

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

Registered Charity Number: 1194533

Northampton Transport Heritage

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	3
Trustees Annual Report	4 - 8
Accounting Policies	9 - 11
Independent Examiner Report	12
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Statement of Assets and liabilities	14
Notes to the Accounts	15

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

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

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Northampton Transport Heritage
Other Names the Charity is Known By:	NTH
Charity Registration Number:	1194533
Registered Office:	C/O The Doddridge Building, 109 St James Road Northampton, NN5 5LD

Board of Trustees (Executive Committee):

Graham Croucher	Chair
Malcom Tales	
Neil Farmer	
Phillip Curtis	
Andrew Rhodes	
Georgina Jeyes	

Management Committee:

Graham Croucher	Chair
Malcom Tales	Events & Membership
Neil Farmer	Archives & General Duties
Phillip Curtis	General Duties
Andrew Rhodes	General Duties
Georgina Jeyes	General Duties
Mr Karl Tecklenberg	Treasurer
Vacant	Secretary
Vacant	Technical & Maintenance Officer
Vacant	Fundraising & Marketing

Independent Examiner:	Neil Hook, Former member of C.I.M.A. 68 Ethel Street, Northampton, NN1 5ES
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Bankers:	Lloyds Bank, George Row, Northampton,
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Governance, Structure and Management

Governing Document

A charitable incorporated Organisation (CIO) – Northampton Transport Heritage – incorporated and registered as a charity on 19th May 2021. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable organisation and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees of the charity are also charity Trustees for the purpose of charity law. Some are also known as members of the Management Committee.

The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides for a minimum of 3 Trustees. Trustees can be appointed by the charity in a general meeting as co-opted until formally ratified at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM), by other Trustees. Northampton Transport Heritage formally applied for charitable status in 2020 and was granted the status on 19th May 2021 with the purpose of preserving local transport objects and documents for the purpose of education through experiential learning, free events and participation with other agencies to promote transport heritage throughout the County of Northampton.

The members of the Executive Committee (the Trustees) are elected annually and offer a wide range of skills in the fields of community involvement, public transport, and finance. Trustees identify and approach individuals to fill any perceived gaps in skills or knowledge and also ensure the Executive Committee reflects the local community, as far as can be achieved.

Trustee Induction and Training

Most Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity, mainly being drawn from regular participants and volunteers to our events. New Trustees are provided with a Trustee Induction Pack which includes copies of the Policies & Procedures adopted by the charity, the latest Annual Report, Accounts and Governing Documents. They are also made aware of the history and ethos of the organisation to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context in which it operates.

Risk Management

The Executive Committee has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks. The Trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in the Annual Report and Accounts. The organisation has public liability and employer liability insurance to protect the charity in the case of a claim.

The Trustees, having taken advice, have introduced risk management processes to assess risks and implement risk management strategies. These include regular risk assessments by Trustees and outside organisations.

Organisational Structure

Currently, the Executive Committee consists of six Trustees who meet approximately every 6 weeks and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. The management committee (which comprises the trustees) manage day to day operations and regular meetings comprise both Trustees and committee members.

The combined management/Trustee committee has overall responsibility of the charity; its fundraising, its profile and networks, new opportunities, premises, volunteers and general management of the charity and its building(s).

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

Our Aims & Objectives

Purposes and Aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the charity's constitution are:

1. AIMS & OBJECTIVES.

The preservation, conservation, and education of transport items of historical or technical interest for the public benefit in Northampton by:-

1. The display of items of historical and technical interest which will include but not limited to, vehicles, books, drawings, films, photographs, and recordings of all forms of the above sphere of interest.
2. Encouraging the co-ordination of the transport preservation movement to advise and assist in all aspects of the public promotion of the above, including hosting and displays of historical transport.
3. Seeking to procure suitable premises for storage, conservation, display, and access of its artefacts for leisure, education, and research purposes with the aim of establishing a museum.
4. Educating in the key objective by engaging with schools, colleges, universities and local communities and groups in order that our exhibits, records, and knowledge can be imparted for the furtherance of education and research.
5. Recognising the importance of the younger generation in providing a future for the group and its objectives by encouraging them to participate in all aspects of its operations through engagement and practical experience.
6. Working in partnership with local authority representatives, businesses, and compatible groups, with similar objectives, for mutual benefit.
8. Raising funds to enable it to support its objectives; and working independently and not supporting any political party.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The aim of our charity is to continue to provide the highest quality experiences for our members and the general public, non-profit organisations and community groups providing them with the best opportunities through our range of events and experiences that we host or attend throughout the year. We host, in conjunction with the local authorities, four "flagship" events each year which are free to anyone who wishes to attend. We also visit some schools each year to assisting with curriculum work, as well as visiting and helping other community events with our range of classic buses.

