

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 213425

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 October 2024

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 October 2024

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Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 October 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Charity registration number 213425

Principal office The Rews
4 Sidleigh
Sid Road
Sidmouth
Devon
EX10 9DE

The trustees

Mr G J Vincent
Mr T G Cook - Treasurer
Mrs F Newth - President
Mr J Roberts - Chairman
Mr M J Lavers
Mrs B J Smith
Mrs M C Knights
Mr D Fergie
Mr A Mitchell
Mr M Mertens
Ms N Johnson
Mr S Blyth
Mr S Pearson

(Appointed 22 January 2024)

Charity secretary Mrs J Loveridge

Independent examiner N Smy ACA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
Chartered Accountants
Queens House
New Street
Honiton
Devon
EX14 1BJ

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

Structure, governance and management

The charity was founded in 1948 and was registered with the Charity Commission in 1964. The Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund is an unincorporated association governed by the objects and rules revised 1956, 2002 and 2021.

Objectives and activities

The principal objective, which has remained unchanged, is to provide funds for the purpose of supplementing, in such manner as the Charity thinks fit, the resources of the Hospital principally by arousing and maintaining public interest in the Hospital.

There were no policy changes during the year.

The affairs of the Comforts Fund are managed by a committee, comprising the treasurer and not less than six or more than seventeen members of the Comforts Fund, and up to three other persons who may be co-opted by the committee itself. At the Annual General Meeting one third of the committee members retire. Retiring members are eligible for re-election.

The committee has power to appoint sub-committees.

No remuneration is paid to any committee member. The chairman receives a small honorarium.

The Trustees consider the Charity's activities to be for the public benefit as the hospital for which the Charity provides financial support is for the use of the general public within the Sidmouth area.

Achievements and performance

The financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024 illustrate our activities for the year.

We have continued our commitment to providing hot beverage vending in the waiting area and will evaluate its effectiveness after 12 months. The waiting and reception area of the hospital has been redeveloped to provide separate reception facilities for the Primary Care Doctors and their nurse practitioners. We are monitoring the impact on car parking.

Trustees see it as an important part of the charities role to support staff and patients in practical ways and grants for Christmas gifts and celebration food is a feature of this. We also bought equipment such as foam javelins so that patients could take part in their own 'Olympic activities'.

Over the year we have had many meetings with NHS Property and RDUH to try to plan for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the hospital. We have offered to fund the installation. This would allow for electric car charging points to be sited within the overall delivery of improved staff car parking. It fits with the sustainability agenda of both NHS Property and RDUH. Having secured the permission of the freeholder (NHS Property) progress is being delayed by the tenant (RDUH). We continue to try to work in partnership with both, to find a way forward.

The Therapeutic Garden is very much appreciated by in-patients and visitors. The upkeep is a considerable commitment for SVHCF and trustees are most grateful to Graham Vincent whose time and energy make the garden what it is.

With a number of trustees coming to the end of their terms as set out in our constitution we have been working quietly on succession planning. We are committed to broadening the demographic range from which we recruit. Potential new trustees have been approached, and we are grateful to members of the community for their willingness to serve.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

A street collection was arranged this year, and it is the view of trustees that this was important in keeping the profile of the organisation in the public eye. The financial return was modest, and careful consideration will be given to future collections. The level of organisation and preparation may not be justified by the money raised and there may be better ways of engaging with the community.

Trustees have been well represented at local and regional consultation events. It is the intention of trustees that we seek to foster strong relationships with both One Devon and the RDUH. At a senior level relationships are cordial and supportive, but it remains a frustration that we find it so difficult to bring plans to fruition. An example of this is in our attempts to support the development of the next generation of medical imaging at the hospital. The X-ray facility broke down many months ago and was judged beyond repair. Our offers of assistance in improving the facility through matched funding of a new machine have been frustrated. It remains a high priority for us to see this are of the hospital back in use.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's financial position at 31 October 2024 showed a cash balance of £771,579.

The Trustees therefore consider the reserves to be reasonable at the balance sheet date.

Future plans

Our priorities are;

- to see the solar panel, electric vehicle charging, car park re-development project to fruition
- to help to redevelop the X-ray facility at the hospital
- to maintain and improve the Therapeutic Garden
- to see the MIU return to the hospital
- to help to re-open the day case surgery unit at the hospital
- to plan for smooth transition in governance through succession planning
- to represent the hospital at consultation events locally and regionally

Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty contained in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Risk management

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of the Charity's operations and considered the major risks faced in each of these areas. In the opinion of the Trustees, the Charity has established resources and review systems which, under normal conditions, should allow these risks to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day to day operations.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

Financial review

During the year the Charity received income of £64,920 (2023: £156,804) and incurred expenditure of £47,427 (2023: £80,023) resulting in a surplus for the year of £17,493 (2023: £76,781).

