

# W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales · Charity number 262581

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1971-06-23

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** WH Smith Benevolent Fund  
West Wing First Floor  
Windmill Hill Business Park  
Whitehill Way  
Swindon  
SN5 6PB

**Phone** 07790 956639

**Email** [BenFund@whsmith.co.uk](mailto:BenFund@whsmith.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** GRANTS TO EMPLOYEES AND EX-EMPLOYEES OF THE W H SMITH GROUP AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, BEING POOR AND NECESSITOUS

**Activities:** Provide financial support to both serving and retired members of staff along with dependent family members who find themselves in severe financial difficulties, through no fault of their own. Provide recuperative holidays following long term sickness or after major surgery and support with palliative holidays for staff.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Australia
- France
- Germany
- Guernsey
- Hong Kong
- Ireland
- Isle Of Man
- Italy
- Jersey
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- Northern Ireland
- Qatar
- Scotland
- Singapore
- Spain
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£190,161	£193,176	-	-
2024-03-31	£177,593	£293,823	-	-
2023-03-31	£209,232	£248,184	-	-
2022-03-31	£153,137	£229,760	-	-
2021-03-31	£155,359	£415,189	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Hadley Graham Watling		2025-09-29
Jennifer Theresa Angela Elliott		2025-09-29
Michal Pawel Blaszewski		2025-09-29

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**W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 262581

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**  
**for**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

Sumer Auditco Limited  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Contents of the Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 7
<b>Report of the Independent Auditors</b>	8 to 9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 16

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The W H Smith Benevolent Fund was established by Lord Hambleden in 1925 with a gift of £21,000 to commemorate the coming of age of his son, for the benefit of:

- a person or persons who are in financial difficulty or hardship and in need; and
- who are employed or were employed in the business (being WH Smith); and/or
- their spouse, widow, widower, children, descendants or dependants.

('Dependent' on the other person for the necessities of life).

The Benevolent Fund awards cash grants to help alleviate cases of hardship, awards grants for mobility scooters, stairlifts and other mobility aids and provides care breaks and recuperative holidays.

During the last decade the Benevolent Fund has made grants and awards to serving and retired staff members and their families totalling in excess of £1.5m.

The Benevolent Fund co-operates with other charities, in particular NewstrAid, in jointly meeting beneficiaries' needs.

**Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit. The W H Smith Benevolent Fund's beneficiaries are restricted to a "section of the public" as detailed above. This restriction is reasonable, open in nature and the potential number of beneficiaries is wide.

Under Clause 12 of the Principal Deed (2002), the Trustees have the power to amend or vary the terms of the Principal Deed, by deed, provided they do not prejudice the charitable nature of the Fund.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**GRANTS COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

The Grants Committee met in person or virtually each quarter throughout the year and the Committee of Management held their annual meeting in July 2025. The annual report was approved for submission to the Trustees. The budget was formally approved. The types of grants were reviewed, and values increased as appropriate.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee has not reviewed the investment strategy for the financial year ended 31 March 2025 due to Trustee changes and important business changes in WH Smith PLC. The strategy will be reviewed in due course.

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of Trustees was held on the 21 January 2026 The Annual Report and Accounts were approved. The Secretary reported on the year's activities, grants paid and typical cases.

**FUND AWARENESS**

Ongoing publicity of the charity throughout the year helped awareness amongst potential applicants.

**FUND VALUATION**

At year end (31st March 2025) the Fund's net assets were £5,876,398 an increase of 2.3% from the previous year.

**INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investment income during the year was £186,987 an increase of 5.3% over the previous year. Investment yield was 3.3%.

**INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

The Fund's income exceeded expenditure this year by £132,528.

<b>FUND EXPENDITURE</b>	£	
Total Expenditure	193,176	
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>		
Grants and Christmas	114,954	
Recuperative Holidays	1,500	
Carebreaks	20,086	
Income Support	<u>22,840</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>159,380</u></u>	83% of expenditure
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Fees	639	
Secretary's salary and		
Social Security costs	22,733	
Admin and Support Costs	5,554	
Audit fee	<u>4,870</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>33,796</u></u>	17% of expenditure

Total expenses have decreased by £2,172 since the prior year (2024: £35,968).

The total amount awarded to beneficiaries has decreased by £98,475 since the prior year (2024: £257,855).

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued**  
**ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED TO BENEFICIARIES**

Major Grants (Range £200 - £10,000)	52
Emergency/Immediate Grants (Range £50 - £4,000)	71
Recuperative Holidays (Award up to £2,250)	1
Carebreaks (Award up to £2,500)	7
Christmas Cheques (Value £378)	7
Income Grants (paid quarterly) (Grant S.I.G. £490)	10

Total number of serving and retired employees granted benefits and awards in the year ended 31 March 2025 was 123 (Emergency and Major Grants only), examples of typical grants are:

Financial help towards: Rent, council tax, utility bills, funeral expenses, home heating and repairs, immediate necessities, the provision of home furnishings and accommodation deposits.

All beneficiaries or their family have or were experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:  
 In receipt of: State benefits, income support, tax credits or on low income. Suffered: a traumatic event, terminal illness, long term sickness, death in the family, redundancy, accident at work, threat of eviction, divorced, separated or a single parent or carer.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is to invest the Benevolent Fund's assets in UK equities and Fixed interest in order to provide an appropriate balance between risk and return and pursue an index investment strategy as set out below.

Asset Class %	Benchmark	Range	Performance Reference
UK equities	60.0%	+/- 1.5%	FTSE All-Share Index
Fixed interest	40.0%	+/- 1.5%	UK Gilts All Stocks
Total Fund	100.0%		

The fund will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and rebalanced as required in the event that the asset allocation to any one class moves outside the ranges set out above.

**Financial Position and Reserves policy**

The Funds reserves available as of the 31st of March totalled £5.876 million of which £5.794 million is invested in UK equities and Fixed interest bonds and the balance is on deposit with Lloyds bank.

The Fund retains these investments to provide sufficient returns income in order to meet the grant expenditure and running costs of the Charity. Prior to the financial year ended 31 March 2025, for the previous three years accounting periods, the Fund's expenditure exceeded their income.

The Benevolent fund relies on these investments as the Fund owns no property or land and receives little or no public donations.

The Fund undertakes no fund-raising activities.

The total funds including investments, donations and cash on account at 31 March 2025 was £5.876 million, an increase from the prior year of £132,528. The income from the investments, donations and interest this year was £186,987 which was all expended directly to beneficiaries and the rest remained in the bank account. No money was reinvested.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**FUTURE PLANS**

The charity continues to see requests for help relating to the cost-of-living crisis and individuals requiring financial support for everyday bills.

In June 2025 WH Smith sold its Retail high street business to Modella Capital. The Trustees of the WH Smith Benevolent Fund have agreed to support (where appropriate) applications from Retail colleagues that were employed with WH Smith prior to the transition date. Our deeds have been updated to reflect these changes.

The charity also supports colleagues in all territories where the company has a retail presence.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the Trustees.

The Trustees may appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees at their discretion.

A Trustee will be automatically removed and discharged from office on the termination of his/her contract with the Company unless the other Trustees unanimously invite him/her to remain in office as a Trustee for a period of twelve months from the date of the invitation.

At the expiry of the twelve-month period (or any subsequent twelve-month period), the Trustee will be discharged from office, unless the Trustees who remain in the service of the Company decide unanimously to invite the Trustee to remain in office for a further twelve months.

Subject to the Trustees ratifying the appointment every twelve months there will be no limit to the period to which such a Trustee may hold office.

**Decision making**

**Committee of Management:**

This Committee meets annually to approve the annual budget and to approve the annual Trustees report. The Committee also reviews, and amends as required the grant award values and amends as required the appropriate criteria.

The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and serving members of the grants committee.

**Grants committee:**

This Committee meets quarterly to discuss applications and approve grants and awards. The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and any serving or retired employees of the Business.

Each year, those members of the Committee who have completed five or more years' service on the Committee will either be asked by the Trustees to serve on the Committee for an additional year or resign as a member of the Committee.

Serving and retired staff are invited to become Committee members and are appointed by the Trustees and may serve for a maximum of eight years on the Committee.

**Investment committee:**

The investment committee meets or engages via correspondence at least annually in order to review the performance of the investment portfolio and its continued appropriateness.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

There are three main areas of risk identified:

**Financial:**

The financial risk is broadly defined as dependency upon the performance of the Investment Manager and the investment policy.

The Trustees Investment Committee meets at least annually to review both the performance of the Investment Manager and the portfolio and ensures compliance with the Trustee Act 2000 on the investment of charitable funds. The Investment Committee also receives on request monthly reports from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd.

