



# Leukaemia UK

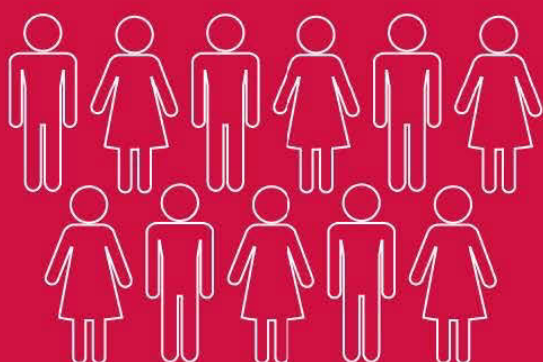
## Annual Report & Accounts 2020





**28** new patients are diagnosed with leukaemia every day, that is more than one every hour (approx. 10100 new patients per year) (2017)

Leukaemia is the most common type of cancer in children  
**(33% of all cancers in the under 14s)**



Approx. **13** people die every day from leukaemia (4,700 a year) (2016-2018)

**57%**

of leukaemia deaths each year are in people aged 75 and over (2012-2014)

Since the early 1990s, leukaemia incidence rates have increased by almost **17%**

Over the last 10 years leukaemia incidence rates have increased by almost **8%**







# Our Year of Unparalleled Change

Foreword from Chris Corbin, Chair & Fiona Hazell, CEO



## Welcome to our first full Annual Report and Accounts following the merger in November 2019 that created Leukaemia UK.

2020 was a year of unparalleled change for the world as well as for us as a charity. It was a year in which world-class medical research and ground-breaking care were never needed more.

At the end of 2019, we took the bold step of merging Leuka and Leukaemia UK to create a greater, more resilient force for change for all those affected by leukaemia.

We had no idea then that 2020 would be the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in such a huge loss of life across the globe and has brought our daily lives to an unprecedented halt.

But leukaemia did not stop for COVID-19. And neither did we.

Tens of thousands of men, women and children across the UK still received the devastating news of a leukaemia diagnosis. Sadly, 4,700 people died of the disease. Survival from leukaemia stands at just over 50% — a much lower survival rate than most other cancers.

Hundreds of thousands continued to live with the physical, emotional and practical impact of a leukaemia diagnosis which was only exacerbated by COVID-19. Many of those affected by leukaemia spent the year shielding, due to weakened immune systems. In addition, we now know that the pandemic has led to significant delays in the early detection of cancers, including leukaemia, putting back years of progress in improvements to detection and treatment.

Our merger created a larger, higher profile, more resilient charity and, despite the impact of the pandemic on charity fundraising, our fundraising income grew. We didn't furlough any of our hugely committed team who worked hard to deliver the day-to-day as well as managing changes due to the merger.

As a result, we were able to sustain, extend and evolve our commitment to world-class leukaemia and blood cancer research and ground-breaking care – investing a further £1,195,408 and supporting our UK-wide network of researchers, clinicians and healthcare professionals. Many of them helped with the incredible NHS COVID-19 effort while research was paused, before getting back to their labs, as quickly as they could do so safely.

Our investment in research included awarding five brand new John Goldman Fellowships – one more than planned - worth £619,513. We believe passionately that we must invest in the leukaemia and blood cancer research leaders of tomorrow, if we are to improve outcomes for those affected.

These fellowships were awarded to five exceptional young blood cancer researchers – Dr Kostas Tzelepis, Dr Bettina Wingelhofer, Dr Miguel Ganuza, Dr Simon Mitchell and Dr Marcela Mansur. Together with our 27 previous John Goldman Fellows, they are tackling some of the toughest challenges in leukaemia and blood cancer with bold, innovative world-class research ideas to help lead to better, kinder treatments for patients.

Better outcomes for stem cell transplant patients are critical to improving outcomes for leukaemia patients. Currently, around 50% of transplants will succeed. The IMPACT Clinical Trials Partnership is the UK's first ever clinical trials partnership dedicated to improving the outcomes of stem cell transplant patients. We continued to work in partnership with Anthony Nolan and NHS Blood & Transplant to fund and work with the IMPACT Partnership, delivering six clinical trials for stem cell transplant patients in 22 hospitals across the UK.

They included a new COVID-19 specific trial investigating the impact of a COVID-19 infection on stem cell transplant patients, led by Dr Giovanna Lucchini at Great Ormond Street Hospital. Through our network of 12 IMPACT nurses across the UK and the IMPACT Trials Hub at the University of Birmingham, over 500 patients were successfully recruited by the end of 2020.

Survival from blood cancer has quadrupled over the last two decades. However, treatment for many remains harsh, with chemotherapy and stem cell transplants most commonly used. We know that the majority of leukaemia and blood cancer patients suffer both short and longer-term impacts on their mental health.

Despite the pandemic, our ground-breaking Mind & Body programme at King's College London continued to screen blood cancer patients in the myeloma clinic, including more than 200 people from October 2020. This was possible thanks to the hard work of the King's team who pivoted the service so it could be delivered digitally through a new tool called E-Imparts. We also continued to provide a vital financial lifeline to over 40 families across the UK who were dealing with the impact of a leukaemia diagnosis, through our Helping Hand Fund.

World-class leukaemia research is critical to changing and improving the outcomes for patients. However, research breakthroughs will only help patients across the UK if the NHS has an effective and innovative blood cancer policy and practice that adapt and respond to scientific changes.

Following the merger, we have joined several critical alliances that are driving progress in diagnosis, treatment and care, including the Blood Cancer Alliance and One Cancer Voice. Through these alliances, we have worked with other charities to advocate and campaign for the needs of blood cancer patients during the pandemic, including ongoing support and guidance for the thousands of people and their families who are shielding.

It's estimated that COVID-19 has cut charity cancer research funding by £310m. As a result, we can expect that blood cancer and leukaemia research spend will be significantly reduced. The closure of the Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund will further reduce funding for research in this area.

Against this backdrop, we are more grateful than ever to our incredible supporters.

Like many charities in the pandemic, our fundraising events stopped abruptly, and we had to quickly respond and develop new virtual fundraising events and campaigns such as 'at home' runs and walks and our first ever Christmas Campaign. We were fortunate enough to be able to hold our flagship fundraising event Who's Cooking Dinner? in March 2020 and are extremely grateful to everyone who supported it and raised over £298,800.

Many of our community supporters took their commitment to fundraise for us home with them, literally. Whether they went the extra mile around their garden or living room or took extra laps around their local park, their creativity ensured we continued to raise money from events. In addition, more people affected by leukaemia remembered us in their wills. The merger also enabled us to combine resources to reach new audiences and supporters who gave generously to grow our income from one-off donations.

Mergers are challenging and it takes time for any organisation to deliver the benefits, but this is especially true for a small charity in a global pandemic. However, due to the determination, expertise, passion and sheer hard work of our supporters, team, researchers and healthcare professionals, we continued to deliver significant progress in leukaemia research and care.

A heartfelt thanks to all our community and team. You have helped us achieve so much in such a uniquely challenging year.

There is still a great deal for us to do. But with this team and this community, we look forward to driving greater progress in the future and helping to improve the lives of people affected by blood cancer through our research, support and care.



**Chris Corbin,**  
Chair

**Fiona Hazell,**  
Chief Executive

## Our Review of 2020

### 1. Our World-Class Research

At Leukaemia UK we know the importance of funding research, novel innovative projects that promise to expand our understanding of blood cancer, and discover and develop new treatments for the disease which ultimately aim to improve the outcomes for all those diagnosed with blood cancer.

2020 has been a difficult year in many ways, but science and research have been at the forefront of many of the advances made in relation to COVID-19. They have highlighted, more than ever before, the importance of scientific discoveries for our health.

In April 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we requested an update from all our grantees on the status of their research activities and disruption caused. While some were able to continue their research activities, a number confirmed that their projects were officially paused. By May 2020, we urged the relevant host institutions for those paused projects to include any salaried research staff in the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. This was essential as all our awards are fixed value funding and any delays could be detrimental to the successful completion of the research projects.

Our funded researchers have been amazing and, although the COVID-19 crisis continued to cause some disruption, they planned a phased return to their laboratory activities. All host institutions put COVID-19 safe working conditions in place which enabled our researchers to continue their projects, albeit working part-time and in 7 day/week shift patterns. By the end of 2020, our researchers anticipated no further delays to the progression of their projects. Many reported that recent lab work had generated new results.

Leukaemia UK funded two active strategic research programmes and 23 active research projects during 2020, including ten John Goldman Fellowships, four Project Grants, five Leukaemia UK Early Career awards and four Clinical Research Training Fellowships (CRTFs), jointly funded with the Medical Research Council. Seven of the research projects were fortunately able to continue unaffected by COVID-19, either due to the nature of the research (not primarily laboratory-based) or because COVID-19 provided the respite from laboratory activities to analyse results.

COVID-19 had a significant effect on UK-based medical research charities, with two in three charities reporting a drop in income during 2020 and 32% of charities cancelling or delaying research projects. Since the pandemic started, the estimated reduction in UK charity research funding will be £310m. This represents a substantial drop in research funding that might otherwise have resulted in a greater understanding of diseases and

the development of new treatments.

A large proportion of research funding is used to fund researchers' salaries, as they perform the research activities. With an estimated drop in available funding, a subsequent shortage of jobs for researchers is anticipated, which is considered particularly detrimental for early career researchers. At Leukaemia UK, we understand the need to retain the brightest minds in research, as it is only by supporting the potential leaders in leukaemia research that we will bring about future discoveries. Therefore, despite the financial uncertainties, we knew that continuity of research funding was essential and took the decision to offer our John Goldman Fellowship awards in 2020.

### 2020 John Goldman Fellowships for Future Science

We awarded five new John Goldman Fellowships in 2020, with total funding of £619,513.40, investing in the careers of five exceptional young scientists: Dr Miguel Ganuza (Queen Mary University of London), Dr Simon Mitchell (University of Sussex), Dr Bettina Winkelhofer (University of Manchester), Dr Kostas Tzelepis (University of Cambridge) and Dr Marcela Mansur (University of Oxford). The focus of the funded research projects is varied, but all are highly innovative. They look at: improving the understanding of how blood cancer develops, creating a new approach to personalised therapy for lymphoma, identifying new therapy targets for AML, developing a new therapy option for myeloid malignancies and unravelling the origins of infant acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL).

