

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mr S Caraffi, Chairman (appointed 1 April 2023)
	Mr I Elliott (resigned 31 March 2023)
	Mr J R Kerner
	Mr M J Perkins
	Mrs S Mosley
	Mr A T A Hoppenbrouwers
	Mr R N Winterton
	Mr T Green
	Mr J Holt
	Mrs K Clarke (appointed 17 May 2022)

<b>Company registered number</b>	08236843
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<b>Charity registered number</b>	1151225
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<b>Registered office</b>	Preston Smithy, Chathill Northumberland NE67 5DG
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<b>Company secretary</b>	Mrs F Rew (appointed 14 June 2022)
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<b>Executive Director</b>	Miss A V Baker Cresswell
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<b>Accountants</b>	Ryecroft Glenton Chartered Accountants 32 Portland Terrace Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1QP
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<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank plc 24, Bondgate Within Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1TD
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<b>Investment Manager</b>	Quilter Cheviot Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4AB
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**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31**


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The Chairman presents his statement for the year.

**EA D MARCH 2023**

This year was a significant milestone for HighGround as we celebrated its 10th birthday. This provided an opportunity to reflect on the enormous amount achieved during those 10 years and thank the many people who have contributed so much to its success; in particular I want to single out our founder Anna Baker Cresswell for her tireless efforts and extraordinary commitment to the charity.

It also provided an opportunity, however, to look ahead. HighGround is now, in the view of the Board, at an important stage of its development. It has established a firm foundation providing high quality services which are much valued by beneficiaries, but the Board agreed that we should now be looking to grow our services as part of a 5 year strategic plan. HighGround has like many charities grown somewhat organically from one person's vision and idea. Now we need to review some of our structure to allow us to pursue our more ambitious plan, and to that end we will be recruiting new managerial staff in the coming months. This will come with some financial risk but I am confident that our proven track record of delivery combined with well-considered plans for expansion will attract the funding we will require to provide even more support to our Armed Forces serving personnel and veterans.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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**Simon Caraffi**

Chairman  
Date: 27-Jul-2023 | 18:59 BST

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

The Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 March 2020 serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

**Objectives and activities**

● **Policies and objectives**

The Objects as set out in the Charitable Company's Articles of Association are:

- a) The prevention and relief of poverty, the relief of ill-health (whether mental and/or physical) and the relief of need amongst:
  - Serving and former serving members of the armed forces of the Crown injured on active service,
  - Other personnel employed in roles, which directly support the United Kingdom's security, international development and stabilisation and intelligence, who have been injured in the course of their duties
 by means of the provision of mentoring, services, facilities and equipment to support their treatment, rehabilitation, resettlement, education, training and employment.
- b) To educate the public about mental health, in particular about mental injury sustained during service to the public and methods of providing relief and treatment and on the basis that in pursuing the above aims, the Charity shall operate mainly in England.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Further detailed information relating to the strategies and undertakings for achieving the charitable objectives, and in furtherance of the public benefit can be found in the next section, Achievements and performance.



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## HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED

### (A Company Limited by Guarantee) Achievements and performance

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#### ● Review of activities TRUSTEES EP RT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

As the Nation continues its post-Covid recovery, HighGround has achieved some notable milestones in the last 12 months.

- We delivered our first Rural Week at Bicton College for Royal Marines Young Recruits who were unable to complete their training on medical grounds.
- We marked our 10th anniversary since being granted charitable status with a Lunch at the RAF Club for Friends and Volunteers.
- Our land-based sector roadshow completed its first full year of attending British Forces Resettlement Services (BFRS) careers fairs.
- Our Virtual Rural Weeks programme gained its 100th attendee.
- At the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC) Stanford Hall Jane and her Horticultural Therapy team delivered a full year of face to face Horticultural Therapy sessions.

HighGround's two core services namely Horticultural Therapy for injured serving personnel at DMRC Stanford Hall and the advice and support delivered to service leavers and veterans about land-based employment continue, and the Charity is proud of the work by staff and volunteers which makes this possible.

Thanks to funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust we delivered 2 Rural Experience Weeks at Bicton College to improve the mental health and wellbeing of veterans.

