THE NORTHERN POWERGRID FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1203185

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	14241649
Registered	2023-05-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Lloyds Court 78 Grey Street Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 6AF
Phone	07889 108 663
Email	jessica.cook@northernpowergrid.com
Website	https://www.northernpowergridfoundation.com/

Activities

Objects: 4.1 THE ONLY OBJECTS FOR WHICH THE CHARITY IS ESTABLISHED ARE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND PRIMARILY (ALTHOUGH NOT EXCLUSIVELY) WITHIN THE PRINCIPAL AREA OF BENEFIT:4.1.1 THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF POVERTY, AND THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED DUE TO FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, ILL-HEALTH, DISABILITY OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE INCLUDING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF ADVICE AND SUPPORT FOR THE OPTIMISATION OF LIVING CONDITIONS, PARTICULARLY RELATING TO THE USE OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES AMONG THOSE IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THOSE IN FUEL-POOR HOUSEHOLDS, OR WHO HAVE SUFFERED LOSS THROUGH WEATHER-RELATED OR OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS;4.1.2 THE MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT OR PROVISION OF PUBLIC AMENITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN AREAS WHICH ARE SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DEPRIVED;4.1.3 THE PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING THROUGH SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY AND THE PRUDENT AND EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES; AND4.1.4 THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION THROUGH THE PROVISION AND SUPPORT OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES.(THE OBJECTS).4.2 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ARTICLE 4.1, THE PRINCIPAL AREA OF BENEFIT MEANS THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS COVERED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION LICENCES OF NORTHERN POWERGRID (YORKSHIRE) PLC (COMPANY NUMBER 04112320) AND NORTHERN POWERGRID (NORTHEAST) PLC (COMPANY NUMBER 02906593).

Activities: The Northern Powergrid Foundation aims to make a difference to the people who live in Northern Powergrid's operating areas by supporting projects and initiatives relating to energy resilience, fuel poverty, sustainability and the efficient use of energy and resources.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£131,770	£592,896	-	-
2023-12-31	£7,570,080	£749,567	£6,820,512	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Wilkin		2023-06-05
Joanne Pamela Coe		2022-07-18
Kathryn Bradley		2023-06-01
Louise Anne Lowes		2022-07-18

Accounts

Charity Number: 1203185
Company Number: 14241649

The Northern Powergrid Foundation
(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Contents

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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.

Objectives and activities

The Foundation was established by Northern Powergrid in 2022 in response to the devastating effects of storm Arwen upon the communities it serves. However, the objectives of the Foundation are more ambitious than simply supporting energy resilience. The trustees want to create enduring support across a broad range of charitable objects by helping those most affected by changes in the economy, environment and society because of the shifting energy landscape.

The objects of the Foundation are:

- the prevention and relief of poverty, and the relief of those in need due to financial hardship, ill-health, disability or other disadvantage including through the provision of advice and support for the optimisation of living conditions, particularly relating to the use of energy and resources among those in necessitous circumstances, including those in fuel-poor households, or who have suffered loss through weather-related or other environmental events;
- the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities for the public benefit in areas which are socially and economically deprived;
- the preservation, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment including through supporting sustainability and the prudent and efficient use of resources; and
- the advancement of education through the provision and support of educational support and training about all aspects of efficient and sustainable use of energy and resources.

One of the ways of getting the right support in place to create resilient and thriving communities is via access to funding. Since incorporation, this has been primarily achieved by making grants of up to £20,000 to fund local community projects, typically focused on energy resilience. But, over the longer term, the trustees envisage that fulfilling the Foundation's objectives will also be achieved by funding innovation projects which offer large-scale solutions and by partnering with networks and other bodies to maximise charitable reserves and resources to provide enhanced public benefit.

The Foundation's grant making policy exists to ensure that the Foundation benefits the public and applies its funding fairly and consistently. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Foundation's grant making policy.

Achievement and performance

During the year, the Foundation completed two grant rounds focused predominantly on energy resilience. The first round was made in quarter two of 2024, which resulted in £0.18 million being awarded to fund 14 projects. Round two was made in quarter four of 2024, during which, the Trustees awarded £0.30 million to fund 20 projects.

Through the provision of grants, to date, the Foundation has primarily supported communities by funding energy resilience solutions which, allows them to become more self-sufficient, particularly during extreme weather events.

Funding projects for communities and community hubs also helps to protect residents and improve resilience in the face of a changing climate, whilst furthering the decarbonisation agenda. By funding alternate power projects, the Foundation has not only ensured the integrity of supply in many smaller and harder to reach communities, but also in many cases, has supported projects that procure resilience in a sustainable way.

