

# DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1143920

## Details

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Other names	ARCHITECTURE EAST MIDLANDS LIMITED, DESIGN MIDLANDS, OPUN
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">04456338</a>
Registered	2011-09-22
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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**Address**  
South Annex  
Pera Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

**Phone** 07941492542

**Email** [angus@designmidlands.org](mailto:angus@designmidlands.org)

**Website** [www.designmidlands.org](http://www.designmidlands.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** (1) THE PROMOTION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF BEST PRACTICE IN THE FIELD OF URBAN AND RURAL REGENERATION AND IN PARTICULAR WITHIN EAST MIDLANDS ("THE OPERATING AREA"), AND INCLUDING (WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THAT GENERALITY) THE PROMOTION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF HIGH STANDARDS OF DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE OPERATING AREA. (2) THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATION, PARTICULARLY AMONG THOSE INVOLVED IN THE DESIGN, DELIVERY, ENGAGEMENT OR FUNDING OF REGENERATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE OPERATING AREA.(3) THE PROMOTION, OPERATION AND/OR SUPPORT OF OTHER CHARITABLE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE LIVING WITHIN THE OPERATING AREA.

**Activities:** The charity promotes for the public benefit, best regeneration practices mainly throughout the UK Midlands, by:enabling high standards of design and architecture in the built and living environment; delivering education and training to all involved in such creative activities; supporting other charitable projects and initiatives for community benefit in the operating area.

## Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Accommodation/housing, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£299,895	£300,034	-	-
2024-03-31	£220,906	£217,072	-	-
2023-03-31	£170,311	£176,647	-	-
2022-03-31	£169,823	£162,136	-	-
2021-03-31	£137,150	£142,834	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam James Lathbury		2025-03-06
Angela Reeve		2025-03-06
GARY GLENDON HUNT		2011-09-22
JO FAIRFAX		2011-09-22
Lindsey Ann Richards		2019-11-19
Oliver James William Spicer		2025-03-06
Paul Richard Watson		2019-11-19
Shauna Mary Bradley		2025-03-06
Stephen Martin Stoney		2025-03-06

**DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143920

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# Accounts

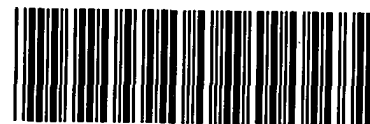
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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04456338  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1143920

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2025**

**ANTHON MARLOW**  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

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COMPANIES HOUSE

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>6</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>7</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>8</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>9</b>

# **Design Midlands Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### **Reference and administrative details**

**Registered charity name** Design Midlands Limited

**Charity registration number** 1143920

**Company registration number** 04456338

**Principal office and registered office**  
South Annex  
PERA Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

#### **The trustees**

Mr G Hunt  
Mr J Fairfax  
Ms L Richards  
Mr P Watson  
Ms A Reeve  
Mr S Stoney  
Ms S Bradley  
Mr A Lathbury  
Mr O Spicer (Appointed 3 March 2025)

**Company secretary** Mr JA Walker

**Independent examiner** Anthon Marlow  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

#### **Structure, governance and management**

Design Midlands Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

# **Design Midlands Limited**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

## **Objectives and activities**

The objectives of Design:Midlands (D:M) are:

- \*to enable high standards of design and architecture in the built and living environment;
- \*deliver education and training to all involved in such creative activities;
- \*support other charitable projects and initiatives for community benefit in the Midlands.

As a charity, we are independent and impartial, advising on the highest quality of design and place making, promoting best practice, aiming to deliver the art of the possible.

Over the past sixteen years, the charity has built up a good track record and profile, developing strong partnerships and networks across all sectors.

Our 2025 Prospectus is available on our internet site at [www.designmidlands.org](http://www.designmidlands.org).

# **Design Midlands Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **Strategic report**

We believe in the importance of creating sustainable places where people want to live, work and socialise.

The following five core sections form the strategic overview of the charity:

1. D:M facilitates the Midlands Design Review Panel - a unique group of experts in the built and natural environment. It manages the recruitment and appointment of independent placemaking specialists that bring support and guidance to the delivery of development schemes within the planning system.

2. Building for a Healthy Life (BHL);

Design Midlands is the registered assessor for BHL in the Midlands. The BHL framework is both a negotiation tool and a functional measure of how a housing scheme performs to 12 considerations relating to neighbourhoods, character and distinctiveness, green and blue infrastructure, and streets.

3. Design Midlands can engage with communities to offer expert advice on the National Model Design Code and enabling.

4. At the point that the Local Planning Authority wishes to engage with site promoters on its emerging key sites allocations, an independent D:M Design Review Panel reviews the site's capacity to deliver housing and other associated infrastructure.

5. Design Midlands has a range of Panel experts who assist in the promotion of active travel and how that translates into the streets and spaces we want to live in.

#### **Key Associates:**

Julie Tanner - Associate: Chief Executive;  
Angus Walker - Associate: Company Secretary;  
Dharmista Patel - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Meredith Evans - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Jo Widdecombe - Associate: Planning and Learning

# **Design Midlands Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### **a. Performance**

The total turnover of the charity for the year has significantly increased from £221k to £300k, despite challenging economic conditions. The financial strategy continued to be the diversification income sources. Funds were received from individual local and public authorities for specific neighbourhood and community projects. The private sector support has replaced government grants through increased contributions to design reviews.

There has been a continued focus of resources on organisational change and marketing. In November 2024 the trustees undertook a detailed review of the charity's services and performance criteria.

Total expenditure increased from £217k to £300k resulting in sustained unrestricted funds of £40k. All financial and operational risks are reviewed by the board bi-monthly.

