

Let's Find the **HUMOUR** Within the **TUMOUR**

Annual Report and Accounts
2023 - 2024



LEV ECHOD
CANCER CARE

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Chair's Statement

Dear Supporters and Beloved Cancer Warriors,

They say laughter is the best medicine, but we see that it's the best strategy for running a cancer support charity. This year, we've laughed, cried, and celebrated every hard-earned milestone together—sometimes all in the same meeting! With every burst of laughter, we remind cancer that it cannot steal our spirit or joy. Humor is our secret superpower, transforming fear into bravery and shadows into light. Cancer is vile, horrible, and hateful, but it's no match for the power of laughter. That's why we are proudly continuing our "Humor Against the Tumor" theme, which keeps so many of us going.

We have big news to share: we made the move! It's still raw, but it's ours, and we are elated! The moment children walk through the doors of our escape room, they feel at home. We're especially proud of our incredible cancer veterans who have launched a new mentoring program for younger children. Support from a young adult who's "been there, done that" is deeply cathartic for these children, offering empathy, understanding, and inspiration in a way that only a peer can.

A special thanks to the Lloyds Bank Foundation for their transformative support. Their multi-year unrestricted grant and capacity-building program have tripled the value of their funding, strengthening our social model and shifting our focus from "pity to party." This has empowered individuals disabled by cancer to live their best lives and initiate cancer veteran mentoring programs.

We're also making strides with our three-year business plan as we evolve our tone from "pity to party." Because our heroes don't need pity—they deserve celebration. Their bravery, strength, and spirit deserve nothing less.

We are deeply grateful to Hackney, whose trust across various grants—Community Partnerships, Hackney Giving, and Young Hackney—reflects their incredible ability to nurture and understand the unique needs of Hackney's diverse community. A huge thank you to the four major hospitals, including UCLH, for hosting and supporting our work. Your partnership helps us reach patients, provide vital referrals across London, and extend care as far as Gateshead. Your belief in our mission makes it possible to deliver chaplaincy and life-changing support where it's needed most.

With utmost appreciation and admiration
Malky



And a special mention to our other charitable funders:

The Hedley Trust
Project Spark
The Henry Smith Charity
The Childhood Trust
BBC Children in Need
The Caring Foundation
Tesco Bags of Help
The Albert Hunt Trust
The London Community Foundation
Go London
Sport England
The National Lottery Community Fund
Felicity Wilde
Alec Dickson
Cash For Kids

Thanks for investing in us. To us, you are so much more than money. Thank you for trusting us and deeply caring.

Mission and Aims

Our Mission Statement:

We infuse kindness, care, and laughter in every cancer care plan.



Our Aims:

Lev Echod Cancer Care advocates for both children and adults.

CHILDREN:

1) Safe Spaces:

Provide a secure, nurturing environment for children while their parents are in the hospital.

2) Joy and Laughter:

Create opportunities for children facing cancer to play, laugh, and enjoy childhood—on Sundays, holidays, and every day.

3) Understanding and Support:

Help children navigate their cancer journey in an age-appropriate and manageable way.

ADULTS:

1) Emotional and Social Support:

Reduce isolation and provide counseling, mentoring, and group support to foster resilience and recovery.

2) Survivorship Support:

Address long-term survivorship needs, helping individuals rebuild fulfilling lives after treatment.