The Grants committee (a minimum of three members) meets quarterly and authorises Awards to beneficiaries. Cheques more than £2,500 are to be signed by two signatories.

**Regulatory:**

The Fund Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Charity Commission returns are accurate and made on time, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts.

There is a Conflict of Interest and Data Retention policy in place for the Fund.

**GDPR:**

The Secretary observes legislation and maintains the Funds Privacy Policy. The Trustees require the Fund Secretary to confirm such action.

**Vicarious Liability :**

The Fund employs only one employee (Fund Secretary) and there is no face-to-face contact with beneficiaries. Thus, the risk is extremely low, insurance therefore not required.

**FUND-RAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity does not carry out any fund-raising activities.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

262581

**Principal address**

c/o WHSmith PLC  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3RX

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**Trustees**

A Court - Chair

M P Blaszewski (Appointed 29/09/2025)

J T A Elliott (Appointed 29/09/2025)

H G Watling (Appointed 29/09/2025)

R J Moorhead (Retired 26/11/2024)

S B Tiley (Retired 26/11/2024)

H Webb (Retired 22/07/2025)

M L J Izzard (Appointed 26/11/2024 and Retired 29/09/2025)

**GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Jenny Elliott (Chair appointed 29/09/2025)

Jessica Dyson

Duncan Jones

William Kennett (Appointed 26/09/2024)

Michal Blaszewski (Appointed 22/11/2024)

Aimee Butler

Stephen Tiley (Retired 26/11/2024)

Helen Webb (Retired 22/07/2025)

Neil Firth (Retired 08/08/2025)

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

Jenny Elliott (Chair - appointed 29/09/2025)

Juliette Cavilla

Aimee Butler

Michal Blaszewski (Appointed 22/11/2024)

Stephen Tiley (Retired 26/11/2024)

Helen Webb (Retired 22/07/2025)

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Michal Blaszewski (Appointed 29/09/2025)

Hadley Watling (Appointed 29/09/2025)

Robert James Moorhead (Chair - retired 26/11/2024)

Stephen Tiley (Retired 26/11/2024)

In attendance as required: Clive Chapman

**SECRETARY TO THE FUND**

Aimee Butler

Greenbridge Road

Swindon

SN3 3LD

**ACCOUNTANT**

Clive Chapman

Ampney House

The Avenue

Stanton Fitzwarren

Swindon

SN6 7SE

**AUDITORS**

Sumer Auditco Limited

Statutory Auditors

Hermes House

Fire Fly Avenue

Swindon

Wiltshire

SN2 2GA

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**INVESTMENT MANAGER**

BlackRock Advisors (UK)  
12 Throgmorton Avenue  
London  
EC2N 2DL

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the 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, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which 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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They 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 order of the board of trustees on 21 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



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**A Court**  
**Chairperson of Trustees**

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of W H Smith Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity and the grant making activity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charity Law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements of the charity. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition and management override. Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:

- discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.
- understanding and review of management's internal controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities, and fraud.
- review of the minutes of the Trustees meetings.
- designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability.
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- review of the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- testing transactions entered into outside of the normal course of the charity's business; and
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries with fraud characteristics.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and the transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Sumer Auditco Limited*

Sumer Auditco Limited  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

Date: 22 January 2026 .....

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

		2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
		£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	Notes		
Investment income	3	186,987	177,593
Other income		<u>3,174</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>190,161</u>	<u>177,593</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	4	639	455
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5		
Grantmaking		<u>192,537</u>	<u>293,368</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>193,176</u>	<u>293,823</u>
Net gains on investments		<u>135,543</u>	<u>94,175</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		132,528	(22,055)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>5,743,870</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>5,876,398</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2025**

		2025	2024
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	Notes		
Investments	10	5,794,627	5,709,084
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		87,718	40,404
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year		(5,947)	(5,618)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>81,771</u>	<u>34,786</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>5,876,398</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>5,876,398</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	11		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		81,771	34,786
Capital		<u>5,794,627</u>	<u>5,709,084</u>
		<u>5,876,398</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>5,876,398</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



A Court - Chairperson of Trustees

## **W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

#### **1. STATUTORY INFORMATION**

The charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a trust deed. The charity's registered office is c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited, Greenbridge Road, Swindon, SN3 3RX.

#### **2. 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.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

##### **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.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared, and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

##### **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 payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The charity does not make multi-year grants, and all grants are unconditional.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**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.

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

**Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year.

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2025	2024
	£	£
UK investments	186,622	177,593
Deposit account interest	<u>365</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>186,987</u>	<u>177,593</u>

All income in the current and prior year relates to unrestricted funds.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>639</u>	<u>455</u>

All costs in the current and prior year relates to unrestricted funds.

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>159,380</u>	<u>33,157</u>	<u>192,537</u>

All costs in the current and prior year relates to unrestricted funds.

**6. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grantmaking	<u>159,380</u>	<u>257,855</u>

The total grants paid to individuals during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
General grants	114,954	215,714
Income support	22,840	21,760
Recuperative holidays	1,500	7,284
Carebreak	<u>20,086</u>	<u>13,097</u>
	<u>159,380</u>	<u>257,855</u>

All costs in the current and prior year relates to unrestricted funds.

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>28,287</u>	<u>4,870</u>	<u>33,157</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	Grantmaking	Total activities
	£	£
Wages	28,013	29,240
Printing, postage and stationery	70	59
Expenses	204	2,434
Auditors' remuneration	<u>4,870</u>	<u>3,780</u>
	<u>33,157</u>	<u>35,513</u>

All costs in the current and prior year relates to unrestricted funds.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**9. STAFF COSTS**

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	<u>28,013</u>	<u>29,240</u>

Employees consist of a grant's administrator (employed by WH Smith and recharged to the Charity), and 1 self-employed persons. None of the staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil.

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2024	5,709,084
Disposals	(50,000)
Realised gains	16,232
Net unrealised gains	<u>119,311</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,794,627</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,794,627</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>5,709,084</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets. All investments have been valued by Blackrock Advisors (UK) Limited and are based on the Bid price as at the close of business on the valuation date. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the charity is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the charity from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment markets and volatility in yield. The charity is reliant on dividend yield in part to finance its work.

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be low as all assets are traded. The charity's investments are traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The charity has no investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The charity manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The Trust does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer-term yield total return and historic studies of quoted financial.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	34,786	(3,015)	50,000	81,771
Capital	<u>5,709,084</u>	<u>135,543</u>	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>5,794,627</u>
	<u>5,743,870</u>	<u>132,528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,876,398</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>5,743,870</u></u>	<u><u>132,528</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,876,398</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	190,161	(193,176)	-	(3,015)
Capital	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,543</u>	<u>135,543</u>
	<u>190,161</u>	<u>(193,176)</u>	<u>135,543</u>	<u>132,528</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>190,161</u></u>	<u><u>(193,176)</u></u>	<u><u>135,543</u></u>	<u><u>132,528</u></u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	71,016	(116,230)	80,000	34,786
Capital	<u>5,694,909</u>	<u>94,175</u>	<u>(80,000)</u>	<u>5,709,084</u>
	<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>(22,055)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>5,765,925</u></u>	<u><u>(22,055)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,743,870</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	177,593	(293,823)	-	(116,230)
Capital	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,175</u>	<u>94,175</u>
	<u>177,593</u>	<u>(293,823)</u>	<u>94,175</u>	<u>(22,055)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>177,593</u></u>	<u><u>(293,823)</u></u>	<u><u>94,175</u></u>	<u><u>(22,055)</u></u>

The capital fund represents the market value of the investments.

**Transfers between funds**

The transfer between funds is made to reflect investment disposals.

**12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 262581

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**  
**for**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 7
<b>Report of the Independent Auditors</b>	8 to 9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 17

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The W H Smith Benevolent Fund was established by Lord Hambleden in 1925 with a gift of £21,000 to commemorate the coming of age of his son, for the benefit of:

- a person or persons are who in financial difficulty or hardship and in need; and
- who are employed or were employed in the business (being WH Smith); and/or
- their spouse, widow, widower, children, descendants or dependants.

('Dependent' on the other person for the necessities of life).

The Benevolent Fund awards cash grants to help alleviate cases of hardship, awards grants for mobility scooters, stairlifts and other mobility aids and provides care breaks and recuperative holidays.

During the last decade the Benevolent Fund has made grants and awards to serving and retired staff members and their families totalling in excess of £1.5m.

The Benevolent Fund co-operates with other charities, in particular NewstrAid, in jointly meeting beneficiaries' needs.

**Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit. The W H Smith Benevolent Fund's beneficiaries are restricted to a "section of the public" as detailed above. This restriction is reasonable, open in nature and the potential number of beneficiaries is wide.

Under Clause 12 of the Principal Deed (2002), the Trustees have the power to amend or vary the terms of the Principal Deed, by deed, provided they do not prejudice the charitable nature of the Fund.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**GRANTS COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

The Grants Committee met in person or virtually each quarter throughout the year and the Committee of Management held their annual meeting in July 2023. The annual report was approved for submission to the Trustees. The budget was formally approved. The types of grants were reviewed, and values increased as appropriate.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee reviewed the investments and strategy in 2024 via correspondence.

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of Trustees was held on the tba. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved. The Secretary reported on the year's activities, grants paid and typical cases.

**FUND AWARENESS**

Ongoing publicity of the charity throughout the year helped awareness amongst potential applicants.

**FUND VALUATION**

At year end (31st March 2024) the Fund's net assets were £5,743,870, a decrease of 0.38% from the previous year.

**INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investment income during the year was £177,593 a decrease of 15.1% over the previous year. Investment yield was 3.1%.

**INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

The Fund's income fell short of expenditure this year by £116,230.

**FUND EXPENDITURE**

	£	
Total Expenditure	293,823	
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>		
Grants & Christmas	215,714	
Recuperative Holidays	7,284	
Carebreaks	13,097	
Income Support	<u>21,760</u>	
Total	<u><u>257,855</u></u>	88% of expenditure
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Fees	455	
Secretary's salary + NI plus Accountant Salary	29,240	
Admin & Support Costs and Salaries	2493	
Audit fee	3780	
Total	35,968	12% of expenditure

Total expenses have increased by £2,544 since the prior year (2023: £33,424).

The total amount awarded to beneficiaries has increased by £43,096 year on year.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued**  
ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED TO BENEFICIARIES

Major Grants(Range £200 - £10,000)	73
Emergency/Immediate Grants (Range £50 - £4,000)	130
Recuperative Holidays (Award up to £2,250)	2
Carebreaks(Award up to £2,500)	6
Christmas Cheques (Value £378)	7
Income Grants (paid quarterly) (Grant S.I.G. £490)	10

Total number of serving and retired employees granted benefits and awards year ending 31 March 2024 was 203 (EM/MG only), examples of typical grants are:

Financial help towards: Rent, council tax, utility bills, funeral expenses, home heating and repairs, fire damage, immediate necessities, Vet fees, Disability aids, counselling, the provision of home furnishings & accommodation deposits.

All beneficiaries or their family have or were experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:  
In receipt of: State benefits, income support, tax credits or on low income. Suffered: a traumatic event, terminal illness, long term sickness, death in the family, redundancy, accident at work, threat of eviction, divorced, separated or a single parent or carer.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is to invest the Benevolent Fund's assets in UK equities and Fixed interest in order to provide an appropriate balance between risk and return and pursue an index investment strategy as set out below.

Asset Class %	Benchmark	Range	Performance Reference
UK equities	60.0%	+/- 1.5%	FTSE All-Share Index
Fixed interest	40.0%	+/- 1.5%	UK Gilts All Stocks
Total Fund	100.0%		

The fund will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and rebalanced as required in the event that the asset allocation to any one class moves outside the ranges set out above.

**Financial Position and Reserves policy**

The Funds reserves available as at the 31st March totalled £5.743869 million of which £5.695 million is invested in UK equities and Fixed interest bonds and the balance is on deposit with Lloyds bank.

The Fund retains these investments to provide sufficient returns income in order to meet the grant expenditure and running costs of the Charity, although in the last 3 years this has not been met due to high demand for grants and lower dividend/interest coupons than expected.

The Benevolent fund relies on these investments as the Fund owns no property or land and receives little or no public donations.

The Fund undertakes no fund-raising activities.

The total funds including investments, donations and cash on account year ending 31 March 2024 was £5,743,869, a decrease from the prior year of £22,055. The income from the investments, donations and interest this year was £177,593 which was all expended directly to beneficiaries. No money was therefore available for reinvestment.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**FUTURE PLANS**

Due to the ongoing challenges for many with the cost-of-living crisis, there continues to be an increase in activity and more support was awarded than in the previous year due to increased demand. The charity also supports colleagues in all territories where the company has a retail presence. The Trustees have agreed to meet the exceptional demand for grants for this and the current year where cost of living pressures continue to be significant.

The Fund will continue to work closely with the Risk and Occupational Health Department, particularly about Family, Palliative and Recuperative holidays.

A revised & updated promotional Benevolent Fund staff awareness poster has been sent to UK branches, Swindon warehouse, Head Office departments, and branches overseas.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the Trustees.

The Trustees may appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees at their discretion.

A Trustee will be automatically removed and discharged from office on the termination of his/her contract with the Company unless the other Trustees unanimously invite him/her to remain in office as a Trustee for a period of twelve months from the date of the invitation.

At the expiry of the twelve-month period (or any subsequent twelve-month period), the Trustee will be discharged from office, unless the Trustees who remain in the service of the Company decide unanimously to invite the Trustee to remain in office for a further twelve months.

Subject to the Trustees ratifying the appointment every twelve months there will be no limit to the period to which such a Trustee may hold office.

**Decision making**

Committee of Management:

This Committee meets annually to approve the annual budget and to approve the annual Trustees report. The Committee also reviews, and amends as required the grant award values and amends as required the appropriate criteria.

The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and serving members of the grants committee.

Grants committee:

This Committee meets quarterly to discuss applications and approve grants and awards. The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and any serving or retired employees of the Business.

Each year, those members of the Committee who have completed five or more years' service on the Committee will either be asked by the Trustees to serve on the Committee for an additional year or resign as a member of the Committee.

Serving and retired staff are invited to become Committee members and are appointed by the Trustees and may serve for a maximum of eight years on the Committee.

Investment committee:

The investment committee meets or engages via correspondence at least annually in order to review the performance of the investment portfolio and its continued appropriateness.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

There are three main areas of risk identified:

**Financial:**

The financial risk is broadly defined as dependency upon the performance of the Investment Manager and the investment policy.

The Trustees Investment Committee meets at least annually to review both the performance of the Investment Manager and the portfolio and ensures compliance with the Trustee Act 2000 on the investment of charitable funds. The Investment Committee also receives on request monthly reports from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd.

The Grants committee (a minimum of three members) meets quarterly and authorises Awards to beneficiaries. Cheques more than £2,500 to be signed by two signatories.

**Regulatory:**

The Fund Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Charity Commission returns are accurate and made on time, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts.

There is a Conflict of Interest and Data Retention policy in place for the Fund.

**GDPR:**

The Secretary observes legislation and maintains the Funds Privacy Policy. The Trustees require the Fund Secretary to confirm such action.

**Strategic**

**Duty of Care:**

The Fund no longer administers a mobility scooter scheme. The Fund considers requests for support with the costs of a powered vehicle however no longer directly supplies or administers support for the vehicle.

**Vicarious Liability:**

The Fund employs only one employee (Fund Secretary) and there is little or no face-to-face contact with beneficiaries. Thus, the risk is extremely low. Insurance therefore not required.

**FUND-RAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity does not carry out any fund-raising activities.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

262581

**Principal address**

c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3RX

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Trustees**

R J Moorhead  
S B Tiley  
H Webb  
A Court

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

Juliette Cavilla  
Stephen Tiley  
Helen Webb

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Robert James Moorhead (Chair)  
Stephen Tiley  
In attendance as required:  
Clive Chapman

**SECRETARY TO THE FUND**

Aimee Butler  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3LD

**ACCOUNTANT**

Clive Chapman  
Ampney House  
The Avenue  
Stanton Fitzwarren  
Swindon SN6 7SE

**Auditors**

Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**Investment manager**

BlackRock Advisors (UK)  
12 Throgmorton Avenue  
London  
EC2N 2DL

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the 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, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They 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 order of the board of trustees on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
**A Court**  
**President & Chairman of Trustees**

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of  
W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of W H Smith Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of  
W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity and the grant making activity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charity Law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements of the charity. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition and management override. Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:

- discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- understanding and review of management's internal controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities, and fraud;
- review of the minutes of the Trustees meetings;
- designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- review of the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- testing transactions entered into outside of the normal course of the charity's business; and
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries with fraud characteristics such as journals with round numbers.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and the transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Sumer Audit Limited*

Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

Date: 12 November 2024

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Investment income	3	<u>177,593</u>	<u>209,232</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	4	455	211
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5		
Grantmaking		<u>293,368</u>	<u>247,973</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>293,823</u>	<u>248,184</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>94,175</u>	<u>(416,244)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(22,055)	(455,196)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>6,221,121</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>5,743,870</u></u>	<u><u>5,765,925</u></u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	11	5,709,084	5,694,909
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		40,404	78,089
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(5,618)	(7,073)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>34,786</u>	<u>71,016</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>5,743,870</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>5,743,870</u></u>	<u><u>5,765,925</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		34,786	71,016
Capital		<u>5,709,084</u>	<u>5,694,909</u>
		<u>5,743,870</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><u>5,743,870</u></u>	<u><u>5,765,925</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
**S B Tiley**  
**Trustee**

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****1. STATUTORY INFORMATION**

The charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a trust deed. The charity's registered office is c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited, Greenbridge Road, Swindon, SN3 3RX.