Our referral partners for these Rural Experience Weeks were Walking With the Wounded, the Poppy Factory, Supporting Wounded Veterans, Step Together Volunteering, Plymouth Veterans Hub, Forces Employment Charity, On Course Foundation, Woodland Warrior Programme, Armed Forces Equine Charity and Blind Veterans UK.

The activities delivered during this week by Hi-Line, Parmenter Forge, the Outdoors Group, TG Landscapes and Budleigh Riding School all demonstrated that purposeful activity delivered by experts in a safe, peaceful environment can provide tangible and lasting benefits to veterans.

We were also proud to deliver wellbeing-focused weeks to Royal Marines Young Recruits and, with funding from Greenwich Hospital 8 serving Royal Navy personnel and 2 serving Royal Marines also benefited from a week commissioned by the Royal Navy Royal Marines Charity.

In addition with funding from Greenwich Hospital, RMA The Royal Marines Charity, The London Community, Samares Investments and the Henry Sale Foundation we delivered 4 employment-focused Rural Weeks to a combined total of 38 serving personnel and 23 veterans.

Due to our growing engagement with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) who promote our Virtual Rural Weeks programme to service leavers as part of their resettlement, a pathway is starting to emerge whereby service leavers join us for a Virtual Rural Week at the start of their resettlement and as their exit date draws closer, they commit to a residential Rural Week where they can build their networks and engage with other service leavers in similar situations.

We are grateful to the Forces Trust for their support of our Virtual Rural Weeks programme and to all the speakers, hosts and presenters who give so freely of their time and knowledge.

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## HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED

### (A Company Limited by Guarantee) Achievements and performance (continued)

Tim, our Rural Employment Manager, and the Executive Director both represent HighGround at Cobseo Employment Cluster meetings and we continue to develop relationships with land-based organisations and employers who recognise the skills and experience which military personnel bring to the workplace including Historic Houses, Country Land and Business Association, Historic Botanic Gardens Trust, Woodland Heritage, National Gamekeepers Organisation, the National Trust, Grosvenor Estate and Nurture Group.

Our land-based sector roadshow where we invite land-based employers including Tilhill, BSW Timber, Bartlett Trees, TH White Engineering, BALI Go-Landscape, National Skills Rail Academy, RSK Hi Line and Avoe to join us on our stand at BFRS careers fairs across the UK at Catterick, Aldershot, and Tidworth Garrisons is also helping to reinforce our message about what military personnel bring to the civilian workplace whilst raising awareness of HighGround within the military community.

During F/Y 2022/23 our team at the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DMRC) Stanford Hall delivered 971 sessions of Horticultural Therapy to 429 patients from across all 3 services.

We thank ABF The Soldiers' Charity, Albert Hunt Trust, Elizabeth Moore and Star Foundation, the Royal Warrant Holders Association and the Headley Court Charity for their generous support of the Horticultural Therapy service which enables DMRC's patients to benefit from Mother Nature outdoors. Below are some of their quotes:

*I've gone from wheelchair to independent walking. Andy and Jane have challenged me to stand for longer each time whilst giving me plenty of opportunity.*

*It can help movement in all parts of the body.*

*It's not clinical, gives you a chance to zone out from the constant discussion about physio, physical ability, clinical concerns etc.*

*Horticultural Therapy freshens my mind.*

*Thank-you for your kindness and your time.*

Special thanks to Darlac Tools, Mr Fothergills, Southern Trident, CED Stone and Rutland Willows with their generous gifts in kind of compost, seeds, willow for wreath weaving, stone paving for the Village Green and adapted pruning tools and our profound thanks to the staff at DMRC for their continued support of our service.

The new Defence National Rehabilitation Centre (DNRC) which is being built at Stanford Hall alongside the DMRC is progressing well. The first medical lead has been appointed, and a target date of end 2024 for treating the first patients has been set.

The DNRC's proximity to the world-class military facility at DMRC will support the sharing of best practise in rehabilitation via the transfer and sharing of knowledge which was the late Duke of Westminster's vision when he created his magnificent legacy at Stanford Hall.

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## **HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Achievements and performance (continued)**

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### **Website and communications**

#### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Thanks to generous support from the Veterans' Foundation we were able to recruit our first Communications Co-ordinator to help us increase our social media presence and engage with the increasing number of both Friends and beneficiaries who contact HighGround.