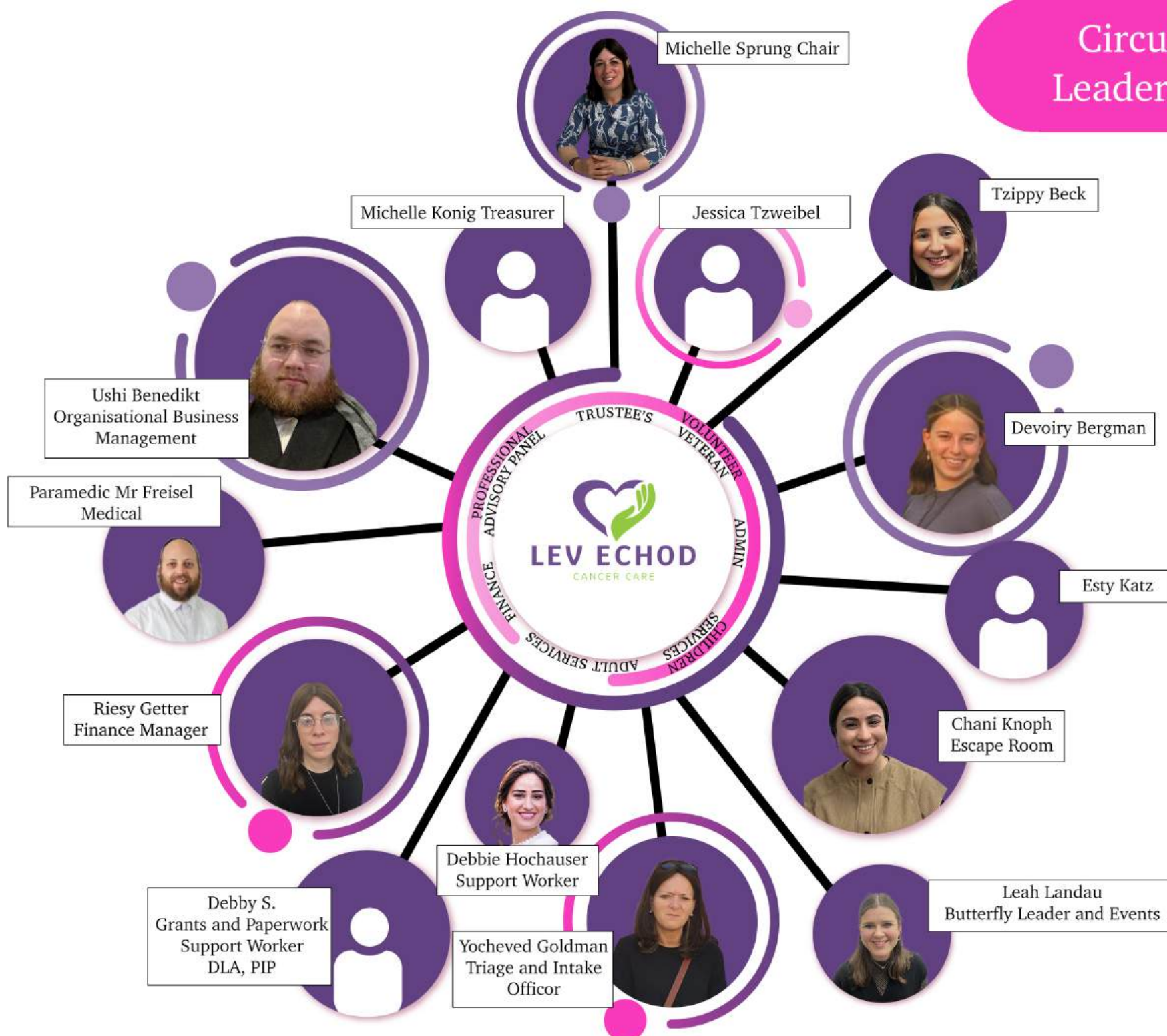
3) End-of-Life Care:

Deliver compassionate support to patients and families, ensuring comfort, dignity, and emotional care during difficult times.

4) Empowering Caregivers:

Equip caregivers with resources and support to sustain their well-being while caring for loved ones so they don't operate on overdraft.

Circular Leadership



Our Model

- **Transparent Leadership:** Patients and caregivers can join the steering committee or even the board of trustees.
- **No Red Tape:** No hierarchy or rigid structures—everyone's voice matters.
- **Direct and Accessible:** Smooth self-referrals or external referrals with no wait times or being passed between extensions.
- **Lived Experience Matters:** Trustees and committee members bring personal experience with cancer or caregiving.
- **Strong Medical Connections:** Collaborating with oncology, palliative care, and mental health teams at both hospital and community levels.

Veteran Volunteers:

Project Volunteer Veterans, initiated by our steering committee, pairs each child with an adult cancer survivor or a 'survivor sibling.' These mentors, who deeply understand the painful journey, build rapport and form friendships with children who struggle to open up to others. The mentoring follows the Mentoring Quality Framework, and mentors benefit from free training, regular appraisals, and a strong network of support.

"Nothing is more cathartic than holding the hands of the little child that used to be me and giving them the reason to push through."

We value their trust and strive to make every day just a bit easier..

STRONGER THAN CANCER



Hair Raising Salon

"Losing my hair was losing my identity."

Step into the enchanting world of Hair Raising Salon, a special space where patients and survivors experiencing hair loss can feel pampered. Wigs are washed and styled at no cost by professional stylists or volunteers, and participants can also join wig workshops to experiment with various styles and accessories for a touch of creative fun.

Hair Raising Salon also provides a mobile service, bringing expert support and styling to those unable to visit in person, whether at home or in the hospital.

Beyond wig care, the salon offers complementary healthcare support, including pomegranate juice packed with antioxidants, healthy smoothies and juicing, yoga sessions, and pain management massages. This year, the salon has helped 60 patients feel great inside and out.



Lea...

"I managed to retain my smile during the initial aches and coughing attacks. I managed to hold onto my joie de vivre even when my grim-faced doctor diagnosed me with Lymphoma. I pushed through the biopsies, endless scans, pricks and tests. But then my beautiful, thick, sleek light chestnut hair started falling out. With each hair, I felt the death of a part of me. I lost it and fell into a depression. I received a wig from the hospital that looked like a floor mop. It felt like steel wool and scratched my hair. Lev Echod Cancer Care found a sponsor for a magnificent highlighted wig that looked just like my hair did. But I was embarrassed to visit a salon to have it set and styled. Hair-Raising Salon allows me to pop in for a wash and set or style without even having an occasion."