Examples of the type of projects benefitting from funding includes the installation of solar panels and battery storage equipment to enable a community to maintain supply during a power cut, and the installation of heat pumps to improve energy efficiency and support decarbonisation.

The Trustees completed a recruitment process in quarter four of 2024, establishing a new Foundation operations team, consisting of the Head of Foundation, Foundation Operations Manager, and Foundation Administrator. All three new appointments joined the Foundation in early 2025.

Plans for the future

The Foundation will continue to establish its vision and long-term business plan to achieve its ambition to be the best energy company charity and provide public benefit on an enduring basis. Due to the Foundation being in an embryotic stage of its development, the trustees plan to refine and develop its three funding strategies (energy, fuel poverty innovation, and future networks). In the short to medium term, the Foundation will continue to provide grant funding for eligible projects that align with the charitable objects.

Financial review

As at 1 January 2024 the Foundation had total funds and net assets of £6.83 million.

The Trustees agreed an investment approach in quarter one of 2024, appointing RBC Brewin Dolphin as the Foundation's investment advisor. In July 2024, £6.5 million was invested to coincide with future grant funding rounds, with £0.25m allocated to a cash fund for liquidity.

In September 2024, a gilt was redeemed with proceeds transferred to the cash fund, following which, £0.30 million was transferred from the cash fund into the Foundation's back account to facilitate payments for the grant round in quarter four of 2024.

During the financial year, the Foundation awarded grants totalling £0.48 million to beneficiaries in support of 34 projects. However, given the timing of the grant round in quarter four, the payment of the £0.30 million of charitable funds did not take place until quarter one of 2025.

During the year, the Foundation received donated services and support from Northern Powergrid, including access to office facilities and administrative assistance. These resources were provided free of charge to support the Foundation's operations. While no specific monetary value has been attributed, the trustees recognise the benefit this provides, and thank Northern Powergrid for their contributions.

As at 31 December 2024 the Foundation had total funds and net assets of £6.36 million.

Reserves policy

The Foundation's funds remain in surplus, and the reserves are currently maintained in order to meet its objectives. The trustees are taking steps to implement an investment strategy and reserves policy.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The risk register is reviewed by the trustees on a quarterly basis and covers governance, financial, operational, compliance and external risks. Risks identified are prioritised on the basis of likelihood of occurrence and potential impact with mitigations agreed to manage the risks.

The main risks identified during 2024 included:

- **Customer Satisfaction**

  The Foundation has put in place a number of measures to ensure that grants are awarded to eligible recipients in furtherance of the charitable objects. In the event stakeholders do have concerns, these are managed by the Foundation's complaints process.

- **Investment policies**

  The Foundation has sufficient reserves to meet its objectives beyond the forthcoming financial year. The trustees appointed RBC Brewin Dolphin as the Foundation's investment advisor and will take steps to develop an investment policy to stimulate the level of charitable reserves being generated.

- **Fraud**

  The trustees, with the support of Northern Powergrid have put in place a number of policies and processes to manage the risk of fraud from both the cyber security and operational perspective. This includes robust information technology systems and controls, stringent due diligence processes and clear financial reporting procedures.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Number:	1203185
Registered Company Number:	14241649 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 6AF

Trustees
The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows;

K Bradley	Independent Trustee
J Coe	Northern Powergrid Trustee
J Docherty	Chair of the Trustees
L Lowes	Northern Powergrid Trustee
D Wilkin	Independent Trustee

Company Secretary
J C Riley

Our advisors

External Auditors	S&W Audit	17 Queens Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1RN
Bankers	Lloyds Banking Group	102 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AG

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document
The Foundation was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 18 July 2022 and was registered as a charity on 22 May 2023. The Foundation's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association ("Articles").

Principal activity
The Foundation is part of the Northern Powergrid Holdings Company and its subsidiaries group of companies (the "Northern Powergrid Group"), and its principal activity is to further its charitable objects (see 'objectives and activities' below), primarily on behalf of customers residing in the geographic areas covered by the electricity distribution licenses of Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc and Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc (together "Northern Powergrid").

Public Benefit
From 1 April 2008, section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Charity Commission states that there are two principles to be met in order to show that an organisation's aims are for the public benefit: firstly, there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits and secondly that the benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public.
The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on above, meet these principles.

Appointment of trustees
There are currently five trustees of the Foundation, three of whom are independent trustees (including the Chair) and two who are non-independent trustees employed by Northern Powergrid.