To further extend our support for early career scientists, Leukaemia UK committed to offer the John Goldman Fellowships in 2021 and opened for applications in December 2020.

### CASE STUDY

"At the end of March, we had to shut down the lab with only three days' warning. It was very short notice, which meant all hands were on deck trying to finish experiments in a meaningful way. Unfortunately, we had to severely restrict some of our work."

Luckily, the bioinformatics training my team received meant we were in good stead to work from home when we were in full lockdown. Since July (2020), we are back at 20% occupancy in our building, so half my team can do lab work and the





other half concentrates on data analysis from home.

My husband and I introduced a shift system so we could care for our two boys and work as well. Our children are primary school age, so we had to work around their day. My husband is also a scientist and works full-time at home. We started work each day at 6am until it was time for PE with Joe Wicks with the kids. We home schooled the boys for four hours a day and used lunch time and late afternoon for Zoom calls to catch up with everyone in the research group and collaborators.

My research group was amazing at pulling their weight and helping each other out - even more than they would normally do. It was nice to see the Glasgow cancer research community come together to support each other with resources and looking out for each other. I think it helped everyone to focus on the most important aspects of their research."

Kristina Kirschner, 2019 John Goldman Fellow, University of Glasgow

### Medical Research Council Fellowships

As part of our commitment to support the development and careers of leukaemia researchers, Leukaemia UK collaborates with the Medical Research Council (MRC) to offer jointly-funded Clinical Research Training Fellowship (CRTF) awards.

These prestigious CRTF awards are available to clinically active medical doctors within the UK to enable them to undertake a higher research degree. The scheme can also provide post-doctoral funding for applicants who achieved their PhD more than five years ago, but who have not since been active in research, due to clinical training commitments.

Leukaemia UK currently funds four MRC joint-funded clinical fellows:

Dr Sandeep Potluri (University of Birmingham), Dr Asger Jakobsen (University of Oxford), Dr Sonia Wolf (Imperial College London) and Dr Jennifer O'Sullivan (University of Oxford). The CRTFs are designed to provide personal career development for junior clinicians whilst also expanding the understanding of blood cancer. The research topics are varied: to better understand disease relapse in AML patients; a greater knowledge of the biology of AML to improve patient outcomes; the development of adult T-cell leukaemia/lymphoma (ATL) following infection with human T-lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1); and better approaches to diagnosis and relapse in high-risk essential thrombocythaemia (ET) and the progression to aggressive blood cancers such as AML.

Unsurprisingly, during the COVID-19 crisis our clinical fellows had to temporarily curtail their research activities and were re-deployed to NHS clinical duties.

### Leukaemia UK International Scholarships

In 2017 we created the Leukaemia UK International Scholarships. Annually thereafter, in collaboration with the European School of Haematology (ESH), we have provided funding for junior clinicians and scientists to attend the Annual John Goldman CML conference.

The 22nd event was due to take place in Mandelieu la Napoule, France on 2 October 2020. Due to COVID-19, the conference was held as a virtual event. Despite the disappointment of not being able to attend the event in person, Leukaemia UK was able to support 17 early career researchers from 11 different countries to take part in the annual event.

### IMPACT Partnership – Accelerating Stem Cell Transplant Clinical Trials

A stem cell or bone marrow transplant (SCT) is a potential cure for patients with blood cancer or a blood disorder. Over 2,000 people in the UK are in need of a stem cell transplant every year. Of those who receive stem cells/transplants from unrelated donors, fewer than 50% will reach the milestone of five-year survival. Survival rates following an SCT need urgent improvement and better patient outcomes can only be achieved through research. Clinical trials play a crucial role in forming the evidence base for new approaches to treatment and are essential if patient survival rates following an SCT are to be increased. Leukaemia UK is committed to saving more lives following a blood cancer diagnosis and SCT-related clinical trials are a vital part of achieving better survival rates.

Leukaemia UK is a key funding partner in the UK's first stem cell transplant (SCT) clinical trials platform. The IMPACT Partnership is comprised of the funding partners - Anthony Nolan, NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) and Leukaemia UK - together with the University of Birmingham, the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the British Society of Bone Marrow Transplantation (BSBMT).

Sister Jane Nunnick, a haematology nurse, has been appointed as the IMPACT research nurse at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. With over 25 years' nursing experience, Jane is excited to help patients receive the most pioneering treatments.

She says: "In the 25 years I've been a nurse I've seen transplant medicine move on dramatically – but there are still patients who can't have a transplant, or who relapse afterwards. IMPACT will open the door to even more patients, giving them options, and giving them a better chance that their disease isn't going to come back.

"I'm happy to see Birmingham at the centre of these trials; we've got fantastic regional hospitals that we work closely with. The community we serve is far and wide – we've transplanted patients from Norfolk to Newcastle, Liverpool and into Wales – so we know we're helping patients in Birmingham and beyond."

The structure of the platform is a 'hub and spoke' model. A central management Hub establishes and oversees the design, regulatory approval, and delivery of a trials portfolio with dedicated resources focussed on trials coordination, data management and statistical analysis. The Hub is located within the Cancer Research UK CTU at the University of Birmingham. It forms the core of an integrated UK-wide network of 22 transplant centres that collaborate to set up studies, recruit patients and share data. See table below.

### IMPACT Funded Centres (to UH Bristol) and Affiliated Centres (The Christie & below)

Transplant Centre	Location	Principal Investigator
Addenbrooke's Hospital	Cambridge	Dr Charles Crawley
Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre	Glasgow	Dr Anne Parker
Churchill Hospital	Oxford	Dr Andy Peniket
Freeman Hospital	Newcastle	Prof Matthew Collin
King's College Hospital	London	Dr Victoria Potter
Manchester Royal Infirmary	Manchester	Dr Eleni Tholouli
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	Birmingham	Dr Ram Malladi
St James's University Hospital	Leeds	Dr Maria Gilleece
University College London Hospitals	London	Dr Kavita Raj
University Hospital of Wales	Cardiff	Dr Keith Wilson
University Hospitals Bristol	Bristol	Dr Stephen Robinson
The Christie	Manchester	Dr Adrian Bloor
Derriford Hospital	Plymouth	Dr Hannah Hunter
Hammersmith Hospital	London	Dr Eduardo Olavarria
Heart of England	Birmingham	Dr Emmanuel Nikolousis
Leicester Royal Infirmary	Leicester	Dr Murray Martin
Nottingham City Hospital	Nottingham	Dr Jenny Byrne
Royal Hallamshire Hospital	Sheffield	Prof John Snowden
Clatterbridge Cancer Centre	Liverpool	Dr Amit Patel
The Royal Marsden Hospital	London	Dr Emma Nicholson
Southampton General Hospital	Southampton	Dr Kim Orchard
St Bartholomew's Hospital	London	Dr Jeff Davies

Since 2018, eight IMPACT trials have been successfully approved (see table below). Throughout 2020, six trials were actively recruiting patients, the seventh trial was only recently approved and, sadly, the eighth trial was discontinued in the early stages of set up. This was due to feasibility and changes to frontline treatment which may have affected successful progression of the trial. In total, by the end of 2020 almost 500 patients had been recruited to IMPACT trials, providing crucial evidence for new approaches to treatments and ultimately helping improve outcomes for stem cell transplant patients.

Trial	Recruitment Start	Patient target
<b>COVID-19 BMT</b> - Chief Investigator: Dr Giovanna Lucchini To evaluate the role of immune and inflammatory response in recipients of allogeneic stem cell transplantation affected by severe COVID-19 infection.	04/05/20	60
<b>Pro-DLI</b> - Chief Investigator: Dr Victoria Potter The primary objective of this study is to determine whether prophylactic donor lymphocyte infusions (DLI) will improve disease-free survival of patients with AML or MDS.	24/08/2017	150
<b>MoTD</b> - Chief Investigator: Prof. Ronjon Chakraverty Compare novel graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) prophylaxis regimens to a current standard-of-care.	Oct-Nov- 2021	400
<b>IPANEMA</b> - Chief Investigator: Dr Christopher Parrish A trial of Daratumumab to remove myeloma cells from blood stem cells before transplant for patients with multiple myeloma.	Not continued	N/A
<b>AMADEUS</b> - Chief Investigator: Prof. Charles Craddock The primary objective is to compare relapse free survival of patients with AML or high-risk MDS treated with maintenance therapy of oral azacitidine versus placebo post stem cell transplant.	14/06/19	324
<b>ALL-RIC</b> - Chief Investigator: Prof. David Marks A comparison of reduced dose total body irradiation (TBI) and reduced intensity conditioning regimen in adults with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) in complete remission.	17/09/18	247
<b>COSI</b> - Chief Investigator: Prof. Charles Craddock A comparison of new therapies with the potential to improve outcomes in adults with AML and High Risk-MDS who have received a stem cell transplant.	27/01/20	760
<b>RATinG</b> -Chief Investigator: Dr Adrian Bloor Study of the use of Lenzulinib compared to placebo in patients with acute GvHD following stem cell transplant.	In set-up phase	534



During the height of the COVID-19 crisis, all clinical research was paused and therefore new patient recruitment to IMPACT trials was halted. However, contact and care for those patients already recruited to trials continued. Subsequently, the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) approved the re-start of all clinical research and patient recruitment has now resumed.

In addition to ensuring that treatment continued for all patients already recruited to IMPACT trials, the IMPACT Partnership responded promptly to the COVID-19 crisis. A COVID-19 focussed non-interventional trial was rapidly approved and developed by the IMPACT Hub, set-up progressed at the UK IMPACT centres and recruitment of patients began at rapid speed.

