

THE COLT

FOUNDATION

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Charity Number 1190167

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity number	Registered Charity 1190167
Trustees	Professor David Coggon OBE MA PhD DM FRCP FFOM FFPH FMedSci Professor Paul Cullinan MD FRCP FFOM Mrs Clare Gilchrist Professor Alex Jones MChem PhD FRSC Mrs Patricia Lebus Professor Ira Madan MBBS(Hons) MD FRCP FFOM Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor CBE FRCP FFOM FMedSci (Chairman) Dr Elaine Wainwright CPsychol PhD FHEA MSc MA (Oxon) (appointed 17th March 2025) Professor Rodger Duffin BSc (Hons) PhD MRCPPath FRSB (from 17th March 2025)
Chief Executive	Mrs Natasha Heydon
Investment Adviser	Mr Royston Fox FPFS
Charity address	Unit E, The Old Bakery Golden Square Petworth West Sussex GU28 0AP www.coltfoundation.org.uk Email tash@coltfoundation.org.uk
Bankers	Cater Allen Private Bank, 2 Triton Square, London, NW1 3AN
Solicitors	Farrer & Co, 66 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LH
Accountants	TC Group, 3 Acorn Business Centre, Northarbour Road, Cosham, PO6 3TH
Investment managers	Quilter Cheviot Investment Management, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4A

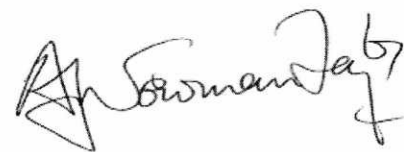
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Letter from the Chairman

The past year has seen increasing national interest in the health of the working age population. In his report, "Keep Britain Working ", published in late 2025, Sir Charlie Mayfield recognised ill health as a major factor driving increasing levels of economic inactivity in UK. His report highlighted the value of work both to the individual and to society, the critical importance of enabling a timely return to work after a period of illness and of supporting the ageing workforce, particularly those in physically demanding work, to remain in work until retirement age. His report also highlighted the challenges in the workplace faced by those living with disabilities.

The primary objective of the Colt Foundation since its inception in 1978 has been to fund research in occupational health whose findings are of value in informing policy and practice: research which provides reliable evidence into the causes of ill health in the workplace and the means to prevent and ameliorate this. We are encouraged by the high priority the UK government is giving to understanding the inter relationships between health and work and we appreciate that to achieve this there is a critical need to rebuild research capacity in this field. To support this, we will direct a greater proportion of our funding to fellowships, both clinical and non-clinical, the former in partnership with the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), and to directed programmes of research.

Our aim is that during the next five years, where appropriate in partnership with NIHR and other research funders, to provide the foundations for a sustainable future for academic research into increasing our understanding of the complex relationships between work and health as the basis for enabling healthier working lives.



Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor CBE FRCP FFOM FMedSci
Chairman of the Colt Foundation

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

The trustees of the Colt Foundation present their report and the financial statements for the year from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and Activities

The primary purpose of The Colt Foundation is to promote and encourage research into the interrelationship of work and health as well as the social, medical and environmental problems created by commerce and industry.

The Colt Foundation considers applications for funding high-quality research projects in the field of occupational and environmental health, particularly those aimed at discovering the causes of illnesses arising from conditions at the place of work and means to remedy these. The work is monitored by our trustees and advisers and by independent external assessors to achieve the maximum impact with available funds. Grants are not made to the general funds of other charities or directly to individual research workers.

The Colt Foundation also makes grants through universities and colleges to enable students to pursue higher degrees in subjects related to occupational and environmental health. Senior Fellowships, Post Doctoral Training Awards and PhD Fellowships are awarded annually, and the Foundation currently supports the MSc course in Human & Applied Physiology at King's College, London.

Application Process

Project grants are awarded through open competition at meetings of the Board of trustees held twice per year. Deadlines for submission of applications are published on the Foundation's website. The format for proposals is not tightly prescribed, but applications should be submitted by email as a single document in Word format, and should include clear statement of: the question(s) that the research seeks to answer; how those questions will be addressed; what difference the findings might make to practice, to policy, or to priorities for future research that has potential to influence practice or policy; and details of the financial support that is being requested from the Foundation. Before making a full submission, applicants are encouraged to provide a brief summary of their proposal to check that it falls within the Foundation's area of interest.

