

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Company number: 08073905 (England and Wales)

Limited by Guarantee

Charity number: 1149202

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

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THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

Company Information

Board of Trustees:

Thomas Henderson (Chairman)
Rupert Adams
Nigel Keen
Lucie Kitchener
James Maltin

Company number:

08073905 (England & Wales)

Charity registration number:

1149202

Registered Office:

2 Tolherst Court
Turkey Mill Business Park
Ashford Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 5SF

Auditor:

Couch Bright King & Co
2 Tolherst Court
Turkey Mill Business Park
Ashford Road
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 5SF

Bankers:

Weatherbys Private Bank
22 Sackville Street
London
W1S 3DN

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company, present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts on pages 19 to 21 and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

Our Purposes and Activities

The Syncona Foundation (the "Foundation") was incorporated in England and Wales on 17 May 2012 as a private company limited by guarantee. The Foundation was registered as a charity on 3 October 2012.

The charitable objects of the Foundation are to:

- "(a) support the prevention, treatment, cure and ultimately the eradication of cancer in all of its forms and any allied diseases;
- (b) promote and assist:
 - (i) the study of and research into the nature, causes, diagnosis and pathology of cancer and any allied diseases;
 - (ii) the development and provision of all forms of preventive, curative, management and palliative treatment of cancer and any allied diseases;
 - (iii) education and training in subjects relevant to the study of cancer and any allied diseases;
- (c) co-operate with, and to promote and assist the work of, The Institute of Cancer Research ("the ICR") and, or alternatively, such other charitable organisations whose objects include any of those specified in (a) and (b) above as the Foundation may determine in addition to or in substitution for the ICR; and
- (d) promote and assist such other charitable objects and charitable organisations as the Foundation may from time to time consider desirable."

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Syncona Limited ("Syncona") is a registered closed-ended collective investment scheme incorporated as a non-cellular company limited by shares under the laws of Guernsey with registered number 55514. Syncona's shares were admitted to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange on 26 October 2012 ("Admission"). On 16 April 2020, the Foundation signed an amended and restated agreement with Syncona ("Syncona Agreement"). Under this agreement:

- (i) Syncona agreed to make an aggregate annual donation, paid in arrears, of one-twelfth of 0.35 per cent of Syncona's Net Asset Value ("NAV") for each month during the year (the "Annual Charitable Contribution"), for each financial year beginning from the year ending 31 March 2020, to be shared between the ICR and the Foundation as described in (ii) and (iii) below;
- (ii) until the year ending 31 March 2022, an amount equal to one-twelfth of 0.15 per cent of Syncona's NAV as at each month-end during the year will be donated to the ICR;
- (iii) the Foundation has agreed to be the recipient of the remainder of the Annual Charitable Contribution not donated to the ICR;
- (iv) for any subsequent financial years, unless otherwise agreed between Syncona and the Foundation, the Annual Charitable Contribution will be an amount equal to the aggregate of one twelfth of 0.30 per cent of Syncona's NAV for each month during the relevant financial year or part year;

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

- (v) in each year Syncona intends to indicate to the Foundation whether it intends to continue this arrangement for at least three financial years. and
- (vi) either party may terminate the agreement on six months' written notice to the other.

On 24 June 2022, it was agreed between Syncona and the Foundation that the Annual Charitable Contribution would continue at 0.35 per cent of Syncona's NAV for the year ending 31 March 2023 and the full amount would be paid to the Foundation. On 13 March 2023, it was confirmed that this arrangement would continue for the year ending 31 March 2024. For any subsequent financial years, unless otherwise agreed between Syncona and the Foundation, the Annual Charitable Contribution will be an amount equal to the aggregate of one twelfth of 0.30 per cent of Syncona's NAV for each month during the relevant financial year or part year.

The Foundation continues to make donations to charities in line with its objectives.