The COVID-19 BMT IMPACT trial was designed to recruit patients who had undergone a previous stem cell transplant and who were suffering a severe COVID-19 infection. The aim of this non-interventional trial was to biochemically assess and monitor previous stem cell patients who were admitted to hospital with severe COVID-19 symptoms. Initially, patient recruitment was low, which suggested that patients were successfully shielding. With a target recruitment number of 60 patients, amendments to recruitment criteria were considered to include all previous stem cell patients who had tested positive or currently tested positive for COVID-19, regardless of the severity of symptoms. The trial was led by Dr Giovanna Lucchini and Professor Persis Amrolia at Great Ormond Street Hospital. The scientific study was funded by the NIHR Blood & Transplant Research Unit and sponsored by Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Deborah Harkins had a stem cell transplant in June 2016 for leukaemia and is currently participating in a clinical trial for patients at high risk of relapse.

She says: "I believe we owe it to donors, those who are giving people a second chance of life, to do more research into what makes a stem cell transplant successful. Patients also deserve to receive the best possible care, and for that to happen we need clinical trials to take research from the lab to a place where it can really benefit patients."

"I've never met a patient who wouldn't consider being part of a clinical trial – the issue is that for a long time, there

haven't been enough trials for patients to be part of. That's why IMPACT is so important. It will increase the number of patients on trials, which ultimately means more patients' lives saved."

## 2. Our Ground-Breaking Care

### Mind and Body Programme

In 2019, Leukaemia UK awarded funding to King's College London to support the launch of a two-year pilot project to address the psychological impact of a blood cancer diagnosis and treatments – both for those living with blood cancer and their families. The rationale of the Mind and Body project is to evaluate a universal screening tool to assess psychological need and offer people living with blood cancer a 'whole person' package of emotional, as well as clinical, support. The ultimate aim is to introduce a holistic approach as the standard of care for all blood cancer patients across the UK.

The Mind and Body pilot programme involves screening blood cancer patients for mental health issues. Initially, screenings took place in person during routine appointments and for those receiving inpatient treatment. Following the set-up phase of the programme in 2019, 46 haemato-oncology patients were offered screening, of which nine declined.

The Mind and Body team needed to adapt swiftly during the COVID-19 crisis as most haematology clinics were conducted remotely. The team contacted patients via telephone, 200 patients were offered screening with a take-up of 49 patients, and subsequent referrals were made for further support. Despite COVID-19, redeployments and furlough of research staff, the project has progressed, patients have been successfully screened for mental health issues and all necessary help and support has been provided.

A new mental health screening system called e-IMPARTS was developed which enabled patients to complete the screening process remotely in the comfort of their homes. In October 2020, e-IMPARTS screening was made available to patients in the myeloma clinic, which could potentially reach 60 patients a week. The screening is currently ongoing.

The Mind & Body Team comprises:

Consultant Nurse (BMT, survivorship and rehab), Project Co-Lead - Michelle Kenyon

Consultant Psychiatrist / Project Co-lead - Greg Shields

Haematologists - Carmel Rice & David Wrench

Clinical Psychologist- Christian Williams

Social Worker- Rachel Davidson

Psychology Student- Jess White

Research Fellow- Bernadette Khoshaba



“Treatments like intensive chemotherapy can be aggressive, arguably more so than for some other forms of cancer. The side effects can be unpleasant, sometimes serious, and last for some time (e.g. fatigue).

Treatment often involves long hospital stays and separation from loved ones, which can lead to some people feeling isolated. A number of the patients I see have had a transplant, which is very challenging – both physically and psychologically – and it can take some time for people to recover from that.

Just as we always treat the physical symptoms of people with blood cancer, it is equally important to attend to their emotional needs too – wherever they might be on a continuum from mild and normal distress through to being mentally unwell. This is because we know that people with serious and/or long-term health conditions experience a number of emotional challenges in coping and adjusting, and we know that they could develop mental health issues as a result of their illness.

I think rehabilitation following treatment for blood cancer includes both physical and psychological recovery, and it's important that we support people in both aspects. Some people have a delayed emotional reaction and might be confused or distressed by their feelings; as far as I'm concerned, it's vital that the door remains open for them to get support.”

Mr Phillip Alexander, Cognitive Behaviour Psychotherapist and Counsellor, Mind & Body Team

### Helping Hand Fund

Leukaemia UK understands that a blood cancer diagnosis can cause more than physical health problems. We appreciate that a diagnosis can have a detrimental impact on family finances, whether through the inability to work due to poor health whilst receiving treatment, taking care of a child with blood cancer or extra costs incurred due to illness. In 2020, we provided financial support by awarding £150 to 43 people who needed our help. We placed no restrictions on the use of the award, but most people required help with the extra cost of travelling to hospital for multiple rounds of treatment. We also committed to offering our Helping Hand Fund in 2021.



## 3. Our Drive to Bring about Change

### The Blood Cancer Alliance

Leukaemia UK is a member of the Blood Cancer Alliance (BCA), which is made up of 15 UK blood cancer charities. Its remit is to come together to tackle the key issues faced by blood cancer patients to improve the experience and outcomes of all those living with blood cancer in the UK.

Throughout 2020, as part of the BCA, Leukaemia UK was involved in several activities.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is currently undergoing a review of its health technology evaluation process and methods which aims to future proof the system for drug and treatment approvals. The timeline for implementation of the new methods and processes is January 2022. The review is multi-step, including several consultation periods. During the review, the BCA has submitted a combined membership response to proposals as part of the consultation process.

### Access to Medicines

Access to medicines is critical to improving outcomes for those diagnosed with leukaemia and other blood cancers – and therefore a key issue of concern to patients.

The BCA commissioned research entitled ‘Access to Medicines’ which started and completed in 2020. The aim of the research was to provide evidence and explore the current opportunities and challenges for rapid access to new drugs and treatments for people with blood cancer in all four nations of the UK, and to identify recommendations for change.

The final report highlighted a number of factors which all contribute to variability in patient access to new treatments in the UK, together with recommendations on how to address the issues. The main points were:

- **Surgery or radiotherapy are rarely options for blood cancer patients – timely access to the best possible new treatments and medicines is critical to improving outcomes.**
- **Patient access to new treatments is variable in the UK, and ten key issues are exacerbating this problem.**
- **Two-thirds of blood cancer patients are worried about future access to medicines, and 88% believe the Government should be doing more.**
- **The patient voice is currently lost in the treatment appraisal process.**

An engagement campaign with key stakeholders and influencers was started in late 2020 with the aim of highlighting access to medicine issues and bringing about necessary change.

### **One Cancer Voice**

Leukaemia UK is a member of One Cancer Voice, a charity coalition of 46 cancer charities aimed at improving the lives of all cancer patients by highlighting issues related to cancer treatment, care, and support.

During the COVID-19 crisis, Leukaemia UK joined One Cancer Voice to ensure that consistent advice and vital information was available to all. Blood cancer patients are particularly at risk from a COVID-19 infection and therefore classed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV). Access to supportive, accurate and rapidly-changing advice was crucial to all those diagnosed with blood cancer and their families. Leukaemia UK shared and distributed the advice produced by One Cancer Voice throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Association of Medical Research**

Leukaemia UK became a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) in March 2016. Membership offers the opportunity to support and be supported by other member charities. A collegiate approach was vital during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing much-needed information and discussion with regards to issues such as stalled research funding projects and furlough of research staff. The AMRC collected data from its members via surveys several times throughout 2020. From the data provided, the AMRC announced that the COVID-19 crisis was having a devastating financial impact on medical research charities, which faced cuts to their research investment of 41% in the next year alone – with a predicted £310m shortfall in support for life-saving discoveries.

Medical research charities fund the salaries of around 17,000 UK scientists. Funding uncertainties led to the prediction that many scientists could be forced to leave the profession, with two-thirds of those surveyed relying entirely on charity funding for their salary. It was expected that early-career researchers might be particularly affected. According to an AMRC survey, thousands of charity-funded early career researchers could face a funding cliff edge. Half said that their funding would expire by the end of 2021 and, of those, two-thirds had so far been unable to secure funding to take them to the next stage in their career.

The Institute for Public Policy Research published a 'Research at Risk' report warning that the charity fundraising hit from COVID-19 could mean up to £7.8 billion less would be available for future medical research.

The AMRC, Leukaemia UK and other members worked together to make a case for Government support and to secure funding to ensure continuation of research funding. The AMRC developed a campaign which

launched in January 2021 - #ResearchAtRisk. The purpose of the campaign was to gain the support of the public, encouraging people to write to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and ask him to intervene in the battle for funding for the medical health charity sector.

### **4. Our Inspirational Community**

We are extremely grateful to our incredibly generous and committed community of supporters up and down the UK who are united in wanting to drive progress in outcomes for all those affected by leukaemia and other blood cancers.

In 2020, their unwavering support was never needed more. Their efforts helped grow our overall income to £1.8m, enabling us to continue our investment in research when others in the sector were sadly forced to cut research funding.

### **Who's Cooking Dinner?**

We were extremely fortunate to have been able to host our flagship fundraising event, Who's Cooking Dinner?, in March 2020, just three weeks before the country was instructed to stay at home to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

For more than 20 years, Leukaemia UK has organised Who's Cooking Dinner?, the top foodie fundraising event of the year, masterminded by luminary restaurateurs Chris Corbin OBE and Peter Gordon.

For one evening only, more than 20 of the UK's most prominent chefs from top restaurants, with a host of Michelin stars and accolades between them, take part in this remarkable event.

The 21st anniversary Who's Cooking Dinner? event was held on 2 March 2020 at The Dorchester Park Lane, London and raised an extraordinary £298,800 to fund life-saving leukaemia and blood cancer research.

Once again, the evening brought together a who's who of culinary legends. Our stellar line-up included Rick Stein, Tom Kerridge, Giorgio Locatelli, Clare Smyth and Brett Graham, alongside the next generation of world-class chefs — Jackson Boxer, Tom Booton, Jonny Glass and Jeremy Page.

