



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER

1170013

(England & Wales)



CHAMPLEYS

Chartered Certified Accountants

Champleys Mews

Market Place

Pickering

YO18 7AE

Trustees

Ann Ruddick
Helen Clark
Judith Carr
Julia Mary White
Kevin Davis
Maria Jacqueline Clerkin
Nicholas Medcalf
Patricia Langton

Accountants

Champleys Chartered Certified Accountants
Champleys Mews
Market Place
Pickering
YO18 7AE

Bankers

Virgin Money
Skipton Building Society

Principal Operating Address

Norton Hive Community Library
Commercial Street
Norton
Malton
YO17 9ES

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Background and Structure

The legal name of the Charity is Sight Support Ryedale. The Charity was established by a constitution adopted on 2nd November 2016. On 3rd November 2016 it became a CIO. The Charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 1170013.

Summary of the purposes and activities of the Charity

The aim of the Charity is to promote any charitable purpose which will benefit adults living in Ryedale who are visually impaired, in particular by:

- providing regular meetings where members can come together in a welcoming atmosphere and participate in social and other activities chosen by themselves;
- disseminating information about visual and technical assistance which could benefit members;
- providing signposting about the range of state or any other benefits which exist to assist sight impaired persons;
- fostering the confidence and enjoyment of members by enabling them to take part in wider activities such as outings;
- representing the needs and views of members to statutory authorities, charitable groups and others who provide services for the visually impaired

Public Benefit Statement

Throughout the year Sight Support Ryedale Board of Trustees had regard to the guidelines on public benefit as set out by the Charity Commission when exercising powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Trustees

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31st March 2024:

Trustee	Office	Trustee Appointments/Resignations
Nicholas Medcalf	Chair	-
Ann Ruddick		-
Christine Collins		Resigned 26th September 2023
Helen Clark		-
Judith Carr		-
Julia Mary White		Appointed 20th November 2023
Kevin Davis		-
Maria Jacqueline Clerkin		Appointed 20th November 2023
Patricia Langton		-

Staff, Management and Selection of Trustees

One third of our Trustees in rotation are required to stand down at the Charity's Annual General Meeting, but those being eligible and who wish to can offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed at the annual general meeting and are recruited from people who have an interest in the charity.

The charity is controlled and directed by the elected members of the executive committee.

Risk Management

The executive committee continues to examine the principal areas of the Charity's operations to review the major risks which may arise in each area. In the opinion of the executive committee, this review enables such risks to be identified and allows them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in the Charity's day to day activities.

Review of the Charity's achievements and performance, including the difference the Charity has made to the beneficiaries and to wider society throughout the year

The year 2023-24 has been one of growth and continued support for Sight Support Ryedale. We remained committed to enhancing the quality of life for people with visual impairments within our community.

Our services have seen a steady increase in demand as we continue to broaden our outreach. During the year, several new initiatives were launched, such as enhanced social activities and tailored support sessions, responding directly to the feedback and evolving needs of our members. The new services supplement the existing provision of home visits and the management of referrals from external organisations including North Yorkshire Council, The Sensory Team and Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLOs) at local hospitals, and from self-referrals, families and a range of other professional organisations. Collaborative efforts with local organisations and healthcare providers have been strengthened, allowing us to extend our reach and to provide more comprehensive support.

We've also focused on technological empowerment, helping our members access assistive technologies that promote independence.

Financially, we have managed our resources prudently while securing additional funding to sustain and expand our services. During 2023-24 we successfully requested funding from the National Lottery Fund and were granted £437k which will cover most of the Sight Support Ryedale core costs over the next three years, from April 2024 to March 2027. This will provide additional staff, to continue our work with the Pathways and Outreach programs that we have started.

There have been some governance changes during the year, with the recruitment of two new trustees from our membership. At the previous AGM in November 2023, Mrs Jackie Clerkin and the Rev Dr Jo White stepped up to join the Board and have been instrumental in our operations during the year. The responsible role of trustee is not remunerated, and Sight Support Ryedale greatly appreciates the time and expertise that the trustees contribute to governing the organisation.