The Articles require that the board of trustees comprises of a minimum of three and is constituted as follows:

- At least two trustees must be independent of the Founding Member (being Northern Powergrid Limited, a member of the Northern Powergrid Group); and
- At least one trustee must be a representative of the Founding Member.

Trustees are appointed by the Founding Member for a period determined at the time of appointment, however, no trustee shall serve in office for more than nine consecutive years provided that a trustee may be reappointed annually, thereafter, if there are exceptional circumstances, and the trustees unanimously resolve that they can be reappointed.

The trustees were appointed to ensure that the Foundation's board was representative of the communities that it and Northern Powergrid serves. Accordingly, the trustees come from a broad variety of backgrounds with a mix of expertise and act as champions in the community in helping to shape, develop and deliver the Foundation's business plan in pursuit of the charitable objectives.

Induction and training of trustees
Upon appointment, each trustee was provided with an induction pack including key constitution documents, Charity Commission guidance and contextual information about Northern Powergrid. In addition, all trustees attended a training event held by external lawyers covering governance, trustee duties and decision making, risk management, safeguarding and the Charity Governance Code. The trustees will continue to undertake training when necessary.

Management and administration
The trustees retain ultimate responsibility for all decisions, including setting the Foundation's vision and strategy, safeguarding the charitable funds, making the final decision on all charitable donations and ensuring that all activity of the Foundation is for the purpose of fulfilling its charitable objects. In doing this, the trustees ensure that they fulfill their duty to act at all times in the best interests of the Foundation whilst supporting the diverse communities that Northern Powergrid serves.

The trustees govern the overall business of the Foundation and meet quarterly to discuss the Foundation's strategy, performance and consider its future direction. In addition, monthly meetings are held to discuss any operational matters arising. The trustees declare any interest they may have in relation to the work carried out by the Foundation.

Throughout 2024, the day-to-day operational management of the Foundation was led by the Foundation Manager (interim), who was employed and remunerated by the Northern Powergrid Group, but who reported to the board of trustees. Additional support and resources including governance, payroll, meeting facilities and information technology solutions are provided by the Northern Powergrid Group. Following their appointment in January 2025, the Foundation will be supported by the Foundation operations team.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Northern Powergrid Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

S&W Audit will continue in office in accordance with the provisions in Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006 and has indicated its willingness to do so.

Joe Docherty
Chair
8 September 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN POWERGRID FOUNDATION
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Northern Powergrid Foundation (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 group's or parent charitable company'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.

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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the 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 group and parent charitable company'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 group and parent charitable company 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 auditor under the companies Act 2006 and we report in accordance with this 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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtained a general understanding of the company's legal and regulatory framework through enquiry of management concerning their understanding of relevant laws and regulations, the entity's policies and procedures regarding compliance, and how they identify, evaluate and account for litigation claims. We also drew on our existing understanding of the company's industry and regulation.

We understand that the company complies with the framework through:

- Engaging external legal professionals as required and making changes to internal procedures and controls as necessary.
- The directors' close involvement in the day-to-day running of the business, meaning that any litigation or claims would come to their attention directly.
- Monitoring of updates made by regulatory bodies.

In the context of the audit, we considered those laws and regulations which determine the form and content of the financial statements, which are central to the company's ability to conduct its business, and where there is a risk that failure to comply could result in material penalties. We identified the following laws and regulations as being of significance in the context of the company:

- The Companies Act 2006 and FRS 102 in respect of the preparation and presentation of the financial statements.
- The Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice in respect of the preparation and presentation of the financial statements.

We performed the following specific procedures to gain evidence about compliance with the significant laws and regulations identified above:

- Making enquires of trustees and management as to where they consider there to be a susceptibility to fraud and whether they have any knowledge or suspicion of fraud;
- Obtaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;

The senior statutory partner led a discussion with senior members of the engagement team regarding the susceptibility of the entity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. The areas identified in this discussion were:

- Manipulation of the financial statements via fraudulent bank transactions and management overriding controls.
- The risk that the valuation of the investment portfolio was inappropriate at the period end.
- The risk that gift in kind income had not been recognised, or was incomplete.