Butterfly Youth Club

IS OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECT:

Butterfly Club is open four days a week: this is a magical kids' club where paediatric cancer warriors and their brave siblings can forget about chemo and radiation. Here, they can relax, unwind, connect with kids who get them, and enjoy games, crafting workshops, music and dance, peer support, day trips, and annual retreats.

We have recently started a monthly session for our Gateshead contingent, which we hope to offer more regularly in the next year. Gateshead kids also join London kids for our annual retreats.



Ruchy...

“When I am with Mordy at the hospital, I am fully with Mordy. I know his brother is living it up at Butterfly Club getting supper he loves, help with homework, and having real fun. When I am home with Shia, I know Mordy is in good hands, spending time with a young volunteer who has been through treatments themselves. They don't ask if it hurt or when his hair will grow back—they just get him. They're there to talk, play, or simply sit quietly if that's what he needs.”



Tobi...

“Some days, I can open the fridge, and turn to the pantry and fruit bowl and find nothing edible. On other days we get deliveries from charities or neighbors. If the food was good, there would be nothing or barely any left for me; more often these deliveries are very spicy and I hate them and still go to bed hungry and sad.”

Now at Butterfly Club, we get yummy meals that taste a bit like mum's food before she became sick. I also love eating at a table with other kids. It feels more normal than grabbing food and eating it alone.”

In The Same Boat

Though our journeys may have started from different shores, In the Same Boat, funded by London and Postcode Society Trust, brought us together to courageously weather the storm of cancer. Weekly kayaking sessions for all ages created an uplifting atmosphere, offering participants the chance to escape their illness and re-engage with life in a positive, empowering way. The unique environment of water sports proved immensely powerful in helping patients build new, hopeful lives.

The program reached new heights with Where There's a Wheel, There's a Way, funded by Sport England. This initiative introduced multi-sports and Paralympic cycling, earning incredible feedback. Cancer patients reported gaining control over their bodies, managing stiffness and disabilities caused by treatment, and, most importantly, experiencing a renewed sense of joy and strength



David...

“

When my only sister, my 3-year-old sister started becoming unwell, I just knew this is not just a virus. Her face was sallow and white like sudocrem. She was coughing non stop and rolling over in pain.

After she was diagnosed with Hodgkins, I just couldn't pull myself together. My parents were fraught with worry about caring for her, yet I was making things harder for them by locking myself into my room and going on a hunger strike. I wasn't really striking. I was in such deep pain and depression that I couldn't function. I stopped my social life abruptly, couldn't go to school, and was a complete mess. Until Michelle Sprung visited me at home together with a boy my age who has survived cancer. We spoke for 3 hrs and they invited me to join "In the same boat". It was the best decision I have ever made. The boys really got me, there was no need to cover things up. We understood each other even without talking.

”

The Escape Room

The Escape Room is a magical place for paediatric cancer warriors and their courageous siblings to get support, explore hobbies, access hot nourishing meals, and let loose safely. It's an ESCAPE that helps children FIND themselves. This is a cosy space for the bravest teens to try something new, relax, and connect—whether through pickle-making, team challenges, or open, honest conversations with peer support. We moved this year, and though still raw, it already feels like home.



Work In Progress

We know that cancer isn't 'over' when the bell rings and treatment ends.

For many, the time after treatment is the most challenging. We have successfully piloted '(Don't Say) Happily Ever After' Scheme exclusively focused on supporting cancer survivors to embrace their past, brace for the future and brave their limiting beliefs. At school, at work, at home, and everywhere.

We look forward to launching this project this coming year. We recognize that for many individuals, life after cancer is forever transformed, and the challenges persist long after the treatment journey. The project aims to address the profound impact of cancer on survivors and their loved ones, acknowledging that life may never be the same again. It seeks to provide the necessary support and resources to navigate the physical, emotional, and practical obstacles that arise post-treatment.

DON'T SAY "Happily Ever After!"



Survivorship Challenges

Schooling	Learning gap	Concentration difficulties	Relating to peers
Work	Stigma to say or to hide	Skills gap	Fatigue
Social	Difficulty relating to others after having a near death experience.	Lost, rusty friendships	Low self esteem
Mental Health	Trauma	Scan-anxiety and fear of cancer relapsing	Survivors guilt

In Numbers...



Children and adult patients supported.

85



Number of young carers supported.

24



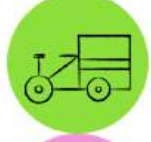
Types of cancers addressed.