The list of core charities to which donations were paid during the year ended 31 March 2023, or to which donations have been made since 31 March 2023 in respect of the year ended 31 March 2023, is:

- *Alzheimer's Research UK* is the UK's leading dementia research charity, dedicated to causes, diagnosis, prevention, treatment and cure. (www.alzheimersresearchuk.org)
- *The Alzheimer's Society* is the UK's leading dementia charity. They campaign for change, fund research to find a cure and support people living with dementia today. (www.alzheimers.org.uk)
- *Auditory Verbal UK* is the leading provider of auditory verbal therapy in the UK. The charity wants all deaf babies and children to have the opportunity to listen and speak as equals alongside their hearing peers. (www.avuk.org)
- *Bowel Cancer UK* is the UK's leading bowel cancer charity determined to save lives and improve the quality of life of everyone affected by bowel cancer. (www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk)
- *The Brain Tumour Charity* is at the forefront of the fight to defeat brain tumours, making a difference every day to the lives of people with a brain tumour and their families, by investing in forward-thinking research and specialist support services and passionately lobbying for urgent change. (www.thebraintumourcharity.org)
- *Butterfly Thyroid Cancer Trust* is the first national supporter of patients with thyroid cancer. By liaising with the medical profession they aim to promote a wider knowledge of the disease, to assist the improvement of the patient's experience with thyroid cancer. (www.butterfly.org.uk)
- *Cancer Research UK* is the world's largest cancer charity dedicated to saving lives through research and whose vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured, from the most common types to those that affect just a few people. (www.cancerresearchuk.org)
- *Child Bereavement UK* helps children, parents and families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies. They support children and young people up to the age of 25 who are facing bereavement, and anyone affected by the death of a child of any age. (www.childbereavement.org.uk)
- *Cure Leukaemia* is one of the leading centres in the world for the development of new drug and transplant treatments for patients with blood cancers. (www.cureleukaemia.co.uk)

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

- *The David Nott Foundation* was established with the mission to provide the surgeons and medical professionals working in the most hostile environments with the skills and confidence to save more lives. (www.davidnottfoundation.com)
- *Downs Syndrome Diamond Foundation* supports other charities that take the lead in delivering early intervention psychological, pedagogical and social services to children with Down syndrome in Russia.
- *The Egmont Trust* works to improve the lives of children and families living with HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting local, dedicated organisations driving local, cost-effective solutions. (www.egmonttrust.org)
- *The Ella Project* supports two interrelated studies (ELLA01 and ELLA02) aiming to comprehensively characterise the genomic landscape (ELLA01) and the immune landscape (ELLA02) of adenoid cystic carcinoma. This will form a globally unique resource to better understand adenoid cystic carcinoma which is a rare and lethal disease with no effective drug therapies. The results of these studies will enable a new method of classification of adenoid cystic carcinoma and underpin the development of new treatment approaches which are urgently needed in this disease.
- *Fight for Sight* is the UK's largest charity funding pioneering eye research. With programmes at leading universities and hospitals the charity aims to prevent, treat and reverse the sight loss caused by a wide range of different diseases and conditions. (www.fightforsight.org.uk)
- *Generating Genius* has been working for 15 years to ensure that talented and able students from disadvantaged backgrounds are positioned to excel in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) careers. (www.generatinggenius.org.uk)
- *The ICR* is one of the world's most influential cancer research organisations, with an outstanding record of achievement dating back more than 100 years. Today, the ICR is ranked as the UK's leading academic research centre and leads the world in isolating cancer-related genes and discovering new targeted drugs for personalised cancer treatment. Since 2005 the ICR has discovered 20 cancer drug candidates, progressed 10 drugs into clinic trials and had a pioneering prostate cancer drug approved by NICE for use in the NHS. (www.icr.ac.uk)
- *James' Place* wants to make sure that help is available for every man facing a suicidal crisis and support them to find hope for the future. They work with health partners to deliver a service to men whose needs have not been met by traditional services. (www.jamesplace.org.uk)
- *JDRF* (formerly known as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) is a charitable organisation committed to eradicating type 1 diabetes. They fund world-class research to cure, treat and prevent the chronic condition while giving support and a voice to people with type 1 and their families. (www.jdrf.org.uk)
- *The Listening Place* is a team of volunteers who offer free, confidential and ongoing face-to-face listening, by appointment, to people who feel that life is no longer worth living. (www.listeningplace.org.uk)
- *The Louis Dundas Centre for Children's Palliative Care* is a world-class centre of research, teaching and clinical practice in palliative care for children and young people. (www.gosh.org/louis-dundas-centre)
- *Macular Society* works to beat the fear and isolation of macular disease with world-class research and the best advice and support (www.macularsociety.org)
- *Maggie's* provides free cancer support and information in centres across the UK and online. They are there for anyone with cancer and their family and friends, whatever kind of cancer and whatever stage they are at. (www.maggiescentres.org)