#### **Financial review**

##### **a. Reserves**

The free reserves position at the year-end remained consistent at £40k. This remains above the minimum level set by trustees enabling continued investment in new products and services.

#### **Plans for future periods**

1. Project Management of new initiatives throughout England, on behalf of Homes England, on the assessment and utilisation of public land for new housing developments.
2. Develop opportunities and expertise in each of the 5 core strategic areas.
3. Promote the profile of the charity throughout the English Midlands.
4. Use links with similar charities in other regions, through the Design Network, to advocate changes to national planning policies.
5. To respond, at local and regional levels, to changing governmental housing strategies

**Design Midlands Limited**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Ms A Reeve  
Trustee

# Design Midlands Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Design Midlands Limited

Year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Design Midlands Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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:

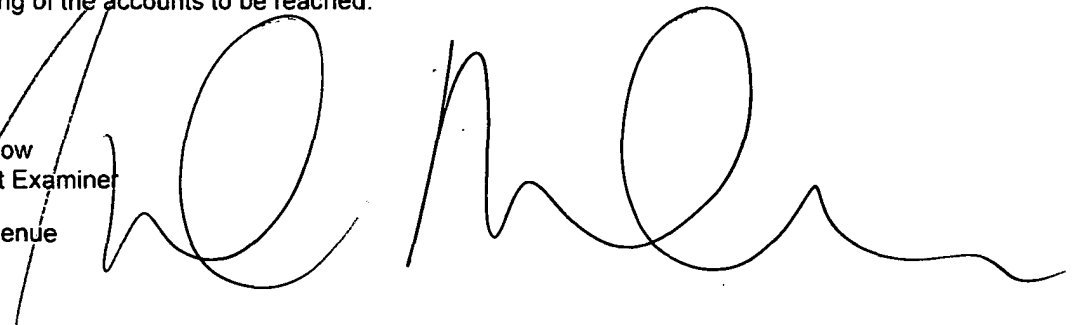
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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.

Anthon Marlow  
Independent Examiner

6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

21<sup>st</sup> May 2025



**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

		2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Total funds	Total funds
Note	funds	£	£
	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>			
Donations and legacies	5	299,895	220,906
<b>Total income</b>		<u>299,895</u>	<u>220,906</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	(300,034)	(217,072)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>(300,034)</u>	<u>(217,072)</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>			
		<u>(139)</u>	<u>3,834</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		40,170	36,336
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>40,031</u>	<u>40,170</u>

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

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**31 March 2025**

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	11	83,628		61,996
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,045</u>		<u>27,234</u>
		<b>85,673</b>		<b>89,230</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>12</b>	<b><u>45,642</u></b>		<b><u>49,060</u></b>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b><u>40,031</u></b>	<b><u>40,170</u></b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b><u>40,031</u></b>	<b><u>40,170</u></b>
<b>Net assets</b>			<b><u>40,031</u></b>	<b><u>40,170</u></b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<b><u>40,031</u></b>	<b><u>40,170</u></b>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>13</b>		<b><u>40,031</u></b>	<b><u>40,170</u></b>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity 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 financial statements for the year in question 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Ms A Reeve  
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is South Annex, PERA Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Disclosure exemptions**

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The company is a limited by guarantee with members being required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>				
Development contributions	299,895	<b>299,895</b>	220,906	<b>220,906</b>

#### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Design reviews	99,572	<b>99,572</b>	71,162	71,162
Project costs	183,961	<b>183,961</b>	136,835	136,835
Associate costs	12,638	<b>12,638</b>	6,290	6,290
Support costs	3,863	<b>3,863</b>	2,785	2,785
	<u>300,034</u>	<u><b>300,034</b></u>	<u>217,072</u>	<u><b>217,072</b></u>

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2025 £	Total fund 2024 £
Design reviews	99,572	–	99,572	71,162
Project costs	183,961	–	183,961	136,835
Associate costs	12,638	–	12,638	6,290
Governance costs	–	3,863	3,863	2,785
	<u>296,171</u>	<u>3,863</u>	<u>300,034</u>	<u>217,072</u>

**8. Independent examination fees**

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,110</u>	<u>1,040</u>

**9. Staff costs**

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2024: Nil).

No salaries or wages have been paid during the year.

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

**10. Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

**11. Debtors**

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	<u>83,628</u>	<u>61,996</u>

Other debtors includes amounts due from Design review contributions.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	44,512	31,458
Accruals and deferred income	1,130	1,130
Other creditors	–	16,472
	<u>45,642</u>	<u>49,060</u>

**13. Analysis of charitable funds**

**Unrestricted funds**

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>40,170</u>	<u>299,895</u>	<u>(300,034)</u>	<u>40,031</u>

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>36,336</u>	<u>220,906</u>	<u>(217,072)</u>	<u>40,170</u>

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	2025 £
Current assets	85,673	85,673
Creditors less than 1 year	(45,642)	(45,642)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>40,031</u>	<u>40,031</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	2024 £
Current assets	89,230	89,230
Creditors less than 1 year	(49,060)	(49,060)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>40,170</u>	<u>40,170</u>

**DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143920

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# Accounts

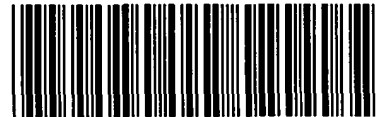
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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04456338  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1143920

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

**ANTHON MARLOW**  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

FRIDAY



A23      \*ADHDZ455\*      #224  
06/12/2024  
COMPANIES HOUSE

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>5</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>6</b>
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# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Design Midlands Limited

