

Charity registration number: 220636

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

McGinty Demack
Chartered Certified Accountants
Vermont House
Bradley Lane
Standish
WN6 0XF

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

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Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	K Boylan
	A Leyland
	J R Roberts
	K Stevenson
	J Sharratt
	A Fairhurst
Principal Office	4 Scarisbrick Street Wigan WN1 2BS
Charity Registration Number	220636
Independent Examiner	McGinty Demack Chartered Certified Accountants Vermont House Bradley Lane Standish WN6 0XF

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

Our charity helps blind people who live in the metropolitan borough of Wigan. We hold weekly social classes in the day. We hold day trips in the summer. We also offer advice on equipment and will order when requested daily living aids.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Structure, governance and management

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Trustees' Report

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.

The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 11 August 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Anne Fairhurst

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A Fairhurst
Trustee

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and 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 constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 11 August 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Anne Fairhurst

.....
A Fairhurst
Trustee

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind's accounts 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 Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Wigan Leigh and District
Society for the Blind**

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting 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.

Karen Richardson

.....
Karen Richardson
Chartered Certified Accountants

Vermont House
Bradley Lane
Standish
WN6 0XF

11 August 2025

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		13,089	13,089
Investment income	3	<u>34,604</u>	<u>34,604</u>
Total income		<u>47,693</u>	<u>47,693</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(31,276)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(31,276)</u>
Net movement in funds		16,417	16,417
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>727,435</u>	<u>727,435</u>
Total funds carried forward	10	<u>743,852</u>	<u>743,852</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		7,005	7,005
Investment income	3	<u>45,189</u>	<u>45,189</u>
Total income		<u>52,194</u>	<u>52,194</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		<u>(33,902)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(33,902)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Net movement in funds		18,292	18,292

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>709,144</u>	<u>709,144</u>
Total funds carried forward	10	<u>727,436</u>	<u>727,436</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 10.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

(Registration number: 220636)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	138	154
Investments	7	<u>485,394</u>	<u>475,254</u>
		<u>485,532</u>	<u>475,408</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	2,882	2,791
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>257,245</u>	<u>251,780</u>
		260,127	254,571
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(1,807)</u>	<u>(2,543)</u>
Net current assets		<u>258,320</u>	<u>252,028</u>
Net assets		<u>743,852</u>	<u>727,436</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>743,852</u>	<u>727,436</u>
Total funds	10	<u>743,852</u>	<u>727,436</u>

The financial statements on pages 9 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 11 August 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

**(Registration number: 220636)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025**

Anne Fairhurst

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**A Fairhurst
Trustee**

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £0.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Investments

The charity has investment funds.

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds		
	General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Regular giving and capital donations	13,089	13,089	7,005
	<u>13,089</u>	<u>13,089</u>	<u>7,005</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2025	2024
		£	£
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	9,948	9,948	9,903
Other investment income	<u>24,656</u>	<u>24,656</u>	<u>35,286</u>
	<u>34,604</u>	<u>34,604</u>	<u>45,189</u>

4 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

A Fairhust

A Fairhust received remuneration of £20,000 (2024: £22,166) during the year.

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment Total	
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2024	<u>2,698</u>	<u>2,698</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>2,698</u>	<u>2,698</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	2,544	2,544
Charge for the year	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>2,560</u>	<u>2,560</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	<u>138</u>	<u>138</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>154</u>	<u>154</u>

7 Fixed asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other investments	<u>485,394</u>	<u>475,254</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Other investments

	Unlisted investments	Total
	£	£
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2024	475,254	475,254
Revaluation	<u>10,140</u>	<u>10,140</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>485,394</u>	<u>485,394</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	<u>485,394</u>	<u>485,394</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>475,254</u>	<u>475,254</u>

8 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accrued income	2,756	2,640
Other debtors	<u>126</u>	<u>151</u>
	<u>2,882</u>	<u>2,791</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank overdrafts	72	72
Other taxation and social security	979	1,845
Other creditors	<u>756</u>	<u>626</u>
	<u>1,807</u>	<u>2,543</u>

10 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	<u>(727,435)</u>	<u>(46,313)</u>	<u>29,896</u>	<u>(743,852)</u>

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	<u>(709,144)</u>	<u>(50,564)</u>	<u>32,272</u>	<u>(727,436)</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	
	General £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	138	138
Fixed asset investments	485,394	485,394
Current assets	260,127	260,127
Current liabilities	<u>(1,807)</u>	<u>(1,807)</u>
Total net assets	<u>743,852</u>	<u>743,852</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2024	
	General £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	154	154
Fixed asset investments	475,254	475,254
Current assets	254,571	254,571
Current liabilities	<u>(2,543)</u>	<u>(2,543)</u>
Total net assets	<u>727,436</u>	<u>727,436</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

12 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	251,780	5,465	257,245
Net debt	<u>251,780</u>	<u>5,465</u>	<u>257,245</u>
	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	254,937	(3,157)	251,780
Net debt	<u>254,937</u>	<u>(3,157)</u>	<u>251,780</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind
Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Total Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	13,089	7,005
Investment income	<u>34,604</u>	<u>45,189</u>
Total income	<u>47,693</u>	<u>52,194</u>
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Net income	<u>16,417</u>	<u>18,292</u>
Net movement in funds	16,417	18,292
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	<u>727,435</u>	<u>709,144</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>743,852</u>	<u>727,436</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	13,089	7,005
Investment income (analysed below)	<u>34,604</u>	<u>45,189</u>
Total income	<u>47,693</u>	<u>52,194</u>
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds (analysed below)	<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
Net income	<u>16,417</u>	<u>18,292</u>
Net movement in funds	16,417	18,292
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	<u>727,435</u>	<u>709,144</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>743,852</u>	<u>727,436</u>

Wigan Leigh and District Society for the Blind

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		
Committed giving	<u>13,089</u>	<u>7,005</u>
	<u>13,089</u>	<u>7,005</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
Interest on cash deposits	9,948	9,903
Income from other investments	<u>24,656</u>	<u>35,286</u>
	<u>34,604</u>	<u>45,189</u>
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Fundraising costs	(1,380)	(1,630)
Wages and salaries	(1,200)	(1,200)
Rent and rates	(3,900)	(3,900)
Sundry expenses	(3,003)	(2,750)
Bank charges	(69)	(74)
Wages and salaries	(20,000)	(22,593)
Insurance	(96)	(96)
Telephone and fax	(717)	(905)
Printing, postage and stationery	(75)	(58)
Accountancy fees	(820)	(679)
Depreciation of plant and machinery	<u>(16)</u>	<u>(17)</u>
	<u>(31,276)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>