**2. 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.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

**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.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

**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 payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The charity does not make multi-year grants and all grants are unconditional.

**Taxation**

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

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.

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

**Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year.

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2024	2023
	£	£
UK investments	<u>177,593</u>	<u>209,232</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****4. RAISING FUNDS****Investment management costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Portfolio management	<u>455</u>	<u>211</u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>257,855</u>	<u>35,513</u>	<u>293,368</u>

**6. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2024 £	2023 £
Grantmaking	<u>257,855</u>	<u>214,760</u>

The total grants paid to individuals during the year was as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
General Grants	215,714	162,875
Income Support / WNA	21,760	22,877
Recuperative Holidays	7,284	12,331
Carebreak	<u>13,097</u>	<u>16,677</u>
	<u>257,855</u>	<u>214,760</u>

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>31,733</u>	<u>3,780</u>	<u>35,513</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024 Grantmaking £	2023 Total activities £
Wages	29,240	27,837
Printing, postage & stationery	59	16
Expenses	2,434	566
Auditors' remuneration	<u>3,780</u>	<u>4,794</u>
	<u>35,513</u>	<u>33,213</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**9. STAFF COSTS**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	<u>29,240</u>	<u>27,837</u>

Employees consist of a grant's administrator (employed by WH Smith and recharged to the Charity), and 1 self-employed person. None of the staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were nil.

**10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Investment income	<u>209,232</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	211
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Grantmaking	<u>247,973</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>248,184</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(416,244)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)</b>	(455,196)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	6,221,121
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>5,765,925</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2023	5,694,909
Disposals	(80,000)
Realised (losses)/gains	21,123
Net unrealised (losses)/gains	<u>73,052</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>5,709,084</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<u>5,709,084</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,694,909</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets. All investments have been valued by Blackrock Advisors (UK) Limited and are based on the Bid price as at the close of business on the valuation date. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the charity is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the charity from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment markets and volatility in yield. The charity is reliant on dividend yield in part to finance its work.

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be low as all assets are traded. The charity's investments are traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The charity has no investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The charity manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The Trust does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer term yield total return and historic studies of quoted financial.

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	5,618	5,948
Accruals for grants payable	-	<u>1,125</u>
	<u>5,618</u>	<u>7,073</u>

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	71,016	(22,055)	(14,175)	34,786
Capital	<u>5,694,909</u>	-	<u>14,175</u>	<u>5,709,084</u>
	<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>(22,055)</u>	-	<u>5,743,870</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>(22,055)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,743,870</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024****13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	177,593	(293,823)	94,175	(22,055)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>177,593</u>	<u>(293,823)</u>	<u>94,175</u>	<u>(22,055)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	14,968	(455,196)	511,244	71,016
Capital	<u>6,206,153</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(511,244)</u>	<u>5,694,909</u>
	6,221,121	(455,196)	-	5,765,925
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>(455,196)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	209,232	(248,184)	(416,244)	(455,196)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>209,232</u>	<u>(248,184)</u>	<u>(416,244)</u>	<u>(455,196)</u>

The capital fund represents the market value of the investments plus cash held on investment.

**Transfers between funds**

The transfer between funds is made to reflect the net movement in the investment portfolio.

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 262581

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**  
**for**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Contents of the Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 7
<b>Report of the Independent Auditors</b>	8 to 9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 17

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The W H Smith Benevolent Fund was established by Lord Hambleden in 1925 with a gift of £21,000 to commemorate the coming of age of his son, for the benefit of:

- a person or persons are who in financial difficulty or hardship and in need; and
- who are employed or were employed in the business (being WH Smith); and/or
- their spouse, widow, widower, children, descendants or dependants.

('Dependent' on the other person for the necessities of life).

The Benevolent Fund awards cash grants to help alleviate cases of hardship, awards grants for mobility scooters, stairlifts and other mobility aids and provides care breaks and recuperative holidays.

During the last decade the Benevolent Fund has made grants and awards to serving and retired staff members and their families totalling in excess of £1.5m.

The Benevolent Fund co-operates with other charities, in particular SSAFA and NewstrAid, in jointly meeting beneficiaries' needs.

**Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit. The W H Smith Benevolent Fund's beneficiaries are restricted to a "section of the public" as detailed above. This restriction is reasonable, open in nature and the potential number of beneficiaries is wide.

Under Clause 12 of the Principal Deed (2002), the Trustees have the power to amend or vary the terms of the Principal Deed, by deed, provided they do not prejudice the charitable nature of the Fund.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**GRANTS COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

The Grants Committee met in person or virtually each quarter throughout the year and the Committee of Management held their annual meeting in July 2022. The annual report was approved for submission to the Trustees. The budget was formally approved. The types of grants were reviewed, and values increased as appropriate.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee reviewed the investments and strategy in February 2023 via correspondence.

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of Trustees was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved. The Secretary reported on the year's activities, grants paid and typical cases

**FUND AWARENESS**

Ongoing publicity of the charity throughout the year helped awareness amongst potential applicants.

**FUND VALUATION**

At year end (31st March 2023) the Fund's net assets were £5,694,909, a decrease of 8.2% from the previous year.

**INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investment income during the year was £209,232 an increase of 36.6% over the previous year. Investment yield was 3.67%.

**INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

The Fund's income fell short of expenditure this year by £38,952.

**FUND EXPENDITURE**

	£	
Total Expenditure	248,184	
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>		
Grants & Christmas	162,875	
Recuperative Holidays	12,331	
Carebreaks	16,676	
Income Support	<u>22,877</u>	
Total	<u>214,760</u>	87% of expenditure
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Fees	211	
Secretary's salary + NI	22,837	
Admin & Support Costs and Salaries	5,582	
Audit fee	4,794	
Total	33,424	13% of expenditure

Total expenses have increased by £6,015 since the prior year (2022: £27,409).

The total amount awarded to beneficiaries has increased by £12,409 year on year.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued**  
ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED TO BENEFICIARIES

Major Grants(Range £200 - £10,000)	41
Emergency/Immediate Grants (Range £50 - £4,000)	148
Recuperative Holidays (Award up to £2,250)	6
Carebreaks(Award up to £2,500)	7
Christmas Cheques (Value £360)	9
Income Grants (paid quarterly) (Grant S.I.G. £490)	11

Total number of serving and retired employees granted benefits and awards year ending 31 March 2023 was 189 (EM/MG only), examples of typical grants are:

Financial help towards: Rent, council tax, utility bills, mortgage arrears, funeral expenses, home heating and repairs, fire damage, immediate necessities, Vet fees, Disability aids, medical treatment, counselling and the provision of home furnishings. Home rental deposits and credit card debt.

All beneficiaries or their family have or were experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:  
In receipt of: State benefits, income support, tax credits or on low income. Suffered: a traumatic event, terminal illness, long term sickness, death in the family, redundancy, accident at work, threat of eviction, divorced, separated or a single parent or carer.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**  
**Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is to invest the Benevolent Fund's assets in UK equities and Fixed interest in order to provide an appropriate balance between risk and return and pursue an index investment strategy as set out below.

Asset Class %	Benchmark	Range	Performance Reference
UK equities	60.0%	+/- 1.5%	FTSE All-Share Index
Fixed interest	40.0%	+/- 1.5%	UK Gilts All Stocks
Total Fund	100.0%		

The fund will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and rebalanced as required in the event that the asset allocation to any one class moves outside the ranges set out above.

**Financial Position and Reserves policy**

The Funds reserves available as at the 31st March totalled £5.766 million of which £5.695 million is invested in UK equities and Fixed interest bonds and the balance is on deposit with Lloyds bank.

The Fund retains these investments to provide sufficient returns income in order to meet the grant expenditure and running costs of the Charity, although in the last 3 years this has not been met due to high demand for grants and lower dividend/interest coupons than expected.

The Benevolent fund relies on these investments as the Fund owns no property or land and receives little or no public donations.

The Fund undertakes no fund-raising activities.