**Charity registration number** 1143920

**Company registration number** 04456338

**Principal office and registered office**  
South Annex  
PERA Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

#### The trustees

Mr D Latham	(Resigned 6 March 2024)
Mr G Hunt	
Mr J Fairfax	
Mr G Howells	(Resigned 1 May 2023)
Ms L Richards	
Mr P Watson	
Ms A Reeve	
Mr S Stoney	
Miss S M Bradley	(Appointed 1 May 2023)
Mr A Lathbury	(Appointed 21 May 2024)

**Company secretary** Mr JA Walker

**Independent examiner** Anthon Marlow  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

#### Structure, governance and management

Design Midlands Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

# **Design Midlands Limited**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

## **Objectives and activities**

The objectives of Design:Midlands (D:M) are:

- \*to enable high standards of design and architecture in the built and living environment;
- \*deliver education and training to all involved in such creative activities;
- \*support other charitable projects and initiatives for community benefit in the Midlands.

As a charity, we are independent and impartial, advising on the highest quality of design and place making, promoting best practice, aiming to deliver the art of the possible.

Over the past fifteen years, the charity has built up a good track record and profile, developing strong partnerships and networks across all sectors.

Our 2024 Prospectus is available on our internet site at [www.designmidlands.org](http://www.designmidlands.org).

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### Strategic report

The following five sections form the strategic overview of the charity:

1. D:M facilitates the Midlands Design Review Panel - a unique group of experts in the built and natural environment. It manages the recruitment and appointment of independent placemaking specialists that bring support and guidance to the delivery of development schemes within the planning system.

2. Building for a Healthy Life (BHL);

Design Midlands is the registered assessor for BHL in the Midlands. The BHL framework is both a negotiation tool and a functional measure of how a housing scheme performs to 12 considerations relating to neighbourhoods, character and distinctiveness, green and blue infrastructure, and streets.

3. Design Coding;

Design Midlands can engage with communities to offer expert advice on the National Model Design Code.

4. At the point that the Local Planning Authority wishes to engage with site promoters on its emerging key sites allocations, an independent D:M Design Review Panel reviews the site's capacity to deliver housing and other associated infrastructure.

5. Shaping Streets;

Design Midlands has a range of Panel experts who assist in the promotion of active travel and how that translates into the streets and spaces we want to live in.

#### Key Associates:

Julie Tanner - Associate: Chief Executive;  
Angus Walker - Associate: Company Secretary;  
Dharmista Patel - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Meredith Evans - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Jo Widdecombe - Associate: Planning and Learning

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (continued)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

**Achievements and performance**

**a. Performance**

The total turnover of the charity for the year has significantly increased from £170k to £221k, despite challenging economic conditions. The financial strategy continued to be the diversification income sources. Funds were received from individual local and public authorities for specific neighbourhood and community projects. The private sector support has replaced government grants through increased contributions to design reviews.

There has been a continued focus of resources on organisational change and marketing. Total expenditure increased from £176k to £217k resulting in net incoming funds of £4k. All financial and operational risks are reviewed by the board.

**Financial review**

**a. Reserves**

The free reserves position at the year-end increased by the £4k from £36k to £40k. This remains above the minimum level set by trustees enabling continued investment in new products and services.

**Plans for future periods**

1. Develop opportunities and expertise in each of the 5 strategic areas
2. Promote the profile of the charity throughout the English Midlands
3. Use links with similar charities in other regions, through the Design Network, to advocate changes to national planning policies.
4. To respond, at local and regional levels, to changing governmental housing strategies

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 13 November 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr P Watson  
Trustee

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Design Midlands Limited

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Design Midlands Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

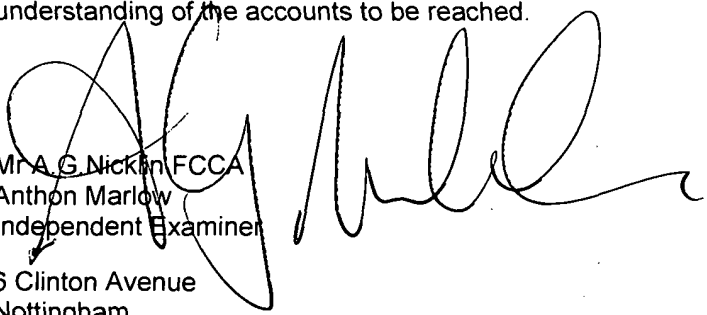
The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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.

  
Mr A G Nicklin FCCA  
Anthon Marlow  
Independent Examiner

6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

14 November 2024

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

		2024		2023
		Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	220,906	<b>220,906</b>	170,311
<b>Total income</b>		<u>220,906</u>	<u><b>220,906</b></u>	<u>170,311</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	(217,072)	<b>(217,072)</b>	(176,647)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>(217,072)</u>	<u><b>(217,072)</b></u>	<u>(176,647)</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>				
		<u>3,834</u>	<u><b>3,834</b></u>	<u>(6,336)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		36,336	<b>36,336</b>	42,672
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>40,170</u>	<u><b>40,170</b></u>	<u>36,336</u>

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

The notes on pages 8 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	11	61,996		37,218
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>27,234</u>		<u>26,396</u>
		89,230		63,614
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	<u>49,060</u>		<u>27,278</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>40,170</u>	<u>36,336</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>40,170</u>	<u>36,336</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>40,170</u>	<u>36,336</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>40,170</u>	<u>36,336</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	13		<u>40,170</u>	<u>36,336</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity 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 financial statements for the year in question 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 13 November 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr P Watson  
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is South Annex, PERA Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Disclosure exemptions**