These areas were communicated to the other members of the engagement team not present at the discussion.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN POWERGRID FOUNDATION
For the year ended 31 December 2024

The procedures we carried out to gain evidence in the above areas included:

- Performed a cashbook review on the bank statements
- Agreed the movements within the investment portfolio reports in the year and compared the movements against bank transactions.
- Held a discussion with management on potential gifts in kind and inspected corresponding documents to quantify the value.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of Our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

C. Henderson

Craig Henderson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of S&W Audit

8 September 2025

Statutory Auditors & Chartered Accountants

17 Queens Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1RN

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	18 month period Total 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations	2	60,134	-	60,134	7,570,080
Investment income	3	71,636	-	71,636	-
Total income		131,770	-	131,770	7,570,080
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	592,896	-	592,896	749,567
Total expenditure		592,896	-	592,896	749,567
Net gain / (loss) on investments		5,444	-	5,444	-
Net Income/(expenditure)		(455,682)	-	(455,682)	6,820,512
Transfers	10	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		(455,682)	-	(455,682)	6,820,512
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		6,820,512	-	6,820,512	-
Total funds carried forward		6,364,830	-	6,364,830	6,820,512

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Non-current assets			
Fixed asset investments	8	6,323,533	-
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		361,055	6,825,912
		361,055	6,825,912
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(319,759)	(5,400)
Net current assets		41,297	6,820,512
Total assets less total liabilities		6,364,830	6,820,512
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		6,364,830	6,820,512
	10	6,364,830	6,820,512

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 8 **September 2025** and signed on their behalf by:

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Joe Docherty

Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Statement of Cash Flows
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Net cash flow from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	**16**	(141,323)	6,825,912
Cash flows from investment activities			
Interest received and investment income		71,636	-
Purchase of investments		(6,550,000)	-
Proceeds from disposal of investments		231,911	
Net cash flow from investing activities		(6,246,453)	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(6,464,857)	6,825,912
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		6,825,912	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		361,055	6,825,912

Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
Net income for the period	(455,682)	6,820,512
Adjustments for:		
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	314,359	5,400
Investment Income	(71,636)	-
Valuation gain on investments	(5,444)	-
Net cash used in operating activities	(218,403)	6,825,912

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by the 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) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

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 and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated. The charitable company was incorporated on 18 July 2022. The amounts shown for the current year are for the 18-month period ending 31 December 2023.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis. The charity holds significant cash and investment balances, and the majority of its expenditure is discretionary rather than committed. The trustees have approved the Foundation's budgets and forecasts for 2025, have considered the resources available in 2025 and conclude that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the signing of the financial statements.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the cost against the expenditure which was incurred.

1.6 Support cost allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

1.7 Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with instant access from the date of opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Donations

	2024 £	2023 £
Donations	-	7,570,080
Gifts in kind	60,134	-
	60,134	7,570,080

3. Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Investment income	71,636	-
	71,636	-

4. Expenditure

	Direct costs £	Support costs £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities			
Payment of grants	486,632	-	486,632
Wages and salaries	58,348	-	58,348
Sundry expenses	35,841	-	35,841
Support costs	-	12,075	12,075
	580,821	12,075	592,896

	Direct costs £	Support costs £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities			
Payment of grants	743,359	-	743,359
Sundry expenses	808	-	808
Support costs	-	5,400	5,400
	744,167	5,400	749,567

5. Support costs

	2024	2023
		£
Governance costs		
- Audit fee	5,700	5,400
- Investment manager fees	6,375	-
	12,075	5,400

An analysis of grants made to organisations is provided below.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Age UK Barnsley	-	20,000
Askwith Village Hall Ltd	19,200	-
Bamburgh Parish Council	-	17,619
Birtley Village Hall Committee	-	13,860
Blanchland Parish Council	-	15,796
Byrness Village Hal	20,000	-
Cambo Village Hall	-	19,034
Castleton Village Hall	20,000	-
Chatton Village Hall Trust	20,000	-
Cowshill Village Hall	-	7,948
Dalton Village Hall	15,000	-
Defibs in Memory of Dr Alan J Sykes	5,076	-
Deric Youth and Community Project	-	9,000
Dipton Community Association	-	20,000
Eastgate Village Hall	-	19,000
Eldon Community Partnership	20,000	-
Elsdon Village Hall	-	7,309
Etherley Parish Council	6,595	-
Friends of Eastwoods Park	-	13,476
Future Leisure in Coxhoe	-	10,000
Great Lumley Parish Council	20,000	-
Helperby Village Hall CIO	20,000	-
Hexham and Tynedale Community Trust	-	20,000
Highfield Park/Woodland Gardens Community Association	10,930	-
Holy Island Village Hall	10,008	-
Humshaugh Village Hall	-	20,000
Jubliee Fields Community Association	-	19,775
Kibblesworth Village Millenium Centre	20,000	-
Kilburn Village Institute	13,051	-
Kirkby Malzeard Mechanics Institute Village Hall	20,000	-
Kirklevington & Castlelevington Memorial Hall	-	15,589
Kyffin Place Community Centre	-	9,601