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

- *Marie Curie* helps people living with a terminal illness, and their families, make the most of the time they have together by delivering expert care, emotional support, research and guidance. (www.mariecurie.org.uk)
- *NSPCC* is the leading children's charity in the UK, specialising in child protection and dedicated to protecting children today to prevent abuse tomorrow. (www.nspcc.org.uk)
- *Oxford University Brainwaves Programme* is a major response to a growing youth mental health crisis. The programme's mission is to build the evidence base and resources to power new research and ensure schools become more effective environments for developing wellbeing in young people. (www.brainwaveshub.org)
- *Place2Be* is a children and young people's mental health charity with almost 30 years' experience working with pupils, families and staff in UK schools. They provide mental health support in schools through one-to-one and group counselling using tried and tested methods backed by research. (www.place2be.org.uk)
- *The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity* raises money solely to support The Royal Marsden, a world-leading cancer centre which offers patients world-leading treatment and care, supports life-saving research, invests in state-of-the-art equipment and funds modern patient environments. (www.royalmarsden.org)
- *SSAFA* is one of the UK's leading armed forces charities. It provides practical, financial and emotional support to anyone who is currently serving or has served in the Army, Navy or RAF, and their families, and has been running for over 125 years. (www.ssafa.org.uk)
- *Supporting Wounded Veterans'* aim is autonomy and independence, employment and meaningful occupation, for wounded, mainly ex Iraq and Afghanistan, campaign veterans, via "skihabilitation", mentoring, a specific pain management programme in partnership with King Edward VII hospital in London, and with support into employment. (www.supportingwoundedveterans.com)
- *Women for Women International* helps women in countries affected by conflict and war to move from crisis and poverty to stability and economic self-sufficiency. Since 1993, it has supported more than 450,000 women across eight countries to earn and save money, improve health and well-being, influence decisions in their home and community, and connect to networks for support. (www.womenforwomen.org.uk)

As a result of the Foundation's donations to the charities listed above, activities funded by the Foundation to date have included:

- Ground-breaking research programmes that have enabled important discoveries towards finding a cure, treatment for or alleviation of suffering from different forms of cancer, as well as neuro-degenerative diseases such as Alzheimers and rare and inherited eye diseases;
- The provision of a wide range of cutting-edge services aimed at providing care, support and advice for people living with cancer, dementia, HIV and other diseases, both physical and mental;
- The provision of support and therapy, including for young people experiencing abuse, children experiencing bereavement and people at risk of suicide;
- International development interventions, including helping to alleviate poverty and improve the lives of people living with HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and helping women in countries affected by conflict and war.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

Grant-making policy

The Foundation has a strong track record of relationship-based grant making and it values its current blend of long-term support for valued grantees, as well as a degree of flexibility with which to explore new opportunities and maintain an entrepreneurial approach. The Foundation's policy is to support excellent charities which are meeting pressing needs within society, particularly those that are related to healthcare systems.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Foundation's activities benefit the public by providing donations to the charities noted above.