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The company is a limited by guarantee with members being required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Development contributions	220,906	<b>220,906</b>	166,052	166,052
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants receivable	—	—	4,259	4,259
	<u>220,906</u>	<u><b>220,906</b></u>	<u>170,311</u>	<u>170,311</u>

#### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Design reviews	71,162	<b>71,162</b>	54,896	54,896
Associate costs	136,835	<b>136,835</b>	113,559	113,559
Office costs	6,290	<b>6,290</b>	6,954	6,954
Support costs	2,785	<b>2,785</b>	1,238	1,238
	<u>217,072</u>	<u><b>217,072</b></u>	<u>176,647</u>	<u>176,647</u>

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

**7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	Total fund 2023 £
Design reviews	71,162	–	<b>71,162</b>	54,896
Associate costs	136,835	–	<b>136,835</b>	113,559
Office costs	6,290	–	<b>6,290</b>	6,954
Governance costs	–	2,785	<b>2,785</b>	1,238
	<u>214,287</u>	<u>2,785</u>	<u><b>217,072</b></u>	<u>176,647</u>

**8. Independent examination fees**

	<b>2024 £</b>	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<b>1,040</b>	980

**9. Staff costs**

The average head count of employees during the year was nil (2023: nil). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	<b>2024 No.</b>	2023 No.
Number of staff Management	<b>Nil</b>	Nil

No salaries or wages have been paid during the year.

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

**10. Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2024 £</b>	2023 £
Other debtors	<b>61,996</b>	37,218

Other debtors includes amounts due from Design review contributions.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	31,458	11,585
Accruals and deferred income	1,130	5,180
Other creditors	16,472	10,513
	<u>49,060</u>	<u>27,278</u>

#### 13. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	36,336	220,906	(217,072)	<u>40,170</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	42,672	170,311	(176,647)	<u>36,336</u>

#### 14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£
Current assets	89,230	89,230
Creditors less than 1 year	(49,060)	(49,060)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>40,170</u>	<u>40,170</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£
Current assets	63,614	63,614
Creditors less than 1 year	(27,278)	(27,278)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>36,336</u>	<u>36,336</u>

**DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143920

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04456338  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1143920

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2023**

WEDNESDAY



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15/11/2023

#190

COMPANIES HOUSE

**ANTHON MARLOW**  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>4</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>5</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>6</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>7</b>

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Design Midlands Limited

**Charity registration number** 1143920

**Company registration number** 04456338

**Principal office and registered office**  
South Annex  
PERA Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

#### The trustees

Mr D Latham  
Mr G Hunt  
Mr J Fairfax  
Mr G Howells (Resigned 1 May 2023)  
Ms L Richards  
Mr P Watson  
Ms A Reeve (Appointed 14 June 2022)  
Mr S Stoney (Appointed 14 June 2022)  
Miss S M Bradley (Appointed 1 May 2023)

**Company secretary** Mr JA Walker

**Independent examiner** Anthon Marlow  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

#### Structure, governance and management

Design Midlands Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### Objectives and activities

The objectives of Design:Midlands (D:M) are:

- \*to enable high standards of design and architecture in the built and living environment;
- \*deliver education and training to all involved in such creative activities;
- \*support other charitable projects and initiatives for community benefit in the Midlands.

As a charity, we are independent and impartial, advising on the highest quality of design and place making, promoting best practice, aiming to deliver the art of the possible.

Over the past fourteen years, the charity has built up a good track record and profile, developing strong partnerships and networks across all sectors.

A Prospectus for 2022/23 is available on our internet site at [www.designmidlands.org](http://www.designmidlands.org).

#### Strategic report

The following four sections form the strategic overview of the charity

1. D:M facilitates the Midlands Design Review Panel - a unique group of experts in the built and natural environment. It manages the recruitment and appointment of independent placemaking specialists that bring support and guidance to the delivery of development schemes within the planning system.

#### 2. Building for a Healthy Life (BHL)

Design Midlands is the registered assessor for BHL in the Midlands.

#### 3. Design Coding

Design Midlands can engage with communities to offer expert advice on the National Model Design Code.

#### 4. Shaping Streets

Design Midlands has a range of Panel experts who assist in the promotion of active travel and how that translates into the streets and spaces we want to live in.

#### KEY ASSOCIATES:

Julie Tanner - Associate: CEO;  
Angus Walker - Associate: Company Secretary  
Dharmista Patel - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Jo Widdecombe - Associate: Planning and Learning

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### Achievements and performance

##### Performance

The total turnover of the charity for the year has remained stable £170k despite challenging economic conditions. The financial strategy continued to be the diversification income sources. Funds were received from individual local and public authorities for specific neighbourhood and community projects. The private sector support has replaced government grants through increased contributions to design reviews.

There has been a continued focus of resources on organisational change and marketing. Total expenditure increased from £162k to £176k resulting in net outgoings of £6k. All financial and operational risks are reviewed by the board.

##### Financial review

##### Reserves

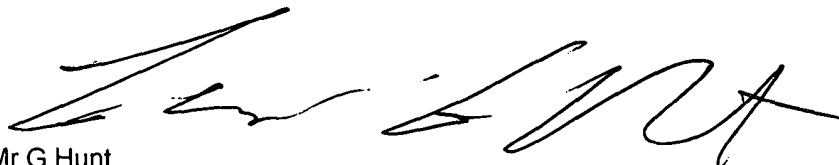
The free reserves position at the year-end reduced by the £6k from £42k to £36k. This remains above the minimum level set by trustees enabling continued investment in new products and services.