Grant applications are assessed in two stages. In an initial sift, each proposal is reviewed by two or more trustees to determine whether it is potentially fundable by the Colt Foundation and merits independent external peer-review. No application is rejected at this stage without having been considered by at least four trustees. Proposals sent for external review (normally by two or more reviewers) are then brought to the Board meeting where final selection for funding is decided.

The Board bases its funding decisions on specific criteria: does the study address an important question; will the answer to that question have the potential to impact directly or indirectly on policy or practice; is there a clear pathway to impact; how well will the proposed study design answer the research question; is the applicant likely to make a long-term contribution to research in our field of interest; and in light of these considerations, is the study good value for money?

The Foundation has a clear Conflict of Interest (COI) policy. A trustee is required to report any potential COI before consideration of a grant application. The Chairman, along with other Board members, will decide whether the COI is such as to allow the Board member to participate in evaluation of the proposal, in the decision whether to fund, or neither.

Grants awarded for periods in excess of one year are reviewed annually by a committee comprising one or more of the trustees, the Director, and a scientific adviser, and occasionally an external assessor as well.

Public Benefit

The trustees are particularly keen to support work that is likely to make a difference to legislation, public policy or working practices, and thus improve the health of the global workforce.

The trustees have invested in research in many fields of occupational and environmental health, the impact of which is often felt by those most disadvantaged in society. A significant sum has been invested into research into the effects of toxic, fine and ultrafine particles and fibres, including lung and cardiovascular disease, adding to the knowledge base over a long period, and helping identify hazards in the workforce and the wider population with a view to eliminating them or controlling the associated risks to an acceptable level. The Foundation has also invested in musculoskeletal research, including investigating the cultural and psychosocial influences on disability. We have supported research into the effects of occupation on health outcomes of COVID including in NHS staff, we have funded research to better understand the barriers to employment experienced by autistic adults and supported the implementation of a health promotion training programme for HGV drivers within the UK logistics sector.

Achievements and Performance

New Grants Awarded 2025

Dr Sarah Leddon – King's College London

Evaluating the impact of accessing NHS Talking Therapies on benefit receipt using a novel data linkage of mental healthcare and administrative benefits records

This study will explore the relationship between mental health issues, economic inactivity, and the use of welfare services. It aims to provide valuable evidence to inform policy decisions in this area. In particular, the research will focus on the impact of Employment Advisors, who are specific to these programmes, and examine how their effects may vary across different recipient groups. The trustees agreed that this application came from a strong team that is likely to make a long-term contribution to the field. Overall, they agreed that the likelihood of the research generating useful data is high and decided to fund the project. The project commenced in October 2025 and will run for 36 months, with a total budget of £156,257.

Dr Carl Reynolds – Homerton University Hospital

Applying Population Register-Based Approaches to Better Analyse Occupational Lung Disease (ABBA)

The Board agreed that identifying occupational contributions to lung disease can be challenging, particularly in the presence of other causes, and appreciated Dr Reynolds' commitment to occupational lung disease research. The project commenced in October 2025 for 36 months for a total budget of £127,793.

Grants awarded but awaiting final contract approval in 2025

Professor Gary Macfarlane – University of Aberdeen

Scottish Centre for Work and Health

The trustees acknowledged that the proposed Centre has strong leadership and five well-chosen research themes. The Foundation's experience of providing seed funding for the London Centre for Work and Health and the success of that Centre helped to inform the decision to agree to support the Scottish Centre for Work and Health. The funding of the Centre started in February 2026 for 36 months for £150,521.