Financial review, Reserves and Risk Management

Financial review

The Foundation has received the following payments from Syncona and paid them as charitable donations:

In respect of year ended:	Received (£)	Date of receipt	Donations paid (£)
31 March 2013	492,829	27 Sep 2013	492,029
31 March 2014	1,593,867	5 Sep 2014	1,592,474
31 March 2015	2,209,638	17 Sep 2015	2,209,000
31 March 2016	2,375,804	15 Sep 2016	2,371,000
31 March 2017	2,375,804	21 Sep 2017	2,385,804
31 March 2018	2,375,804	16 Aug 2018	2,514,070
31 March 2019	2,375,804	20 Sep 2019	2,563,797
31 March 2020	2,632,809	19 Jun 2020	2,870,000
31 March 2021	2,691,553	30 Jun 2021	279,500
31 March 2022	2,428,478	30 June 2022	2,613,697
31 March 2023	4,621,843	28 June 2023	2,340,500

The Foundation has also made other charitable donations totalling £147,000 during the year ended 31 March 2023 (£202,000 during the year ended 31 March 2022), as set out in Note 4.

At 31 March 2023, the Foundation had total funds of £4,377,334 (31 March 2022: £2,248,632).

Reserves policy

The Foundation's policy is to disburse substantially all funds received from Syncona, retaining only sufficient funds to cover the Foundation's running costs (excluding the costs of the administrative support provided by Syncona) which are represented by the Governance costs in note 6. The year-end reserves balance of £4,377,334 represents the receivable Syncona donation for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees are satisfied that the reserves carried forward are considered sufficient to the size and nature of the Foundation.

As at 31 March 2023, all funds held are unrestricted.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

Risk management

The Board of Trustees confirms that it has considered major risks to which the Foundation is exposed and has listed these as follows:

- *Investment risks:* The Foundation is exposed to the effects on Syncona's investment portfolio (the "Portfolio"), as this drives the level of donations paid. This includes the effects of market price risk, foreign currency risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The value of the Portfolio can go down as well as up. This risk is mitigated because it is also a principal risk for Syncona and so there is regular monitoring of the constituents of the Portfolio and the Portfolio's performance by Syncona Investment Management Limited and the Syncona Board.
- *Credit risks:* The Foundation is exposed to the risk that a counterparty may be unable to meet a commitment that it has entered with the Foundation, the only material example of which is under the agreement with Syncona documented in Note 2 to the financial statements. This is mitigated through monitoring of the investment performance noted above, which would impact the ability of Syncona to pay the donation.
- *Operational risks:* The Foundation has no employees and is reliant on the availability and willingness of the Trustees and other personnel to work for the Foundation in order to fulfil its charitable purpose. The Board seeks to mitigate this risk by ongoing communication and sharing of responsibilities, as well as to ensure full Board oversight of donations paid to charities as the main expenditure of the Foundation.

Future developments

The Trustees expect the general level of activity to remain consistent with the year ended 31 March 2023 over the forthcoming year. The level of donations from Syncona for the year ending 31 March 2024 is expected, depending on Syncona's NAV, to be similar to the level of donations in the year ended 31 March 2023 and the overall charitable activities are anticipated to remain unchanged.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

Company and Charitable status

The Foundation is limited by guarantee (company registration number 08073905), governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, with charity number 1149202.

Governance

The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting strategies and policies for the Foundation and ensuring that these are implemented.

Management and staffing

The Foundation has no employees. Under the Syncona Agreement, Syncona has agreed to provide administrative support at the Foundation's request up to a maximum cost of £50,000 per annum (calculated on a cash basis), as agreed from time to time between Syncona and the Foundation. This support may include the provision of finance manager and trustee administration support and other support such as evaluation or strategy preparation.

Induction and training

In view of the size of the Foundation, there are currently no formal procedures in place for the induction and training of Trustees. However, existing Trustees will ensure that new Trustees are fully briefed on the activities of the Foundation and Charities Law.

In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Foundation, the other Trustees and Members of the Foundation may appoint Trustees to the board, subject to them being aged over 16 and not being disqualified from trusteeship or directorship. The Trustees have concluded that a fixed process for the approval and appointment of new Trustees is not required given the small size and lack of complexity of the Foundation.

Fundraising activities

The Foundation does not carry out any fundraising activities.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

Board of Trustees

The members of the Board of Trustees perform the role of directors in company law and trustees in charity law. Those who served during the period, and to the date of the signing of this report, were:

Rupert Adams
Thomas Henderson (Chairman)
Nigel Keen
Lucie Kitchener
James Maltin

Statement of the Board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of the Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the consolidated financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

Events since the end of the year

In relation to the donation received from Syncona on 28 June 2023, £4,517,500 has been paid by way of donations since 31 March 2023.

