



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2023 **To** 31 March 2024

Charity name: Mersey Care NHS FT Charitable Fund

Charity registration number: 1191576

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Charitable purposes relating to the general or specific purposes, including population health, mental health and suicide prevention, of Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust for the benefit of users of services managed by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust and staff involved in the provision of those services, for all or any charitable purpose or purposes relating to the National Health Service
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To provide amenities to service users and carers of Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust• To provide amenities to staff of Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust• To provide amenities to volunteers of Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust• To provide support to the promotion of suicide prevention• General Charitable Purposes
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Corporate Trustee has had regard to the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	N/A

Other		N/A

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>During 2023/24, the Charity commenced fundraising activities hosting several events alongside launching an online giving platform. A dedicated Charity website was developed which seeks to grow the profile of the Charity both internally within the Trust and to the wider public. During the year policies and procedures were also developed around governance.</p> <p>The Charity successfully applied to NHS Charities Together to access Stage 3 Covid-19 Recovery Funding. A grant of £252,999 was awarded to the Charity to be paid in tranches to fund several projects over a two-year period commencing in 2023/24.</p> <p>A Charity Fundraising Strategy has been produced for 2023/24 and an Operational Plan developed to support the delivery of the Charity's objectives.</p> <p>Approval was received from the Charity Commission to transfer the North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS FT Charitable Fund to the Mersey Care Charity. Funds were subsequently transferred and the former North West Boroughs Charity was removed from the Charity Commission register in June 2023.</p> <p>Total receipts were £235,526, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Charities Together Stage 3 Covid-19 Recovery Grants - £173,723 Liverpool City Council Eurovision Grant - £2,000 Donations and on-line giving - £19,307 Dividends & Interest - £3,195 Transfer from NWB Charity - £37,301 <p>Total payments were £69,583 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Charities Together Grants utilisation - £46,557 Other Charitable Activities - £545 Fundraising - £21,375 Governance - £1,106

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	The investment policy requires that all monies, apart from working capital, be invested in securities to maximise the overall return consistent with an acceptable level of risk. The performance of the investments is continually monitored and reported on an annual basis in relationship to other common investment funds.
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the reporting period the Charity held total funds of £328,212 of which £103,548 was classed as unrestricted and £224,664 was restricted as per the wishes of the donors or as per grant awards.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>In accordance with Charity Commission guidance, the Corporate Trustee ("the Trustee") has developed a reserves policy to establish the level of reserves that is appropriate to the Charity and ensure compliance with the Trustee's legal duty to apply charity funds within a reasonable time of receiving them.</p> <p>It is the Trustee's determination to demonstrate prudent stewardship of the Charity and to ensure that the level of reserves is appropriate to the Charity's circumstances.</p> <p>From experience the Trustee would expect to spend at the same level as income is received taking one year with another. However, it is intended to establish and maintain reserves (namely the "Unrestricted funds") to ensure current or anticipated expenses are met from the funds should there be any major adverse fluctuations in income received.</p> <p>Reserves will be identified to a maximum level equivalent to approximately 6</p>

		<p>months expenditure. Should the amount rise beyond this level action will be taken to expend funds in accordance with the charity's objects.</p> <p>Reserves will not be permitted to fall below a level equivalent to three months expenditure. However, in the unlikely event of this happening the Trustee may withhold from distribution such amounts of income and credit them to the reserve funds.</p> <p>Unrealised gains on investments will not be included in income to be distributed to unrestricted funds.</p> <p>The level of reserves will be monitored on a monthly basis to ensure compliance with the above limits.</p> <p>The Trustee will formally review this policy every two years.</p>
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Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The £103,548 unrestricted funds held as at 31 March 2024 are held in reserves.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The Charity's principal sources of income are grants awarded by NHS Charities Together, grants from other bodies, fundraising events and activities and general donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The Charity's main source of income to date has been NHS Charities Together Covid-19 grants, however as these come to an end, there is currently no other regular sources of income at present. Grant applications from other sources form a significant part of the Charity's Fundraising Strategy going forward, however these are not guaranteed. The