As noted in the last annual report, during the reporting period we recruited a new member of staff, Carol Stevens, in the capacity of Engagement Officer, to strengthen the team and to allow more even distribution of work across service delivery and administration.

Sight Support Ryedale continues to benefit from the generous donations of several individual donors and donor organisations. Confidence in our organisation and its importance to the community has been demonstrated by the continuing support from the National Lottery Fund. Our staff and volunteers have made a difference in providing advice and assistance to sight impaired people in our community. Our region presents challenges to those who have lost, or are experiencing loss of, their sight. These challenges arise from the very features that make it such a special place to live. In our region the towns and villages are spread out and this can make access to practical and social resources difficult for those who are unable to drive. We know from the RNIB surveys that the incidence of sight impairment in our region exceeds that of the national average and is likely to grow, partly due to influx of older residents and partly due to the changing nature of agriculture, which is such a key feature of our area. Our provision of comfort /wellness calls to members who are unable to attend our activities or friendship groups in person are therefore particularly valuable.

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Review of the Charity's achievements and performance, including the difference the Charity has made to the beneficiaries and to wider society throughout the year (continued)

Nationally, there are demands on government funding that are being felt at the local level, as services must find ways to become more efficient or, in some cases, undergo reduction in scope. In this context it is vital that we continue to grow while becoming as efficient and as effective as possible.

2023-24 represented the second and concluding year of the first round of our NLF support. In the current austere funding climate, it is difficult for charities to obtain money to pay for the fixed costs of operation, such as rent, utilities and staff salary and the NLF awards will cover most of these. It was therefore particularly pleasing that our Chief Officer, Di Tymon, was successful in her bid to the NLF for continuation of funding. This provides us with the confidence we need to build our service scope and to increase the geographical range that we cover. Looking ahead, it is important for us to be able to demonstrate to future funders that we are operating in a capital-efficient manner and to avoid over-reliance on any single donor. For this reason, we are reviewing the way that we operate, including integration with other local service providers, and this activity is likely to be a feature of the next annual report.

We are a member-led organisation, and we rely on members and volunteers for a lot of our service delivery. Our small team serves over 200 members to build social inclusion, community spirit, increased independence and social engagement. Our staff work hard every day to provide the necessary advice and guidance to enable sight impaired people to live independently with confidence. All this work would not be possible without the energy and dedication of our wonderful volunteers who continue to offer much-needed support at meetings, on outings and to individual members. This group of people are invaluable to our work, and we are always grateful for their assistance. The continuing funding is allowing us to extend the work of the organisation, and we can now look forward to supporting many more sight impaired people living in Ryedale.

Our staff have been key drivers of this work, contributing not just their time but their passion and dedication, and we are immensely grateful for their contributions, which enable us to deliver our important services.

Our best information suggests that we are not yet reaching all of those people in our area who would benefit from our services. Looking to the future, our intention is to reach out to the whole community and to grow to become a right-sized, efficient service that is able to compete effectively for grant funding while providing a compassionate, personalised service that meets the emotional and practical needs of our members.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statement on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the Charity's constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and hence for taking reasonable steps for prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by Sight Support Ryedale trustees on 4th November 2024 and is signed on their behalf by:



Nicholas Medcalf
Chairman

19 Nov 2024

Dated

Financial Review

The financial position of the Charity as at 31st March 2024 as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income	89,487	97,546
Expenditure	(99,150)	(87,837)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(9,663)	9,709
Unrestricted Funds	38,484	39,166
Restricted Funds	25,938	34,919
Designated Funds	29,500	29,500
Total Funds	93,922	103,585

The results for the year show a deficit of £9,663. Total reserves amounted to £93,922 at as at 31st March 2024, of which £38,484 are unrestricted.

The Charity's income primarily derives from the National Lottery fund, although there are restrictions on what these funds can be spent on. The accounts can vary from surplus to deficit depending on the timing of the funding received.