Who's Cooking Dinner? That's the question asked by the guests of 20 table 'hosts', who discovered on the night which chef in the all-star line-up would be cooking for them. The Grand Auction, hosted by Sotheby's, followed the dinner, where guests had the chance to bid for their favourite chef to cook a bespoke dining experience in their home.



“Last night was a great night, again. Thank you to the Leukaemia UK team. The chefs and their teams donate their time and the food and drink and that’s fantastic.” – Chris Field, Who’s Cooking Dinner? host, 2020

### Our Wonderful Supporters

We saw a significant increase in one-off donations throughout 2020. Our supporters donated when they could to raise over £250,000 and around 100 people donated a regular gift, raising over £60,000. We also saw more than 3,000 people create fundraisers for Leukaemia UK using Facebook Charitable Giving Tools, raising over £65,000.

We would like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to all our supporters who made the effort to fundraise for us in this exceptionally difficult year. Thanks to you, we are able to reach more people who have received a blood cancer diagnosis and offer help to their friends and family too.

Your support means everything to us.



“My amazing and lovely granddaughter has been suffering from leukaemia for almost ten years now. The toll it has taken on all of us — my daughter, son-in-law, her elder brother and younger sister and grandparents, my other daughter and her family — has been enormous.

Today I was on the point of making a donation to Captain Tom when I realised that, amazing as

he has been, I really want to ensure that leukaemia and other charities still receive money too in the strange and stressful times we are in.

My granddaughter is in a precarious state of remission at the moment and our hope has always been that she can keep going until the people who do such amazing work as you, will one day discover less invasive treatments, if not a cure. You have come so far since my little star was just six and we were brutally introduced to the nightmare of leukaemia.

Thank you so much for all your efforts. Wish I was in a position to donate much, much more.”

Kathy

### ‘In memory’ giving

We are extremely grateful to our supporters who donate in memory of a loved one. Donating in memory is such an extraordinary way to honour and remember friends, family, neighbours, colleagues and loved ones. Over 2,000 people chose to donate in memory in 2020, gifting an incredible £207,123 to life-saving leukaemia and blood cancer research. Thanks to these supporters, we can help families across the UK who are currently fighting leukaemia or have just received the news that they have leukaemia.

### Legacy Giving

All of our ground-breaking research is funded thanks to the generosity and support of fundraisers and donors. During 2020 we were privileged to receive 15 gifts in Wills to the value of £387,607. We would like to take a moment to thank every person who decided to leave a legacy to Leukaemia UK. Thank you for placing your trust in us to use your generous gift wisely to improve and save the lives of as many people living with leukaemia and blood cancer as possible. Gifts in Wills enable us to increase our investment in research and fund larger-scale research projects, driving forward progress in the understanding and treatment of leukaemia and blood cancer.

### Event Fundraising

Although the country spent most of the year living in lockdown, this didn’t stop our supporters from taking on challenges to fundraise on our behalf. From running and walking at home to participating in national virtual fundraising events, such as the 2.6 Challenge organised by the Virgin London Marathon Team, our amazing community raised over £150,000.

Our supporter Tommy raised an incredible £805 by completing a 100k challenge in May. Here, Tommy shares why he decided to support us.

“The reason why I chose Leukaemia UK was because my auntie was diagnosed with leukaemia last year. I’m delighted to say she is now in remission. She received brilliant treatment in terms of how quickly it was diagnosed which enabled treatment to begin straight away which gave her a great chance of beating it. The care she received was excellent and as a family we are very grateful for this.

I wanted to raise as much awareness of leukaemia as I could, as we experienced first-hand the effects this has on families in the UK and all over the world. Thank you and keep up the amazing work you are doing!”

## Trusts and Foundations

In all, 40 trusts and foundations supported our work in 2020, gifting over £47,253. This was mainly secured from small and medium trusts. We would like to thank all the trusts that were kind enough to fund our work this year.

We also want to say a huge thank you to The Robert Luff Foundation Ltd for their generous funding that went towards the salary of the Research Fellow integrated into the Mind and Body programme. The role is a critical post for this project. It provides the lead on the research and data collection, ensuring we gather a strong evidence base on the impact of providing psychological support to people living with blood cancer and their families.

## 5. Our Finances

**This report covers the period 1st January 2020 to the 31st December 2020 – the new charity's first full financial year after merger.**

### Income

Total income for the year grew to £1.8m – an increase of 4.9% from 2019.

The main sources of income and growth came from legacies and individual donations, including donated goods and services, totalling £1.4m. Our flagship fundraising event – Who's Cooking Dinner? – was delivered just before lockdown, raising £299,220.

Investment income of £84,636 reflected the initial impact of the pandemic on the markets.

### Fundraising Expenditure

This increased income was achieved despite a decrease in expenditure on raising funds from £556,607 to £471,594, demonstrating efficiencies generated by the merger.

### Charitable Expenditure

Expenditure on charitable activities was £1.2m – a reduction of £364k from 2019. This was due to the timing of our Project Grants which we aim to fund every other year and hope to repeat in 2022.

### Grants

A total of £0.9m was committed as new grants in the year – a decrease compared to the prior year due to no new project grants having been committed.

### Surplus

Thanks to a stronger than anticipated income performance, we ended the year with a surplus after net gains/(losses) on investments of £101,397 compared to a deficit of £51,296 in the prior year. This is despite a loss on investments in the year of £33,799 as a result of the volatility in the market from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

## Reserves

This result reflects a recognition by the Trustees that the reserves accumulated over the past few years should be released over the next few years, but also reflects a desire to ensure that only research and care projects that meet the stringent requirements of the charity are funded. In addition, during this unparalleled time of global change and economic uncertainty, we must have enough reserves to ensure the charity is resilient and can sustain its commitments to research and care.

At the end of 2020, the total funds of the charity were £3,309,335, up from £3,207,938 at the end of 2019.

Funds held on 31 December 2020 were:

- **Unrestricted £3,301,658, restricted £7,677 (2019 - unrestricted £3,147,938, restricted £60,000).**
- **Of the unrestricted funds, £333,974 were designated to the IMPACT Partnership and this will be spent over the next year.**
- **As a result, free reserves totalled £2,967,684 (2019 - £2,574,881).**

Following completion of the merger, the Reserves Policy of the charity was simplified. The new policy requires sufficient free reserves to cover 12 months of running costs – defined as ongoing staff and overhead costs (c. £525,000) and one year of grant commitments (c. £1m), all uplifted by an additional 25% to respond to unexpected changes to the funding environment. This requires a general reserves level of around £1.9m. The current level of £2,967,684 exceeds this amount.

The Trustees have identified this excess of general or free reserves as one of the risks currently facing the charity, and they are aware that the reserves guidance issued by the Charities Commission states we should not hold excessive reserves. As a result, they plan to review the reserves policy in 2021, with a view to using some reserves to sustainably grow the charity's long-term impact.

## Financial Statements

The charity's financial statements are set out on pages 22 to 38.

## Going Concern

Like every charity that raises money through events, Leukaemia UK has been impacted financially by the pandemic, and has had to find new ways to raise money to replace events fundraising income. However, during 2020, our flagship event – Who's Cooking Dinner? – took place in early March before lockdown in England. This, along with an increased income from legacies and one-off donations, ensured that our income grew slightly in 2020. Additionally, the merger created cost efficiencies in some areas, which meant our plan to spend down some of our

reserves and run a deficit, resulted in a surplus.

Our plan and budget for 2021 see us: continuing to draw on our reserves to invest in consolidating the charity post-merger; and diversifying our fundraising portfolio, to minimise over-reliance on any one income stream, in particular, special events. Whilst we have sustained and, in some cases, increased our investment in existing programmes and projects, we have also been prudent by not committing to any new large, long-term research commitments. We will wait until we have developed our new strategy and have a better sense of our baseline income and fundraising opportunities post-merger and post-pandemic.

As part of our strategy development, we are reviewing our Reserves Policy so we can invest in our charitable work to deliver greater impact for those affected by leukaemia. We also aim to create a more sustainable fundraising model and charity, which can sustain world-class leukaemia research and ground-breaking care, to deliver long-term progress.

It is therefore reasonable to expect that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future, representing a period of at least 12 months from authorisation of the financial statements. Given this, the Trustees consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis as outlined in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

### Investments

The Trustees take a cautious and prudent approach to investment of the charity's funds. To ensure that investments are appropriately diversified, they have agreed for funds to be split between:

- Short and medium-term bank money market deposits
- A portfolio of investments managed by the firm of stockbrokers, Investec.

This split of resources is designed to balance potential returns with appropriate risk, as well as ensuring enough liquidity to meet cash flow requirements. The long-term investment portfolio is managed by investment managers in order to: ensure a cash income source through dividends and interest which is withdrawn from the portfolio on a quarterly basis; and to achieve capital growth by reinvesting funds from disposed of investments.

The only restriction placed on the investment portfolio is an instruction that the firms must not invest charity funds in tobacco companies. All long-term investments are managed by Investec, which provides regular updates to Board meetings throughout the year. Investec is invited annually to present to the Finance & Audit Sub-Committee.

## 6. Our Passionate Team

We are a small charity determined to be a force for change for all those affected by leukaemia.

Our small size belies the big hearts, expertise, passion and drive within our team at Leukaemia UK, which works throughout the year to fund and deliver world-class research and ground-breaking care.

### Status

Leukaemia UK operates as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed in line with its constitution dated 3 December 2013. Our objectives are to relieve sickness and preserve and protect health, in particular by:

- Promoting research into leukaemia and/or related disorders
- Providing support directly or indirectly to people affected by leukaemia and/or related disorders, including the maintenance of specialist treatment units.

### Public Benefit

Trustees can confirm that they are informed by the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that they have complied with Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to this area. Any research that we fund must be available to everyone regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or age, amongst other factors.





## Board of Trustees

Trustees contribute their services to the Board on a voluntary basis and are responsible for the governance of the charity, ensuring it meets its statutory responsibilities as well as determining overall strategy, policies and direction, with the expert guidance of the Leadership Team.

