497	172,340	380,837	341,699
Governance costs	11	9,486	0	9,486	9,692
Total Resources Expended		237,325	172,340	409,665	362,833
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES					
		-75,553	-16,142	-91,695	1,920
Other recognised gains/losses					
Realised gains/losses on sale of fixed asset investments		26,819	0	26,819	14,620
Net movement in funds		-48,734	-16,142	-64,876	16,540
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		399,195	83,846	483,041	466,501
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		350,461	67,704	418,165	483,041

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Restricted Assets	17	7,964	12,506
Land & Buildings	17	150,000	150,000
Investments	18	224,623	264,191
		<u>382,587</u>	<u>426,697</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		5,606	7,333
Debtors & Payments in Advance	19	7,166	10,103
Cash at Bank		52,979	62,353
		<u>65,751</u>	<u>79,789</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	20	30,173	23,445
		<u>30,173</u>	<u>23,445</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>35,578</u>	<u>56,344</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>418,165</u>	<u>483,041</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>418,165</u>	<u>483,041</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	21	350,461	399,195
Restricted funds		67,704	83,846
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>418,165</u>	<u>483,041</u>

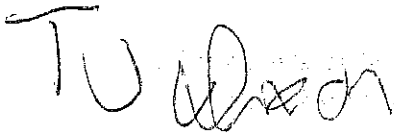
BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 MARCH 2024

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in accordance with section 476,
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 20th August 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:-



Mr Tim Dixon (Chairperson) - Director



Mrs Audrey Moore - Director

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of Preparation

Lincoln & Lindsey Blind Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes. The financial statements are presented in pound sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.

No amounts are included in the financial statement for services donated by volunteers.

Grants are included in income when they are receivable. Grants are considered to be receivable when there is evidence of entitlement, for example when the grant is formally expressed in writing and there are no conditions attached.

The members' annual subscriptions commence on the 1 April each year. Any income received in advance is included within deferred income. The number of £300 Life Memberships taken this year was 6, this is not deferred income as we are unable to quantify.

Investment income is included within the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included when incurred.

The majority of costs are directly attributable to specific activities.

Governance costs

Governance costs represent costs that are attributable to the management of the charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements. An estimate of the financial costs of the employee time on governance has been attributed to governance costs.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

In undertaking the charitable activities there have been support costs incurred that, whilst necessary to deliver an activity, do not themselves produce or constitute the output. Support costs include the central office functions such as general management, payroll administration, budgeting and accounting, information technology, human resources and financing. Support costs are therefore wholly allocated to charitable activities.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fixed Assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Furniture & Equipment	- 20% on cost
Computers etc.	- 25% on cost
Trailer	- 20% on cost

Where buildings are maintained to such a standard that their residual value is not less than their cost or valuation, no depreciation is charged as it is not material.

The Main Office property is used solely for charitable use. The Resource Centre is used for charitable purposes and let, the income from this is shown in the accounts as incoming resources from charitable activities.

Stocks

Stock is valued at cost or lower market value. Stock of equipment for the visually impaired is sold at or below cost in some instances.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. Where the income has not been spent by the end of the period the unspent funds are carried forward as a restricted fund.

Irrecoverable VAT

The charity is not registered for VAT and so figures are inclusive of VAT where appropriate.

Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Investments

Investments have been classified as fixed assets where it is the intention of the society to retain them for more than one year. They are included in the balance sheet at cost value plus attributable interest receivable, where applicable.

Gains and losses arising from accounting for fixed asset investments at cost value have been offset.

All realised gains and losses have been included in the Statement of Financial Activities

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Donations and Gifts	45,397	66,630	112,027	79,484
Legacies	68,139	0	68,139	130,768
Lottery Fund - other donations	0	0	0	20,984
Benefit Officer Project	0	89,568	89,568	95,638
	<u>113,536</u>	<u>156,198</u>	<u>269,734</u>	<u>326,874</u>

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
General fundraising	8,127	0	8,127	1,213
Lettings	390	0	390	240
	<u>8,517</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,517</u>	<u>1,453</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Income from listed investments	4,241	0	4,241	3,695
	<u>4,241</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,241</u>	<u>3,695</u>

5. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Service charge	2,211	0	2,211	2,509
Membership subscriptions	20,583	0	20,583	16,801
Sale of aids & equip	12,684	0	12,684	13,421
	<u>35,478</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,478</u>	<u>32,731</u>

6. FUNDRAISING TRADING: COST OF GOODS SOLD AND OTHER COSTS

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	13,173	0	13,173	4,766
Other costs	3,081	0	3,081	3,589
Depreciation	3,087	0	3,087	3,087
	<u>19,342</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,342</u>	<u>11,442</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	<u>Direct costs</u> (see Note 8)	<u>Grant funding of activities</u> (see note 9)	<u>Support costs</u> (see note 10)	<u>Totals</u>
	£	£	£	£
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	253,736	0	127,102	380,839

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Staff salaries	52,722	127,930	180,652	160,902
Talking News & Links Voice	0	2,734	2,734	2,445
Domiciliary visiting service	3,497	0	3,497	2,456
Volunteer exps & Groups	2,217	0	2,217	1,718
Befriending service	11,388	367	11,755	11,004
Benefit Officer exps	0	28,758	28,758	26,088
Purchase of aids & equipment	11,295	0	11,295	12,841
IT Project & support costs	0	12,078	12,078	16,442
Trailer exps	0	473	473	490
Depreciation	279	0	279	279
	<u>81,397</u>	<u>172,340</u>	<u>253,736</u>	<u>234,665</u>

9. GRANTS PAYABLE

Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects

<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
£		£	£
0	0	0	0

Grants payable relate to individuals in line with the charity's objectives.