Lands Village Hall Association	-	17,055
Lesbury Village Hall	-	20,000
Longframlington Memorial Hall	-	20,000
Long Marston Village Hall & Recreation Ground CIO	6,958	-
Medomsley Community Action Group	-	6,418
Mirfield Community Trust	20,000	-
Mitford Village Hall Trust	20,000	-
Newbrough Town Hall	-	20,000
Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team (N.E.E.T)	-	20,000
Northern View (Berwick) Ltd	20,000	-
Otterburn Memorial Hall	-	13,277
Parish Council of Hexhamshire	-	17,485
Pittington Community Association	-	20,000
Primetime at The Vine	-	18,285
Rennington Village Hall Trust	-	19,574
Sessay Community Trust	20,000	-
Scots Gap Methodist Church	-	6,351
Sherburn Hill Hub	-	15,000
Skipsea Village Hall	11,500	-
Stanhope Community Association	-	19,200
Stanley Crook Village Hall	-	16,500
Stocksfield Community Association	-	15,000
Stonehaugh Community Hall Trust	-	17,000
Sunniside Community Association	-	18,485
Sutton Upon Derwent Village Hall	18,223	-
Swillington Village Council	17,987	-
Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust	-	10,620
The Big League CIC	-	20,000
The Glendale Gateway Trust	-	20,000
The Netherton & District War Memorial Institute	20,000	-
The Village Hall Winteringham	-	17,640
Todmorden Learning Centre and Community Hub Ltd.	-	20,000
Walker Memorial Hall Aldbrough St John Village Hall	12,400	-
Weardale Community Partnership	-	5,671
West Allen Parish Council	-	20,000
West Auckland Memorial Community Association	19,887	-
Wetwang Village Hall	19,254	-
Wingates Village Institute	12,987	-

Whitley Bay Big Local	-	11,782
Whittingham Memorial Institute	-	19,663
Woodland Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity	-	20,000
	459,056	723,014
Grants under £5,001 (6 grants)	27,576	20,345
	486,632	743,359

6. Net incoming /(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging

	2024	2023
		£
Audit fee	5,700	5,400

7. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses

	2024
	£
Wages and salaries	52,644
Social security costs	5,704
Other pension	-
	58,348

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1. (2023 – £nil).
The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 was £nil. (2023 - £nil).

None of the directors of the Trustee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Foundation during the year.

Total trustee expenses amounted to £nil.

8. Fixed asset investments

	Total 2024 £
Cost or valuation	
At 01 January 2024	-
Additions	6,550,000
Disposals	(297,172)
Realised investment income	71,636
Investment Manager Fees	(6,375)
Valuation gains/losses	5,444
	6,323,533
Historical cost	6,283,748

Listed equity investments that are traded on a quoted market are held at fair value determined by reference to the quoted price for identical assets in an active market at the balance sheet date.

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
Accruals	5,700	5,400
Accrued grants	314,059	-
	319,759	5,400

10. Analysis of funds

Year ended 31 December 2024

	As at 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains/losses	Transfers	As at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	6,820,512	131,770	(592,896)	5,444	-	6,364,830

Period ended 31 December 2023

	As at 1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains/losses	Transfers	As at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	-	7,570,080	(749,567)	-	-	6,820,512

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds
	£
Fixed asset investments	6,323,533
Current assets	361,055
Current liabilities	(319,759)
	6,364,830

Period ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds
	£
Fixed asset investments	-
Current assets	6,825,912
Current liabilities	(5,400)
	6,820,512

11. Related party transactions

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc made a £nil (2023- £6,954,880) donation during the period.

Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc made a £nil (2023 - £615,200) donation during the period.

Accounts

Charity Number: 1203185
Company Number: 14241649

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the period ended 31 December 2023

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Contents

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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.

Objectives and activities

The Foundation was established by Northern Powergrid in 2022 in response to the devastating effects of storm Arwen upon the communities it serves. However, the objectives of the Foundation are more ambitious than simply supporting energy resilience. The trustees want to create enduring support across a broad range of charitable objects by helping those most affected by changes in the economy, environment and society because of the shifting energy landscape.

The objects of the Foundation are:

- the prevention and relief of poverty, and the relief of those in need due to financial hardship, ill-health, disability or other disadvantage including through the provision of advice and support for the optimisation of living conditions, particularly relating to the use of energy and resources among those in necessitous circumstances, including those in fuel-poor households, or who have suffered loss through weather-related or other environmental events;
- the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities for the public benefit in areas which are socially and economically deprived;
- the preservation, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment including through supporting sustainability and the prudent and efficient use of resources; and
- the advancement of education through the provision and support of educational support and training about all aspects of efficient and sustainable use of energy and resources.