We have an office which houses our archive collection, mainly the records of Northampton Corporation Tramways/Transport but other local operators, including railways, are represented too. This also includes an extensive photographic and ephemera collection.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

Each year we review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. We refer to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when carrying out this review and when planning our future activities. The review helps us to ensure our aim, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes.

Public Benefit Statement

Our primary purpose is to provide, promote and use the Charity's knowledge and expertise in local (Northamptonshire) Transport Heritage, providing anyone to have access to our collection of vehicles, and

our archives, at events and for the Charity to use our vehicles for display or for use for the benefit of local people.

All our activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Our Services & Activities

Our activities in 2024 continued to return to something like pre-Covid levels and we continued to work hard to re-establish NTH with the public, various community and other groups and with both West and North Northamptonshire Councils and with other Authorities.

We have a good relationship with other enthusiast groups and work closely with the Leicester Transport Heritage Trust, the 794 Group and The 654 Group and mutually support each other's efforts. The 654 Group comprises members of Northampton Transport Heritage including Trustees and collectively own shares in three vehicles, H654 VVV and CDB 778K.

During the year we have mainly used the NTH Crossley 146, Daimlers 154, the 654 Group Leyland Olympian and Bristol VR and the MW coaches 201 and 260 on a variety of commitments made up of:

1 Members Outing

13 Bus Rallies and Running Days

18 Community Events

2 School or Nursery Educational Visits

Many of the Rallies and Running Days also featured as Members Outings.

The Community Events included Classic Vehicle Rallies, Church Fetes, promotions for Northampton, Daventry and Wellingborough Town Councils, West Northamptonshire Council and Heritage Open Days at Northampton and Daventry.

During the course of these activities our buses and visiting vehicles have travelled 6,251 miles with 5,555 on our own buses. We have had 16,849 passenger journeys taken and given 34 primary school children a ride as part of an educational visit. The cost of running our buses averaged out at £3.78 per mile. This figure is based on direct running costs (fuel), insurance, storage and repairs incurred during the year.

Additionally, we helped with:

1 Members' Birthday

1 School Prom

3 Weddings

3 Funerals

1 Photoshoot

We were unable to hold any member social events mainly due to other pressures on the Committee. We did hold the AGM at Kingsley Park Working Mens Club on 30th June 2024 which was attended by 14 Members. Hopefully we can return to holding social meetings during this year although it was agreed at an earlier AGM that these would not take place during the summer months.

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

Our now four major annual events started with Wellingborough Bus Rally on 6th and 7th April. This is the first time we have organised the event which was previously arranged by our friends in the 794 Preservation Group in conjunction with the Wellingborough Museum. The 794 Preservation Group continued to manage the stalls and sales whilst NTH took on the arrangements for the bus rally and running days.

There were a few changes to previous years with loading and parking arrangements and the free bus rides. This year the routes operated were based on former United Counties services and ran to Orlingbury, Finedon and Irthlingborough as a circuit in each direction with two journeys being extended to Irthlingborough Coop Laundry, Wollaston with two journeys extended to Bozeat, Earls Barton and a Stanton Cross circular to serve the railway station. We also had a feeder from Northampton with a midday return journey. The layby on Castle Way was used for setting down and picking up bus stops with layover being taken on Commercial Way with thanks to North Northamptonshire Council for allowing this and also for the use of the bus lane/gate.

On the Saturday we took 40, 146, 154, 201, 260 and 654 all of which, apart from 40, ran in service. They were joined by five visiting buses. Two visiting buses failed before service so there was a bit of a re-write of the schedules to cover their duties but all journeys operated as planned and particular thanks go to RB Travel for bringing along a coach that helped to cover for the missing vehicles. During the day we ran 446 miles and gave 3394 passenger journeys. Sales amounted to £616.32 and stall donations of £596.19 were received.