Dr Ioannis Basinas – University of Manchester

Studying the risk factors for mental health disorders among UK policy workers: an analysis of the Airwave Health Monitoring Study. This study will explore the relationship between trauma, psychosocial risk factors, and mental health disorders among police forces, using data from the Airwave Health and Monitoring Study. It is a resubmission of a previous application made in May 2025. In response to our feedback, the applicants have removed the genetic component from the original proposal. The trustees acknowledged that one of the strengths of this research is its longitudinal design, which minimises the risk of bias. An additional strength is that the study will utilise data from hospital admissions, which will most likely represent the most severe cases of mental health disorders among police workers. It was agreed to fund the project with £85,287 for a duration of 14 months, starting in December 2025.

On-Going Projects 2025

Guy's St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, Dr Vaughan Parsons, Stefania D'Angelo

Assessing the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of using a hand dermatitis screening questionnaire in a workplace health surveillance programme. The primary aim of this project is to investigate whether using a single question to screen for hand dermatitis is practical, well-received, and effective in a workplace health surveillance program. The project commenced in September 2024 for a period of 24 months with a budget of £70,450.

Swansea University, Professor Gareth Jenkins

Investigating how night-shift work increases the risk of cancer. This project aims to investigate damage to DNA and chromosomes that may be linked to cancer in night shift workers. The Board acknowledged that there was emerging evidence suggesting such a connection, and the proposal addressed an interesting question. The Board agreed to support the project which started in January 2025 for 36 months with a budget of £215,843.

Institute of Occupational Medicine, Professor Damien McElvenny

MORSE (MORTality Study of former professional footballers in England and Wales) Study. The work on this grant has been delayed due to NHS IGARD/Advisory Group Data approval. The project commenced in June 2023 for an initial period of 12 months. The completion date is now October 2026. The budget of £119,768 remains unchanged. Despite the delays, progress has been made in preparing the data for analysis.

Swansea University, Professor Martin Clift

Investigating the differential toxicology of micro-, nano-plastic particulate co-exposure with various ambient air pollutants upon healthy and diseased lung models in vitro. At the Board meeting in May 2023 it was agreed that this was an important and novel piece of research. It was agreed that we would support this project for 42 months for a total of £270,638. The project started in October 2023.

Kings College London, Dr Alexandria Smith

From Service to Census: Using the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Longitudinal Study to examine the health and occupational outcomes of UK veterans. This project aims to investigate whether self-reported health, disability or economic activity differ between veterans and non-veterans, using the ONS Longitudinal study. Following discussion at the November 2023 Board meeting and further clarification from the research team,

it was agreed that we would support this project for a total of £63,871. Access to the ONS data was delayed, consequently, the project did not start until January 2025. The project is due to complete in September 2026.

London Centre for Work and Health, Professor Jo Yarker and Dr Vaughan Parsons

Seed funding to support the establishment of the Centre. The Board agreed in May 2022 that we would consider seed funding as a springboard to long-term self-funding for collaborative research centres. At the Board meeting in November 2022 there was unanimous support to fund the London Centre for Work and Health for three years for the value of £156,404.

Defence Medical Services, Research and Innovation Meeting

At their meeting in November 2025, the Board agreed to a rolling extension to support the annual meeting of the Defence Medical Services, Research and Innovation meeting (formally known as United Services Section at the Royal Society of Medicine) through a grant of up to £5,000 per annum. In addition to supporting the cost of the meetings, the money would be used to fund prizes for the best presentations.

Projects completed during 2025

University of Sheffield – Professor Megan Freeth

Understanding and Tackling the Barriers to Employment Experienced by Autistic Adults

This project was completed on time and in budget. Study 1 surveyed more than 1,000 employers and found strong willingness to hire autistic people, but identified barriers including limited autism knowledge, uncertainty about workplace adjustments, and concerns about productivity and workplace relationships. Employers with greater autism awareness or prior hiring experience were more likely to recruit autistic people. Study 2 used these findings to co-develop a web-based employer resource featuring autistic employees' experiences, practical guidance, and downloadable hiring and workplace adjustment checklists. Pilot evaluation showed the resource was easy to use, improved autism knowledge, and increased employer confidence in hiring autistic people. Professor Freeth has been awarded an NIHR Work and Health Development Award to build on the work from this project grant. Two papers were published in peer reviewed journals, with a third under review.

