

THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS  
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER 2023  
CHARITY NO: 207585



THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS  
TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees submit their Annual Report and Accounts for the Society for the Relief of Distress (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Accounts comply with current statutory requirements of the Charity's governing document, the smaller charity provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 (the "2011 Act").

### **Constitution**

The Charity is constituted under a Trust deed and is a registered charity no 207585.

The principal object of the Charity is to make grants for the relief of poverty, sickness and distress to people living in the Inner London Boroughs.

### **Method of appointing or Election of Trustees**

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed. Trustees are nominated by the Board of Trustees.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision Making**

The Charity does not currently employ any staff. The Trustees are responsible for the management of the Charity and for the furtherance of the objects for which it was established. The Trustees meet monthly to discuss the affairs of the Charity.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations and finance of the Trust. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the Charity's exposure to any major risks.

### **Review of Activities**

The Charity provides grants to help people of all ages, origins and backgrounds living in London. Often those receiving grants are very ill or disabled or suffering from great hardship. Typically one-off grants are made towards essential personal and household items, such as clothing, bedding, baby items, cookers, fridges, furniture and floor covering. This year 173 (2022 163) grants were made totalling £43,015 (2022 £39,748). The Charity does not accept applications directly from individuals; all applications are required to be made by a recognised body, such as another charity, a social service department, an NHS trust or a church or faith institution.

### **Reserve Policy**

The Charity received donations from a number of individuals and organisations but this is not a guaranteed source of income. The Trustees therefore maintain a level of investments which guarantees sufficient income to continue the Charity's activities on an ongoing basis.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 25 October 2023

*Ian McCulloch*  
Ian McCulloch  
Chairman

*C Armstrong*  
Caroline Armstrong  
Treasurer

THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO  
THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS

I report on the accounts of the Society for the Relief of Distress (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report and Accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the "2011 Act").

The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of 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 applicable 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 Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the 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 those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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



Andrew C Kemp  
FCA  
Meadow Ridge  
Pednor  
Nr Chesham  
Bucks HP5 2SX

26 October 2024

The Society for the Relief of Distress  
Statement of Income and Expenditure  
Year ended 31st December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>				
Donations (Note 2)	18,100		15,556	
Investment Income	34,405		31,509	
Income Under Deed of Covenant	<u>400</u>		<u>400</u>	
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		52,905		47,465
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
Grants made	43,146		39,998	
less refunds	<u>(131)</u>		<u>(250)</u>	
(Note 1)		<u>43,015</u>		<u>39,748</u>
<u>EXCESS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER GRANTS MADE</u>		9,890		7,717
<u>TOTAL MANAGEMENT EXPENSES</u>		<u>(1,010)</u>		<u>(856)</u>
<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>£8,880</u>		<u>£6,861</u>

The Society for the Relief of Distress  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank – Current Account	15,398	22,308
- Deposit Account	20,000	-
Debtors	250	250
Investments at current market value (per Schedule)	<u>707,437</u>	<u>670,835</u>
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>	<b>743,085</b>	<b>693,393</b>
<b><u>Less LIABILITIES</u></b>		
- creditors	(1,145)	(1,935)
- deferred income (Note 2)	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>£731,940</u></b>	<b><u>£686,458</u></b>
 <b><u>REPRESENTED BY:-</u></b>		
<b><u>ACCUMULATED FUND</u></b>	£	£
Balance at 1st January	686,458	712,921
 <u>Add</u> Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over expenditure	8,880	6,861
 <u>add</u> increase/(decrease) in market value of investments during the year	<u>36,602</u>	<u>(33,324)</u>
Balance at 31 December	<b><u>£731,940</u></b>	<b><u>£686,458</u></b>

The Society for the Relief of Distress  
Investment Schedule - Market Values  
Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Market value at 1.1.23	Purchased during year	Increase/ (decrease) in market value during year	Market value at 31.12.23
	£	£	£	£
<u>M&amp;G Equities Investment Fund for Charities "Charifund"</u> 15,844.46 units	232,837	-	(5,471)	227,366
<u>M&amp;G Charities Fixed Interest Common Investment Fund "Charibond"</u> 14,374.690 units	15,569	-	508	16,077
<u>Schroders SULT Cazenove Charity Equity Value Fund A Income</u> 99,676.46 units	422,429	-	41,565	463,994
	<u>£670,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£36,602</u>	<u>£707,437</u>

1. Analysis of net grants made in the year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>£</u>
Furniture	11,082
Household items	5,859
Electrical goods	17,398
IT	2,210
Clothes	1,530
Baby items and school uniform	1,080
Flooring and decorating	2,000
Other items	1,856
	<u>£43,015</u>

2. A donation of £10,000 was received in December from the Monday Trust. The income is to be spent in 2024. Accordingly, £10,000 (2022 £5,000) has been deferred to be brought into income next year.