Otherwise, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, no event since the balance sheet date significantly affects the Foundation's financial position.

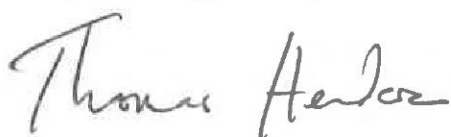
Auditor

Couch Bright King & Co continues as the Foundation's auditor.

Small company exemptions

The report of the Board of Trustees has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 11 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Thomas Henderson

Chairman

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Syncona Foundation (the "charitable company") which comprise:

- the statement of financial activities (Incorporating an income and expenditure account);
- the balance sheet;
- the cash flow statement; and
- the related Notes 1 to 16.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements of The Syncona Foundation (the "charitable company"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the charitable company's incoming resources and application of resources, including the charitable company's income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION (continued)

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

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

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION (continued)

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

We have;

- Obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Foundation and how the Foundation is complying with that framework;
- Obtained an understanding of the Foundation's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- Identified the laws and regulations that have significance in the context of the Foundation;
- Obtained an understanding of the Foundation's risk assessment process, including the risk of fraud;
- Assessed and evaluated the susceptibility of the Foundation's financial statements to material misstatement, through error and fraud;
- Evaluated the assumptions and judgements used by management within significant accounting estimates and assessed if these indicate evidence of management bias;
- Implemented procedures to enable the identification and testing of unusual or unexpected journal entries;
- Tested significant transactions, in particular the evaluation of the business rationale for any which appear unusual or outside the company's normal course of business;

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION (continued)

- Reviewed the financial statements and tested the disclosures against supporting documentation;
- Communicated relevant matters (including those above) to all members of the audit team to ensure they understood the risks specific to the Foundation and the audit procedures planned to mitigate these.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Andrew Shepherd (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Couch Bright King & Co
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
2 Tolherst Court
Turkey Mill Business Park
Ashford Road
Maidstone
Kent ME14 5SF

Date: 11th December 2023

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

		Year ended 31 March 2023 Restricted Funds	Year ended 31 March 2023 Unrestricted Funds	Year ended 31 March 2023 Total Funds	Year ended 31 March 2022 Total Funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations	2	-	4,670,993	4,670,993	2,490,138
Investment Income	3	-	200	200	-
Total Income		-	4,671,193	4,671,193	2,490,138
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4, 5	-	2,542,171	2,542,171	2,883,258
Total expenditure		-	2,542,171	2,542,171	2,883,258
Net income/(expenditure)		-	2,129,022	2,129,022	(393,120)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward at start of year	15	-	2,248,632	2,248,632	2,641,752
Total funds carried forward at end of year	15	-	4,377,654	4,377,654	2,248,632

The statement of financial activities incorporates an income and expenditure account. All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

There were no recognised gains or losses other than those listed above and the net income for the year.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

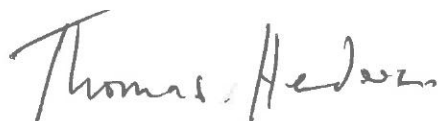
BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2023

		As at 31 March 2023	As at 31 March 2022
	Note	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed Assets			
Investment	9	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	10	4,849,161	2,883,379
Cash at bank and in hand		38,393	52,973
Total current assets		4,887,554	2,936,352
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(282,900)	(233,220)
Net Current Assets		4,604,654	2,703,132
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(227,000)	(454,500)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		4,377,654	2,248,632
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds		-	-
Unrestricted income funds		4,377,654	2,248,632
Total Funds		4,377,654	2,248,632

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements for The Syncona Foundation (company number 08073905; charity number 1149202) were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 11 December 2023. They were signed on its behalf by:



Thomas Henderson, Trustee

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash flows from operating activities	13	(14,580)	(103,051)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(14,580)	(103,051)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		52,973	156,024
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		38,393	52,973

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and in hand.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies is set out below. All of these have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

Company and charitable status

The Syncona Foundation, a public benefit entity, is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. There are currently five Trustees who are also the members of the Company. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The charity is a registered charity. The registered office is given on page 2.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Foundation constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Presentation Currency

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

Going concern

The Foundation's charitable activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Trustees' Report. The Trustees' Report also describes the financial position of the Foundation; its cash flows and liquidity position; and the Foundation's objectives, policies and processes for managing its funds.