##### Plans for future periods

Future strategic priorities :

- \*1. Develop opportunities and expertise in each of the four strategic areas.
- \*2. Promote the profile of the charity throughout the English Midlands.
- \*3. Use links with similar charities in other regions, through the Design Network, to advocate changes to national planning policies.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 19 September 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

  
Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Design Midlands Limited**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Design Midlands Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

**Independent examiner's statement**

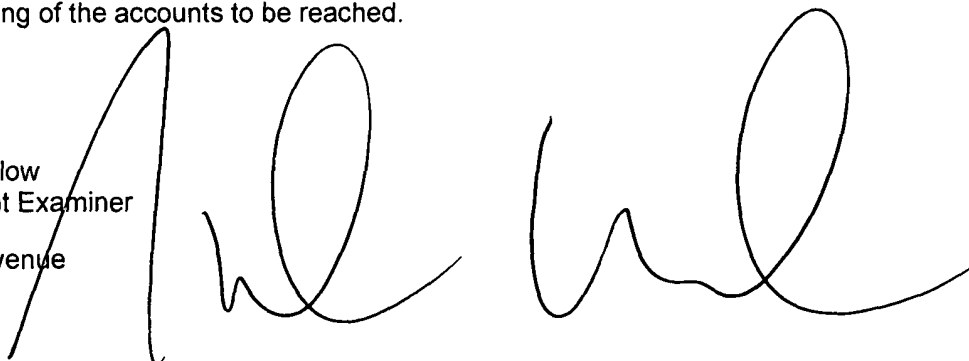
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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.

Anthon Marlow  
Independent Examiner  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

20 September 2023



**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023		2022
		Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	170,311	<b>170,311</b>	169,823
<b>Total income</b>		<u>170,311</u>	<u><b>170,311</b></u>	<u>169,823</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	(176,647)	<b>(176,647)</b>	(162,136)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>(176,647)</u>	<u><b>(176,647)</b></u>	<u>(162,136)</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>				
		<u>(6,336)</u>	<u><b>(6,336)</b></u>	<u>7,687</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		42,672	<b>42,672</b>	34,985
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>36,336</u>	<u><b>36,336</b></u>	<u>42,672</u>

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

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	11	37,218		50,823
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>26,396</u>		<u>26,825</u>
		<u>63,614</u>		<u>77,648</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	<u>27,278</u>		<u>34,976</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>36,336</u>	<u>42,672</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>36,336</u>	<u>42,672</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>36,336</u>	<u>42,672</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>36,336</u>	<u>42,672</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	13		<u>36,336</u>	<u>42,672</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity 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 financial statements for the year in question 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 19 September 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:




Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is South Annex, PERA Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Disclosure exemptions**

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The company is a limited by guarantee with members being required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Development contributions	166,052	<b>166,052</b>	167,223	167,223
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants receivable	4,259	<b>4,259</b>	1,000	1,000
<b>Other donations and legacies</b>				
Training events	–	–	1,600	1,600
	<u>170,311</u>	<u><b>170,311</b></u>	<u>169,823</u>	<u>169,823</u>

#### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Design reviews	54,896	<b>54,896</b>	53,112	53,112
Project costs	113,559	<b>113,559</b>	99,161	99,161
Associate costs	6,954	<b>6,954</b>	3,936	3,936
Support costs	1,238	<b>1,238</b>	5,927	5,927
	<u>176,647</u>	<u><b>176,647</b></u>	<u>162,136</u>	<u>162,136</u>

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Design reviews	54,896	–	54,896	53,112
Project costs	113,559	–	113,559	99,161
Associate costs	6,954	–	6,954	3,936
Governance costs	–	1,238	1,238	5,927
	<u>175,409</u>	<u>1,238</u>	<u>176,647</u>	<u>162,136</u>

#### 8. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>980</u>	<u>975</u>

#### 9. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was nil (2022: nil). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Number of staff Management	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

No salaries or wages have been paid during the year.

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

#### 10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

#### 11. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	<u>37,218</u>	<u>50,823</u>

Other debtors includes amounts due from Design review contributions.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	11,585	24,692
Accruals and deferred income	5,180	1,130
Other creditors	10,513	9,154
	<u>27,278</u>	<u>34,976</u>

#### 13. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>42,672</u>	<u>170,311</u>	<u>(176,647)</u>	<u>36,336</u>

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>34,985</u>	<u>169,823</u>	<u>(162,136)</u>	<u>42,672</u>

#### 14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Total Funds	
	Funds	2023
	£	£
Current assets	63,614	63,614
Creditors less than 1 year	(27,278)	(27,278)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>36,336</u>	<u>36,336</u>

	Unrestricted Total Funds	
	Funds	2022
	£	£
Current assets	77,648	77,648
Creditors less than 1 year	(34,976)	(34,976)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>42,672</u>	<u>42,672</u>

**DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143920

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04456338  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1143920

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2022**



**ANTHON MARLOW**  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>4</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>5</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>6</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>7</b>

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Reference and administrative details**

**Registered charity name** Design Midlands Limited

**Charity registration number** 1143920

**Company registration number** 04456338

**Principal office and registered office**  
South Annex  
PERA Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

**The trustees**

Mr D Latham  
Mr G Hunt  
Mr J Fairfax  
Mr G Howells  
Ms L Richards  
Mr P Watson  
Ms A Reeve (Appointed 14 June 2022)  
Mr S Stoney (Appointed 14 June 2022)

**Company secretary** Mr JA Walker

**Independent examiner** Anthon Marlow  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

**Structure, governance and management**

Design Midlands Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**Objectives and activities**

The objectives of Design:Midlands (D:M) are:

- \* to enable high standards of design and architecture in the built and living environment;
- \* deliver education and training to all involved in such creative activities;
- \* support other charitable projects and initiatives for community benefit in the Midlands.