The total funds including investments, donations and cash on account year ending 31 March 2023 was £5,765,925 million, an decrease from the prior year of £455,196. The income from the investments, donations and interest this year was £209,232 which was all expended directly to beneficiaries. No money was therefore available for reinvestment.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**FUTURE PLANS**

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the more recent cost-of-living crisis, there has been a marked increase in activity and more support was awarded than in the previous year due to increased demand. The Trustees have agreed to meet the exceptional demand for grants for this and the current year where cost of living pressures have now become more significant than Covid related applications.

The Fund will continue to work closely with the Risk and Occupational Health Department, particularly about Family, Palliative and Recuperative holidays.

As required, a revised & updated promotional Benevolent Fund staff awareness poster will be sent to UK branches, Swindon warehouse, Head Office departments, and branches overseas.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the Trustees.

The Trustees may appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees at their discretion.

A Trustee will be automatically removed and discharged from office on the termination of his/her contract with the Company unless the other Trustees unanimously invite him/her to remain in office as a Trustee for a period of twelve months from the date of the invitation.

At the expiry of the twelve-month period (or any subsequent twelve-month period), the Trustee will be discharged from office, unless the Trustees who remain in the service of the Company decide unanimously to invite the Trustee to remain in office for a further twelve months.

Subject to the Trustees ratifying the appointment every twelve months there will be no limit to the period to which such a Trustee may hold office.

**Decision making**

Committee of Management:

This Committee meets annually to approve the annual budget and to approve the annual Trustees report. The Committee also reviews, and amends as required the grant award values and amends as required the appropriate criteria.

The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and serving members of the grants committee.

Grants committee:

This Committee meets quarterly to discuss applications and approve grants and awards. The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and any serving or retired employees of the Business.

Each year, those members of the Committee who have completed five or more years' service on the Committee will either be asked by the Trustees to serve on the Committee for an additional year or resign as a member of the Committee.

Serving and retired staff are invited to become Committee members and are appointed by the Trustees and may serve for a maximum of eight years on the Committee.

Investment committee:

The investment committee meets or engages via correspondence at least annually in order to review the performance of the investment portfolio and its continued appropriateness.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

There are three main areas of risk identified:

**Financial:**

The financial risk is broadly defined as dependency upon the performance of the Investment Manager and the investment policy.

The Trustees Investment Committee meets at least annually to review both the performance of the Investment Manager and the portfolio and ensures compliance with the Trustee Act 2000 on the investment of charitable funds. The Investment Committee also receives on request monthly reports from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd.

The Grants committee (a minimum of three members) meets quarterly and authorises Awards to beneficiaries. Cheques more than £2,500 to be signed by two signatories.

**Regulatory:**

The Fund Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Charity Commission returns are accurate and made on time, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts.

There is now a Conflict of Interest and Data Retention policy in place for the Fund.

**GDPR:**

The Secretary observes legislation and maintains the Funds Privacy Policy. The Trustees require the Fund Secretary to confirm such action.

**Strategic**

**Duty of Care:**

The major risk is the legal liability on the Fund in supplying powered vehicles to beneficiaries. The Fund's Secretary ensures that, before any equipment is supplied, beneficiaries are assessed by a qualified individual, such as an occupational therapist and the correct prescription ascertained/tested.

The occupational therapist also assesses the disabled person within the environment where the equipment is to be used and produces a full report and prescription for action.

The Fund's Secretary also ensures that appropriate liability insurance is taken out and recorded. Records are kept and maintained, to ensure compliance.

**Vicarious Liability:**

The Fund employs only one employee (Fund Secretary) and there is little or no face-to-face contact with beneficiaries. Thus, the risk is extremely low. Insurance therefore not required.

**FUND-RAISING STANDARDS INFORMATION**

The charity does not carry out any fund-raising activities.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

262581

**Principal address**

c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3RX

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Trustees**

H E Staunton (resigned 1.1.23)  
R J Moorhead  
S B Tiley  
W Stroud  
A Court (appointed 13.2.23)

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

Juliette Cavilla  
Stephen Tiley  
Helen Webb

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Robert James Moorhead (Chair)  
Stephen Tiley  
In attendance as required:  
Clive Chapman

**SECRETARY TO THE FUND**

Aimee Butler  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3LD

**ACCOUNTANT**

Clive Chapman  
Ampney House  
The Avenue  
Stanton Fitzwarren  
Swindon SN6 7SE

**Auditors**

Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**Investment manager**

BlackRock Advisors (UK)  
12 Throgmorton Avenue  
London  
EC2N 2DL

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the 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, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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.....  
**A Court**  
**President & Chairman of Trustees**

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of W H Smith Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity and the grant making activity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charity Law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements of the charity. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition and management override. Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:

- discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- understanding and review of management's internal controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities, and fraud;
- review of the minutes of the Trustees meetings;
- designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- review of the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- testing transactions entered into outside of the normal course of the charity's business; and
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries with fraud characteristics such as journals with round numbers.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and the transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Sumer Audit  
Statutory Auditors  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

Date: 22 November 2023...

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

		2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	Notes		
Investment income	3	<u>209,232</u>	<u>153,137</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	4	211	240
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5		
Grantmaking		<u>247,973</u>	<u>229,520</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>248,184</u>	<u>229,760</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>(416,244)</u>	<u>201,487</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(455,196)	124,864
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		6,221,121	6,096,257
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>5,765,925</u></u>	<u><u>6,221,121</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	11	5,694,909	6,206,153
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		78,089	23,229
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(7,073)	(8,261)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>71,016</u>	<u>14,968</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		5,765,925	6,221,121
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>6,221,121</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		71,016	14,968
Capital		<u>5,694,909</u>	<u>6,206,153</u>
		<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>6,221,121</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>5,765,925</u>	<u>6,221,121</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
**S B Tiley**  
Trustee

## **W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

#### **1. STATUTORY INFORMATION**

The charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a trust deed. The charity's registered office is c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited, Greenbridge Road, Swindon, SN3 3RX.

#### **2. 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.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

##### **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.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

##### **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 payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The charity does not make multi-year grants and all grants are unconditional.

##### **Taxation**

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

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.

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

**Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year.

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2023	2022
	£	£
UK investments	<u>209,232</u>	<u>153,137</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

	2023 £	2022 £
Portfolio management	<u>211</u>	<u>240</u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>214,760</u>	<u>33,213</u>	<u>247,973</u>

**6. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2023 £	2022 £
Grantmaking	<u>214,760</u>	<u>202,351</u>

The total grants paid to individuals during the year was as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
General Grants	162,875	162,283
Income Support / WNA	22,877	22,185
Recuperative Holidays	12,331	1,939
Carebreak	<u>16,677</u>	<u>15,944</u>
	<u>214,760</u>	<u>202,351</u>

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>28,419</u>	<u>4,794</u>	<u>33,213</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 Grantmaking £	2022 Total activities £
Wages	27,837	23,233
Printing, postage & stationery	16	5
Expenses	566	281
Auditors' remuneration	<u>4,794</u>	<u>3,650</u>
	<u>33,213</u>	<u>27,169</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**9. STAFF COSTS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>27,837</u>	<u>23,233</u>

Employees consist of a grants administrator (employed by WH Smith and recharged to the Charity), and 1 self employed person. None of the staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were nil.

**10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Investment income	<u>153,137</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	240
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Grantmaking	<u>229,520</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>229,760</u>
Net gains on investments	<u>201,487</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	124,864
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>6,221,121</u></u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2022	6,206,153
Disposals	(95,000)
Realised (losses)/gains	163,490
Net unrealised (losses)/gains	<u>(579,734)</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,694,909</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,694,909</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>6,206,153</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets. All investments have been valued by Blackrock Advisors (UK) Limited and are based on the Bid price as at the close of business on the valuation date. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the charity is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the charity from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment markets and volatility in yield. The charity is reliant on dividend yield in part to finance its work.

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be low as all assets are traded. The charity's investments are traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The charity has no investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The charity manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The Trust does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer term yield total return and historic studies of quoted financial.

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	5,948	6,761
Accruals for grants payable	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,500</u>
	<u>7,073</u>	<u>8,261</u>

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	14,968	(455,196)	511,244	71,016
Capital	<u>6,206,153</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(511,244)</u>	<u>5,694,909</u>
	<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>(455,196)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>(455,196)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,765,925</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	209,232	(248,184)	(416,244)	(455,196)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>209,232</u>	<u>(248,184)</u>	<u>(416,244)</u>	<u>(455,196)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	66,591	(76,623)	25,000	14,968
Capital	<u>6,029,666</u>	<u>201,487</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>	<u>6,206,153</u>
	<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>124,864</u>	-	<u>6,221,121</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>124,864</u>	-	<u>6,221,121</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	153,137	(229,760)	-	(76,623)
Capital	-	-	<u>201,487</u>	<u>201,487</u>
	<u>153,137</u>	<u>(229,760)</u>	<u>201,487</u>	<u>124,864</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>153,137</u>	<u>(229,760)</u>	<u>201,487</u>	<u>124,864</u>

The capital fund represents the market value of the investments plus cash held on investment.

**Transfers between funds**

The transfer between funds is made to reflect the net movement in the investment portfolio.

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 262581

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# Accounts

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Report of the Trustees and  
Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022  
for  
W H Smith Benevolent Fund

Monahans  
Statutory Auditors  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Contents of the Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 7
<b>Report of the Independent Auditors</b>	8 to 9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 18

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The W H Smith Benevolent Fund was established by Lord Hambleden in 1925 with a gift of £21,000 to commemorate the coming of age of his son, for the benefit of:

- a person or persons are who in financial difficulty or hardship and in need; and
- who are employed or were employed in the business (being WH Smith); and/or
- their spouse, widow, widower, children, descendants or dependants.

('Dependent' on the other person for the necessities of life).

The Benevolent Fund awards cash grants to help alleviate cases of hardship, awards grants for mobility scooters, stairlifts and other mobility aids and provides care breaks and recuperative holidays.

During the last decade the Benevolent Fund has made grants and awards to serving and retired staff members and their families totalling in excess of one million pounds.

The Benevolent Fund co-operates with other charities, in particular SSAFA and NewstrAid, in jointly meeting beneficiaries' needs.

**Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit. The W H Smith Benevolent Fund's beneficiaries are restricted to a "section of the public" as detailed above. This restriction is reasonable, open in nature and the potential number of beneficiaries is wide.

Under Clause 12 of the Principal Deed (2002), the Trustees have the power to amend or vary the terms of the Principal Deed, by deed, provided they do not prejudice the charitable nature of the Fund.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**GRANTS COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

The Grants Committee met virtually each quarter throughout the year and the Committee of Management held their annual meeting in July 2021 virtually. The annual report was approved for submission to the Trustees. The budget was formally approved. The types of grants were reviewed and values increased as appropriate.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee reviewed the investments and strategy in February 2022 via correspondence.

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of Trustees was held virtually on the 9th September 2021. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved. The Secretary reported on the year's activities, grants paid and typical cases.

**FUND AWARENESS**

Ongoing publicity of the charity throughout the year helped awareness amongst potential applicants.

**FUND VALUATION**

At year end (31st March, 2022) the Fund's net assets were £6.206 million, an increase of 2.9% from the previous year.

**INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investment income during the year was £153,137 a decrease of 1.1% over the previous year. Investment yield was 3.05%.

**INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

The Fund's income fell short of expenditure this year by £76,623.

**FUND EXPENDITURE**

	£	
Total Expenditure	229,760	
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>		
Grants & Christmas	162,283	
Recuperative Holidays	1,939	
Carebreaks	15,944	
Income Grants		
SIGs	<u>22,185</u>	
Total	<u>202,351</u>	88% of expenditure
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Fees	240	
Secretary's salary + NI	18,579	
Admin & Support Costs and		
Salaries	4,940	
Audit fee	<u>3,650</u>	
Total	<u>27,409</u>	12% of expenditure

Total expenses have increased by 5.4% from last year (2021: £26,003).

The total amount awarded to beneficiaries has decreased by 48% year on year.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued**  
**ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED TO BENEFICIARIES**

Major Grants(Range £200 - £10,000)	25
Emergency/Immediate Grants (Range £50 - £4,000)	131
Recuperative Holidays (Award up to £2,250)	3
Carebreaks (Award up to £2,500)	7 recipients claimed for award
Christmas Cheques (Value £360)	15 Retired
Income Grants (paid quarterly) (Grant S.I.G. £490)	12 Retired

Total number of serving and retired employees granted benefits and awards year ending 31 March 2022 was 156 (EM/MG only) , examples of typical grants are:  
 Financial help towards: Rent, council tax, utility bills, mortgage arrears, funeral expenses, home heating and repairs, fire damage, immediate necessities, Vet fees, Disability aids, Medical treatment, counselling and the provision of home furnishings. Home rental deposits and credit card debt.

All beneficiaries or their family have or were experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:  
 In receipt of: State benefits, income support, tax credits or on low income. Suffered: a traumatic event, terminal illness, long term sickness, death in the family, redundancy, accident at work, threat of eviction, divorced, separated or a single parent or carer.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is to invest the Benevolent Fund's assets in UK equities and Fixed interest in order to provide an appropriate balance between risk and return and pursue an index investment strategy as set out below.

Asset Class %	Benchmark	Range	Performance Reference
UK equities	60.0%	+/- 1.5%	FTSE All-Share Index
Fixed interest	40.0%	+/- 1.5%	UK Gilts All Stocks
Total Fund	100.0%		

The fund will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and rebalanced as required in the event that the asset allocation to any one class moves outside the ranges set out above.

**Financial Position and Reserves policy**

The Funds reserves available as at the 31st March totalled £6.221 million of which £6.206 million is invested in UK equities and Fixed interest bonds and the balance is on deposit with Lloyds bank.

The Fund retains these investments to provide sufficient returns income in order to meet the grant expenditure and running costs of the Charity, although in the last 2 years this has not been met due to high demand for grants and lower dividend/interest coupons than expected.

The Benevolent fund relies on these investments as the Fund owns no property or land and receives little or no public donations.

The Fund undertakes no fund-raising activities.

The total funds including investments, donations and cash on account year ending 31 March 2022 was £6.221 million an increase year on year of £124,864. The income from the investments, donations and interest this year was £153,137 which was all expended directly to beneficiaries. No money was therefore available for reinvestment.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic there had been a marked increase in activity and substantially more support was awarded last year due to increased demand. The Trustees have agreed to meet the exceptional demand for grants for this and the current year where cost of living pressures have now become more significant than Covid related applications.

The Fund will continue to work closely with the Risk and Occupational Health Department, particularly about Family, Palliative and Recuperative holidays.

As required, a promotional Benevolent Fund staff awareness poster will be sent to UK branches, Swindon warehouse, Head Office departments, and branches overseas.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the Trustees. New Trustees to Sign 'Trustee Declaration.'

The Trustees may appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees at their discretion.

A Trustee will be automatically removed and discharged from office on the termination of his/her contract with the Company, unless the other Trustees unanimously invite him/her to remain in office as a Trustee for a period of twelve months from the date of the invitation.

At the expiry of the twelve-month period (or any subsequent twelve-month period), the Trustee will be discharged from office, unless the Trustees who remain in the service of the Company decide unanimously to invite the Trustee to remain in office for a further twelve months.

Subject to the Trustees ratifying the appointment every twelve months there will be no limit to the period to which such a Trustee may hold office.

##### **Decision making**

###### **Committee of Management:**

This Committee meets annually to approve the annual budget and to approve the annual Trustees report. The Committee also reviews and amends as required the grant award values and amends as required the appropriate criteria.

The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and serving members of the grants committee.

###### **Grants committee:**

This Committee meets quarterly to discuss applications and approve grants and awards. The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and any serving or retired employees of the Business.

Each year, those members of the Committee who have completed five or more years' service on the Committee will either be asked by the Trustees to serve on the Committee for an additional year, or resign as a member of the Committee.

Serving and retired staff are invited to become Committee members and are appointed by the Trustees and may serve for a maximum of eight years on the Committee.

###### **Investment committee:**

The investment committee meets or engages via correspondence at least annually in order to review the performance of the investment portfolio.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

There are three main areas of risk identified:

**Financial:**

The financial risk is broadly defined as dependency upon the performance of the Investment Manager and the investment policy.

The Trustees Investment Committee meets at least annually to review both the performance of the Investment Manager and the portfolio and ensures compliance with the Trustee Act 2000 on the investment of charitable funds. The Investment Committee also receives on request monthly reports from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd.

The Grants committee (a minimum of three members) meets quarterly and authorises Awards to beneficiaries. Cheques in excess of £2,500 to be signed by two signatories.

**Regulatory:**

The Fund Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Charity Commission returns are accurate and made on time, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts.

**GDPR:**

The Secretary observes legislation and maintains the Funds Privacy Policy. The Trustees require the Fund Secretary to confirm such action.

**Strategic**

**Duty of Care:**

The major risk is the legal liability on the Fund in supplying powered vehicles to beneficiaries. The Fund's Secretary ensures that, before any equipment is supplied, beneficiaries are assessed by a qualified individual, such as an occupational therapist and the correct prescription ascertained/tested.

The occupational therapist also assesses the disabled person within the environment where the equipment is to be used and produces a full report and prescription for action.

The Fund's Secretary also ensures that appropriate liability insurance is taken out and recorded. Records are kept and maintained, in order to ensure compliance.

**Vicarious Liability:**

The Fund employs only one employee (Fund Secretary) and there is little or no face-to-face contact with beneficiaries. Thus the risk is extremely low. Insurance not required.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

262581

**Principal address**

c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3RX

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**Trustees**

H E Staunton  
R J Moorhead  
S B Tiley  
W Stroud

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**  
**GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Juliette Cavilla  
André Flemmings  
Stephen Tiley  
Mark Woodhead  
Wendy Stroud

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Robert James Moorhead (Chair)  
Stephen Tiley  
In attendance as required:  
Clive Chapman

**SECRETARY TO THE FUND**

Aimee Butler  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3LD

**ACCOUNTANT**

Clive Chapman  
Ampney House  
The Avenue  
Stanton Fitzwarren  
Swindon SN6 7SE

**Auditors**

Monahans  
Statutory Auditors  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

**Investment manager**

BlackRock Advisors (UK)  
12 Throgmorton Avenue  
London  
EC2N 2DL

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the 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, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which 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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They 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.

W H Smith Benevolent Fund

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... 8 August 2022 ..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
H E Staunton - Trustee

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of W H Smith Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of  
W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity and the grant making activity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charity Law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements of the charity. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition and management override. Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:

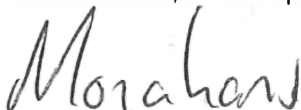
- discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- understanding and review of management's internal controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities, and fraud;
- review of the minutes of the Trustees meetings;
- designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- review of the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- testing transactions entered into outside of the normal course of the charity's business; and
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries with fraud characteristics such as journals with round numbers.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and the transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Monahans  
Statutory Auditors  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

Date: 16 August 2022 .....

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies		-	500
Investment income	2	<u>153,137</u>	<u>154,859</u>
<b>Total</b>		153,137	155,359
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	3	240	852
Charitable activities	4		
Grantmaking		<u>229,520</u>	<u>414,337</u>
<b>Total</b>		229,760	415,189
Net gains on investments		<u>201,487</u>	<u>568,990</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		124,864	309,160
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>6,221,121</u></u>	<u><u>6,096,257</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2022**

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	10	6,206,153	6,029,666
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		23,229	72,803
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(8,261)	(6,212)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>14,968</u>	<u>66,591</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	12		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		14,968	66,591
Capital		<u>6,206,153</u>	<u>6,029,666</u>
		<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>6,221,121</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
8 August 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
S B Tiley - Trustee

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 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.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

The charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a trust deed.

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

##### **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.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

##### **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 payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The charity does not make multi-year grants and all grants are unconditional.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**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.

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

**Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year.

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2022	2021
	£	£
UK investments	<u>153,137</u>	<u>154,859</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**3. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>240</u>	<u>852</u>

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Grant funding of activities (see note 5) £	Support costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>202,351</u>	<u>27,169</u>	<u>229,520</u>

**5. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grantmaking	<u>202,351</u>	<u>389,156</u>

The total grants paid to individuals during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
General Grants	162,283	348,016
Income Support / WNA	22,185	25,480
Recuperative Holidays	1,939	4,130
Carebreak	<u>15,944</u>	<u>11,530</u>
	<u>202,351</u>	<u>389,156</u>

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Grantmaking	<u>23,519</u>	<u>3,650</u>	<u>27,169</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	Grantmaking £	Total activities £
Wages	23,233	21,954
Printing, postage & stationery	5	-
Expenses	281	227
Auditors' remuneration	<u>3,650</u>	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>27,169</u>	<u>25,181</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

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

**Trustees' expenses**

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

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>23,233</u>	<u>21,954</u>

Employees consist of a grants administrator (employed y WH Smith and recharged to the Charity), and 1 self employed persons. None of the staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were nil.

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	500
Investment income	<u>154,859</u>
<b>Total</b>	155,359
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	852
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Grantmaking	<u>414,337</u>
<b>Total</b>	415,189
Net gains on investments	<u>568,990</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	309,160
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>6,096,257</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2021	6,029,666
Disposals	(25,000)
Realised (losses)/gains	7,346
Net unrealised (losses)/gains	<u>194,141</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>6,206,153</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2022	<u>6,206,153</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>6,029,666</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2022 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2020 and prior	422,683
Valuation in 2021	568,990
Valuation in 2022	194,141
Cost	<u>5,020,339</u>
	<u>6,206,153</u>

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets. All investments have been valued by Blackrock Advisors (UK) Limited and are based on the Bid price as at the close of business on the valuation date. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the charity is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the charity from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment markets and volatility in yield. The charity is reliant on dividend yield in part to finance its work.

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be low as all assets are traded. The charity's investments are traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The charity has no investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The charity manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The Trust does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer term yield total return and historic studies of quoted financial.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	6,761	3,962
Accruals for grants payable	<u>1,500</u>	<u>2,250</u>
	<u><u>8,261</u></u>	<u><u>6,212</u></u>

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	66,591	(76,623)	25,000	14,968
Capital	<u>6,029,666</u>	<u>201,487</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>	<u>6,206,153</u>
	<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>124,864</u>	-	<u>6,221,121</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>6,096,257</u></u>	<u><u>124,864</u></u>	-	<u><u>6,221,121</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	153,137	(229,760)	-	(76,623)
Capital	-	-	<u>201,487</u>	<u>201,487</u>
	<u>153,137</u>	<u>(229,760)</u>	<u>201,487</u>	<u>124,864</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>153,137</u></u>	<u><u>(229,760)</u></u>	<u><u>201,487</u></u>	<u><u>124,864</u></u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.20	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.21
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	51,421	(257,916)	273,086	66,591
Capital	<u>5,735,676</u>	<u>567,076</u>	<u>(273,086)</u>	<u>6,029,666</u>
	<u>5,787,097</u>	<u>309,160</u>	-	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>5,787,097</u></u>	<u><u>309,160</u></u>	-	<u><u>6,096,257</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	155,359	(415,189)	1,914	(257,916)
Capital	-	-	<u>567,076</u>	<u>567,076</u>
	<u>155,359</u>	<u>(415,189)</u>	<u>568,990</u>	<u>309,160</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>155,359</u></u>	<u><u>(415,189)</u></u>	<u><u>568,990</u></u>	<u><u>309,160</u></u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

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

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

The capital fund represents the market value of the investments plus cash held on investment.

**Transfers between funds**

The transfer between funds is made to reflect the net movement in the investment portfolio.

**13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

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

**W H SMITH BENEVOLENT FUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 262581

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**  
**for**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

MHA Monahans  
Statutory Auditors  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 7
<b>Report of the Independent Auditors</b>	8 to 9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 18

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The W H Smith Benevolent Fund was established by Lord Hambleden in 1925 with a gift of £21,000 to commemorate the coming of age of his son, for the benefit of:

- a person or persons are who in financial difficulty or hardship and in need; and
- who are employed or were employed in the business (being WH Smith); and/or
- their spouse, widow, widower, children, descendants or dependants.

('Dependent' on the other person for the necessities of life).

The Benevolent Fund awards cash grants to help alleviate cases of hardship, awards grants for mobility scooters, stairlifts and other mobility aids and provides care breaks and recuperative holidays.

During the last decade the Benevolent Fund has made grants and awards to serving and retired staff members and their families totalling in excess of one million pounds.

The Benevolent Fund co-operates with other charities, in particular SSAFA and NewstrAid, in jointly meeting beneficiaries' needs.

##### **Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit. The W H Smith Benevolent Fund's beneficiaries are restricted to a "section of the public" as detailed above. This restriction is reasonable, open in nature and the potential number of beneficiaries is wide.

Under Clause 12 of the Principle Deed (2002), the Trustees have the power to amend or vary the terms of the Principle Deed, by deed, provided they do not prejudice the charitable nature of the Fund.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **GRANTS COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

The Grants Committee met virtually each quarter throughout the year and the Committee of Management held their annual meeting in July 2020 virtually. The annual report was approved for submission to the Trustees. The budget was formally approved. The types of grants were reviewed and values increased as appropriate.

##### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee reviewed the investments and strategy in October 2020 via correspondence.

##### **TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of Trustees was held virtually on the 14th May 2020. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved. The Secretary reported on the year's activities, grants paid and typical cases.

##### **FUND AWARENESS**

An awareness poster was produced for distribution to Retail branches and Head Office during the year.