The Sunday saw us take the same selection of buses which were joined by four visiting buses and five vehicles on display. Two buses had been withdrawn at the last minute but, with help from RB Travel all advertised journeys except one were covered. Routes were as Saturday with the addition of two trips to Irchester Country Park for the railway. Today we have operated 418.10 miles and gave 3,317 passenger journeys. Sales amounted to £389.09 and stall donations of £449.51 were received.

Saturday, 15th June saw our return to Transport Day at Abington Park Museum. The event followed our established arrangements with buses 146, 154, 201 and 654 joined by Poynters' Routemaster. Unfortunately, the rain showers, some quite heavy, meant visitors numbers were a bit less than in previous years. We ran two routes, a short one of about 20 minutes duration at 15-minute intervals and a slightly longer one every half an hour. The buses covered 259 miles and we carried 1,041 passengers. Sales amounted to £122.36 and we received stall donations of £525.48.

Saturday, 7th September was Daventry Heritage Buses and our team of volunteers collected 154, 267, 201, 654 and 778 to take to the event. 201 headed to Long Buckby and 778 to Northampton to start services to Daventry whilst the remaining buses went direct. We are operating services to Badby, Staverton, Braunston, Welton and Ashby St Ledgers, Long Buckby and Weedon as well as a second journey from Northampton. We are assisted by four visiting buses supplied by private owners, Poynters Coaches and the Leicester Transport Heritage Trust. Unfortunately, 201 had to be withdrawn from service but Poynters very kindly brought a Hunters Coaches Leyland Olympian to replace it. This year the event coincided with the British Cycle Race which passes through the edge of Daventry twice with appropriate road closures. The timetables had to be adjusted to allow for retaining a departure every 10 minutes and this meant that routes did not have a regular headway. As usual, the event was very busy and we gave 3590 passengers journeys and operated 432.40 miles. We had sales amounting to £471.56 and stall donations of £648.38.

Our second Heritage event saw us in Northampton on Saturday 14th September. We were restricted to one day as a Half Marathon taking place on the Sunday meant there would be road closures around the town centre which would preclude us from running. This year the help and assistance from West Northamptonshire was excellent. We had an initial meeting at the start of the year and regular contacts and updates with their Tourism Officer. The main difficulty in organising the event was the national registration website and the search facilities which consistently failed to produce answers making it difficult to gather details of participating venues. He worked hard to chasing up likely venues to help provide the necessary information to formulate routes and timetables. Our buses 146, 154, 267, 201, 778 and 654 were joined by an additional two vehicles, kindly provided by private owners. We are operating services to Brixworth and Lampport Hall, Earls Barton, Towcester and to Weedon as well as Northern and Southern

Circulars in Northampton. Once again, 201 had to be withdrawn part way through the day and one private owner kindly covered for the missing bus. Today we have given 1127 passenger journeys and the buses have covered 369.10 miles. Sales amounted to £385.49 and we also received stall donations of £390.83.

This year saw NTH mark two local transport anniversaries with NTH producing a commemorative booklet. Sunday 21st July marked 120 years since the opening of the electric tramway system in Northampton on 21st July 1904. Sunday 15th December marked the 90th anniversary of the closure of Northampton's electric tramway on 15th December 1934. On both anniversaries buses 146 and 154 were turned out with suitable Tramway Replacement Service branding. They ran in convoy for the day starting opposite and finishing outside the depot having covered all the tram routes, as closely as the current road network allows. The buses attracted a great deal of attention from the public with many photographs and videos taken as we went around the town. Thanks go to Stagecoach and West Northamptonshire Council for allowing us to use Drapery bus stop and the bus lanes.

Once again there was an approach from Wellingborough Town Council to provide a shuttle service between their beach at the Market Place and the Splash Pool at The Embankment and we were pleased to be able to help with this on Wednesdays throughout August. Unfortunately, we missed one day as 154 had a tyre blow-out on the way to Wellingborough. We received a lot of attention and the Town Council were delighted we had been involved and gave us a donation towards the costs of organising the event.