	2024 £	2023 £
Nurse sponsorship (2 years)	14,800	—
Therapeutic garden	10,903	12,178
Special lifting chairs	7,807	—
Nurse home visit bags	3,035	—
Vending machine	2,383	2,575
Newspapers for patients	2,118	2,406
Defibrillators	1,704	—
Therapy toys	429	—
Physio gym	114	—
Sidmouth Hospice at Home - specialist bathroom	—	39,196
Sidmouth Hospice at Home - carpark	—	12,000
Cycle stand	—	3,852
Televisions for patient rooms	—	3,457
Pedometers	—	537
Dementia items	—	406

It also includes a contribution of £370 (2023: £519) towards the cost of the Christmas festivities within the hospital.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 29/11/25..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr J Roberts - Chairman
Trustee

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Year ended 31 October 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund ('the charity') for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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


I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



**N Smy ACA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
Chartered Accountants
Independent Examiner
Queens House
New Street
Honiton
Devon
EX14 1BJ**

Date: 8/5/25

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 October 2024

		2024	2023
		Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies	4	40,808	137,599
Other trading activities	5	185	305
Investment income	6	23,927	18,900
Total income		<u>64,920</u>	<u>156,804</u>
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	47,427	80,023
Total expenditure		<u>47,427</u>	<u>80,023</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>17,493</u>	<u>76,781</u>
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		754,086	677,305
Total funds carried forward		<u>771,579</u>	<u>754,086</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Statement of Financial Position

31 October 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
Current assets				
Debtors	12	5,713		5,747
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>768,026</u>		<u>750,229</u>
		773,739		755,976
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>2,160</u>		<u>1,890</u>
Net current assets			771,579	754,086
Total assets less current liabilities			771,579	754,086
Net assets			771,579	754,086
Funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds			771,579	754,086
Total charity funds	14		771,579	754,086

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 29.11.25....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:



**Mr J Roberts - Chairman
Trustee**

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 October 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is The Rews, 4 Sidleigh, Sid Road, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 9DE.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Value added tax

The charity is not registered for value added tax. Irrecoverable value added tax is aggregated along with the expenditure to which it relates.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Disclosure exemptions

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a cashflow statement because it is a small charity.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Income tax

Under section 505 ICTA 1988 the charity is exempt from certain taxes. Full account is taken of tax credits attached to gifts and qualifying donations.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Donations are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income from invested funds is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Legacies are accounted for in the year in which they are confirmed.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred and incorporates provision for known liabilities where costs can be predicted.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs directly incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Fundraising costs are those costs incurred in seeking voluntary contributions.

Governance costs comprise all costs incurred in running the charity itself as an organisation.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations				
Donations	50	50	4,226	4,226
Legacies				
Legacies	40,758	40,758	133,373	133,373
	<u>40,808</u>	<u>40,808</u>	<u>137,599</u>	<u>137,599</u>

5. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fundraising events	185	185	305	305

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	23,927	23,927	18,900	18,900

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Sidmouth Victoria Hospital	44,974	44,974	77,999	77,999
Support costs	2,453	2,453	2,024	2,024
	<u>47,427</u>	<u>47,427</u>	<u>80,023</u>	<u>80,023</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Sidmouth Victoria Hospital	44,974	—	44,974	77,999
Governance costs	—	2,453	2,453	2,024
	<u>44,974</u>	<u>2,453</u>	<u>47,427</u>	<u>80,023</u>

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

9. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	1,152	945
Other financial services	1,152	945
	<u>2,304</u>	<u>1,890</u>

10. Staff costs

No salaries or wages have been paid to employees, including the members of the committee during the year.

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2023: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Trustees are not employees of the Charity, however the Chairman received an honorarium of £200 (2023: £200).

No trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year.

12. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	<u>5,713</u>	<u>5,747</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>2,160</u>	<u>1,890</u>

Sidmouth Victoria Hospital Comforts Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 October 2024

14. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 November 2023	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 October 2024
2024				
General funds	<u>754,086</u>	<u>64,920</u>	<u>(47,427)</u>	<u>771,579</u>
	At 1 November 2022	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 October 2023
2023				
General funds	<u>677,305</u>	<u>156,804</u>	<u>(80,023)</u>	<u>754,086</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
2024		
Current assets	773,739	773,739
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(2,160)</u>	<u>(2,160)</u>
Net assets	<u>771,579</u>	<u>771,579</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
2023		
Current assets	755,976	755,976
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(1,890)</u>	<u>(1,890)</u>
Net assets	<u>754,086</u>	<u>754,086</u>

16. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year.