We believe it is critical that most of our Board members have a lived experience of leukaemia so they can walk in the shoes of those we are here to help. During the year under review, the Leukaemia UK Board of Trustees consisted of:

Chris Corbin (Chair)  
 Amanda Stewart (Vice-Chair)  
 Oliver Sparks (Treasurer)  
 Alastair Adam  
 Luke Cripps  
 Caroline Evans  
 James Fairclough  
 David Linch  
 Jonathan Neal  
 Tony Pagliuca  
 Ray Kelly - Resigned 1st June 2021  
 David Krapp - Resigned 12th February 2021  
 Liz Pepper - Resigned 26th January 2021  
 John Macey - Resigned 27th May 2021

The constitution states there must be a minimum of three Board members. All Trustees have a term length of three or four years but are eligible for one reappointment. Any new Trustees are invited by agreement of the existing Trustees, having due regard to the skills, knowledge and experience required for the effective administration of the charity.

Following the merger of the two legacy charities and the creation of a new Leukaemia UK Board, a Board Review will take place in 2021 to ensure the charity has the skills, experience and perspective it needs for the future.

## Leadership Team

The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive, who works with a Leadership Team consisting of a Head of Research & Policy and Head of Fundraising and Communications.

In the summer of 2020, six months after the merger,

the Board of Trustees decided to create one CEO role to lead the charity. Following an open and competitive recruitment process, we appointed a new Chief Executive, Fiona Hazell. Fiona joined the charity on 7 September 2020, before which she was part of the Senior Leadership Team at Breast Cancer Now, as Director of Influencing & Communications. She brings 20 years' leadership experience in the not-for-profit and medical research sectors. Fiona helped lead the two mergers that created Breast Cancer Now and one of the UK's leading cancer charities.

We sadly said goodbye to Co-CEOs Olive Boles and Angela Smith-Morgan, who led the charity through the merger. We are very grateful for their service to the charity.

## Staff

In 2020, the charity had a small but expert and dedicated team of six permanent staff, who raised £1.8m and delivered £1.1m worth of leukaemia research and care.

## Volunteers

We are nothing without our volunteers across the UK who generously give their time and expertise to support us. This includes the voluntary expert panels who help deliver our work. We are incredibly grateful to all our volunteers for everything they do to help the charity, people with a diagnosis of blood cancer, and their friends and families.

## Scientific and Medical Panel

Independent peer review is an integral part of the decision-making process when awarding funding. All grant applications are assessed by world-class researchers and experts, whose views and opinions inform our decision-making.

Grant applications are reviewed by at least three experts from our Independent Scientific Panel and two external reviewers, in accordance with our Peer Review Policy. The reviewers assess applications for their relevance, quality and feasibility to make recommendations for funding.

Leukaemia UK implements a policy on Conflicts of Interest, whereby all panel members and reviewers are asked to declare any conflicts they may have with the application or applicant/s, in order that these are properly managed, in line with impartiality standards.

Leukaemia UK's Scientific and Medical Panel members make their recommendations to Leukaemia UK's Board of Trustees who make the final decisions on which applications will be approved for funding. In the year under review, this panel consists of:

Prof. Nick Cross, Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton (Chair)

Prof. Francesco Dazzi, King's College London (Vice Chair)

Prof. Dominique Bonnet, Francis Crick Institute, London  
 Prof. Jackie Boulton, University of Oxford  
 Prof. Richard Clark, University of Liverpool  
 Dr Steve Devine MD, CIBMTR, Minneapolis, USA  
 Prof. Tariq Enver, Cancer Institute Director, University College London  
 Prof. Maria Figueroa, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, USA  
 Dr Maria Gilleece, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust  
 Prof. John Gribben, Queen Mary University of London  
 Prof. Olaf Heidenreich, Newcastle University  
 Prof. Robert Hills, Cardiff University  
 Prof. Anastasios Karadimitris, Imperial College London  
 Prof. Nicolaus Kröger, University Medical Centre, Hamburg, Germany  
 Prof. David Marin, MD Anderson Cancer Centre, Houston, USA  
 Prof. Mary Francis McMullin, Queen's University Belfast  
 Prof. Ken Mills, Queen's University Belfast  
 Prof. Emma Morris, University College Hospital, London  
 Dr Kim Orchard, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust  
 Prof. Uwe Platzbecker, Technical University Dresden, Germany  
 Prof. Katy Rezvani, MD Anderson Cancer Centre, Houston, USA  
 Prof. Simon Rule, University of Plymouth  
 Dr Satyajit Sahu, University Hospital Lewisham, London  
 Dr Bipin Savani MD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, USA  
 Dr Bronwen Shaw MD, Medical College of Wisconsin, USA  
 Prof. John A Snowden, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

### **IMPACT Oversight Committee**

IMPACT is a partnership of organisations committed to improving the outcomes of stem cell transplantation through cutting-edge research. It is jointly funded by Anthony Nolan, Leukaemia UK and NHS Blood and Transplant.

In December 2020, the IMPACT Oversight Committee consisted of the following people:

Henny Braund - Chair and Chief Executive, Anthony Nolan  
 Fiona Hazell - Deputy Chair and Chief Executive, Leukaemia UK  
 Prof. Charles Craddock - IMPACT Hub Clinical Lead  
 Prof. Ronjon Chakraverty - IMPACT Medical Director  
 Prof. Paresh Vyas - Chair - IMPACT Scientific Advisory Group  
 Dr James Griffin - Medical Director Clinical Services, NHSBT  
 Prof. Kim Orchard - BSBMT President

### **Who's Cooking Dinner? Committee**

Who's Cooking Dinner? is our flagship fundraising event which relies on the support and expertise of an organising committee. In the year under review, this committee included:

Chris Corbin OBE (Chairman)  
 Peter Gordon ONZM (Founder)  
 Claire O'Sullivan  
 Hannah Lewis MBE  
 Lou McLeod  
 Marian Scrutton  
 Michelle Chillingworth  
 Olive Boles  
 Phil Parry  
 Premala Matthen  
 Racheline Garston  
 Ray Kelly  
 Russell Norman  
 Seb Fogg  
 Tanya Hamilton-Smith  
 Thomas Flynn

### **Finance & Audit Sub-Committee**

The Committee usually meets four times a year and is made up of three Trustees: Oliver Sparks, Jonathan Neal and David Krapp. It is responsible for advising the Board on operational and strategic financial planning, including reviewing plans, budgets and reforecasts. It reviews matters of financial governance including financial policies, processes and controls, and advises on the appointment of external auditors. The Committee also sets and recommends the Investment Strategy to the Board for approval and oversees the management and performance of investments.

### **Remuneration Sub-Committee**

The Committee usually meets twice a year and is made up of three Trustees: Chris Corbin (Chair), Caroline Evans and John Macey. It sets and reviews the people and organisational policies and processes for the charity, including the pay policy, which uses sector benchmarking to set pay levels. The Committee review staff salaries on an annual basis. Each year a salary review is considered but not guaranteed, with any agreed uplift applicable from 1 January and only available to staff who have completed their probationary period. When new roles are considered, the charity benchmarks them against similar roles in medical charities of a similar size.

## 7. Ethics

### Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Leukaemia UK recognises the critical importance of working with individuals from all backgrounds and community groups affected by and interested in leukaemia, as this helps build a charity that values knowledge, understanding, innovation and difference in others.

We are committed to ensuring all current and potential staff members and volunteers are offered the same opportunities regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, gender status, maternity status, marital status, race, religion, social status or economic status.

Our plans for 2021 include ensuring we better understand, work with and represent all those affected by leukaemia and blood cancer. We aim to listen, learn and collaborate with others to increase equality, diversity and accessibility across all we do. As part of this work, we will develop and publish a full Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy and Action Plan, as well as implementing a Board Review to ensure our charity is governed by a Board that better represents and reflects the experiences of our community.

### Use of Animals in Research

Animal research has played a vital part in many medical discoveries. Some of the biggest breakthroughs in our understanding of blood cancers and the development of new treatments would not have been possible without the use of animals. Most biomedical research is carried out using non-animal methods, but sometimes these methods simply cannot replace the use of animals.

Leukaemia UK supports the view, together with the majority of academics and every major UK charity that conducts medical research, that using animals in research is sometimes necessary to develop new treatments for human diseases.

Leukaemia UK will fund proposals that include research with animals only where there is no alternative, and where the proposals fully comply with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. All animal research carried out in the UK must be approved and licensed by the Home Office.

Leukaemia UK is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). All AMRC members support the AMRC position statement on the use of animals in research.

We support the guiding principles of the 3Rs (replace, refine and reduce) that underpin the humane use of animals in scientific research. Any proposed research using animals is therefore required to consider how to:

1. 'Replace' animals with alternatives wherever possible.
2. 'Refine' experimental techniques, to ensure best practices for animal welfare.
3. 'Reduce' the number of animals used to a minimum, to obtain information from fewer animals or more information from the same number of animals.

### Fundraising Ethics

Leukaemia UK voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and its Code of Fundraising Practice. The Fundraising Regulator investigates and takes appropriate action on cases of public concern. We are also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service which enables individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. We continue to work closely with the Fundraising Regulator and with the Institute of Fundraising to help improve standards and ways of working across the charity sector.

### Complaints Handling

Complaints and supporter feedback provide important sources of information about the impact that our work has on our supporters and members of the public, giving us insights and lessons for future fundraising activities.

We are committed to delivering the highest possible standard of service and supporter care. As part of our complaints policy, we promise:

- To provide a fair complaints procedure that is clear and easy to use.
- To publicise our complaints procedure so that people know how to make a complaint.
- To make sure that all complaints are investigated in a timely way.
- To make sure that complaints are, wherever possible, resolved and that relationships are repaired.
- To gather information that helps us to improve what we do.

During 2020 we received zero complaints. We anticipate that this figure will increase as our income generation activities grow and we will review our complaints policy and procedure in line with fundraising plans.



## 8. Our Risks

We have a stringent approach to risk management, with the risk register and processes reviewed on a regular basis by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and annually by the full Board of Trustees. The Trustees actively review the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and confirm that they have established systems to manage significant risks.