One of the ways of getting the right support in place to create resilient and thriving communities is via access to funding. Since incorporation, this has been primarily achieved by making grants of up to £20,000 to fund local community projects, typically focused on energy resilience. But, over the longer term, the trustees envisage that fulfilling the Foundation's objectives will also be achieved by funding innovation projects which offer large-scale solutions and by partnering with networks and other bodies to maximise charitable reserves and resources to provide enhanced public benefit.

The Foundation's grant making policy exists to ensure that the Foundation benefits the public and applies its funding fairly and consistently. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Foundation's grant making policy.

Achievement and performance

In the period before the Foundation was registered as a charity and in the interests of supporting those customers who had been worst affected by the winter storms of late 2021 and early 2022, in quarter four of 2022, Northern Powergrid donated £0.12 million (of £7.69 million, see 'financial review below') of charitable funds to support 10 energy resilience projects on behalf of the Foundation.

Following the receipt of the charitable funds (December 2022), the Foundation made a number of grants during quarter one of 2023, again primarily focusing on those areas worst affected by winter storms, such as Durham and Northumberland. As a result, charitable funds in the sum of £0.44 million were awarded to a further 33 energy resilience projects.

Upon the appointment of the independent trustees, a third round of grants was made during quarter three of 2023. With previous grants having focused predominantly on energy resilience, the trustees elected to consider applications associated with all charitable objectives and for projects located across the whole of Northern Powergrid's operating regions. This resulted in the trustees awarding a combined total of £0.30 million to fund 17 projects.

Through the provision of grants, to date, the Foundation has primarily supported communities by funding energy resilience solutions which, allows them to become more self-sufficient, particularly during extreme weather events.

Funding projects for communities and community hubs also helps to protect residents and improve resilience in the face of a changing climate, whilst furthering the decarbonisation agenda. By funding alternate power projects, the Foundation has not only ensured the integrity of supply in many smaller and harder to reach communities, but also in many cases, has supported projects that procure resilience in a sustainable way.
Examples of the type of projects benefitting from funding include the:

- Installation of solar panels and battery storage equipment to enable a community to maintain supply during a power cut.
- Installation of heat pumps to improve energy efficiency and support decarbonisation.

Plans for the future

The Foundation will continue to establish its vision and long-term business plan to achieve its ambition to be the best energy company charity and provide public benefit on an enduring basis. Due to the Foundation being in an embryotic stage of its development, the trustees plan to refine and develop its three funding strategies (energy, fuel poverty innovation, and future networks). In the short to medium term, the Foundation will continue to provide grant funding for eligible projects that align with the charitable objects.

Financial review

In accordance with its commitment to support customers during severe weather events and as a result of the effects of climate change, in late 2022, Northern Powergrid set aside a sum of £7.69 million for the purpose of making a charitable donation to the Foundation.

Of this total, and as referenced in 'Achievements and performance' above, £0.12 million was awarded by Northern Powergrid, on behalf of the Foundation to charitable beneficiaries. The remaining balance of £7.57 million was transferred to the Foundation in December 2022.

During the period since its incorporation, the Foundation (or Northern Powergrid on behalf of the Foundation) has awarded grants totaling £0.86 million to beneficiaries in support of 60 projects.

As at 31 December 2023 the Foundation had total funds and net assets of £6.83 million.

Reserves policy

The Foundation's funds remain in surplus, and the reserves are currently maintained in order to meet its objectives. The trustees are taking steps to implement an investment strategy and reserves policy.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The risk register is reviewed by the trustees on a quarterly basis and covers governance, financial, operational, compliance and external risks. Risks identified are prioritised on the basis of likelihood of occurrence and potential impact with mitigations agreed to manage the risks.

The main risks identified during 2023 included:

- **Customer Satisfaction**

  The Foundation has put in place a number of measures to ensure that grants are awarded to eligible recipients in furtherance of the charitable objects. In the event stakeholders do have concerns, these are managed by the Foundation's complaints process.

- **Investment policies**

  The Foundation has sufficient reserves to meet its objectives beyond the forthcoming financial year. The trustees appointed RBC Brewin Dolphin as the Foundation's investment advisor and will take steps to develop an investment policy to stimulate the level of charitable reserves being generated.