Our website continues to provide the main channel of communication and we thank Kathryn, Andrew, and Computer Angels for their fantastic work to keep it current, relevant, and easy to navigate.

Our Communications Co-ordinator has been working closely with volunteers from the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists to improve our Sharepoint site, and we offer them special thanks for all their work.

We are grateful to everyone who bought our Christmas cards (thanks to Lynne Moore for her painting), ran, walked, joined our T Shirt Challenge or made and sold marmalade to raise precious funds for HighGround this financial year and we thank our fantastic Book Keeper Ruth.

It was wonderful to see so many Friends and Volunteers at our 10th anniversary Lunch supported by the Garnett Foundation on 13th May, 2023 as we thanked them for helping HighGround to reach this milestone and as we prepared to say goodbye to our outgoing Chairman Air C'dre Ian Elliott, we were delighted to achieve the Cobseo Veterans Mental Health Awareness Standard.

The Trustees met 4 times both virtually and in person and are grateful to the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, Scott Eredine Charity, Park Family Trust, Lennox Hannay Charity, Hanley Trust, Horsted Keynes Marmalade Sale and the many generous individuals who have contributed to the Charity's work.

#### **• Investment policy and performance**

Excess cash resources were invested on a full discretionary basis during the year for income and growth. Whilst the Trustees are satisfied with the income produced by the funds invested in the year, global events have resulted in an unrealised deficit of £4,020 at 31 March 2023.

### **Financial review**

#### **• Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They have included in their assessment the effects of the situation surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, which has delayed projects but has not unduly impacted on the financial position of the charity. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

#### **• Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the charity to hold reserve funds at a level of at least six months' running costs of the core activity. At 31 March 2023, the charity had total funds of £393,931 comprising unrestricted funds of £226,770 and restricted funds £167,161. Of the unrestricted funds, £200,609 has been designated to be spent on horticultural therapy courses. This leaves a £26,161 general funds balance at the year end.

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## **HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

- **Investments policy**

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Cash held in excess of immediate needs has been invested to maximise return to the Charitable Company, on a low risk high income strategy. This is on a full discretionary basis.

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

- **Constitution**

The Company is registered as a Charitable Company limited by guarantee and was set up in October 2012.

The Company is constituted under its Articles of Association and is a registered charity number 1151225. The latest version of its Articles was agreed on 20 February 2013.

- **Methods of appointment or election of Trustees**

The management of the Charitable Company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected under the terms of the Memorandum of Association.

When the need arises, new Trustees are appointed as Directors by existing members of the Company to serve as Trustees of the Charity.

- **Financial risk management**

Anna Baker Cresswell is Executive Director with overall responsibility for fundraising and the day-to-day running of the Charitable Company. The Trustees are conscious of the fact that the continued success of the Charitable Company is dependent on their ability to continue to attract sufficient funds to finance the charitable activities offered.

John Kerner has taken responsibility for the Risk Register which is a standing item at quarterly Trustees' Meetings, and Ruth Ritson provides quarterly financial updates for the Trustees.

The risk to investment associated losses arising as a result of movement in the financial markets has been mitigated by placing the funds with a respected investment manager with full discretionary investment powers.

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## **HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Plans for future periods**

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The Trustees intend to:

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

- Continue to deliver the Horticultural Therapy service at DMRC Stanford Hall in accordance with the Service Level Agreement between the Charity and DMRC Stanford Hall.

- Work with the Academic Department of Military Rehab (ADMR) and clinical team at DMRC Stanford Hall to develop the evidence base supporting Horticultural Therapy as a rehab intervention for injured serving personnel.

- Work with the Rural Employment Manager to develop the Rural Weeks programme at other Landex colleges in UK regions using Bicton College as the main operating base and starting with Askham Bryan College near York. Provide ongoing support for HighGround beneficiaries as they continue their journey through transition from military life back into civilian street, and work with other Service charities to meet the needs of our mutual beneficiaries.

- Work with Trustee Jon Perkins and the Rural Employment Manager to enhance and improve the role of the Advisory Panel to provide more land-based work experience and employment opportunities and improve communication with the employers offering such opportunities.