Fellowships

Colt Foundation NIHR Advanced Fellowship

The Colt Foundation partners with the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) to co-fund Advanced Clinical Fellowships in Work and Health Research. The trustees have agreed to award our first partnership fellowship to Dr Johanna Feary for her research on silicosis in artificial stone worktops workers. The contract with NIHR for this award is still to be finalised but the research commenced in February 2026.

Post Doctoral Training Award

At our Special Board Meeting on 17th March 2025, held in Manchester, we agreed to establish a Postdoctoral Training Award to support early career researchers as secure employment immediately after completing a PhD can be precarious. This Award will cover three-years (FTE) salary along with up to £30,000 for research expenses. Funding decisions will be based on a project application followed by an interview. Initially, this Award will only be available to PhD students funded by the Colt Foundation. We will review the programme once it is established and may extend it externally to individuals who have achieved a PhD in occupational and environmental health. Details of the Award were shared with our recently graduated PhD students, four of whom chose to apply. All four candidates were invited for interviews in February 2026. Dr Bridget Bryan was ultimately selected as the recipient of the first Colt Foundation Post Doctoral Training Award, which will commence in April 2026 and last for three years.

PhD

The Foundation offers support for up to four PhD Fellowships annually. The shortlisted candidates for the 2025 PhD Fellowships were invited to attend interviews in July 2025, two awards were granted. Since 1993, the Foundation has awarded 75 PhD Fellowships.

MSc Students

The Colt Foundation continues to support the MSc in Human & Applied Physiology course at King's College London. At the Board meeting in November 2025, it was agreed to continue the funding for a final three years, year one for £30,000; year two for £20,000, and the final year (2028) for £10,000.

Colt Foundation Fellowships

In 2021, the trustees committed to supporting research career development for non-clinicians by awarding fully funded five-year fellowships. The programme offers awards to individuals who are three to 10 years post-doctoral who show an ongoing commitment to occupational and environmental health research. We did not award the fellowship in 2024 or 2025 due to insufficient high-quality applications, the deadline for the current round is 15th April 2026.

Financial review

The Colt Foundation's income is received solely from listed investments managed by Quilter Cheviot Investment Management. The annual target income from the fund for 2025 was set at £1 million. The portfolio produced an income of £1,065,992. The charity funds for the year increased overall in value by £2,963,574.

Reserves policy

Grants made by The Colt Foundation take the form of a commitment that may extend for as long as five years, reviewed on an annual basis. To ensure that these commitments can be honoured, it is necessary to hold appropriate reserves. Such reserves have been created over a period of years by retaining a part of the investment income. The Colt Foundation does not seek contributions from the public. The fund is represented by £39,434,210 at 31 December 2025, in quoted investments and cash deposits held as an investment.

Investment Policy

Quilter Cheviot Investment Management manages the Foundation's listed investments with the primary objective of maintaining sufficient income to fund our research and grow the real value of the fund.

The Colt Foundation is committed to social responsibility and has laid down an investment constraint that prohibits direct investment in tobacco manufacturers. The Investment Committee, acting on behalf of the trustees, meets with Quilter Cheviot twice a year to ensure that the Foundation's portfolio is aligned with its values as a responsible investor. At each meeting, the committee evaluates Quilter Cheviot's Environmental, Social, and Governance policy in relation to the Foundation's portfolio. The Colt Foundation strives to minimize expenses.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The power relating to the appointment of trustees is vested in the Trustees of The Colt Foundation. Potential new trustees are considered by the entire Board of Trustees, and a unanimous decision is required to ratify any new appointment.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Colt Foundation provides potential new trustees with copies of its governing documents which outline the purpose, objectives, and activities of the charity. These documents also provide an indication of the guiding principles and values of the charity. In addition, potential new trustees receive copies of the minutes of recent trustee meetings and have a discussion with the Chairman of the Trustees and Director. During this discussion, any queries can be raised. Moreover, the charity makes available to new trustees the Charity Commission

guidelines that cover the duties and responsibilities of trustees. All trustees have at least one appraisal with the Chairman during each term they serve.