The Foundation is limited by guarantee and is party to a contract with Syncona in relation to the annual charitable donation received from Syncona GP on behalf of Syncona. This is described further in Note 2. Under this agreement, there are a number of conditions under which the agreement could be terminated, including on six months' written notice. Were this to occur, this would impede the ability of the Foundation to undertake its charitable activities. Notice has not been provided under the terms of this agreement and the Trustees are not aware of any event that has occurred that could result in termination of the agreement such that the Foundation would not continue to receive the annual charitable donation.

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements and confirm that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are those which are spent or applied at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Restricted income funds are to be spent or applied within a reasonable period from their receipt to further a specific purpose of the charity, which is to further one or more but not all of the charity's purposes. They can only be used in accordance with the donor's wish.

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Income

Income is a transaction or other event which results in an increase in assets or a reduction in liabilities. This is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Foundation gains control over the rights to an economic benefit that has passed to it, it is probable that the Foundation will receive this income, and the monetary value of that income, the costs incurred for the transaction, and the costs to complete the transaction can be measured reliably.

Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

On receipt, donated professional services are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Expenditure

Expenditure is incurred in carrying out the activities of the Foundation resulting in a decrease in the Foundation's assets or an increase in its liabilities. Expenditure is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when a present legal or constructive obligation exists at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Grants payable are accounted for when the Trustees have accepted a legal or constructive obligation to make the grant.

Costs are allocated to activities within the Statement of Financial Activities as required by the Charities SORP and are allocated directly to the appropriate activity.

Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Foundation becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. These are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

The investment by the Foundation in a deferred share in Syncona, is an unlisted equity investment. The deferred share in Syncona is recognised at cost, as the share has no rights to assets or dividends besides its nominal value on the liquidation of Syncona. The investment is assessed for impairment at each balance sheet date.

Debtors and creditors are carried in the Balance Sheet at the consideration expected to be received or paid in their settlement. Their carrying values are considered to be equivalent to their fair values.

Taxation

The Foundation is a charity and is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 ("CTA 2010") to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. Current tax, including UK corporation tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Foundation's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Trustees do not consider there are any critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2. Donation from Syncona

The Foundation is party to an agreement dated 16 April 2020 ("the Syncona Agreement"), which sets out the terms on which Syncona makes an aggregate annual donation, paid in arrears, of one-twelfth of 0.35 per cent of Syncona's NAV as at each month-end during the year, to be shared between the ICR and the Foundation. Until the year ending 31 March 2022, an amount equal to one-twelfth of 0.15 per cent of Syncona's NAV as at each month-end during the year was donated to the ICR; the Foundation agreed to be the recipient of the remainder of the Annual Charitable Contribution not donated to the ICR.

On 24 June 2022, it was agreed between Syncona and the Foundation that the Annual Charitable Contribution would continue at the aggregate of one-twelfth of 0.35 per cent of Syncona's NAV for each month during the year ending 31 March 2023 and the full amount would be paid to the Foundation. On 13 March 2023, it was confirmed that this arrangement would continue for the year ending 31 March 2024. For any subsequent financial years, unless otherwise agreed between Syncona and the Foundation, the Annual Charitable Contribution will be an amount equal to the aggregate of one-twelfth of 0.30 per cent of Syncona's NAV for each month during the relevant financial year or part year.