Other community events included the Polish Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity, Eastfield and Abington Festival, Grafton Regis Church Fete, Brook House Care Home at Towcester for their 'D' Day commemoration, Stimpson Avenue School Fete, Roade Model Railway Show and Diwali in Northampton as well as village events with Grendon Daffodil Festival and Earls Barton Village Festival. We also took buses to the Crick Scarecrow and Music Festival and attended the Long Buckby Classic Vehicle event for the first time. Buses also visited Hardingstone Junior School for their leavers party and the Doddridge Centre including a Christmas outing for their helpers.

Our buses also provided transport for our friends at the "Wind-Up Club" on their annual visit to the area, a members' birthday outing and later in the year a school prom. A bus was also taken carry mourners at three funerals including that of our valued member and friend Alan Jones.

Supporting our United Counties and 794 Group friends we helped with their events at Biggleswade and the Roade Transport Fair. As in previous years we supported our friends at Leicester Transport Heritage Trust and participated at the Oadby CarFest and their two-day event at Quorn and Woodhouse Station in conjunction with the Great Central Railway.

Members trips saw buses go to Delaine at Bourne, Peak Park Rally and BUSES Festival, again held at Sywell.

Educational visits saw us making a visit to Walgrave Primary School and Puddleducks Nursery. Both were very welcoming and the children were very interested and attentive.

This year the professional photoshoot featured ANH 154.

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

Infrastructure Support

Financial Review

The trustees report a deficit for the year of £3,123 compared to a surplus of £6,279 in the previous year. This, however, was mainly due to releasing restricted funds for the long-term overhaul of vehicle 197. The day-to-day unrestricted funds increased by £3,773 to a total of £9,413.

Principal Funding Sources

We receive no direct grant funding and all our funds are raised by freewill donations and fundraising stall sales. We receive expenses from event partners for specific flagship events that go towards storage of our vehicles and event costs. We have several “ring-fenced” donation funds online via the “Give As You Live” platform and on-line shopping at no additional costs to the purchaser. We also use PayPal giving, the charitable arm of PayPal. Other fundraising can be from Ebay where people can have to option of donating at the checkout to a charity of their choice and we are registered for this. A major source is Gift Aid allowing basic rate tax to be claimed on donations. The occasional bequest received is always welcome and is usually ring-fenced and allocated to specific projects.

Assets

The only recorded assets are the non-monetary insurance values of our heritage vehicles.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The 654 Group was originally set up by five enthusiasts to purchase former United Counties Leyland Olympian number 654. One of the group members relinquished their ownership and transferred their share as a gift to NTH. With shared ownership, NTH pays a monthly charge which, along with the other four shareholder payments, covers the storage, MOT, road tax and insurance costs. Repairs, maintenance and extraordinary expenses are paid equally by the shareholders as required. Fuel is usually (although not always) paid for out of the NTH account as use is usually down to NTH work. The vehicle is used equally as one of the NTH vehicles and any donations at events are received into NTH accounts.

Two vehicles were purchased by Malcolm Tales, a trustee, and have been used effectively as NTH vehicles and the vehicles have now been transferred to NTH ownership. However, an additional agreement was made that the vehicles return to Malcolm in the event of NTH ceasing to exist during his lifetime. After that they should be offered to the United Counties group.

Reserves Policy

The charity has not had a reserve policy, although as it has matured with additional vehicles and a more detailed budget, a formal policy is being developed and will be implemented with the approved 2026 budget in autumn 2025.

The Future

Our aim is to eventually create a Museum of Transport to exhibit our collection and for people to access our archive collection in a more direct manner. This will be achieved incrementally and hopefully with the assistance of local authority partners.

Our collection of vehicles continues to be curated alongside our policy of important examples of local transport history but it is not expected to grow substantially in the next few years and we will consolidate with what we have. A departure from this rule would be an exceptional vehicle at risk or that fills a gap in our collection.

Our biggest challenge is recruitment and retention of volunteers. We have lost vital members of our volunteer pool due to age related conditions and our overall demographic is ageing. We have though

began to recruit some younger volunteers who are very keen but need careful development.

We need to fill the vital roles of Technical and Maintenance Officer, Fundraising and Marketing Officer if we are to strengthen our operations and be sustainable. This work is continuing and we are, at every opportunity seeking the right people for these vital roles.

Funding opportunities are slim, mainly due to our work not seemingly fitting into categories within many grant funding schemes. Some small, project specific grants are available locally, but competition for funds are strong. We continue to seek opportunities to obtain grant funding and look to further hone our skills at writing applications.

