



Charity Number 211436

**Financial Statements & Annual Report
for the year ended
31 March 2024**



VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

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VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Charity was established on 4 February 1921 and operates under a constitution dated 19 October 2006 and is approved by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Charity Division. The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 211436) as a charity whose primary purposes are to respond appropriately to the needs of the visually impaired people in the Harrogate district and, in particular, to provide and maintain a centre for social meetings and handicraft training for visually impaired people, entertainments, travel and holiday facilities and recreational, health, safety or occupational requisites to visually impaired people or their dependants.

Address of Charity:	Vision Support Centre Russell Sergeant House 23 East Parade Harrogate HG1 5LF
Telephone:	01423 565915
Email:	enquiries@vshd.org.uk
Website:	www.vshd.org.uk
Honorary President:	Pauline Nolan
Governing Body and Trustees: (Trust and Finance Committee)	Robert Horner, Chairman Peter Jensen, Deputy Chairman James Grimshaw, Hon Secretary Sara Horbury, Hon Treasurer
Committee Members:	John Mellor Alistair Ratcliffe Stephen Kirk Mary Kirk Eric Mitchell
Director of Services:	Tanya Stimpson
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 25 James Street Harrogate HG1 1QX Brown Shipley & Co Ltd Founders Court Lothbury London EC2R 7HE Leeds Building Society 105 Albion Street Leeds LS1 4AS CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (cont'd)

Bankers (cont'd) :	HSBC 34 Westgate Ripon HG4 2BL
Investment Managers:	Brown Shipley & Co Ltd St Paul's House 23 Park Square Leeds LS1 2ND
Independent Examiner:	D J S Pullan FCA 20 Southway Ilkley LS29 8QG

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees report that the Financial Statements as at 31 March 2024 are in the format required by the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting by Charities (known as Charities SORP).

Objects of the Charity

These are set out on page 2 under Legal and Administrative Details.

Management, Policies and Structures of the Charity

The Charity is managed by the Trust and Finance Committee under the terms of the revised constitution of 2015, it has however further delegated day to day decision making to the Executive Committee including staff appointments and budgeted expenditure as well as other limited expenditure under the terms of that Constitution. In addition, the Charity has a Services Committee which meets regularly to ensure the views and concerns of the members are taken into account by the Trust and Finance Committee.

The Members of the Trust and Finance Committee who were in office during the year were as follows:-

Mr J Grimshaw
Mr R J Horner
Mr P Jensen
Mr E Mitchell
Mr J Mellor
Mr A Ratcliffe
Mr S Kirk
Mrs M Kirk
Mrs S Horbury

Review of the Financial Statements for the Year

The figures for last year included £45,000 of a generous bequest from Mr Stanley Bond (total amount £285,500). Excluding this legacy, the deficit of the Charity was approximately £57,000.

This year, the net deficit of the Charity excluding movements on investments was £57,083. This is better than the budgeted deficit anticipated by the Charity of £74,600. However, the Trustees are actively monitoring the Charity's costs and revenues. Due to the reserves held by the Charity, the Trustees are happy to fund deficits in the short to medium term but are keeping the position under constant review.

The Charity's portfolio investments increased by £55,571 in the year. The portfolio is kept under constant review by our investment managers who are in turn monitored by the Trust and Finance Committee.

Overall, the net assets of the Charity increased by £20,672 mainly due to the upward movement in financial markets in the period. The Trustees consider that the financial affairs of the Charity are satisfactory and will enable the Charity to continue to meet the primary purposes for which it is established.

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, particularly the operations and finances of the Charity, to ensure its systems mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity's reserves should be of a magnitude to generate income through investments, ignoring the benefit of legacies, which would enable it to meet current levels of expenditure. However, the Trustees are prepared to use reserves to fund current expenditure to maintain current commitments to member services in the short to medium term. This use of reserves is reviewed annually. The Trustees consider, therefore, that the reserves are adequate to enable the Charity to meet its objects set out in the constitution for many years to come.

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising their powers or duties.

Volunteers

The Trustees acknowledge with grateful thanks the help given by 47 voluntary helpers without whom the Charity's activities would be severely restricted.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Horner', with a stylized, flowing script.

Robert Horner
On behalf of the Trustees

30 September 2024

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

Independent Examiner's Report to the TRUSTEES OF VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees 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:-

- i examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- ii 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
- iii 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 the seeking of 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 those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - i to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - ii to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met;
- or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