- **Fraud**

  The trustees, with the support of Northern Powergrid have put in place a number of policies and processes to manage the risk of fraud from both the cyber security and operational perspective. This includes robust information technology systems and controls, stringent due diligence processes and clear financial reporting procedures.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Number:	1203185
Registered Company Number:	14241649 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 6AF

Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows;

K Bradley	Independent Trustee (appointed 1 June 2023)
J Coe	Northern Powergrid Trustee (appointed 1 June 2023)
J Docherty	Chair of the Trustees (appointed 1 June 2023)
L Lowes	Northern Powergrid Trustee (appointed 1 June 2023)
D Wilkin	Independent Trustee (appointed 5 June 2023)

Company Secretary

J C Riley	Northern Powergrid Trustee (resigned 5 June 2023)

Our advisors

External Auditors	Haines Watts North East Audit LLP	17 Queens Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1RN
Bankers	Lloyds Banking Group	102 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AG

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Foundation was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 18 July 2022 and was registered as a charity on 22 May 2023. The Foundation's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association ("Articles").

Principal activity

The Foundation is part of the Northern Powergrid Holdings Company and its subsidiaries group of companies (the "Northern Powergrid Group"), and its principal activity is to further its charitable objects (see 'objectives and activities' below), primarily on behalf of customers residing in the geographic areas covered by the electricity distribution licenses of Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc and Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc (together "Northern Powergrid").

Public Benefit

From 1 April 2008, section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Charity Commission states that there are two principles to be met in order to show that an organisation's aims are for the public benefit: firstly, there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits and secondly that the benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on above, meet these principles.

Appointment of trustees

There are currently five trustees of the Foundation, three of whom are independent trustees (including the Chair) and two who are non-independent trustees employed by Northern Powergrid.

The Articles require that the board of trustees comprises of a minimum of three and is constituted as follows:

- At least two trustees must be independent of the Founding Member (being Northern Powergrid Limited, a member of the Northern Powergrid Group); and
- At least one trustee must be a representative of the Founding Member.

Trustees are appointed by the Founding Member for a period determined at the time of appointment, however, no trustee shall serve in office for more than nine consecutive years provided that a trustee may be reappointed annually, thereafter, if there are exceptional circumstances, and the trustees unanimously resolve that they can be reappointed.

The trustees were appointed to ensure that the Foundation's board was representative of the communities that it and Northern Powergrid serves. Accordingly, the trustees come from a broad variety of backgrounds with a mix of expertise and act as champions in the community in helping to shape, develop and deliver the Foundation's business plan in pursuit of the charitable objectives.

Induction and training of trustees

Upon appointment, each trustee was provided with an induction pack including key constitution documents, Charity Commission guidance and contextual information about Northern Powergrid. In addition, all trustees attended a training event held by external lawyers covering governance, trustee duties and decision making, risk management, safeguarding and the Charity Governance Code. The trustees will continue to undertake training when necessary.

Management and administration

The trustees retain ultimate responsibility for all decisions, including setting the Foundation's vision and strategy, safeguarding the charitable funds, making the final decision on all charitable donations and ensuring that all activity of the Foundation is for the purpose of fulfilling its charitable objects. In doing this, the trustees ensure that they fulfill their duty to act at all times in the best interests of the Foundation whilst supporting the diverse communities that Northern Powergrid serves.

The trustees govern the overall business of the Foundation and meet quarterly to discuss the Foundation's strategy, performance and consider its future direction. In addition, monthly meetings are held to discuss any operational matters arising. The trustees declare any interest they may have in relation to the work carried out by the Foundation.

Day-to-day operational management of the Foundation is led by the Foundation Manager (interim), who is employed and remunerated by the Northern Powergrid Group, but who reports to the board of trustees. Additional support and resources including governance, payroll, meeting facilities and information technology solutions are provided by the Northern Powergrid Group.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Northern Powergrid Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

In accordance with the Companies Act 2006 a resolution proposing the reappointment of Haines Watts North East Audit LLP as auditor for the year ending 31 December 2024 will be put to the Founding Member before the end of the next financial year.

Joe Docherty
Chair
17 April 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN POWERGRID FOUNDATION
For the period ended 31 December 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Northern Powergrid Foundation (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 group's or parent charitable company'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.