10. SUPPORT COSTS

Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects

<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
£	£
<u>127,102</u>	<u>107,034</u>

Support costs included in the above are as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Wages	105,244	0	105,244	88,307
Head Office costs	20,404	0	20,404	17,317
Travel	102	0	102	0
Subscriptions	177	0	177	234
Depreciation	1,176	0	1,176	1,176
	<u>127,102</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>127,102</u>	<u>107,034</u>

11. GOVERNANCE COSTS

Staff costs
Professional fees
Meetings and conferences

<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
£	£
1,000	1,000
7,287	7,944
1,199	748
<u>9,486</u>	<u>9,692</u>

12. NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING)RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):
Depreciation - owned assets

<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
£	£
4,542	4,701

LINCOLN & LINDSEY BLIND SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' Expenses

During the year travel and subsistence expenses totalling £190 (2023: £188) was reimbursed to 1 trustee

14. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	260,729	220,905
Social security costs	15,768	14,715
Other pension costs	23,572	19,355
	<u>300,069</u>	<u>254,975</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

Sight Impairment Officers	3	2
Benefit Officers	3	3
Fundraising	1	1
Administration & Support services	2	2
Management	2	2
Volunteer co-ordinators	2	2
	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

There are no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more

15. TAXATION

Corporation tax is not provided as the Society is a registered charity and therefore exempt from taxation.

The charity is not registered for Value Added Tax. Where appropriate, the figures in these financial statements include Value Added Tax.

16. TRUSTEES' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the society has purchased insurance to protect its trustees' from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on society business.

The insurance cost for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £ 957 (2023: £875)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Fixed Assets

	Trailer	Equipment	Laptops	Totals
COST		£	£	£
At 1 April 2023	15,437	1,394	4,705	21,536
Disposal	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2024	15,437	1,394	4,705	21,536
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2023	6791	279	1,960	9,030
Disposal				0
Charge for year	3,087	279	1,176	4,542
At 31 March 2024	9,878	558	3,136	13,572
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2024	5,559	836	1,569	7,964
At 31 March 2023	8,646	1,115	2,745	12,506

Comparable historical cost for the land and buildings included at valuation:

17. Tangible Assets

Land & Buildings at cost	150,000
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Comparable historical cost for the land and buildings included at valuation:

Land & Buildings valuation	2024	2023
	£	£
Cost	193,830	193,830
Accumulated Depreciation	0	0
At 31 March 2024	193,830	193,830

The historical cost data above relates to the original cost of the properties purchased by the unincorporated charity, Lincoln & Lindsey Blind Society. These properties were gifted to the company on 1st April 2010.

Land and buildings are not depreciated in accordance with the accounting policy on page 13.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**COST**

At 1 April 2023

Additions

Disposals

Profit/Loss on Sale of Investments

At 31 March 2024

Fixed Asset
Investments

£

264,191

162,182

-228,569

26,819

224,623**Market Values**

At 31 March 2024

At 31 March 2023

£

224,623268,243

The historical cost data above relates to the original cost of the investments and includes a mix of those purchased by the company and those gifted to the charity.

The charity held no investments that were more than 5% of the portfolio

19. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Other debtors

2024

£

7,166

7,1662023

£

10,103

10,103**20. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

Deferred Income

Taxation and social security

Other creditors

2024

£

20,850

4,757

4,566

30,1732023

£

14,065

3,966

5,414

23,445

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Balance 31/03/2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and Losses	Balance 31/03/2024
Unrestricted funds		£	£	£	
General fund	399,195	161,772	-237,325	26,819	350,461
Restricted funds					
Designated funds - Benefit Advice Project	52,736	89,568	-120,377		21,927
Befriending Donations	0	36,311	-36,311		0
Trailer Expenses Fund	6,523		-473		6,050
Mablethorpe Club Funds	256		-127		129
Westcliff Club Funds	161				161
Lincoln Walking Group	0	591	-240		351
Moorland Lincoln Funds	138				138
IT Equipment/Support Fund	24,032	29,728	-14,812		38,948
	83,846	156,198	-172,340		67,704
TOTAL FUNDS	483,041	317,970	-409,665	26,819	418,165

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Analysis of net assets between funds

Included in the General Funds balance are investments of £224,623 tangible assets of £7,964 and Land & Buildings of £150,00, current assets less current liabilities of £35,351.

Included in the Benefit Advice Project balance are donations of £5,000 from Louth United Charities and Lottery Funding of £84,568.

Included in the donations & gifts are £36,311 for Befriending which includes £1,000 from Gay & Peter Hillards, £24,911 from Lincolnshire County Council Mental Health, £4,000 from West Lindsey Council, £900 from N Smith's Charitable Foundation, £500 from Boshier Hinton and £5,000 from Sticking Anton Jurgen.

Included in the IT Equipment/Support fund of £29,728 are donations for communiplayers of £6,298 from Morrisons and £5,000 from Francis Winham Foundation, £5,650 for talking news & Links Voice, £7,300 for laptops from the Clothworkers & £2,000 for laptops from Worth Waynflete, £2,800 for start up kits and IT project £680.

22. Contingent liabilities

The grants received are subject to certain terms and conditions, breach of which may render the grants wholly or partially repayable.

The trustees are confident that all of the conditions of the grants have been complied with and there will not be any adverse effect on the Charity.

23. Pensions

The trust operates a defined contribution pension schemes. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the funds and amount to £23,572 (2023: £19,355). Contributions totalling £3,178 (2023: £2,616) were payable to the fund at the year end and are included in creditors.

24. Member's liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

25. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose.