

Trustees Annual Report for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name :- Midlands Asthma and Allergy Research Association
Other names by which it is known:- MAARA
Registered Charity Number 257131

Registered Office:
3 Charnwood Street
Derby
Derbyshire
DE1 2GY

Correspondence address
P.O Box 1057
Leicester
LE2 3GZ

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity:-

Mr Stuart Mills
Dr Martin Stern
Mr Stephen Watson
Mr Peter Teasdale

All of whom acted as trustees for the whole year.

Dr Roger Chappell retired as a trustee at the 2022 AGM in July 2022 and will not be replaced. The trustees are appointed according to the constitution which states that "(trustees) shall be elected by any General Meeting and shall serve until they die, retire or unless they are removed from office by any subsequent General Meeting. A key responsibility of the Trustees is to ensure that the public will benefit from the research or projects which we fund.

Structure Governance and Management

The charity is governed by its constitution which was last changed in 2013 to reflect the changes in the objects of the charity, reflecting the cessation of medical trials and the disposal of the former premises in Vernon St. Derby. The Association had a membership of 52 during the year, a reduction of 4 since the previous year.

The constitution stipulates that the committee will consist of:-

- i) The officers of the Association, i.e. the Patron, President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association and a Medical Advisor. All such officers shall be elected for a five year period and shall be eligible for re-election for a further period of five years after the expiry of the original five years
- ii) Not more than eight elected members, one third of whom shall retire at each Annual general Meeting of the association. The members of the Committee [other than the

afore-mentioned Patron, President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary to retire every three years and again each of the eight elected members shall be entitled to stand for re-election for a further term of three years.

iii) The Committee may elect members to fill casual vacancies in the officers and members of the Committee until the next Annual General meeting

Trustees and officers of the Association continue to give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits

Objectives and Activities

Objects of the Association :-

- a. Sponsoring of research into the causes and treatment of Asthma and Allergy, particularly by early career researchers
- b. Sponsoring the dissemination of this to the public and/or to the medical profession by publication or through seminars or conferences
- c. Providing general information on Asthma and Allergy to the public.
- d. Fulfilling requests for information from academic bodies, interested groups and the public on matters relating to asthma and allergy, including research findings and information gathered by the Association or its agents, at the discretion of the Executive.
- e. Undertake fundraising in support of the objects a – d

Summary of Activities undertaken

The activities of the Charity are largely dependent on the number and success of applications for funding from medical researchers and institutions in the East Midlands.

We have a separate Medical Advice Committee (MAC) chaired by Dr David Luyt which critically appraises applications, including the amount of public benefit likely to accrue, in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance.

Acceptance of applications involves a protocol identifying differing levels of authorisation for different values of grant, including the involvement of external referees for higher value grants. All MAC recommendations for funding over £5k are subject to approval by a vote of the Executive committee.

Achievements and Performance

Pollen counting and Public Information

As reported last year, the cost of providing a resource from the University of Leicester to undertake pollen counting for the MAARA Pollen and spore archive was deemed no longer worthwhile. The enquiries for data from the archive were very limited and the local seasonal information on pollen and spore counts were commercially uneconomical to provide. It was therefore decided by the Executive Committee to no longer commit funds for this purpose and MAARA funding for this ceased in August 2022. The archive of Microscope slides have been put into storage at the University of Leicester

This year, there was only one application for grant funding, continuing the post pandemic fall in activity. Two existing projects re-started, having applied for no cost extensions. The MAC meeting considered one application:

The English version of the Drug Hypersensitivity Quality of Life Questionnaire: Validity and Reliability in the British Population (£3,152)

It has been shown that patients with food allergies have an impairment in their quality of life (QoL). However, little has been done to prove this relationship in drug allergy. In 2010, Baiardini and her group published the Drug Hypersensitivity Quality of Life Questionnaire (DrHy-Q). This questionnaire was validated in an Italian population of 365 patients. The DrHy-Q has shown reproducible results when translated into Spanish, Portuguese, Thai, Turkish and Dutch. It is hypothesised that capturing and addressing patient concerns in the UK through the use of the DrHy-Q may improve the approach to patients with drug allergy and/or the effectiveness of drug allergy testing. However, the DrHy-Q must first be translated into English, and then validated, before its use in the UK population can be considered. This application was approved by the MAC .

Other projects continue from previous years:-

a) Investigation of mast cells from asthmatic bronchial biopsy tissue by single cell RNA-sequencing for the assessment of novel therapeutics (£36,000)

Severe (uncontrolled) asthma affects a subset of people with asthma and does not respond to current treatments. Mast cells (MC) are a type of white blood cell in the airway that play an important role in uncontrolled asthma, causing both day-to-day symptoms and attacks. Drugs that block MC function in asthma do not currently exist, because until now researchers have not been able to investigate the mechanisms driving abnormal MC function. We will use a new technique called single-cell RNA sequencing that will allow us to identify the abnormal molecular signalling pathways that drive abnormal MC function. We will use MCs obtained from the bronchi of people with severe asthma and expect to uncover new ways which MCs in asthma can be targeted effectively with new drugs, hence improving the care for people with this disease.

b) Characterisation of type-2 innate lymphoid cells in the sputum of wheezing children (£69,501)

Understanding the immune processes underlying asthma attacks in children may help us to increase our understanding of how asthma develops in the first place. This could in time lead to new treatments to alter the natural history of asthma. To further our understanding of the immune processes leading to the development of asthma, this project will study a specific cell type, known to secrete large amounts of powerful mediators, in the sputum of wheezing children. These protein messengers (called cytokines) are known to be involved in the asthma disease mechanism. What we do not understand well is where they are coming from. To date there have been few research studies on the role of type-2 innate lymphoid cells (ILC2s) in children with asthma. The majority of clinical studies have been conducted in adults with asthma and in this population, it is suggested that ILC-2s have an important role in maintaining the inflammation in the airways. We now need to study ILC2s in children with asthma.

Harry Morrow Brown Award

The Harry Morrow Brown Award is an annual award commemorating the death of the founder of MAARA, it provides an annual sum of £5000 to support a range of health professionals wishing to present at suitable conferences and seminars, by paying bursaries covering conference fees and travel costs.

One grant was made under the award in the sum of 1800 pounds, to fund a visit by a Paediatric Registrar to present at the European Respiratory Society international Congress.

Financial Review

Reserves policy

Unrestricted funds are currently £927,002 and are used to meet our liability in payment of agreed grants as well as the day to day operating expenditure.

A decision was taken in 2006 to invest some of our funds in investment accounts in order to improve returns. These funds have performed well and we plan to leave these in place until the money they contain are needed for our work

We have no funds materially in deficit.

Our main source of funds this year has again been legacies which, by their nature, are difficult to predict or budget

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed	
Full name	Stephen David Watson
Position	Chairman
Date	2 nd August 2023

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Midlands Asthma And Allergy Research Association

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Midlands Asthma And Allergy Research Association (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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.



Joseph Fitzpatrick ACA

Bourne & Co.
Chartered Accountants
3 Charnwood Street
Derby
Derbyshire
DE1 2GY

Date: 19/4/2023

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

		2022 Unrestricted fund £	2021 Total funds £
	Notes		
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		90,468	32,265
Investment income	2	25,164	23,132
Total		<u>115,632</u>	<u>55,397</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		22,846	20,079
Charitable activities			
GENERAL		63,338	47,860
Other		-	107
Total		<u>86,184</u>	<u>68,046</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		29,448	(12,649)
Other recognised gains/(losses)			
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		(64,046)	86,045
Net movement in funds		(34,598)	73,396
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		961,600	888,204
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>927,002</u></u>	<u><u>961,600</u></u>

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2022**

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted fund £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	2	2
Investments	6	710,874	774,921
		<u>710,876</u>	<u>774,923</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	172	147
Cash at bank and in hand		219,406	188,387
		<u>219,578</u>	<u>188,534</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,452)	(1,857)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>216,126</u>	<u>186,677</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		927,002	961,600
NET ASSETS		<u>927,002</u>	<u>961,600</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		927,002	961,600
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>927,002</u>	<u>961,600</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 April 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Watson - Trustee

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Medical Equipment	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Investment Income	23,840	23,115
Deposit account interest	1,324	17
	<u>25,164</u>	<u>23,132</u>

continued...

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	32,265
Investment income	23,132
Total	<u>55,397</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	20,079
Charitable activities	
GENERAL	47,860
Other	107
Total	<u>68,046</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(12,649)
Other recognised gains/(losses)	
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	86,045
Net movement in funds	73,396
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	888,204
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>961,600</u></u>

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Medical Equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

continued...

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

6. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2022	774,921
Revaluations	(64,047)
At 31 December 2022	<u>710,874</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2022	<u>710,874</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>774,921</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 December 2022 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	(64,047)
Cost	<u>774,921</u>
	<u>710,874</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Debtors and Prepayments	<u>172</u>	<u>147</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	<u>3,452</u>	<u>1,857</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	961,600	(34,598)	927,002
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>961,600</u>	<u>(34,598)</u>	<u>927,002</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	115,632	(86,184)	(64,046)	(34,598)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>115,632</u>	<u>(86,184)</u>	<u>(64,046)</u>	<u>(34,598)</u>

continued...

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	888,204	73,396	961,600
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>888,204</u>	<u>73,396</u>	<u>961,600</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	55,397	(68,046)	86,045	73,396
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>55,397</u>	<u>(68,046)</u>	<u>86,045</u>	<u>73,396</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	888,204	38,798	927,002
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>888,204</u>	<u>38,798</u>	<u>927,002</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	171,029	(154,230)	21,999	38,798
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>171,029</u>	<u>(154,230)</u>	<u>21,999</u>	<u>38,798</u>

continued...

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Midlands Asthma And Allergy
Research Association**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,257	3,851
Legacies	88,151	28,094
Members Subscriptions	60	320
	<u>90,468</u>	<u>32,265</u>
Investment income		
Investment Income	23,840	23,115
Deposit account interest	1,324	17
	<u>25,164</u>	<u>23,132</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>115,632</u>	<u>55,397</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Wages	17,892	16,267
Rates and water	1,440	1,440
Insurance	661	549
Telephone	439	360
Stationery, printing, postage and advertising	2,127	1,428
Sundries	287	35
	<u>22,846</u>	<u>20,079</u>
Charitable activities		
Aerobiology Contract	36,600	4,800
Other Research Grants	23,523	40,000
	<u>60,123</u>	<u>44,800</u>
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	148	107
Governance costs		
Accountancy	3,067	3,060
Total resources expended	<u>86,184</u>	<u>68,046</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>29,448</u></u>	<u><u>(12,649)</u></u>