Risk Assessment

There are four major risks to The Colt Foundation: the lack of sufficient funding to meet grant commitments; the risk of claims from third parties; the risk to the reputation of The Colt Foundation; and the risk of reliance on a single employee. These risks have been reviewed by the trustees:

It is the trustees' policy when approving grants to ensure that reserves are sufficient to cover forward commitments for grants without taking account of future income.

The trustees hold indemnities from all Grantees in respect of any possible third-party claims arising out of the research.

Everything possible is done to mitigate the risk to The Colt Foundation's reputation: before agreeing to funding, the work is assessed by a number of experts in the field. Annual visits are made after the start of the research to monitor progress, and reports are requested on a regular basis.

Reliance on a single employee presents operational and continuity risks, including loss of organisational knowledge and reduced capacity should the employee become unavailable. The Trustees mitigate this through regular oversight, documented processes, external support where needed, and succession planning.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going 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 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Declaration of Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

On behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'An Newman Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor CBE FRCP FFOM FMedSci
Chair of the Board of Trustees

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COLT FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Colt Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st December 2025 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activity, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st December 2025, 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 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 trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COLT FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COLT FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit, in respect to 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; and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and its management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, and through discussion with the trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), and discussed with the trustees and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- We considered the legal and regulatory frameworks directly applicable to the financial statements reporting framework (FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011) and the relevant charity regulations in the UK;
- We considered the nature of the charity, the control environment and charity performance;
- We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit;
- We considered the procedures and controls that the charity has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how senior management monitors those programmes and controls.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Where the risk was considered to be higher, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included: testing manual journals; reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; performing analytical procedures; and enquiring of management, and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-forauditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COLT FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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 anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



TC Group (Statutory Auditor)
Office: Portsmouth

Date: 28 May 2026

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Unrestricted Funds Year ended <u>31 Dec 2025</u> £	Unrestricted Funds Year ended <u>31 Dec 2024</u> £
Incoming resources			
Investment income	3	1,065,992	1,047,876
Donations received		10,564	-
Total incoming resources		<u>1,076,556</u>	<u>1,047,876</u>
Expenditure			
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Investment management costs	4	(134,267)	(126,816)
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
Charitable activities	4	<u>(1,190,367)</u>	<u>(561,518)</u>
Total resources expended		<u>(1,324,634)</u>	<u>(688,334)</u>
(Loss)/gain in market value of listed investments		2,975,844	2,670,790
Net movement in funds		<u><u>2,727,766</u></u>	<u><u>3,030,332</u></u>
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds at start of the year		<u>36,470,636</u>	<u>33,440,304</u>
Total funds at end of the year		<u>39,198,402</u>	<u>36,470,636</u>

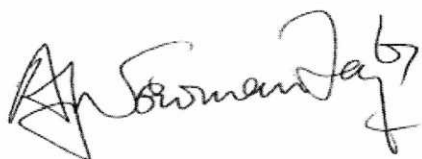
These financial statements of The Colt Foundation (registered charity numbered 1190167), report the year from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	<u>31 Dec 2025</u>	<u>31 Dec 2024</u>
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Investments	39,716,665	36,713,295
Cash deposits	<u>1,376,818</u>	<u>1,155,709</u>
	<u>41,093,483</u>	<u>37,869,004</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	1,200	1,200
Other debtors	109,950	83,498
Cash at bank	<u>57,089</u>	<u>52,633</u>
	<u>168,239</u>	<u>137,331</u>
Current liabilities		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year- grants payable	(469,878)	(907,564)
Net current liabilities	<u>(301,639)</u>	<u>(770,233)</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year- grants payable	(1,593,442)	(628,135)
Total net assets	<u><u>39,198,402</u></u>	<u><u>36,470,636</u></u>
The funds of the charity		
Unrestricted funds	<u>39,198,402</u>	<u>36,470,636</u>
Total charity funds	<u><u>39,198,402</u></u>	<u><u>36,470,636</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 11th May 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor CBE FRCP FFOM FMedSci
Chair of the Board of Trustees