As a charity, we are independent and impartial, advising on the highest quality of design and place making, promoting best practice, aiming to deliver the art of the possible.

Over the past thirteen years, the charity has built up a good track record and profile, developing strong partnerships and networks across all sectors.

**Strategic report**

The following four sections form the strategic overview of the charity –

1) The Focus of our work

a. D:M facilitates the Midlands Design Review Panel - a unique group of experts in the built and natural environment. It manages the recruitment and appointment of independent placemaking specialists that bring support and guidance to the delivery of development schemes within the planning system.

b. D:M is the registered assessor for Building for Healthy Life (BHL) in the Midlands.

c. D:M can engage with communities to offer expert advice on the National Model Design Code.

d. D:M has a range of Panel experts who assist in the promotion of active travel and how that translates into the streets and spaces we want to live in.

2) Key Associates :

Julie Tanner - Associate: CEO;  
Angus Walker - Associate: Company Secretary  
Dharmista Patel - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Jo Widdecombe - Associate: Planning and Learning

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**Financial review**

a. Performance

The total turnover of the charity for the year has increased from £137k to £170k despite a continued focus of resources on organisational change. The financial strategy continued to be the diversification income sources. Funds were received from individual local authorities and public authorities for specific neighbourhood and community projects. The private sector support has replaced government grants through increased contributions to design reviews.

Total expenditure increased from £143k to £162k including £10k invested in new market development. All financial and operational risks are reviewed by the board.

b. Reserves

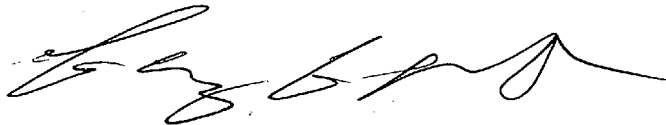
The free reserves position at the year-end marginally increased by £8k from £35k to £43k. This remains above the minimum level set by trustees enabling continued investment in new products and services.

**Plans for future periods**

Future strategic priorities

- a. Develop opportunities and expertise in each of the four areas identified above.
- b. Promote the profile of the charity throughout the English Midlands.
- c. Develop supporter and sponsorship programmes to strengthen our diverse networks.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 6 September 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Design Midlands Limited**

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Design Midlands Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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:

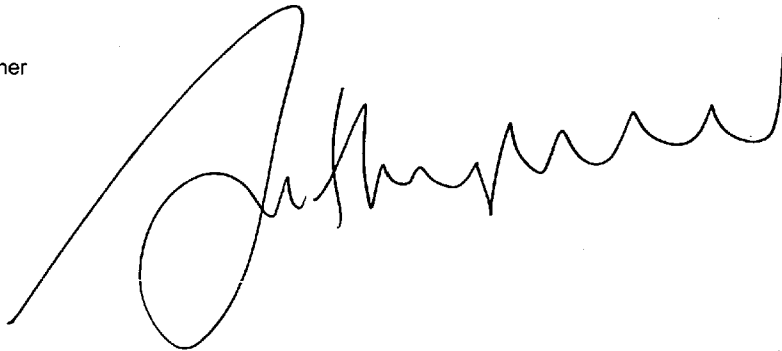
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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.

Anthon Marlow  
Independent Examiner

6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AV

7 September 2022



**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

		2022		2021
		Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	169,823	<b>169,823</b>	137,150
<b>Total income</b>		<u>169,823</u>	<u><b>169,823</b></u>	<u>137,150</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	162,136	<b>162,136</b>	142,834
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>162,136</u>	<u><b>162,136</b></u>	<u>142,834</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		<u>7,687</u>	<u><b>7,687</b></u>	<u>(5,684)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		34,985	<b>34,985</b>	40,669
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>42,672</u>	<u><b>42,672</b></u>	<u>34,985</u>

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

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2022**

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	11	50,823		40,268
Cash at bank and in hand		26,825		28,120
		<u>77,648</u>		<u>68,388</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	<u>34,976</u>		<u>33,403</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>42,672</u>	<u>34,985</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>42,672</u>	<u>34,985</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>42,672</u>	<u>34,985</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>42,672</u>	<u>34,985</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	13		<u>42,672</u>	<u>34,985</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the charity 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 financial statements for the year in question 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 financial statements.
- These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 6 September 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is South Annex, PERA Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Disclosure exemptions**

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments** *(continued)*

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

**4. Limited by guarantee**

The company is a limited by guarantee with members being required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

**5. Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Development contributions	167,223	167,223	131,150	131,150
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants receivable	1,000	1,000	-	-
<b>Other donations and legacies</b>				
Training events	1,600	1,600	6,000	6,000
	<u>169,823</u>	<u>169,823</u>	<u>137,150</u>	<u>137,150</u>

**6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Design reviews	53,112	53,112	44,197	44,197
Project costs	99,161	99,161	93,487	93,487
Associate costs	3,936	3,936	4,021	4,021
Support costs	5,927	5,927	1,129	1,129
	<u>162,136</u>	<u>162,136</u>	<u>142,834</u>	<u>142,834</u>

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2022 £	Total fund 2021 £
Design reviews	53,112	-	<b>53,112</b>	44,197
Project costs	99,161	-	<b>99,161</b>	93,487
Associate costs	3,936	-	<b>3,936</b>	4,021
Governance costs	-	5,927	<b>5,927</b>	1,129
	<u>156,209</u>	<u>5,927</u>	<u><b>162,136</b></u>	<u>142,834</u>

**8. Independent examination fees**

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>975</u>	<u>950</u>

**9. Staff costs**

The average head count of employees during the year was nil (2021: 1). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Number of staff Management	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

No salaries or wages have been paid during the year.