9



Number of volunteer veterans. (Volunteers who had cancer and were service users themselves)

12



Number of projects delivered.

16



Partnerships with hospitals, palliative/hospice care and medical teams.

6



Number of Purple Pampering Packs and food parcels distributed through Fuel 2 Fight.

1200



Volunteers.

49



Hours of volunteering.

1200+



CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1188272

LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

31 MARCH 2024

CHS ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

45 STAMFORD HILL

LONDON

N16 5SR

LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (CIO)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 MARCH 2024

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The trustees present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity No. 1188272

Principal and Registered Office

16 Manor Road
London
N16 5SA

Trustees

The following trustees served during the year:

Jessica Zweibel
Michelle Konig
Michelle Sprung

Accountants

CHS Accountants Limited
45 Stamford Hill
London
N16 5SR

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's objectives as set out in its governing document is to relieve the charitable needs of people diagnosed with cancer, their families and carers by providing or funding the provision of support and assistance.

The trustees confirm their compliance with the duty to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives in planning future events.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Full details of the Charity's achievements and performance during the year is set out in the accompanying pages.

The financial results for the year to 31 March 2024 are fully reflected in the attached Financial Statements and the Notes thereon.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The charity's policy is to maintain Unrestricted funds at a level which the trustees deem appropriate after considering future commitments and the likely costs for the next year.

As at 31 March 2024 the charity had Unrestricted Funds of £76,993 (2023: £46,260).

Grant Making Policy

As part of its charitable activities, the charity makes grants to similar organisations.

In making these grants the trustees use their personal knowledge and experience of the needs of the mutual beneficiaries and the organisations providing the support. The trustees monitor the application of funds by regular formal and informal monitoring.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Risk Management

The trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular operational and financial risks and are satisfied that appropriate systems are in place to manage and mitigate these risks

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The charity plans to continue its grant making and charitable activities, as detailed in the accompanying pages.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is a registered charity (charity number 1188272) and is governed by a CIO Foundation Constitution dated 2 March 2020.

The trustees administer the day-to-day affairs of the charity. None of the Trustees have beneficial interest in the charity.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The charity is a public benefit entity, a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 16 Manor Road, London, N16 5SA.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Michelle Sprung

Trustee

30 January 2025

LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011('the Act'). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011, s.144(2) (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Mr Pini Shebson ACA
CHS Accountants Limited
45 Stamford Hill
London
N16 5SR
30 January 2025

**LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Notes		
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	411,371	302,412
Total		411,371	302,412
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	337,176	274,728
Other	6	43,462	19,659
Total		380,638	294,387
Net income before other gains/(losses)		30,733	8,025
Net movement in funds		30,733	8,025
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		46,260	38,235
Total funds carried forward		76,993	46,260

**LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE
BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

Charity No. 1188272		2024	2023
		£	£
Current assets			
Debtors	10	46,538	4,295
Cash at bank and in hand		35,970	41,965
		<u>82,508</u>	<u>46,260</u>
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	11	(5,515)	-
		<u>76,993</u>	<u>46,260</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>76,993</u>	<u>46,260</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>76,993</u></u>	<u><u>46,260</u></u>
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	12		
General funds		76,993	46,260
		<u>76,993</u>	<u>46,260</u>
Total funds		<u><u>76,993</u></u>	<u><u>46,260</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 30 January 2025

And signed on their behalf by:

Michelle Sprung
Trustee
30 January 2025

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions 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. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Donations	411,371	302,412
	<u>411,371</u>	<u>302,412</u>

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		
Patient Non Clinical Services	314,031	152,546
Respite Services	11,058	14,666
Hospital Transportation Services	9,927	84,408
Grants made	-	23,108
<i>Governance costs</i>		
Independent Examiner's Fees	2,160	-
	<u>337,176</u>	<u>274,728</u>

5 Analysis of grants

Activity or programme	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Grants to Organisations	151,953	23,108
	<u>151,953</u>	<u>23,108</u>

LEV ECHOD CANCER CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6 Other expenditure

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Employee costs	22,640	12,000
General administrative costs	19,406	5,673
Legal and professional costs	1,416	1,986
	<u>43,462</u>	<u>19,659</u>

7 Net income before transfers

	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	2,160	-

8 Trustee remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration in the current or prior periods.
None of the trustees have been paid any expenses in the current or prior periods.

9 Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	22,640	12,000
	<u>22,640</u>	<u>12,000</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	46,538	4,295
	<u>46,538</u>	<u>4,295</u>

11 Creditors:

amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	3,355	-
Accruals	2,160	-
	<u>5,515</u>	<u>-</u>

12 Movement in funds

At 31
March 2024

£

Unrestricted funds:
General funds

76,993

Total funds

76,993

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

Total

£

Net current assets

76,993

76,993

14 Related party disclosures

Other than any mentioned above there were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the year.