Under the Syncona Agreement, Syncona has agreed to provide administrative support at the Foundation's request up to a maximum cost of £50,000 per annum (calculated on a cash basis), as agreed from time to time between Syncona and the Foundation. This support may include the provision of finance manager and trustee administration support and other support such as evaluation or strategy preparation.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

2. Donation from Syncona (continued)

Either party may terminate this agreement on six months' written notice to the other. Either party may terminate this agreement immediately on written notice to the other at any time in the event that:

- (a) a change of control of Syncona occurs;
- (b) the Foundation ceases to be a charitable organisation;
- (c) the other party breaches any material provision of this agreement and such breach either is incapable of remedy or has not been remedied to the reasonable satisfaction of the terminating party within 30 days of the other party receiving notice to do the same from the terminating party;
- (d) the other party does (or omits to do) anything which, in the reasonable opinion of the terminating party, is knowingly calculated to, or which may reasonably be expected to, bring the terminating party into disrepute;
- (e) the other party has passed any resolution for, or made any filing in respect of, its liquidation, receivership or reorganisation under any insolvency laws or has taken (or there has been taken against it by any third party) any similar action; or
- (f) the performance by the first party of any of its obligations under this agreement is or becomes illegal or unlawful under the laws of any relevant jurisdiction.

In addition, the Foundation may terminate the agreement immediately on written notice if Syncona does (or omits to do) anything which, in the reasonable opinion of the Foundation, is knowingly calculated to, or which may reasonably be expected to, be detrimental to the Foundation carrying on its charitable purposes. The agreement is governed by English law.

For the year ending 31 March 2023, as per the above agreement, the Foundation received the following:

- (i) A donation of £4,621,843 (31 March 2022: £2,428,478) was received on 28 June 2023.
- (ii) Donated services to the value of £49,150 (calculated on an accruals basis) in respect of the provision of administrative support and other support such as evaluation or strategy preparation.

3. Investment Income

Investment income can be analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank interest received	200	-
Total	200	-

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

4. Charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023, Syncona agreed to make an aggregate donation to the Foundation, paid in arrears, of one-twelfth of 0.35 per cent of Syncona's NAV as at each month-end during the year (the "Annual Charitable Contribution"). On 13 March 2023, it was agreed between Syncona and the Foundation that for any subsequent financial years, unless otherwise agreed between Syncona and the Foundation, the Annual Charitable Contribution will be an amount equal to the aggregate of one twelfth of 0.30 per cent of Syncona's NAV for each month during the relevant financial year or part year.

The Foundation makes donations to charities in line with the Foundation's objectives. The Trustees have reviewed the Foundation's strategy, with a view to maximising the impact from the grants the Foundation makes, and they anticipate that future potential grantees will be assessed based on the strength of their management, impact, ability to grow, focus on areas of high unmet need and ability to communicate with the Foundation about their work.

An analysis of annual charitable donations is shown below:

Charitable activities:	2023 Donations to institutions £	2023 Donations to individuals £	2022 Donations to institutions £	2022 Donations to individuals £
Charitable organisations	2,487,500	-	2,815,697	-
Total	2,487,500	-	2,815,697	-

	2023 £	2022 £
Allocation of institutional donations payable		
Donations to core charities		
- Restricted	-	-
- Unrestricted	2,340,500	2,613,697
Donations to other charities:		
Business Beats Cancer Guernsey	17,000	17,000
Heritage of London Trust	30,000	60,000
Komunitni Centrum Kampa	10,000	-
Lady Garden Foundation	50,000	-
Macmillan Cancer Support	10,000	-
Matt Hampson Foundation	30,000	60,000
Place2Be	-	60,000
Trinity College, Cambridge	-	5,000
Total charitable donation for year	2,487,500	2,815,697

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

5. Allocation of Costs by Activity

In accordance with FRS 102, support costs are required to be allocated to the significant activities of the charitable organisation. All governance costs borne by the Foundation are allocated to charitable activities as they are attributable directly to that purpose.