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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 19, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the 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 group and parent charitable company'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 group and parent charitable company 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 auditor under the companies Act 2006 and we report in accordance with this 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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to both the company itself and the industry in which it operates. We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our sector experience and through discussion with the directors and other management. The most significant were identified as the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, UK GAAP (FRS102) and relevant tax legislation. We considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statements. Our audit procedures included:

- confirming with the trustees and management whether they have any knowledge or suspicion of fraud;
- obtaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- confirmation received from the banks to verify the balance as on the last day of the accounting year; and
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Our audit did not identify any key audit matters relating to the detection of irregularities including fraud. However, despite the audit being planned and conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) there remains an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected owing to inherent limitations of the audit, and that by their very nature, any such instances of fraud or irregularity likely involve collusion, forgery, intentional misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN POWERGRID FOUNDATION
For the period ended 31 December 2023

Use of Our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

C Henderson

17 April 2024

Craig Henderson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Haines Watts North East Audit LLP

Statutory Auditors & Chartered Accountants

17 Queens Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1RN

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities
For the period ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	18 month period Total 2023 £
Income from:				
Donations	2	7,570,080	-	7,570,080
		7,570,080	-	7,570,080
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	3	749,567	-	749,567
		749,567	-	749,567
Net movement in funds		6,820,512	-	6,820,512
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		6,820,512	-	6,820,512

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		6,825,912	
		6,825,912	
Creditors:			
amounts falling due within one year	8	(5,400)	
Net current assets			6,820,512
Net assets			6,820,512
Funds			
Unrestricted fund			6,820,512

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17 April 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Joe Docherty
Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Northern Powergrid Foundation

Statement of Cash Flows
As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash generated from operations		6,825,912
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		6,825,912
Net cash provided by /(used in) investing and financing activities		-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		6,825,912
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		6,825,912

Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £
Net income for the period	6,820,512
Adjustments for:	
Increase in creditors due more than 1 year	5,400
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	6,825,912

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by the 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) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

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 and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated. The charitable company was incorporated on 18 July 2022. The amounts shown for the current year are for the 18-month period ending 31 December 2023.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have approved the Foundation's budgets and forecasts for 2024, have considered the resources available in 2024 and conclude that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the signing of the financial statements.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the cost against the expenditure which was incurred.

1.6 Support cost allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

1.7 Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with instant access from the date of opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Income

	2023
	£
Donations	7,570,080

3. Expenditure

	Direct costs	Support costs	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable activities			
Payment of grants	743,359	-	743,359
Sundry expenses	808	-	808
Support costs	-	5,400	5,400
	744,167	5,400	749,567

4. Support costs

	2023
	£
Governance costs	
- Audit fee	5,400

An analysis of grants made to organisations is provided below.

	2023
	£
Age UK Barnsley	20,000
Bamburgh Parish Council	17,619
Birtley Village Hall Committee	13,860
Blanchland Parish Council	15,796
Cambo Village Hall	19,034
Cowshill Village Hall	7,948
Deric Youth and Community Project	9,000
Dipton Community Association	20,000
Eastgate Village Hall	19,000
Elsdon Village Hall	7,309
Friends of Eastwoods Park	13,476
Future Leisure in Coxhoe	10,000
Hexham and Tynedale Community Trust	20,000
Humshaugh Village Hall	20,000
Jubliee Fields Community Association	19,775

Kirklevington & Castlelevington Memorial Hall	15,589
Kyffin Place Community Centre	9,601
Lands Village Hall Association	17,055
Lesbury Village Hall	20,000
Longframlington Memorial Hall	20,000
Medomsley Community Action Group	6,418
Newbrough Town Hall	20,000
Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team (N.E.E.T)	20,000
Otterburn Memorial Hall	13,277
Parish Council of Hexhamshire	17,485
Pittington Community Association	20,000
Primetime at The Vine	18,285
Rennington Village Hall Trust	19,574
Scots Gap Methodist Church	6,351
Sherburn Hill Hub	15,000
Stanhope Community Association	19,200
Stanley Crook Village Hall	16,500
Stocksfield Community Association	15,000
Stonehaugh Community Hall Trust	17,000
Sunniside Community Association	18,485
Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust	10,620
The Big League CIC	20,000
The Glendale Gateway Trust	20,000
The Village Hall Winteringham	17,640
Todmorden Learning Centre and Community Hub Ltd.	20,000
Weardale Community Partnership	5,671
West Allen Parish Council	20,000
Whitley Bay Big Local	11,782
Whittingham Memorial Institute	19,663
Woodland Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity	20,000
	723,014
Grants under £5,001 (6 grants)	20,345
	743,359

6. Net incoming /(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging

	2023
	£
Audit fee	5,400

7. Analysis of trustee remuneration and expenses

None of the directors of the Trustee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Foundation during the year.

Total trustee expenses amounted to £nil.

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023
	£
Accruals	5,400

9. Analysis of funds

Period ended 31 December 2023

	2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	-	7,570,080	(749,567)	-	6,820,512

10. Analysis of net assets between funds

Period ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds
	£
Current assets	6,825,912
Current liabilities	(5,400)
	6,820,512

11. Related party transactions

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc made a £6,954,880 donation during the period.

Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc made a £615,200 donation during the period.