We will continue to attend as many events as is possible with the restricted pool of volunteers we have, who are an amazing group of people. Our focus is on our flagship events but we like to attend as many community events as is possible too and will always look to assist other groups where possible. Members events will always be a feature of our organisation but only if they are feasible and patronised.

Our financial position is modest and without any grant funding we remain exposed to a potential lack of freewill donations, which are a key part of our sustainability. We are always looking for new ethical fundraising opportunities to help keep our vehicles on the road, the costs of which include maintenance, repairs and storage fees. The quest for more suitable storage facilities that can potentially double as visitor facility with better facilities for volunteers is always on our horizon, and we are always looking for new premises.

Our program of events, the professionalism that they are delivered with, and our reputation are an attraction for many across the country, as well as locally. We will look to consolidate this but build upon it where resources and opportunities allow.

The Board of Trustees will not allow the charity to be exposed to any unnecessary risk but we will occasionally have to speculate to accumulate. Our future is only as good as the volunteers wishing to be involved with the charity who wish to see it succeed and have the skills and passion to do so. The Trustees agree that we are in a very reasonable position but cannot rest on our laurels and we will always need to be vigilant, being cognisant of our Treasurers advice and keeping a close watchful eye on vehicle maintenance, charity compliance and governance, as well as volunteer recruitment if we are to maintain our reputation and develop our aims in to the future.

Financial statements - Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Executive Committee are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Executive Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

The Executive Committee are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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 Board of Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on the charity website.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 23rd Feb 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE



..... Graham Croucher - Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

I report on the accounts of Northampton Transport Heritage charity for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act; to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust 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.

Signed:



Name:

Neil Hook

Qualification:

Former member of C.I.M.A.

Address:

68 Ethel Street, Northampton, NN1 5ES

Date:

15th October 2025

NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORT HERITAGE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT y/e 31st Dec 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Income					
Donations and legacies	1	25,741	4,404	30,145	29,151
Income from Charitable Activities	2	2,843	250	3,093	2,363
Other income					
Total Income		28,584	4,654	33,238	31,514
Expenditure					
Charitable activities	3	24,811	11,550	36,361	25,235
Total Expenditure		24,811	11,550	36,361	25,235
Net Income/(Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		3,773	-6,896	-3,123	6,279
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0
Total funds brought forward		5,640	17,824	23,464	17,185
Total funds carried forward		9,413	10,928	20,341	23,464

All receipts and payments derive from continuing activities.

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Monetary Assets					
Treasurers Account		9,393	10,928	20,321	23,422
Cash In Hand		20		20	42
		9,413	10,928	20,341	23,464

Non-Monetary Assets

Heritage Vehicles	72,000	-	72,000	71,000
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The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is required.

Approved by:
Graham Croucher (Chair of Trustees)



Date: 23/02/25

The notes on pages 15 form part of the financial accounts.

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	
1 Donations and legacies				
Membership	2,305	-	2,305	
Donations	20,207	175	20,382	
Sponsorship	374	4,000	4,374	
Gift Aid	2,805	229	3,034	
Lottery fund	50		50	
	25,741	4,404	30,145	
2 Income from Charitable Activities				
Sales	2,782	250	3,032	
On-line shop fundraising	59		59	
Other income	2		2	
	2,843	250	3,093	
3 Charitable expenditure				
Maintenance and restoration costs	7,833	-	7,833	
197 restoration	-	6,950	6,950	
Other vehicle costs	539	-	539	
Insurance	2,362	-	2,362	
Fuel	4,069	-	4,069	
Vehicle storage	5,664	960	6,624	
Stock	1,051	-	1,051	
Miscellaneous	1,238	-	1,238	
	22,756	7,910	30,666	
Support Costs				
Postage/stationery/printing	1,188	1,165	2,353	
Office rent	-	2,475	2,475	
Office admin costs	327	-	327	
	1,515	3640	5,155	
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiners	540	-	540	
		-		
Total Charitable Costs	24,811	11,550	36,361	
4 Creditors				
The trust has no outstanding liabilities				
5 Restricted Funds	01.01.2024	In	Out	31.12.2024
	£	£	£	£
⌘	17,824	4,654	11,550	10,928