The risk management process takes account of several factors when identifying risks, including internal factors such as staff expertise, cash and donation levels, and current commitments, as well as external factors including reputational risk, trends within the sector and changes in legislation. Each risk is then given a rating based on the level of impact it might have on the operations of the charity against the likelihood of any negative impact occurring. The major risks identified by the management team at the end of the reporting period are outlined here.

Risk	Mitigating activities
<b>Reserve levels either fall to a point where the charity is unable to continue to fund future commitments or rise to a point where they have a negative impact on fundraising activities.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Finance &amp; Audit Sub-committee, chaired by the Treasurer, to meet up to four times a year. Its remit includes reviewing the investment and reserves policy, cashflow management and advising the Board accordingly.</li> <li>• The Board keeps the reserves policy under review to ensure it is fit for purpose and balances the two risks.</li> <li>• Three-year rolling cashflow forecasts are now presented as part of the management accounts to show current cash and investment levels against future commitments and expected income, including showing the balance of funds remaining uncommitted at the end of the period.</li> <li>• At least two budget reforecasts take place throughout the year to manage income and expenditure in line with actual performance, given uncertainty caused by COVID-19.</li> <li>• A prudent approach was taken to new grant commitments in the year under review given the potential impact of COVID-19 on fundraising events and income.</li> </ul>
<b>Negative publicity or event fatigue significantly impacts the income generated by Who's Cooking Dinner?, resulting in a major drop in income.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A senior Head of Fundraising &amp; Communications has been appointed to build capacity to develop a plan for income diversification to reduce the dependence on single events.</li> <li>• A dedicated events producer was engaged to manage the dinner to ensure it is run to the highest standards and to exploit new opportunities and spin-offs.</li> <li>• Reserves are monitored and kept at a level high enough to meet our current research commitments, even if income were to drop significantly below current levels.</li> </ul>

**Non-compliance with complex legislation and reporting requirements leads to reputational damage or punitive action.**

- We will continue to recruit experts to advise us on key areas, so we are up to date with the latest developments.
- We began reviewing our internal policies and procedures following the merger including Terms & Conditions, HR policies and staff handbook and income processing.
- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follow their code of practice to reflect our commitment to the sector's kitemark for quality and compliance.

## 9. Our Plans for 2021

Following a year of unparalleled change, we developed a new operational plan for 2021 that builds on the benefits of the merger, while we develop a longer-term strategy for the new charity.

**Our four over-arching objectives for 2021 are to:**

### 1. Invest £1m to drive progress for all those affected by leukaemia:

- Understand better the needs of all those affected and the barriers to greater progress.
- Fund world-class innovative leukaemia research, advocate and campaign to change policy and practice, and raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of leukaemia.

### 2. Better understand, involve and represent all those affected by blood cancer:

- Listen, learn and collaborate with others.
- Develop a new policy and action plan to improve equality, diversity and inclusion across all we do.

### 3. Maintain income in 2021 and build foundations for long-term sustainable growth:

- Refocus our fundraising efforts in light of the pandemic.
- Build on the success of current income streams to maximise income for our charitable work.
- Develop innovative fundraising opportunities for our supporters, recognising the new ways that people choose to support us.
- Improve and modernise our supporters' experience through personalised supporter journeys.
- Invest in long-term fundraising, championing sustainable fundraising and investments that consider the environment and wellbeing of others.

### 4. Make Leukaemia UK a great place to work in a post-pandemic world:

- Build a new culture and high-performing team.
- Instil robust and flexible governance, policies and procedures.
- Plan, evaluate performance and measure impact.

## 10. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Board of Trustees presents its Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

Under that law, they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Under charity 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 charity and any excess of expenditure over income for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 3 to 18 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law. They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance

with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts 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 FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

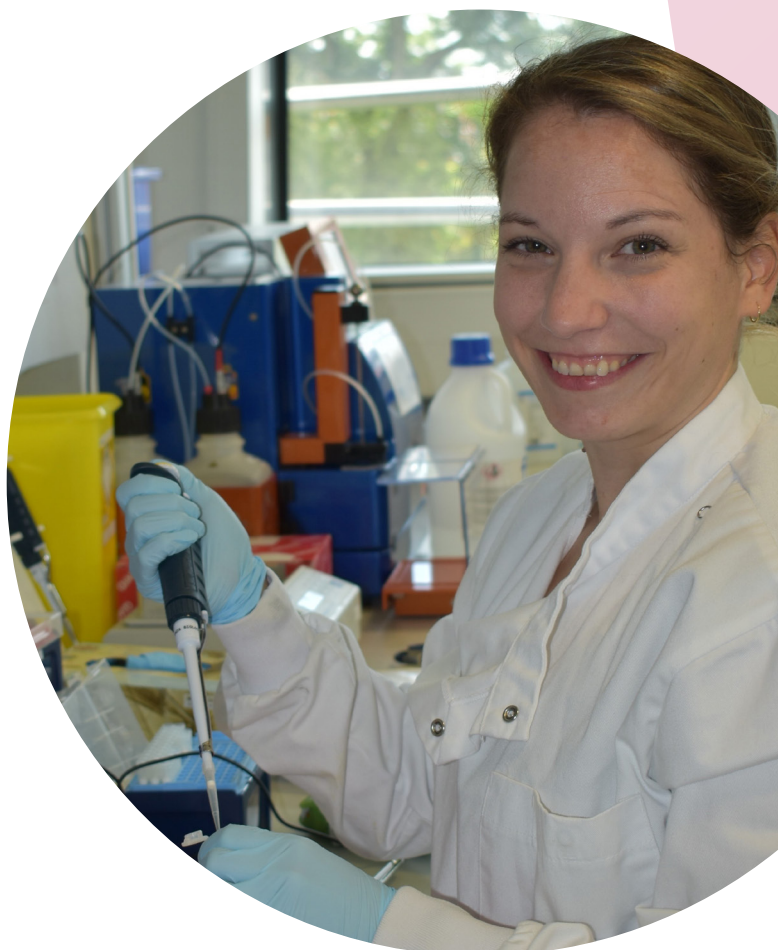
Each person who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware.
- The Trustee has taken all the steps he/ she ought to have taken as a Trustee to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information. This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 16 September 2021 and signed on its behalf.

*Chris Corbin*

**Chris Corbin OBE**

Chairman



## 11. Independent Auditor's Report

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Leukaemia UK for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 December 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### 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 charity'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.

### Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we required for our audit.

### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 18, the trustees 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 determines 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

## Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charity.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charity and considered that the most significant are the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charity complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 any party other than the charity and charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Mahmood Ramji (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

Devonshire House  
60 Goswell Road  
London  
EC1M 7AD

Date: 30/09/2021

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
<b>Income from</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	1,372,215	46,127	<b>1,418,342</b>	1,057,766
Other trading activities	4	299,220	-	<b>299,220</b>	533,190
Investments	5	84,636	-	<b>84,636</b>	127,672
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,756,071</b>	<b>46,127</b>	<b>1,802,198</b>	<b>1,718,628</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>					
Raising funds	6 & 7	411,594	60,000	<b>471,594</b>	556,607
Charitable activities	6 & 8	1,176,958	18,450	<b>1,195,408</b>	1,559,233
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>1,588,552</b>	<b>78,450</b>	<b>1,667,002</b>	<b>2,115,840</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	12	(33,799)	-	<b>(33,799)</b>	345,916
Net income/(expenditure)		133,720	(32,323)	<b>101,397</b>	(51,296)
Transfer between funds		20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Net movement in funds		153,720	(52,323)	<b>101,397</b>	607,903
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward	16 & 17	3,147,938	60,000	<b>3,207,938</b>	3,259,234
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	16 & 17	<b>3,301,658</b>	<b>7,677</b>	<b>3,309,335</b>	<b>3,207,938</b>

The notes on pages 25 to 38 form part of the financial statements.

All the above results arise from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.



## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2020

	Notes	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	11	1,617	4,178
Investments	12	3,049,136	3,105,250
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>3,050,753</b>	<b>3,109,428</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	13	109,396	75,251
Investments		204,299	1,013,762
Cash at bank and in hand		2,123,396	1,695,594
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>2,437,091</b>	<b>2,784,607</b>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,634,531)	(1,862,729)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>802,560</b>	<b>921,878</b>
Grants awarded - due in more than one year	15	(543,978)	(823,368)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>3,309,335</b>	<b>3,207,938</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
<b>Restricted</b>	16 & 17	7,677	60,000
<b>Unrestricted</b>			
Designated	16 & 17	333,974	573,057
General	16 & 17	2,967,684	2,574,881
<b>Total unrestricted</b>		<b>3,301,658</b>	<b>3,147,938</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>3,309,335</b>	<b>3,207,938</b>

The notes on pages 25 to 38 form part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 16/09/2021 and signed on their behalf by:

*Chris Corbin*

**Chris Corbin OBE**

Chairman

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2019 £</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income/(expenditure) for period (as per SOFA)	<b>101,397</b>	(51,296)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	<b>3,083</b>	4,064
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible asset	<b>320</b>	190
Investment income received	<b>(84,636)</b>	(127,672)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<b>33,799</b>	(345,916)
(Increase)/decrease in short term investments	<b>809,463</b>	297,771
(Increase)/decrease in trade debtors	<b>5,000</b>	(7,000)
(Increase)/decrease in accrued gift aid	<b>(36,766)</b>	13,249
(Increase)/decrease in other accrued income	<b>3,817</b>	61,882
(Increase)/decrease in rent deposit	<b>-</b>	3,325
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	<b>(6,196)</b>	8,318
(Increase)/decrease in other debtors	<b>-</b>	117
Increase/(decrease) in trade creditors	<b>(8,557)</b>	(2,413)
Increase/(decrease) in payroll liabilities	<b>6,054</b>	(4,851)
Increase/(decrease) in grants payable - due in less than a year	<b>(117,111)</b>	387,800
Increase/(decrease) in accruals	<b>(3,584)</b>	6,167
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	<b>(105,000)</b>	52,500
Increase/(decrease) in other creditors	<b>-</b>	(43,919)
Increase/(decrease) in grants payable - due in more than a year	<b>(279,390)</b>	3,661
	<b>220,296</b>	307,273
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>321,693</b>	255,977
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Investment income received	<b>84,636</b>	127,672
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(842)</b>	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	<b>535,468</b>	318,892
Purchase of investments	<b>(485,916)</b>	(372,712)
Decrease/(increase) in cash held in portfolio	<b>(27,237)</b>	75,612
	<b>106,109</b>	149,464
<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>	<b>106,109</b>	149,464
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in period</b>	<b>427,802</b>	405,441
Cash at bank and in hand brought forward	<b>1,695,594</b>	1,290,153
<b>Cash at bank and in hand carried forward</b>	<b>2,123,396</b>	1,695,594

The notes on pages 25 to 38 form part of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 1.ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with '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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 2, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 December 2020, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 December 2020 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

#### Legal status

Leukaemia UK is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales, and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is 52 Portland Place, London, W1B 1NH.