D J S Pullan FCA
20 Southway
Ilkley LS29 8QG

20 November 2024

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income					
Voluntary income	2	25,544	-	25,544	73,166
Operating activities	3	26,430	-	26,430	23,475
Investment income	4	18,226	-	18,226	12,802
Charitable activities	5	7,798	-	7,798	7,028
Other income	6	3,598	-	3,598	2,856
Total income		81,596	-	81,596	119,327
Expenditure					
Fundraising trading	7	3,399	-	3,399	3,863
Investment management costs	8	4,123	-	4,123	4,164
Charitable activities	9	117,759	2,786	120,545	113,362
Governance costs	10	10,612	-	10,612	9,767
Total expenses		135,893	2,786	138,679	131,156
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure		(54,297)	(2,786)	(57,083)	(11,828)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	14	77,755	-	77,755	(91,089)
Net movement in funds		23,458	(2,786)	20,672	(102,917)
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2023		1,277,870	72,557	1,350,427	1,453,344
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2024		1,301,328	69,771	1,371,099	1,350,427

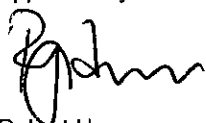
The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	£	2024	£	£	2023	£
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible fixed assets	13	255,255			262,798		
Investments	14	892,870			837,299		
				1,148,125			1,100,097
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	15	3,537			4,515		
Cash in hand and at banks		227,599			249,665		
		231,136			254,180		
LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(8,162)			(3,850)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS				222,974			250,330
NET ASSETS				1,371,099			1,350,427
FUNDS							
Unrestricted	17	1,301,328			1,277,870		
Restricted	19	69,771			72,557		
TOTAL FUNDS				1,371,099			1,350,427

Approved by the Trust and Finance Committee on 30 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Robert Horner
Chairman

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 General

1.1.1 The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments, which are included on a market basis in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice: "Accounting by Charities").

1.1.2 The Charity is not registered for VAT and, therefore, VAT forms part of the Charity's costs.

1.1.3 All income resources are brought to the credit of the Statement of Financial Activities when they become due and payable.

1.1.4 Expenditure is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

1.2 Tangible Fixed Assets

These assets are included at cost less depreciation. The Management Committee does not envisage any disposal within the foreseeable future and therefore considers this to be appropriate.

1.3 Fixed Asset Investments

1.3.1 Stocks and shares are included in the Balance Sheet at market value.

1.3.2 Profits and losses arising on the disposal of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.4 Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost and are depreciated by annual instalments over their expected useful life as follows:-

Freehold land and buildings	- 2% of cost
Fixtures, fittings & furnishings	- 10% of written down value
Office computer & equipment	- 25% of cost

1.5 Fund Accounting

General unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds and the cumulative realised and unrealised gains on investments. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the Charity's general charitable objectives. Restricted funds are created when donations are made for a particular area or purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

2 Voluntary income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	24,088	26,545
Legacies and bequests	1,456	46,621
	<u>25,544</u>	<u>73,166</u>

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont'd)

3	Income from operating activities for generating funds	2024	2023
		£	£
	Rents of flats	14,940	13,840
	Rents of rooms when not required for the Charity's use	1,000	895
	Fundraising	10,490	8,740
		<u>26,430</u>	<u>23,475</u>
4	Investment income	2024	2023
		£	£
	Dividends and interest		
	Unrestricted	18,226	12,802
	Restricted	-	-
		<u>18,226</u>	<u>12,802</u>
5	Income from charitable activities	2024	2023
		£	£
	Net access to work funding	(95)	18
	Holidays, outings and socials	5,723	3,337
	Aids for visually impaired sales	2,170	3,673
		<u>7,798</u>	<u>7,028</u>
6	Other income	2024	2023
		£	£
	Grants	1,050	1,000
	Craft sales	434	614
	Other	2,114	1,242
		<u>3,598</u>	<u>2,856</u>
7	Fundraising trading	2024	2023
		£	£
	Fundraising costs	2,095	635
	Aids for resale	892	2,809
	Craft materials	412	419
		<u>3,399</u>	<u>3,863</u>

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont'd)

8 Investment management costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Investment management costs	4,123	4,164

The Trustees consider that 50% of investment management fees relate to capital and thus the above represents 50% of the total fees charged. The balance is charged to the net gain or loss on assets sold in the year.

9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Ripon £	Harrogate £	£	£	£
Outings & holidays	-	587	-	587	28
Social events	1,014	5,323	-	6,337	4,933
Travelling expenses	2,044	385	-	2,429	2,418
Class expenses	-	194	-	194	443
Tutors' salaries	-	1,740	-	1,740	1,433
Room rent	978	519	-	1,497	1,050
Equipment hire	-	758	-	758	712
Training costs	-	78	-	78	-
Sundry expenses	-	768	-	768	978
Loss on sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	2,760
Depreciation	-	7,865	2,786	10,651	10,708
Staff admin & premises costs (share – see note 11)	-	95,506	-	95,506	87,899
	4,036	113,723	2,786	120,545	113,362
Total unrestricted funds		117,759			

10 Governance costs

The Trust and Finance Committee considers that 90% of the expenses of management and administration of the Charity are for the direct benefit of the visually impaired and the relevant expenditure has been apportioned on this basis.

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff, admin & premises share (note 11)	10,612	9,767

11 Staff, administration and premises costs

	2024			2023
	Total	Governance	Charitable activities	Total
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	79,261	7,926	71,335	60,638
Pension costs	1,177	118	1,059	915
Light, heat & water	6,709	671	6,038	5,934
Rates	698	70	628	1,152
Telephone	2,084	208	1,876	1,828
Insurance	2,894	289	2,605	2,312
Cleaning	816	82	734	733
Printing, stationery & postage	1,383	138	1,245	900
Repairs & renewals	5,570	557	5,013	9,023
Advertising	872	87	785	298
Professional fees	4,653	465	4,188	4,166
	106,118	10,612	95,506	87,899

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont'd)

12 Staff

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries	79,261	67,376
Social Security costs	-	-
	<u>79,261</u>	<u>67,376</u>

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:-

	2024	2023
Charitable activities (full time equivalent)	3.0	3.0
Management & Administration of the Charity	0.5	0.5
	<u>3.5</u>	<u>3.5</u>

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures, fittings & furnishings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	346,592	33,737	27,924	408,253
Additions	-	1,160	1,948	3,108
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>346,592</u>	<u>34,897</u>	<u>29,872</u>	<u>411,361</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	(110,550)	(10,058)	(24,847)	(145,455)
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	(6,931)	(2,406)	(1,314)	(10,651)
	<u>(117,481)</u>	<u>(12,464)</u>	<u>(26,161)</u>	<u>(156,106)</u>
Value at 31 March 2024	<u>229,111</u>	<u>22,433</u>	<u>3,711</u>	<u>255,255</u>
Value at 31 March 2023	<u>236,042</u>	<u>23,679</u>	<u>3,077</u>	<u>262,798</u>

Freehold land and buildings at cost at 31 March 2024 comprises:-

Land and buildings at 23 East Parade Harrogate	6,274
Extension at 23 East Parade, Harrogate costs to 31 March 1998	139,302
Extension at 23 East Parade, Harrogate costs to 31 March 2007	198,284
Security gates	2,732
	<u>£346,592</u>

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont'd)

14 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying (market) value at 1 April 2023	837,299	929,140
Additions at cost	532,403	490,551
Disposal proceeds	(558,708)	(495,467)
Increase/(decrease) in market value	63,724	(156,478)
Gains/(losses) on realised assets	18,152	69,553
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Carrying (market) valuation at 31 March 2024	892,870	837,299
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Overall gain/(losses) on investments		
Increase/(Decrease) in market value	63,725	(156,478)
Gains/(losses) on realised assets	18,152	69,553
Capital element of investments management fees	(4,122)	(4,164)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	77,755	(91,089)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

15 Current assets

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	3,537	2,265
Prepayments and accrued income	-	2,250
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,537	4,515
	<hr/>	<hr/>

16 Liabilities

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	405	756
Accrued charges and deferred income	4,849	2,902
Other creditors	2,908	192
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,162	3,850
	<hr/>	<hr/>

17 Unrestricted funds

The funds comprise undistributed income and have been and continue to be used to acquire fixed assets and fixed asset investments to provide income to enable the objects of the Charity to be continued.

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance brought forward 1 April 2023	1,277,870	1,378,001
Net movement in funds during the year	23,458	(100,131)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at 31 March 2024	1,301,328	1,277,870
	<hr/>	<hr/>

VISION SUPPORT HARROGATE DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont'd)

18 Restricted funds

18.1 *Extension fund (1996)*

This fund comprises donations from individuals, trusts and other bodies for the specific purpose of building an extension which opened in 1996. Following payment of all costs, the fund was closed. The Extension Fund will be transferred to income by equal instalments over the estimated useful life of the asset which is considered to be 50 years.

18.2 *Constance Wood children's fund*

In October 1999 a bequest from the estate of Mrs Wood Dec'd was received for "the Yorkshire School and Home for Blind Children in Harrogate". Following consultation with the Charity Commissioners and the other residuary legatees, who were also charities, the Sole Executor decided that the bequest be paid to the Charity which has undertaken to restrict its use for the benefit of visually impaired children within the area it covers. The value of the fund was £1,674 at 31 March 2024.

19 Summary of restricted funds

	Balance at 1/4/23 £	Charge in year £	Balance at 31/3/24 £
Extension fund	70,883	(2,786)	68,097
Constance Wood children's fund	1,674	-	1,674
Total restricted funds	72,557	(2,786)	69,771
Restricted funds are represented on the balance sheet by:-			
Tangible fixed assets			68,097
Investments and cash			1,674
			69,771

20 Trustees' remuneration

Lithgow Perkins LLP, a firm of chartered accountants of which Robert Horner is a partner, manage the payroll; £612 plus VAT was invoiced by them for this service in the year ended 31 March 2024.

In addition, Lithgow Perkins LLP prepare the annual accounts. A fee of £650 plus VAT was invoiced for accounts preparation during the year.

21 Investment manager

Brown Shipley of Park Square, Leeds is the Investment Manager. The appointment is reviewed annually.