- Work with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) to ensure early awareness of HighGround's services during their resettlement period as they start their transition back to civilian life.

- Work with Trustee Tim Green to develop a corporate network to widen the scope of HighGround's fundraising to match the increasing awareness of HighGround's services within the armed forces community and work with Defence Relationship Management to promote the Armed Forces Covenant.

- Work with Trustee Sue Mosley to develop the Friends of HighGround to enhance their fundraising efforts and double the number of Friends by 2024.

### **Members' liability**

The Members of the Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Company in the event of winding up. The Members are the directors named as Trustees and the Executive Director, who number 8.

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**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 27 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

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**Simon Caraffi**  
Chairman



**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Highground Projects Limited ('the Company')**

**H R D A 23**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

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

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

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

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Dated: 28 July 2023

Deborah Graham FCA

Ryecroft Glenton  
 32 Portland Terrace  
 Newcastle upon Tyne  
 NE2 1QP

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**FOR THE YEAR END 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>N D</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>
	<b>Note</b>				
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	<b>180,511</b>	<b>133,283</b>	<b>313,794</b>	<i>140,051</i>
Investments	4	-	<b>3,301</b>	<b>3,301</b>	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>180,511</b>	<b>136,584</b>	<b>317,095</b>	<i>140,051</i>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	<b>133,450</b>	<b>218,676</b>	<b>352,126</b>	<i>229,578</i>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>133,450</b>	<b>218,676</b>	<b>352,126</b>	<i>229,578</i>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net losses on investments</b>		<b>47,061</b>	<b>(82,092)</b>	<b>(35,031)</b>	<i>(89,527)</i>
Net losses on investments		-	<b>(4,020)</b>	<b>(4,020)</b>	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>47,061</b>	<b>(86,112)</b>	<b>(39,051)</b>	<i>(89,527)</i>
Transfers between funds	13	<b>7,822</b>	<b>(7,822)</b>	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>54,883</b>	<b>(93,934)</b>	<b>(39,051)</b>	<i>(89,527)</i>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<b>112,278</b>	<b>320,704</b>	<b>432,982</b>	<i>522,509</i>
Net movement in funds		<b>54,883</b>	<b>(93,934)</b>	<b>(39,051)</b>	<i>(89,527)</i>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>167,161</b>	<b>226,770</b>	<b>393,931</b>	<i>432,982</i>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 15 to 27 form part of these financial statements.



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The notes on pages 15 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 08236843**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	<b>1,347</b>	2,281
Investments	10	<b>219,281</b>	-
		<b>220,628</b>	2,281
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	<b>2,277</b>	2,248
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>178,411</b>	435,617
		<b>180,688</b>	437,865
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<b>(7,385)</b>	(7,164)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>173,303</b>	430,701
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>393,931</b>	432,982
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>393,931</b>	432,982

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Charity funds**

Restricted funds	13	<b>167,161</b>	<b>112,278</b>
Unrestricted funds - designated	13	<b>200,609</b>	<b>320,704</b>
Unrestricted funds - general	13	<b>26,161</b>	<b>-</b>
Total unrestricted funds	13	<b>226,770</b>	<b>320,704</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>393,931</b>	<b>432,982</b>

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 08236843**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 27 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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**Simon Caraffi**  
 Chairman

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**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**

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**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****1. General information**

Highground Projects Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, company number: 08236843, charity number: 1151225. The address of the registered office is Preston Smithy, Chathill, Northumberland, NE67 5DG.

**2. Accounting policies****2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Highground Projects Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Going concern**

The Trustees have considered the financial position of the Charitable Company at 31 March 2023, and in particular the potential effects of the situation surrounding the recent coronavirus pandemic. Whilst it is impossible for the charity to operate whilst the practice of social isolation is in place, since the easing of restrictions in 2022, the Charitable Company has been able to operate courses for both Horticultural Therapy and Rural Weeks activities without restriction. The Trustees are confident that they have sufficient funds in hand for operational needs for at least the twelve months following the approval of these financial statements to allow them to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

**2.3 Income**

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

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**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**


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**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**
**2. Accounting policies (continued)**


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**2.4 Expenditure**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

**2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Computer equipment	- 25% Straight Line
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**2.6 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**2.7 Pensions**

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to the fund in respect of the year.