The allocation of these support costs is shown in the table below:

Year ended 31 March 2023	Charitable Activities	Other Expenditure	Total
	£	£	£
Support and Other Costs:			
Governance (see Note 6)	54,671	-	54,991
Total Support and Other Expenditure	54,671	-	54,991
Institutional Donations Payable (see Note 4)	2,487,500	-	2,487,500
Total Expenses	2,542,171	-	2,542,491

Year ended 31 March 2022	Charitable Activities	Other Expenditure	Total
	£	£	£
Support and Other Costs:			
Governance (see Note 6)	67,561	-	67,561
Total Support and Other Expenditure	67,561	-	67,561
Institutional Donations Payable (see Note 4)	2,815,697	-	2,815,697
Total Expenses	2,883,258	-	2,883,258

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

6. Governance costs

An analysis of governance costs is as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Statutory Audit fee	4,600	4,920
Insurance costs	771	861
Other professional fees	120	120
Administrative support provided by Syncona (see Note 2)	49,150	61,660
Bank charges	30	-
	54,671	67,561

7. Trustees and staff numbers

No member of the Board of Trustees received any emoluments and there were no employees.

8. Taxation on profit on ordinary activities

The Foundation is a charity and is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 ("CTA 2010") to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Foundation.

9. Investment

On 28 September 2012, the sole subscriber share issued by Syncona on incorporation was re-designated (by special resolution of the founder Shareholder dated 28 September 2012) as a Deferred Share and transferred to the Foundation. The Foundation holds this share at nil value. This non-participating non-redeemable Deferred Share has no other rights to assets or dividends, except to payment of £1 on the liquidation of Syncona and carries a right to vote only if there are no other classes of voting share of Syncona in issue.

10. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Due within one year		
Receivable from Syncona GP (see Note 2)	4,621,843	2,428,478
Other debtors	227,000	454,500
Prepayments	318	401
	4,849,161	2,883,379

As explained in Note 2, the amount receivable from Syncona GP has been received after the year end.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

11. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year:		
Charity donations payable (see Note 12)	277,500	227,500
Trade and other creditors	-	-
Statutory Audit fee	5,400	5,720
	282,9000	233,220
Due after more than one year:		
Charity donations payable (see Note 12)	227,000	454,500
	227,000	454,500

12. Funding commitments

At 31 March 2023, the Foundation had committed to make the following donations, which are considered a liability:

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year:		
Generating Genius	100,500	100,500
Heritage of London Trust	30,000	30,000
Lady Garden Foundation	50,000	-
Matt Hampson Foundation	30,000	30,000
Royal Marsden Cancer Charity	50,000	50,000
Business Beats Cancer Guernsey	17,000	17,000
	277,500	227,500
Due after more than one year		
Generating Genius	-	100,500
Heritage of London Trust	30,000	60,000
Matt Hampson Foundation	30,000	60,000
Royal Marsden Cancer Charity	150,000	200,000
Business Beats Cancer Guernsey	17,000	34,000
	227,000	454,500

These payments are included in the Creditors balances above with the corresponding annual charge provisions disclosed in Debtors.

At the end of the current and preceding year there were no other funding or capital commitments, contingent liabilities or other financial commitments for which full provision has not been made in these financial statements.

THE SYNCONA FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

13. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	2,129,022	(393,120)
Net income/(expenditure) before movement in working capital	2,129,022	(393,120)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,965,782)	129,569
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(177,820)	160,500
Net cash flows from operating activities	(14,580)	(103,051)

14. Related parties

The Trustees have not received any remuneration and no travel or meeting expenses were reimbursed to trustees during the year (31 March 2022: £nil).

15. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 March 2023

Analysis of Fund movements	Fund brought forward at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure (including taxation) £	Fund carried forward at 31 March 2023 £
(a) Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-
(b) Unrestricted Funds	2,248,632	4,671,193	(2,542,171)	4,377,654
	2,248,632	4,671,493	(2,542,171)	4,377,654

Year ended 31 March 2022

Analysis of Fund movements	Fund brought forward at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure (including taxation) £	Fund carried forward at 31 March 2022 £
(a) Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-
(b) Unrestricted Funds	2,641,752	2,490,138	(2,883,258)	2,248,632
	2,641,752	2,478,478	(2,871,598)	2,248,632

All the Foundation's funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

16. Allocation of Net Assets between funds

All net assets as at 31 March 2023 are unrestricted.