The notes on pages 18 to 23 form part of these financial statements

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	<u>31 Dec 2025</u>	<u>31 Dec 2024</u>
	£	£
Reconciliation of net income/expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/expenditure for the year	2,727,766	3,030,332
Investment income	(1,076,556)	(1,047,876)
Gains on investments	(2,975,844)	(2,670,790)
Increase in debtors	26,452	(2,775)
(Decrease)/increase in grant commitments	527,620	(90,601)
Net cash outflow from operating activity	<u>(770,562)</u>	<u>(781,710)</u>
	<u>31 Dec 2025</u>	<u>31 Dec 2024</u>
	£	£
Cash flow from operating activities	(770,562)	(781,710)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchases of investments	(6,575,444)	(4,285,349)
Receipts from sale of investments	6,505,579	4,427,338
Dividends and interest received	1,065,992	1,047,876
Net cash flow from investing activities	<u>996,127</u>	<u>1,189,865</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash during the year	225,565	408,155
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	1,208,342	800,187
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u>1,433,907</u>	<u>1,208,342</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash deposits	1,376,818	1,155,709
Cash at bank	57,089	52,633
	<u>1,433,907</u>	<u>1,208,342</u>

The notes on pages 18 to 23 form part of these financial statements

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Accounting policies**1.1 Statutory information**

The Colt Foundation is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. The office address is Unit E, The Old Bakery, Golden Square, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 0AP.

The purpose of the charity is to promote and encourage research into social, medical and environmental problems caused by commerce and industry.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. Accounting policies are consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1.3 Investments

Listed Investments are included in the balance sheet at their market value, which is determined with reference to the quoted price of the listed investment at the financial year end.

The trustees have unlimited investment powers and are advised by Quilter Cheviot Investment Management.

1.4 Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity, which is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Investment income on all listed investments is recognised on a receipts basis. Related investment management costs are recorded separately within expenses.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

1.5 Grants payable

Grants payable are made to third parties in furtherance of the charity's objects. Single or multi-year grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant that any condition attaching to the grant is outside of the control of the charity.

Grant awards are decided by a committee comprising four or more of the trustees, the Charity Director, a Scientific Adviser, and if necessary, an external assessor, before the trustees agree to fund the grant. Provision for grants is made once the charity's committee has made a commitment and this has been communicated to the grantee. The charity's committee reviews annually whether funding is to be provided in the subsequent years of a recurring obligation and retains the discretion to terminate a grant. For this reason, an immediate liability arises only for the first year of the funding commitment.

2 Analysis of staff costs and remuneration of key personnel

	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2025</u> £	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2024</u> £
Wages and salaries	86,750	84,800
Social security costs	2,470	4,344
Employers contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,784	5,686
	<u>95,004</u>	<u>94,830</u>

The Colt Foundation (registered charity numbered 1190167) had one employee during the year 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025.

There is one employee whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting year fell between £80,000 to £90,000 for the year ended 31st December 2025.

3 Investment income

	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2025</u> £	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2024</u> £
Dividends received	1,041,484	1,028,462
Interest received	24,508	19,414
	<u>1,065,992</u>	<u>1,047,876</u>

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

4 Expenditure

	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2025</u> £	Year ended <u>31 Dec 2024</u> £
<u>Expenditure on raising funds:</u>		
Investment management fees	134,267	126,816
<u>Expenditure on charitable activities:</u>		
New grant commitments awarded net of reversal of expired grant commitments:		
02/92 King's MSc's	60,000	-
05/06 RSM, Military Medicine	-	(3,838)
03/18 Imperial College, Vineis	-	(22,874)
02/20 UCL, Yates	-	(22)
03/20 Oxford, Holdsworth	-	(96)
04/22 Sheffield, Freeth	(344)	-
03/23 KCL, Smith		63,871
01/24 GSTT, Ntani	1,369	70,450
02/24 Swansea, Jenkins	215,843	-
01/25 KCL, Ledden	156,257	-
02/25 Carl Reynolds	127,793	-
04/25 Manchester. Basinas	85,287	
05/25 Aberdeen, Macfarlane	150,521	-
Student Fellowships	<u>245,188</u>	<u>322,059</u>
	1,041,914	429,550
Management and administration:		
Wages and salaries	95,005	94,830
Office expenses	6,189	7,942
Insurance and sundry	8,301	3,229
Travel and subsistence	<u>22,291</u>	<u>16,138</u>
	131,786	122,139
Loss on exchange	6,635	-
Governance costs	<u>10,032</u>	<u>9,829</u>
	<u>1,324,634</u>	<u>688,334</u>