#### Going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The Trustees have considered the Charity's forecasts and projections and have taken account of pressures on donation, fundraising and investment income. After making enquiries, the Trustees confirm that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and that there are no material uncertainties that would impact this assessment. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

#### Fund Accounting

General 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.

Designated Funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for a specific purpose by the Trustees. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in note 16 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 16 of the financial statements.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity has entitlement, there is probability of receipt and the amount is measurable.

For donations and gifts this is when they are received. Gift Aid is recognised on a receivable basis as part of the income to which it relates.

Grants are recognised in full in the year in which they are receivable except in situations where they are related to performance in which case they are accrued as the Charity earns the right through performance.

Fundraising income is accounted for gross, with any associated costs presented as expenditure.

Interest is recorded when it is receivable.

Dividends are accounted for when due, and tax recoverable on such income is accounted for based on the repayment due in the fiscal year ending in that accounting year.

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at the period end.



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and liabilities are recognised as expenditure when there is a legal obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be made, and the obligation can be measured.

Non-recoverable VAT is included against the expenditure heading to which it relates.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities.

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the Charity's objectives.

Unconditional grant offers are accrued in full once the recipient has been advised of the grant award and the payment is probable. Where grant awards are subject to performance conditions that are outside of the control of the Charity these are accrued when the recipients have been notified of the grant award.

Multi-year grants are recognised at their historic cost and thereafter at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. Where payments are due over more than one year from the date of the award and there are no unfulfilled conditions which are within the control of the Charity and the effect of discounting is immaterial, no adjustment is made to discount the liability to its present value at the reporting date.

### Taxation

As a registered charity income and gains are exempt from Corporation Tax to the extent that they are applied to the charitable objectives.

### Donated goods and services

Where goods are provided to the Charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from suppliers this contribution is included in the financial statements as an estimated based on the value of the contribution to the Charity.

### Investments

Investments are initially measured at their cost and subsequently measured at their fair value at each reporting date, which gives rise to unrealised gains/losses at the end of the financial period which is reflected in the SOFA. Realised gains/losses are calculated as the difference between the sales proceeds and the opening carrying value or the purchase price if acquired during the financial period. Partial disposals are accounted for using

the average value. Fair value is based on the quoted price at the balance sheet date without deduction of estimated future selling costs.

### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses, with individual assets over £500 being capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computers – straight line over 4 years

Fixtures and fittings – straight line over 5 years

### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

### Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

### Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

### Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

### Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### **Pensions**

Pension contributions payable under a defined contribution scheme are charged to the SOFA in the accounting period to which they relate.

### **Employee benefits**

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2. MERGER OF LEUKA &amp; LEUKAEMIA UK

As of 1 November 2019 Leuka (charity no. 1154856) and Leukaemia UK (charity no. 1150414) merged to form Leukaemia UK, utilising the existing structure of Leuka (charity no. 1154856).

An analysis of the principal components of both the prior period's SOFA split between the two entities pre-merger, and combined entity post-merger can be found in the prior year accounts.

## 3. INCOME FROM DONATIONS &amp; LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations	611,694	12,627	624,321
Grants	14,753	32,500	47,253
Legacies and in memorium	593,730	1,000	594,730
Donated goods and services	152,038	-	152,038
<b>Total income from donations &amp; legacies</b>	<b>1,372,215</b>	<b>46,127</b>	<b>1,418,342</b>

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Donations	530,186	99,684	629,870
Grants	77,937	14,779	92,716
Legacies and in memorium	193,945	-	193,945
Donated goods and services	141,235	-	141,235
<b>Total income from donations &amp; legacies</b>	<b>943,303</b>	<b>114,463</b>	<b>1,057,766</b>

Donated goods and services consists of:

	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Office accommodation and related costs	61,528	60,322
Who's Cooking Dinner support	90,510	68,163
Other	-	12,750
<b>Total donated goods and services</b>	<b>152,038</b>	<b>141,235</b>



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 4. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
Sale of tables at Who's Cooking Dinner	121,500	-	<b>121,500</b>
Auctions and raffles	177,300	-	<b>177,300</b>
Other	420	-	<b>420</b>
<b>Total income from other trading activities</b>	<b>299,220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>299,220</b>

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	<i>Total Funds 2019 £</i>
Sale of tables at Who's Cooking Dinner	160,450	-	<i>160,450</i>
Auctions and raffles	371,533	-	<i>371,533</i>
Other	1,207	-	<i>1,207</i>
<i>Total income from other trading activities</i>	<i>533,190</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>533,190</i>

## 5. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
Dividends and interest on fixed asset investments	78,147	-	<b>78,147</b>
Interest on short term cash deposits	6,489	-	<b>6,489</b>
<b>Total income from investments</b>	<b>84,636</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84,636</b>

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	<i>Total Funds 2019 £</i>
Dividends and interest on fixed asset investments	110,136	-	<i>110,136</i>
Interest on short term cash deposits	17,536	-	<i>17,536</i>
<i>Total income from investments</i>	<i>127,672</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>127,672</i>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 6. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Grants to institutions 2020 £	Direct staff 2020 £	Direct other 2020 £	Indirect 2020 £	Total costs 2020 £
<b>Expenditure on</b>					
Raising funds	-	154,878	185,073	131,643	<b>471,594</b>
Charitable activities	829,805	30,096	1,815	333,692	<b>1,195,408</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>829,805</b>	<b>184,974</b>	<b>186,888</b>	<b>465,335</b>	<b>1,667,002</b>

	Grants to institutions 2019 £	Direct staff 2019 £	Direct other 2019 £	Indirect 2019 £	Total costs 2019 £
<i>Expenditure on</i>					
Raising funds	-	201,064	262,241	93,302	<i>556,607</i>
Charitable activities	1,262,004	24,978	10,883	261,368	<i>1,559,233</i>
<i>Total expenditure</i>	<i>1,262,004</i>	<i>226,042</i>	<i>273,124</i>	<i>354,670</i>	<i>2,115,840</i>

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities.

A breakdown of expenditure on raising funds between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

A breakdown of charitable expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 8.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 10.

Indirect costs includes the following items:

	Total costs 2020 £	Total costs 2019 £
Management & operational staff	<b>227,685</b>	160,914
Premises	<b>63,137</b>	74,151
IT, finance & other professional services	<b>77,306</b>	61,106
General admin	<b>24,914</b>	10,472
Governance	<b>72,293</b>	48,027
<b>Total indirect costs</b>	<b>465,335</b>	354,670

Governance costs includes the following items:

	Total costs 2020 £	Total costs 2019 £
Audit and independent examination costs	<b>12,330</b>	11,640
Legal costs	<b>58,220</b>	35,722
Insurance costs	<b>488</b>	651
Other costs	<b>1,255</b>	14
<b>Total governance costs</b>	<b>72,293</b>	48,027

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 7. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
Direct staff costs	94,878	60,000	<b>154,878</b>
Other direct costs	185,073	-	<b>185,073</b>
Indirect costs	131,643	-	<b>131,643</b>
<b>Total expenditure on raising funds</b>	<b>411,594</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>471,594</b>

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	<i>Total Funds 2019 £</i>
Direct staff costs	133,006	68,058	201,064
Other direct costs	250,761	11,480	262,241
Indirect costs	93,302	-	93,302
<i>Total expenditure on raising funds</i>	<i>477,069</i>	<i>79,538</i>	<i>556,607</i>

Included within other direct costs are investment management costs of £22,314 (2019 - £22,991).



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**8. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
Grants to institutions	819,355	10,450	<b>829,805</b>
Direct staff costs	22,096	8,000	<b>30,096</b>
Other direct costs	1,815	-	<b>1,815</b>
Indirect costs	333,692	-	<b>333,692</b>
<b>Total expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>1,176,958</b>	<b>18,450</b>	<b>1,195,408</b>
	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	<i>Total Funds 2019 £</i>
Grants to institutions	1,238,571	23,433	1,262,004
Direct staff costs	2,311	22,667	24,978
Other direct costs	10,883	-	10,883
Indirect costs	261,368	-	261,368
<i>Total expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<i>1,513,133</i>	<i>46,100</i>	<i>1,559,233</i>

**9. ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED IN PERIOD**

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
European School of Haematology	<b>5,000</b>	5,000
Francis Crick Institute	-	249,999
Kings College London	-	136,724
Queen Mary University of London	<b>123,856</b>	-
Queens University Belfast	-	237,443
University College London	-	125,000
University of Birmingham	<b>239,083</b>	226,646
University of Cambridge	<b>122,159</b>	-
University of Glasgow	-	124,914
University of Manchester	<b>125,000</b>	-
University of Oxford	<b>124,976</b>	-
University of Southampton	-	119,056
University of Sussex	<b>123,522</b>	-
Early career awards*	-	26,668
Small project/support grants*	<b>6,450</b>	10,554
Release of prior year provision	<b>(40,241)</b>	-
<b>Total grants awarded</b>	<b>829,805</b>	1,262,004

\*Early career awards and small project grants consist of a number of small awards which are not listed in their entirety here as they are not individually material to the accounts.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 10. STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	<b>Total costs 2020 £</b>	<b>Total costs 2019 £</b>
Gross salaries	<b>273,737</b>	336,599
Employer's NIC	<b>31,318</b>	30,537
Employer's pension	<b>14,845</b>	19,820
Termination payments	<b>92,759</b>	-
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>412,659</b>	386,956

The average headcount during the year was 8 persons (2019 – 9).