		Charity will continue to be dependent upon the goodwill of service users and members of the public for donations and engagement with fundraising activities.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	NHS Trust Body
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Mersey Care NHS FT Board of Directors acting as Corporate Trustee

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Mersey Care NHS FT's Board of Directors, acting as Corporate Trustee, has formally constituted a Charitable Funds Committee consisting of Executive and Non-Executive Directors. The Charitable Funds Committee has delegated powers to oversee the management and operation of charitable funds.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	In 2023/24, the funds held by the North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS FT Charity were transferred to the Mersey Care NHS FT Charity. These included funds administered on behalf of Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and these continue to be managed under an SLA agreement.
Other		N/A

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust Charitable Fund
Other name the charity uses	Mersey Cares, Zero Suicide Alliance, Life Rooms
Registered charity number	1191576
Charity's principal address	Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust Trust Headquarters V7 Building Kings Business Park Prescot Merseyside L34 1PJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust (as Corporate Trustee)			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
Rosie Cooper	Non-Executive Chair	
Anya Ahmed	Non-Executive Director	To 21 July 2023
Murray Freeman	Non-Executive Director	To 31 August 2023
Gerry O'Keeffe	Non-Executive Director	
Nick Williams	Non-Executive Director	
Scott Etherington	Non-Executive Director	
Marie Boles	Non-Executive Director	From 20 June 2023
Ian Buchan	Non-Executive Director	From 11 December 2023
Nicola Haywood-Cleverly	Non-Executive Director	From 11 December 2023
Maureen Whilby	Non-Executive Director	From 11 December 2023
Liz Roden	Non-Executive Director	From 9 May 2024
Debora McLaughlin	Non-Executive Director	From 13 September 2024
Joe Rafferty	Chief Executive Officer	
Trish Bennett	Chief Executive (Designate)	
Elaine Darbyshire	Chief Communication, Inclusion and Estates Officer	To 30 September 2024
Louise Edwards	Chief Strategy, Commissioning and Partnerships Officer	To 28 June 2024
Amanda Oates	Chief People and Culture Officer	
Rob Collins	Chief Finance Officer	
Noir Thomas	Chief Medical Officer	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Investment Fund Manager	BlackRock Fund Managers Limited	PO Box 545 Darlington DL1 9TQ

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Rob Collins	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chief Finance Officer	
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Date	23/01/2025
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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust Charity

1191576

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

Period start date
4/1/2023


To

Period end date
3/31/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary Receipts	12,167	7,140	-	19,307	31,896
Grants Received	2,000	173,723	-	175,723	-
Dividends & Interest Received	3,195	-	-	3,195	-
Transfer from NWB Charity	-	37,301	-	37,301	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,362	218,164	-	235,526	31,896
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,362	218,164	-	235,526	31,896
A3 Payments					
Cost of Charitable Activities		47,102	-	47,102	25,660
Raising Funds	21,375	-	-	21,375	1,900
Governance Costs	1,107	-	-	1,107	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	22,481	47,102	-	69,583	27,560
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	22,481	47,102	-	69,583	27,560
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,119	171,062	-	165,943	4,336
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	108,667	53,602	-	162,269	157,933
Cash funds this year end	103,548	224,664	-	328,212	162,269

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Mersey Care Bank Account	103,523	224,664	-
	NWB Bank Account	25	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	103,548	224,664	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	BLK Charities UK Equity Fund A Inc	Restricted/Unrestricted	-	58,696
	BLK Charities UK Bond Fund A Inc	Restricted/Unrestricted	-	7,390
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Owed to Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust in respect of goods & services purchased for the Charity via the Trust	Unrestricted	52,239	
	Owed to Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust in respect of goods & services purchased for the Charity via the Trust	Restricted	70,551	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Rob Collins	1/23/2025



Independent Examiners Report to the Trustee of Merseycare NHS FT Charitable Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

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

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Heaton'.

Mark Heaton FCCA FCIE

KM

Chartered Accountants

1st Floor, Block C, The Wharf,

Manchester Road,

Burnley

BB11 1JG

23rd January 2025