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

**10. Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

**11. Debtors**

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	<u>50,823</u>	<u>40,268</u>

Other debtors includes amounts due from Design review contributions.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
**Year ended 31 March 2022**

**12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	24,692	24,667
Accruals and deferred income	1,130	1,328
Other creditors	9,154	7,408
	<u>34,976</u>	<u>33,403</u>

**13. Analysis of charitable funds**

**Unrestricted funds**

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>34,985</u>	169,823	(162,136)	<u>42,672</u>

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>40,669</u>	137,150	(142,834)	<u>34,985</u>

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Total Funds	
	Funds	2022
	£	£
Current assets	77,648	77,648
Creditors less than 1 year	(34,976)	(34,976)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>42,672</u>	<u>42,672</u>

	Unrestricted Total Funds	
	Funds	2021
	£	£
Current assets	68,388	68,388
Creditors less than 1 year	(33,403)	(33,403)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>34,985</u>	<u>34,985</u>

**DESIGN MIDLANDS LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143920

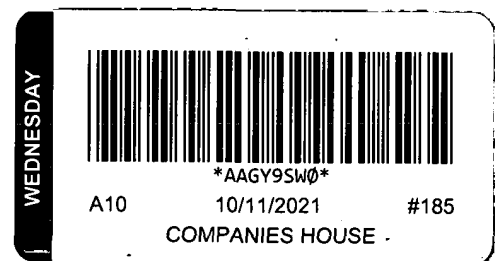
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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04456338  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1143920

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2021**



**ANTHON MARLOW**  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2021**

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>6</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>7</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>8</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>9</b>

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Design Midlands Limited

Charity registration number 1143920

Company registration number 04456338

Principal office and registered office  
South Annex  
PERA Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

#### The trustees

Mr D Latham  
Mr G Hunt  
Mr J Fairfax  
Mr G Howells  
Ms L Richards  
Mr P Watson

Company secretary Mr JA Walker

Independent examiner  
Anthon Marlow  
6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

#### Structure, governance and management

Design Midlands Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

#### Objectives and activities

The current objectives of the charity are:

- \* The promotion for the public benefit of best practice in the field of urban and rural regeneration and in particular within the English Midlands (the operating area) and including the promotion for the public benefit of high standards of design and architecture in the built environment within the operating area.
- \* The promotion of education, particularly among those involved in the design, delivery, engagement or funding of regeneration activities within the operating area.
- \* The promotion, operation and/or support of other charitable projects and programmes for the benefit of the community, and particularly those living within the operating area.

Our Mission is to secure its reputation as a charity amongst our clients in the public, private and community sector as well as our strategic partners in promoting best practice in design and quality in the built environment.

Over the past twelve years, the charity has built up a good track record and profile, developed strong partnerships and networks across all sectors, and delivered an impressive range of activities and programmes such as:

- \* Managing and delivering Design Review;
- \* Providing training for decision makers and built environment professionals;
- \* Delivering lectures, seminars, debates and conferences;
- \* Enabling support through project management and professional expertise;
- \* Leading creative events; and
- \* Contributing to national consultation events.

During a challenging economic environment, we have continued to secure the foundations to becoming a sustainable charity raising resources from public sources and through a range of income generating strategies. These enable us to retain our primary objective of being an independent, creative organisation improving the quality of design to help people make better places.

#### Strategic report

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

# Design Midlands Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

## Achievements and performance

Design Midlands Limited services focus on design quality, sustainability, neighbourhood /community consultation and arts/cultural sector engagement for public benefit. The Covid 19 pandemic is having a huge impact on the communities and business environments where we work.

### The Design Support Service

Design Review Panels draw participation from over 50 design and built environment specialists. They sit up to three times a month offering targeted, chargeable bespoke services of Design Review, Desktop Review, Walk and Talk and design support/enabling. Demand has centred primarily but not exclusively on large housing schemes and single dwellings in the countryside, and our contribution to place making has been received well in helping shape masterplans and layouts at the pre-planning stages of the determination process. As such, Building for a Healthy Life has also provided a method of supporting design uplift and we offer that service to the housebuilding community, Homes England as well as local authorities.

### Design in The Community

Where we tailored any product to help communities engage with the planning process from inviting community representatives to Design Review Panels to identifying specialists to engage with community groups in preparing evidence for Neighbourhood Plans where communities may need support to capture the best quality outcomes for their areas;

### Training

Our successful Webinar Programme was able to fully utilise

- \* Climate and the National Design Guide
- \* Character and the National Design Guide
- \* Community and the National Design Guide
- \* Movement and the National Design Guide
- \* National Model Design Code
- \* Bikes and LTN 1/20
- \* Trees, Spaces and Streets

### The Charity's Strategic Priorities:

- \* To ensure that all aspects and risks of organisational change are properly managed.
- \* Promote the rebranding of the charity throughout the English Midlands and improve communications - including online applications of our work such as Webinars.
- \* Promote Building for a Healthy Life (the new version of Building for Life 12) as an urban design intervention on housing schemes.