Reserves Policy

The reserve fund is set at £29,500 (2023: £29,500). The Trustees acknowledge that unrestricted cash reserves are required to:-

- cover any redundancy or other costs that may arise in the event of closure
- as a source of funds of last resort in the event of cost overruns on activities that can not be met elsewhere

The Board of Trustees have reviewed the current reserves and they assess them as being adequate to cover the above requirements.

As a practising member firm of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://rulebook.accaglobal.com/>

I report on the accounts of Sight Support Ryedale for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records; or
 - concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Michael Richmond FCCA
on behalf of
Champleys Chartered Certified Accountants
Champleys Mews
Market Place
Pickering
YO18 7AE

18th November 2024

SIGHT SUPPORT RYEDALE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 Breakdown By Fund			2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations, Legacies and Grants	3	3,645	80,124		83,769	89,989
Fundraising Activities and Events	4	5,715	-		5,715	5,937
Gift Aid		-	-		-	1,620
Sundry Income		3	-		3	-
Total Receipts		9,363	80,124	-	89,487	97,546
Payments						
Charitable Activities	5	9,797	72,625		82,422	72,656
Support Costs	6	4,235	11,479		15,714	14,047
Fundraising Costs		69	-		69	211
Governance and Administration	7	945	-		945	923
Total Payments		15,046	84,104	-	99,150	87,837
Reconciliation of Funds						
	8					
Total Funds Brought Forward	9	39,166	34,919	29,500	103,585	93,876
Transfers Between Funds		5,000	(5,000)		-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		(5,683)	(3,980)	-	(9,663)	9,709
Total Funds Carried Forward						
		38,483	25,939	29,500	93,922	103,585

SIGHT SUPPORT RYEDALE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

B1 Cash Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accounts		
Current Account	70,541	80,203
Deposit Account	23,164	23,164
Cash	217	218
TOTAL FUNDS	93,922	103,585

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	38,484	39,166
Restricted	25,938	34,919
Designated	29,500	29,500
TOTAL FUNDS	93,922	103,585

B2 Other Monetary Assets

Gift Aid Claim (2023 and 2024 Estimate)	1,738	1,009
	1,738	1,009

B3 Investment Assets

Nil	Nil
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B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Nil	Nil
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B5 Liabilities

PAYE	1,370	759
Pension Contributions	434	313
Other Accruals	775	775
	2,579	1,847

For and on behalf of all the Trustees



Nicholas Medcalf

19 Nov 2024

Dated

1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Donated Goods, Services and Facilities

Donated goods, services and facilities are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Governance and Support Costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help is not included in the accounts, but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Fixed Assets for use by Charity

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. Assets are shown on the statements of assets and liabilities if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £300.

2 Nature and Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted Funds

Funds that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted Funds

Funds that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

Designated Funds

A reserve set aside to cover possible closure costs that could arise sometime in the future if there was a need. This figure is the current estimate of such costs. There has been no change in this financial year.

3 Breakdown of Donations, Legacies and Grants

	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Duke of York Community Initiative	-	-	-	-	2,575
Barchester Healthcare		1,830		1,830	-
Boccia		1,000		1,000	-
Bright Sparks		3,000		3,000	-
Methodist Women In Britain		900		900	-
North Yorkshire Sport		5,394		5,394	-
Malton Town Council	-	-		-	225
National Lottery	-	68,000		68,000	81,500
Noble Charity Trust	-	-		-	650
North Yorkshire Council	-	-		-	1,000
Yorkshire Building Society	-	-		-	1,000
Other Small Grants and Donations	3,645	-		3,645	3,039
Total	3,645	80,124	-	83,769	89,989

4 Fundraising Activities and Events

	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Activities and Support Groups	1,757	-		1,757	2,027
Resource Centre Memberships	365	-		365	928
Sight Support Shop	519	-		519	75
Other Fundraising Activities	3,074	-		3,074	2,907
Total	5,715	-	-	5,715	5,937