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****2. Accounting policies (continued)****2.8 Fund accounting  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Donations	-	39,550	<b>39,550</b>
Grants	180,511	93,733	<b>274,244</b>
	<u>180,511</u>	<u>133,283</u>	<u><b>313,794</b></u>
	<u><u>180,511</u></u>	<u><u>133,283</u></u>	<u><u><b>313,794</b></u></u>
	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Donations	(56,654)	16,620	(40,034)
Grants	171,585	8,500	180,085
	<u>114,931</u>	<u>25,120</u>	<u>140,051</u>
	<u><u>114,931</u></u>	<u><u>25,120</u></u>	<u><u>140,051</u></u>

**4. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Income from local listed investments	<u>3,301</u>	<u><b>3,301</b></u>	-
	<u><u>3,301</u></u>	<u><u><b>3,301</b></u></u>	

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**  
**5. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2023 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
General Funds - Office overheads	20,474	85,929	<b>106,403</b>
Horticultural Therapy Services	112,098	-	<b>112,098</b>
Rural Weeks	72,569	-	<b>72,569</b>
Positive Pathways	21,643	-	<b>21,643</b>
Rural Business Improvement Manager	39,413	-	<b>39,413</b>
	<u>266,197</u>	<u>85,929</u>	<u><b>352,126</b></u>

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2022 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
General Funds - Office overheads	7,920	66,770	74,690
Horticultural Therapy Services	58,087	-	58,087
Rural Weeks	73,636	-	73,636
Positive Pathways	2,562	-	2,562
Rural Business Improvement Manager	20,603	-	20,603
	<u>162,808</u>	<u>66,770</u>	<u>229,578</u>

**5. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	<b>155,675</b>	69,458
Repairs	<b>198</b>	7,937
General office costs	<b>4,473</b>	2,964
Travel and subsistence	<b>6,090</b>	5,652
Rural Week costs	<b>75,942</b>	60,201
Advertising and marketing	<b>23,819</b>	16,596
	<b>266,197</b>	162,808

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>General funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Staff costs	8,488	<b>8,488</b>
Rent and rates	624	<b>624</b>
Insurance	2,654	<b>2,654</b>
Training and conferences	3,199	<b>3,199</b>
General office costs	11,822	<b>11,822</b>
Travel and subsistence	7,194	<b>7,194</b>
Legal and professional fees	9,910	<b>9,910</b>
Governance costs	11,105	<b>11,105</b>
Fundraising	7,768	<b>7,768</b>
Career Fair Roadshows	23,165	<b>23,165</b>
	<b>85,929</b>	<b>85,929</b>



**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****5. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)****Analysis of support costs (continued)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<i>General funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	7,961	7,961
Rent and rates	600	600
Insurance	1,840	1,840
Training and conferences	22,070	22,070
General office costs	9,897	9,897
Travel and subsistence	3,360	3,360
Development board expenses	90	90
Just giving fees	96	96
Governance costs	10,410	10,410
Fundraising	8,787	8,787
Houses of Parliament Event	951	951
Career Fair Roadshows	708	708
	<u>66,770</u>	<u>66,770</u>

**6. Independent examiner's remuneration**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the preparation and independent examination of the Company's annual accounts	<u><b>3,830</b></u>	<u><b>3,210</b></u>

**7. Staff costs**

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>148,485</b>	65,498
Social security costs	<b>14,531</b>	10,839
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	<b>1,147</b>	1,082
	<b>164,163</b>	77,419

**7. Staff costs (continued)**

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Employees	<b>4</b>	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

During the year, total remuneration received by key management personnel, being the Executive Director, amounted to £39,394 (2022: £36,050).

**8. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year, expenses totaling £3,012 were reimbursed or paid directly to 8 Trustees (2022 - £1,814 to 1 Trustee). These related to travel expenses incurred by them to attend meetings in the performance of their duties as Trustees.