## KEY ASSOCIATES:

Julie Tanner - Associate: CEO;  
Angus Walker - Associate: Company Secretary  
Dharmista Patel - Associate: Design Support Services;  
Jo Widdecombe - Associate: Planning and Learning

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

#### Financial review

##### Performance

The total turnover of the charity for the year has increased from £92k to £137k despite a continued focus of resources on organisational change. The financial strategy continued to be the diversification income sources. Funds were received from individual local authorities and public authorities for specific neighbourhood and community projects. The private sector support has replaced government grants through increased contributions to design reviews.

Total expenditure increased from £113k to £143k including £10k invested in new market development and support to its Webinar Programme. All financial and operational risks are reviewed by the board.

##### Reserves

The free reserves position at the year-end marginally reduced by £6k from £41k to £35k. This remains above the minimum level set by trustees enabling continued investment in new products and services.

# Design Midlands Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

## Plans for future periods

The Covid19 pandemic is having a huge impact on the communities and business environments where we work.

The Charity's Strategic Priorities:

" To ensure that all aspects and risks of organisational change are properly managed

Respond to the national Government's Building Back Beautiful campaign by keeping abreast of constitutional change in the planning system, by promoting best practice and having a 'can do' attitude.

" Promote the rebranding of the charity throughout the English Midlands and improve communications - including online applications of our work such as Webinars.

" Ensure that it continues to operate as a charity in pursuing its activities and that commercial drivers do not conflict with its wider charitable aims.


" Deliver a high-quality adaptable design review service, against Design Review Principles & Practice Guidance, working collaboratively with Design Network partners to secure the best outcomes for beneficiaries.

" Develop "designmidlands learning" to become a commissioning body of choice to support local authorities and building professionals.

" Promote Building for a Healthy Life (the new version of Building for Life 12) as an urban design intervention on housing schemes.

" Promote "designmidlands neighbourhoods" to achieve commissions within neighbourhood planning.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 12 October 2021 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Design Midlands Limited**  
**Year ended 31 March 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Design Midlands Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

The trustees are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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.

Anthony Marlow  
Independent Examiner

6 Clinton Avenue  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AW

13 October 2021

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2021

			2021	2020
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	137,150	<b>137,150</b>	114,514
<b>Total income</b>		<u>137,150</u>	<u><b>137,150</b></u>	<u>114,514</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	142,834	<b>142,834</b>	112,829
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>142,834</u>	<u><b>142,834</b></u>	<u>112,829</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(5,684)</u>	<u><b>(5,684)</b></u>	<u>1,685</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		40,669	<b>40,669</b>	38,984
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>34,985</u>	<u><b>34,985</b></u>	<u>40,669</u>

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

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**31 March 2021**

	Note	£	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	11		40,268	35,263
Cash at bank and in hand			<u>28,120</u>	<u>25,465</u>
			<b>68,388</b>	<b>60,728</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12		<u>33,403</u>	<u>20,059</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>34,985</u>	<u>40,669</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>34,985</u>	<u>40,669</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>34,985</u>	<u>40,669</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>34,985</u>	<u>40,669</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	13		<u>34,985</u>	<u>40,669</u>

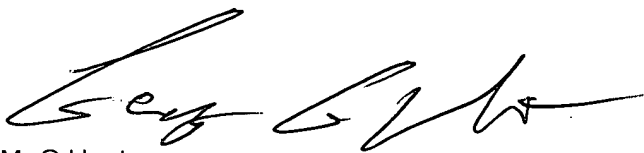
For the year ending 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question 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 financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 12 October 2021, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr G Hunt  
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2021**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is South Annex, PERA Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Disclosure exemptions**

(a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2021**

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments** *(continued)*

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

**4. Limited by guarantee**

The company is a limited by guarantee with members being required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

**5. Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Development contributions	131,150	131,150	84,835	84,835
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants receivable	-	-	23,000	23,000
<b>Other donations and legacies</b>				
Training events	6,000	6,000	6,679	6,679
	<u>137,150</u>	<u>137,150</u>	<u>114,514</u>	<u>114,514</u>

**6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Design reviews	44,197	44,197	29,832	29,832
Project costs	93,487	93,487	67,557	67,557
Associate costs	4,021	4,021	1,649	1,649
Support costs	1,129	1,129	13,791	13,791
	<u>142,834</u>	<u>142,834</u>	<u>112,829</u>	<u>112,829</u>

**Design Midlands Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year ended 31 March 2021**

**7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type**

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>	Total fund 2020 £
Design reviews	44,197	–	<b>44,197</b>	29,832
Project costs	93,487	–	<b>93,487</b>	67,557
Associate costs	4,021	–	<b>4,021</b>	1,649
Governance costs	–	1,129	<b>1,129</b>	13,791
	<u>141,705</u>	<u>1,129</u>	<u><b>142,834</b></u>	<u>112,829</u>

**8. Independent examination fees**

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u><b>950</b></u>	<u><b>850</b></u>

**9. Staff costs**

No salaries or wages have been paid during the year.

**10. Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

**11. Debtors**

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	<u><b>40,268</b></u>	<u><b>35,263</b></u>

Other debtors include amounts due from Design review contributions.

# Design Midlands Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

#### 12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	24,667	8,979
Accruals and deferred income	1,328	1,080
Other creditors	7,408	10,000
	<u>33,403</u>	<u>20,059</u>

#### 13. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	40,669	137,150	(142,834)	<u>34,985</u>

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
General funds	38,984	114,514	(112,829)	<u>40,669</u>

#### 14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Current assets	68,388	68,388
Creditors less than 1 year	(33,403)	(33,403)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>34,985</u>	<u>34,985</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£
Current assets	60,728	60,728
Creditors less than 1 year	(20,059)	(20,059)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>40,669</u>	<u>40,669</u>