Management and administration costs primarily relate to the administrative costs of awarding, monitoring and assessing research grants, salary support grants and scholarships, and hence are allocated to charitable activities entirely.

Included within governance costs is the auditor's remuneration, which amounted to £5,100 in respect of audit services, and £4,932 in respect of non-audit services.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

5 Fixed asset investments

	Year ended 31 Dec 2025	Year ended 31 Dec 2024
	<u>Listed</u>	<u>Listed</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Market value at 31 December 2024	36,713,295	34,184,494
Additions	6,533,105	4,285,349
Disposals	(6,505,579)	(4,427,338)
Gains/(loss) in market value of listed investments	2,975,844	2,670,790
Market value at 31 December 2025	<u>39,716,665</u>	<u>36,713,295</u>
Value of investments at 31 December 2025		
Total fixed interest investments	6,510,700	6,153,907
Total United Kingdom investments	8,158,764	8,377,613
Total North American investments	11,489,582	11,236,438
Total European investments (ex UK)	4,908,858	3,982,866
Total Japanese investments	996,736	1,105,351
Total Asian Pacific investments (ex Japan)	1,567,762	987,931
Total Emerging Markets investments	2,307,906	1,184,371
Total Global investments	488,400	387,400
Total Alternative investments	<u>3,287,957</u>	<u>3,297,418</u>
	<u>39,716,665</u>	<u>36,713,295</u>

All investments are carried at fair value. Investments in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets, primarily the London Stock Exchange. Holdings in common investment funds, unit trusts and open-ended investment companies are at the bid price. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value, using the bid price. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the CIO is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the CIO from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment in global markets and volatility in yield. Uncertainty brings attractive opportunities, as well as undesired risk and history has shown that geopolitical uncertainty tends to have a limited long-term impact on investments. Unfortunately, unlike interest risk or recession risk, geopolitical risk is extremely hard to handicap and therefore to hedge. However, the CIO mitigates for this by adopting a five to 10 year investment time horizon that includes diversifying its investment portfolio in stocks and bonds as well as different geographical markets.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be as low as all assets are traded and the commitment to intervention by central banks and market regulators has continued to provide for orderly trading in the markets and so their ability to buy and sell quoted equities and stock is anticipated to continue. The CIO's investments are mainly traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The CIO has no material investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The CIO manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The CIO does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer term yield and total return and historic studies of quoted financial instruments have shown that volatility in any particular five year period will normally be corrected.

6 Debtors

	Year ended 31 Dec 2025	Year ended 31 Dec 2024
	£	£
Prepayments	1,200	1,200
Other Debtors	109,950	83,498
	<u>111,150</u>	<u>84,698</u>

7 Creditors- grants payable

	Year ended 31 Dec 2025	Year ended 31 Dec 2024
	£	£
Grants payable as at 31/12/2024	1,535,699	1,626,301
Grants awarded during the year	1,042,258	492,471
Grant obligations released during the year	(343)	(62,921)
Grants paid during the year	(514,294)	(520,152)
	<u>2,063,320</u>	<u>1,535,699</u>

Grants payable are split as due within one year £469,878 and over one year £1,593,442.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

8 Transactions with connected persons

No Trustee received remuneration during the year.

Expenses reimbursed to nine trustees in respect of travel and subsistence during the year totalled £4,147 (2024 - £2,554).

9 Control

The charity is under the control of its Board of Trustees. There is no ultimate controlling party.