**9. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Computer equipment £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	<b>3,903</b>
At 31 March 2023	<b>3,903</b>

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	<b>1,622</b>
Charge for the year	<b>934</b>
At 31 March 2023	<b>2,556</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2023	<b>1,347</b>
At 31 March 2022	<b>2,281</b>

**10. Fixed asset investments**

	<b>Listed investments £</b>	<b>Other fixed asset investments £</b>	
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
Additions	<b>223,301</b>	<b>223,861</b>	<b>447,162</b>
Disposals	<b>-</b>	<b>(223,861)</b>	<b>(223,861)</b>
Revaluations	<b>(4,020)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(4,020)</b>
At 31 March 2023	<b>219,281</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>219,281</b>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2023	<b>219,281</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>219,281</b>

**11. Debtors**

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Other debtors	<b>2,106</b>	2,106
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>171</b>	142
	<b>2,277</b>	2,248

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

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other taxation and social security	<b>3,332</b>	3,144
Other creditors	<b>223</b>	210
Accruals and deferred income	<b>3,830</b>	3,810
	<b>7,385</b>	7,164

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

<b>Balance at 1</b>						<b>Balance at</b>
<b>April 2022</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Gains/</b>		<b>31 March</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>in/out</b>	<b>(Losses)</b>		<b>2023</b>
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Rural Weeks	<b>24,713</b>	<b>140,145</b>	<b>(72,394)</b>	-	-	<b>92,464</b>
Rural Weeks (RAF)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rural Employment Manager Fund	<b>31,591</b>	-	<b>(39,413)</b>	<b>7,822</b>	-	-
Rural Business Improvement Manager	-	-	-	-	-	-
Positive Pathways	<b>55,974</b>	<b>40,366</b>	<b>(21,643)</b>	-	-	<b>74,697</b>
	<b>112,278</b>	<b>180,511</b>	<b>(133,450)</b>	<b>7,822</b>	-	<b>167,161</b>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<b>432,982</b>	<b>317,095</b>	<b>(352,126)</b>	-	<b>(4,020)</b>	<b>393,931</b>

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2022 £</i>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Rural Weeks	30,156	17,815	(23,258)	-	-	24,713
Rural Weeks (RAF)	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-	-
Rural Employment Manager Fund	7,955	20,000	(20,602)	24,238	-	31,591
Rural Business Improvement Manager	24,238	-	-	(24,238)	-	-
Positive Pathways	27,535	77,116	(48,677)	-	-	55,974
	<b>99,884</b>	<b>114,931</b>	<b>(102,537)</b>	-	-	<b>112,278</b>

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

<b>Total of funds</b>	<b>522,509</b>	<b>140,051</b>	<b>(229,578)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>432,982</b>
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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Designated fund**

Horticultural Therapy Courses - A grant of £450,000 was received from Headley Court Charity in 2020 to support the running of Horticultural Therapy Courses at DMRC Stanford Hall over the next six years. The Trustees have designated this grant to control the expenditure to £60,000 per annum. During the year, a transfer to the Rural Employment Manager Fund of £7,822 was required to clear the excess expenditure.

**Restricted funds**

Rural Weeks - Grants of £140,145 were received in the year, with £72,394 of funds utilised during the year, with the remaining balance being carried forward to be used in 2023/24.

Rural Employment Manager Funding - No grants were received in the year. £39,413 of funds were utilised during the year. Expenditure exceeded brought forwards funds by £7,822 and so a transfer from designated funds was required to clear the excess expenditure.

Positive Pathways - Grants of £40,366 were received in the year, with £21,643 of funds utilised during the year, with the remaining balance being carried forward to be used in 2023/24.

**HIGHGROUND PROJECTS LIMITED****(A Company Limited by Guarantee)****14. Summary of funds**

**Summary of funds - current year**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Designated funds	320,704	-	(112,273)	(7,822)	-	200,609
General funds	-	136,584	(106,403)	-	(4,020)	26,161
Restricted funds	112,278	180,511	(133,450)	7,822	-	167,161
	<u>432,982</u>	<u>317,095</u>	<u>(352,126)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,020)</u>	<u>393,931</u>

**Summary of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Designated funds	414,750	-	(52,351)	(41,695)	320,704
General funds	7,875	25,120	(74,690)	41,695	-
Restricted funds	99,884	114,931	(102,537)	-	112,278
	<u>522,509</u>	<u>140,051</u>	<u>(229,578)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,982</u>

**15. Related party transactions**

The Charitable Company has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charitable Company at 31 March 2023.