One employee received employee benefits including termination payments of between £70,000 - £79,999, and one employee received employee benefits including termination payments of between £110,000 - £119,999 (2019 – One employee received employee benefits of between £60,000 and £69,999).

Total remuneration including termination payments to key management personnel in the year was £231,685 (2019 - £128,188).

During the period total termination/redundancy payments of £92,759 were made to the two co-CEOs as part of the restructure of the team following the merger of Leuka and Leukaemia UK in 2019. This included ex-gratia payments above standard redundancy payments.

## 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<b>Computer equipment £</b>	<b>Fixtures &amp; fittings £</b>	<b>Total tangible fixed assets £</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
Brought forward on 1 January 2020	15,786	606	<b>16,392</b>
Additions in year	842	-	<b>842</b>
Disposals in year	(1,194)	-	<b>(1,194)</b>
<b>Cost carried forward on 31 December 2020</b>	<b>15,434</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>16,040</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>			
Brought forward on 1 January 2020	11,849	365	<b>12,214</b>
Charge in year	2,962	121	<b>3,083</b>
Disposals in year	(874)	-	<b>(874)</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation carried forward on 31 December 2020</b>	<b>13,937</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>14,423</b>
<b>Net book value</b>			
Brought forward on 1 January 2020	3,937	241	<b>4,178</b>
<b>Net book value carried forward on 31 December 2020</b>	<b>1,497</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1,617</b>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Market value brought forward	<b>3,091,581</b>	2,691,845
Additions at cost	<b>485,916</b>	372,712
Proceeds on disposal	<b>(535,468)</b>	(318,892)
Net gains/(losses) in period	<b>(33,799)</b>	345,916
Market value carried forward	<b>3,008,230</b>	3,091,581
Cash held as part of the investment portfolio	<b>40,906</b>	13,669
<b>Total market value of investment portfolio carried forward</b>	<b>3,049,136</b>	3,105,250

Analysis of market value of investments by investment type:

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
UK fixed interest bonds	<b>471,534</b>	511,901
Non UK fixed interest bonds	<b>62,359</b>	43,052
UK equities and funds	<b>1,055,656</b>	1,356,440
Non UK equities and funds	<b>979,919</b>	733,730
Other funds including cash	<b>479,668</b>	460,127
<b>Total market value of investment portfolio carried forward</b>	<b>3,049,136</b>	3,105,250

**13. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Trade debtors	<b>34,000</b>	39,000
Accrued gift aid	<b>37,031</b>	265
Other accrued income	<b>19,671</b>	23,488
Prepayments	<b>18,694</b>	12,498
<b>Total debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>109,396</b>	75,251

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Trade creditors	<b>5,419</b>	13,976
Payroll liabilities	<b>10,219</b>	4,165
Grants awarded - due in less than a year	<b>1,603,143</b>	1,720,254
Accruals	<b>15,750</b>	19,334
Deferred income - table income received for Who's Cooking Dinner? 2020	-	105,000
<b>Total creditors - amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>1,634,531</b>	1,862,729

## 15. GRANTS PAYABLE

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Brought forward on 1 January 2020		<b>2,543,622</b>		2,152,161
Grants awarded (see note 9)	<b>870,046</b>		1,262,004	
Release of prior year provision (see note 9)	<b>(40,241)</b>		-	
		<b>829,805</b>		1,262,004
Grants paid in year		<b>(1,226,306)</b>		(870,543)
<b>Total grants payable on 31 December 2020</b>		<b>2,147,121</b>		2,543,622

	<b>Total funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Payable within one year	<b>1,603,143</b>	1,720,254
Payable within two to five years	<b>543,978</b>	823,368
<b>Total grants payable on 31 December 2020</b>	<b>2,147,121</b>	2,543,622



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITY FUNDS

	Funds brought forward 2020 £	Income in year 2020 £	Expenditure in year 2020 £	Net gains/(losses) on revaluation 2020 £	Transfers between funds 2020 £	Funds carried forward 2020 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Head of Fundraising	60,000	-	(60,000)	-	-	-
Project/support grants	-	14,127	(6,450)	-	-	7,677
Mind & body	-	20,000	-	-	(20,000)	-
John Goldman						
Fellowships	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
Research grants	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
Research manager	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>46,127</b>	<b>(78,450)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(20,000)</b>	<b>7,677</b>
<b>Designated funds</b>						
IMPACT	573,057	-	(239,083)	-	-	333,974
<b>Total designated funds</b>	<b>573,057</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(239,083)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>333,974</b>
<b>General funds</b>	<b>2,574,881</b>	<b>1,756,071</b>	<b>(1,349,469)</b>	<b>(33,799)</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>2,967,684</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>3,207,938</b>	<b>1,802,198</b>	<b>(1,667,002)</b>	<b>(33,799)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,309,335</b>

**Restricted funds – Head of Fundraising**

The Charity received funds from a corporate partner to support the role of Head of Fundraising and associated costs over two years.

**Restricted funds – Project/support grants**

The Charity received funds from a variety of source to support small project/support grants.

**Restricted funds – Mind & body**

The Charity received funds to support the ongoing grant commitment to Kings College London for their mind and body centre. As the grant commitment was recognised in full in 2018 as an unrestricted, the grant funding has been offset against this commitment and therefore shown as a transfer to unrestricted funds in the current year.

**Restricted funds – John Goldman Fellowships**

The Charity received funds from a variety of source to support the annual John Goldman Fellowships.

**Restricted funds – Research grants**

The Charity received funds from a variety of source to support the Charity's research grants.

**Restricted funds – Research Manager**

The Charity received funds from an individual to support the role of Research Manager and associated costs for a number of years.

**Designated funds – IMPACT**

The IMPACT designated fund is to fund the IMPACT clinical trial, a collaborative project with Anthony Nolan, NHSBT, and the University of Birmingham. The agreement was signed early 2017, with funding split over several years originally to 31st December 2020 but now extended. The amount set aside in designated funds is the maximum grant available over the grant term.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Funds brought forward 2019 £	Income in year 2019 £	Expenditure in year 2019 £	Net gains/ (losses) on revaluation 2019 £	Transfers between funds 2019 £	Funds carried forward 2019 £
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
Head of Fundraising	67,538	72,000	(79,538)	-	-	60,000
Project/support grants	3,637	19,796	(23,433)	-	-	-
Research manager	-	22,667	(22,667)	-	-	-
<i>Total restricted funds</i>	<u>71,175</u>	<u>114,463</u>	<u>(125,638)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,000</u>
<i>Designated funds</i>						
IMPACT	799,703	-	(226,646)	-	-	573,057
Grants fund	1,000,000	-	-	-	(1,000,000)	-
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>1,799,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(226,646)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,000,000)</u>	<u>573,057</u>
<i>General funds</i>	1,388,356	1,604,165	(1,763,556)	345,916	1,000,000	2,574,881
<i>Total funds</i>	<u>3,259,234</u>	<u>1,718,628</u>	<u>(2,115,840)</u>	<u>345,916</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,207,938</u>

**Designated funds – Grants fund**

Previously the Trustees had set aside an amount to cover a year's worth of grant commitments, however following a review of the reserves policy post merger, to incorporate this within the general reserves, this has now been released.

**17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fixed assets	3,050,753	-	<b>3,050,753</b>
Current assets	2,429,414	7,677	<b>2,437,091</b>
Current liabilities	(1,634,531)	-	<b>(1,634,531)</b>
Non-current liabilities	(543,978)	-	<b>(543,978)</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>3,301,658</u>	<u>7,677</u>	<u><b>3,309,335</b></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fixed assets	3,109,428	-	3,109,428
Current assets	2,724,607	60,000	2,784,607
Current liabilities	(1,862,729)	-	(1,862,729)
Non-current liabilities	(823,368)	-	(823,368)
<i>Total net assets</i>	<u>3,147,938</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>3,207,938</u>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 18. ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT

	As at 1 Apr 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other movements £	As at 31 Mar 2021 £
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash at bank	1,695,594	427,802	-	<b>2,123,396</b>
	<u>1,695,594</u>	<u>427,802</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>2,123,396</b></u>

	As at 1 Apr 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other movements £	As at 31 Mar 2020 £
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash at bank	1,290,153	405,441	-	1,695,594
	<u>1,290,153</u>	<u>405,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,695,594</u>

## 19. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND DONATIONS

During the year, no Trustees received reimbursement of expenses or remuneration (2019 - £NIL).

During the year, the Charity received unrestricted donations totalling £360 (2019 - £2,360) from trustees.

## 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the current year, there were no related party transactions (2019 - £Nil) other than the unrestricted donations noted in note 18 above.

## 21. GUARANTEES AND SECURED CHARGES

As of 31 December 2020 the Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third partners nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2019 - £NIL).

## Thank You

The work we do would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters. We are incredibly grateful to all the people who give their time and money; community fundraisers, monthly supporters, runners, walkers and challengers. Those who have honoured a loved one by giving in their name and those who have chosen to remember Leukaemia UK in their will. We would like to thank all the trusts that generously funded our work this year, and a huge thank you to The Robert Luff Foundation Ltd for their generous funding towards the salary of the Medical Research Fellow integrated into the Mind & Body programme. A huge thanks to all our fabulous Who's Cooking Dinner? committee members, the hosts and guests who so generously donate each year, and to all our amazing chefs who kindly give their time and resources and make this spectacular event so unique and successful. Every single donation has the potential to have a huge impact on the work we do, and ultimately the lives of others.



## Legal & Admin Details

### Charity Number

1154856

### Auditors

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