5 Breakdown of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Notes	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Activities and Support Groups		592	-		592	1,288
Excursions and Travel		3,862	6,069		9,931	3,969
Newsletter		-	139		139	906
Resource Centre		741	-		741	2,886
Wages and Salaries	10	4,008	66,417		70,425	62,959
Website and Maintenance		594	-		594	648
Total		9,797	72,625	-	82,422	72,656

6 Breakdown of Expenditure on Support Costs

	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cleaning	-	30		30	-
Equipment Expensed	461	289		750	1,906
Insurance	911	-		911	887
Printing, Stationery and Postage	404	634		1,038	840
Rent of Premises	-	4,204		4,204	5,225
Repairs and Maintenance	831	361		1,192	742
Software Costs	660	-		660	660
Staff Training and Welfare	94	-		94	547
Staff Travel	-	3,282		3,282	1,412
Telephone and Internet	659	1,679		2,338	1,193
General Expenditure	215	1,000		1,215	635
Total	4,235	11,479	-	15,714	14,047

7 Breakdown of Expenditure on Governance and Administration

	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	Total £	Total £
Accountancy and Independent Exam	775	-		775	630
Payroll and Pension Administration	170	-		170	292
Trustees Expenses	11 -	-		-	-
Total	945	-	-	945	922

8 Breakdown of Fund Movements (2024 - Current Year)

	B/Fwd £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	C/Fwd £
Restricted					
Barchester Healthcare	-	1,830	(450)		1,380
Boccia	-	1,000			1,000
Bright Sparks	-	3,000	(1,010)		1,990
Duke of York Community Initiative	3,601				3,601
Methodist Women In Britain	-	900	(420)		480
National Lottery	7,932	68,000	(71,677)		4,255
North Yorkshire County Council	3,025		(1,000)		2,025
North Yorkshire Sport	-	5,394	(673)		4,721
NY Stronger Communities	4,155		(684)		3,471
Royal Victoria Trust	236		(139)		97
Sirius Minerals	5,000			(5,000)	-
Transpennine	4,925		(4,014)		911
Two Ridings Trust	6,045		(4,038)		2,007
	34,919	80,124	(84,105)	(5,000)	25,938
Designated Funds					
Managed Closure and Refurbishment	29,500	-	-	-	29,500
Unrestricted Funds	39,166	9,364	(15,046)	5,000	38,484
Total Funds	103,585	89,488	(99,151)	(5,000)	93,922

9 Breakdown of Fund Movements (2023 - Prior Year)

	B/Fwd £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	C/Fwd £
Restricted					
Aerobics / Dancing	252			(252)	-
Age Partnership	509		(469)	(40)	-
Christmas / Rotary Lions	-	1,350	(1,248)	(102)	
Duke of York Community Initiative	1,800	2,575	(774)		3,601
National Lottery	880	81,500	(73,598)	(850)	7,932
Noble Trust		650		(650)	
North Yorkshire County Council	3,490		(465)		3,025
Norton Town Council	1,000	225	(813)	(412)	-
NY Stronger Communities	5,060		(905)		4,155
Royal Victoria Trust	1,142		(906)		236
Sirius Minerals	5,000				5,000
Transpennine	5,000		(75)		4,925
Two Ridings Trust	7,815		(1,770)		6,045
Walking Group	275			(275)	-
Wilf Jackson	976		(976)		-
	33,199	86,300	(81,999)	(2,581)	34,919
Designated Funds					
Managed Closure	29,500	-	-		29,500
Unrestricted Funds	31,176	11,246	(5,837)	2,581	39,166
Total Funds	93,875	97,546	(87,836)	-	103,585

10 Staff Numbers, Payroll and Pension Costs

There were 3 staff workers in 2024 (2023 : 2). All staff are payroll employed.

	2024 Breakdown			2024	2023
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £	Total £	Total £
Direct Wages	4,008	63,808		67,816	57,329
Employer Pension Contributions	-	2,286		2,286	5,630
Employer National Insurance	-	323		323	-
Total	4,008	66,417	-	70,425	62,959

11 Trustee Expenses and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received a remuneration for services rendered. No trustee, or anyone connected with a trustee, has a material interest in any of the charity's transactions.