##### **FUND VALUATION**

At year end (31st March, 2021) the Fund's net assets were £6.096 million, an increase of 5.3% from the previous year.

##### **INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investment income during the year was £154,859 a decrease of 28.8% over the previous year. Investment yield was 3.12%.

##### **INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

The Fund's income fell short of expenditure this year by £259,830.

##### **FUND EXPENDITURE**

Total Expenditure	£ 415,189	
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>		
Grants & Christmas	348,016	
Recuperative Holidays	4,130	
Carebreaks	11,530	
Income Grants		
SIGs	<u>25,480</u>	
Total	<u>389,156</u>	94% of expenditure
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Fees	852	
Secretary's salary + NI	17,299	
Admin & Support Costs and		
Salaries	4,882	
Audit fee	3,000	
Total	26,033	6% of expenditure

Total expenses have decreased by 15.8% from last year (2020: £30,904).

The total amount awarded to beneficiaries has increased by 214% year on year.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued** ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED TO BENEFICIARIES

Major Grants(Range £200 - £10,000)	48
Emergency/Immediate Grants (Range £50 - £4,000)	266
Recuperative Holidays (Award up to £2,250)	2
Carebreaks(Award up to £2,500)	6 recipients claimed for award(travel restrictions impacted these arrangements)
Christmas Cheques (Value £360)	16 Retired
Income Grants (paid quarterly) (Grant S.I.G. £490)	12 Retired

Total number of serving and retired employees granted benefits and awards year ending 31 March 2021 was 314 (EM/MG only) , examples of typical grants are:

Financial help towards: Rent, council tax, utility bills, mortgage arrears, funeral expenses, home heating and repairs, fire damage, immediate necessities, Vet fees, Disability aids, Medical treatment, counselling and the provision of home furnishings. Home rental deposits and credit card debt.

All beneficiaries or their family have or were experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:

In receipt of: State benefits, income support, tax credits or on low income. Suffered: a traumatic event, terminal illness, long term sickness, death in the family, redundancy, accident at work, threat of eviction, divorced, separated or a single parent or carer.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is to invest the Benevolent Fund's assets in UK equities and Fixed interest in order to provide an appropriate balance between risk and return and pursue an index investment strategy as set out below.

Asset Class %	Benchmark	Range	Performance Reference
UK equities	60.0%	+/- 1.5%	FTSE All-Share Index
Fixed interest	40.0%	+/- 1.5%	UK Gilts All Stocks
Total Fund	100.0%		

The fund will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and rebalanced as required in the event that the asset allocation to any one class moves outside the ranges set out above.

##### **Financial Position and Reserves policy**

The Funds reserves available as at the 31st March totalled £6.096 million of which £6.030 million is invested in UK equities and Fixed interest bonds and the balance is on deposit with Lloyds bank.

The Fund retains these investments to provide a sufficient returns income in order to meet the grant expenditure and running costs of the Charity.

The Benevolent fund relies on these investments as the Fund owns no property or land and receives little or no public donations.

The Fund undertakes no fund-raising activities.

The total funds including investments, donations and cash on account year ending 31 March 2021 was £6.096 million an increase year on year of 309,160. The income from the investments, donations and interest this year was £155,359 which was all expended directly to beneficiaries with reserves being used to meet the exceptional expenditure due to Covid-19 related issues. No money was therefore available for reinvestment.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic there has been a marked increase in activity and substantially more support was awarded in 2020/2021 due to increased demand. The Trustees have agreed to meet the exceptional demand for grants for this year.

The Fund will continue to work closely with the Risk and Occupational Health Department, particularly about Family, Palliative and Recuperative holidays.

As required, a promotional Benevolent Fund staff awareness poster will be sent to all UK branches, Swindon warehouse, Head Office departments, and branches overseas.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the Trustees. New Trustees to Sign 'Trustee Declaration.'

The Trustees may appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees at their discretion.

A Trustee will be automatically removed and discharged from office on the termination of his/her contract with the Company, unless the other Trustees unanimously invite him/her to remain in office as a Trustee for a period of twelve months from the date of the invitation.

At the expiry of the twelve-month period (or any subsequent twelve-month period), the Trustee will be discharged from office, unless the Trustees who remain in the service of the Company decide unanimously to invite the Trustee to remain in office for a further twelve months.

Subject to the Trustees ratifying the appointment every twelve months there will be no limit to the period to which such a Trustee may hold office.

##### **Decision making**

Committee of Management:

This Committee meets annually to approve the annual budget and to approve the annual Trustees report. The Committee also reviews and amends as required the grant award values and amends as required the appropriate criteria.

The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and serving members of the grants committee.

Grants committee:

This Committee meets quarterly to discuss applications and approve grants and awards. The Committee shall consist of any of the Trustees and any serving or retired employees of the Business.

Each year, those members of the Committee who have completed five or more years' service on the Committee will either be asked by the Trustees to serve on the Committee for an additional year, or resign as a member of the Committee.

Serving and retired staff are invited to become Committee members and are appointed by the Trustees and may serve for a maximum of eight years on the Committee.

Investment committee:

The investment committee meets or engages via correspondence at least annually in order to review the performance of the investment portfolio.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

There are three main areas of risk identified:

##### Financial:

The financial risk is broadly defined as dependency upon the performance of the Investment Manager and the investment policy.

The Trustees Investment Committee meets at least annually to review both the performance of the Investment Manager and the portfolio and ensures compliance with the Trustee Act 2000 on the investment of charitable funds. The Investment Committee

also receives on request monthly reports from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd.

The Grants committee (a minimum of three members) meets quarterly and authorises Awards to beneficiaries. Cheques in excess of £2500 to be signed by two signatories.

##### Regulatory:

The Fund Secretary is responsible for ensuring that Charity Commission returns are accurate and made on time, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts.

##### GDPR:

The Secretary observes legislation and maintains the Funds Privacy Policy. The Trustees require the Fund Secretary to confirm such action.

##### Strategic

##### Duty of Care:

The major risk is the legal liability on the Fund in supplying powered vehicles to beneficiaries. The Fund's Secretary ensures that, before any equipment is supplied, beneficiaries are assessed by a qualified individual, such as an occupational therapist and the correct prescription ascertained/tested.

The occupational therapist also assesses the disabled person within the environment where the equipment is to be used and produces a full report and prescription for action.

The Fund's Secretary also ensures that appropriate liability insurance is taken out and recorded. Records are kept and maintained, in order to ensure compliance.

##### Vicarious Liability:

The Fund employs only one employee (Fund Secretary) and there is little or no face-to-face contact with beneficiaries. Thus the risk is extremely low. Insurance not required.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Charity number**

262581

##### **Principal address**

c/o WHSmith Retail Holdings Limited  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3RX

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**Trustees**

H E Staunton  
R J Moorhead  
S B Tiley  
W Stroud

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT  
GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Juliette Cavilla  
Stephen Tiley  
Mark Woodhead  
Wendy Stroud

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Robert James Moorhead (Chair)  
Stephen Tiley  
In attendance as required:  
Clive Chapman

**SECRETARY TO THE FUND**

Aimee Butler  
Greenbridge Road  
Swindon  
SN3 3LD

**ACCOUNTANT**

Clive Chapman  
Ampney House  
The Avenue  
Stanton Fitzwarren  
Swindon SN6 7SE

**Auditors**

MHA Monahans  
Statutory Auditors  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

**Investment manager**

BlackRock Advisors (UK)  
12 Throgmorton Avenue  
London  
EC2N 2DL

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the 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, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

W H Smith Benevolent Fund

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They 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 order of the board of trustees on 22 July 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



H E Staunton - Trustee

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of W H Smith Benevolent Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of**  
**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity and the grant making activity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charity Law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements of the charity. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition and management override. Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:

- discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- understanding and review of management's internal controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities, and fraud;
- review of the minutes of the Trustees meetings;
- review of tax compliance;
- designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- review of the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring of the Trustees and third-party advisors about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- testing transactions entered into outside of the normal course of the charity's business; and
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries with fraud characteristics such as journals with round numbers.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and the transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



MHA Monahan  
Statutory Auditors

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006  
38-42 Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3DR

Date: 23rd July 2021

W H Smith Benevolent Fund

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies		500	-
Investment income	2	<u>154,859</u>	<u>217,498</u>
<b>Total</b>		155,359	217,498
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	3	852	30
<b>Charitable activities</b>	4		
Grantmaking		<u>414,337</u>	<u>212,768</u>
<b>Total</b>		415,189	212,798
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>568,990</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		309,160	(700,917)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>5,787,097</u>	<u>6,488,014</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>6,096,257</u></u>	<u><u>5,787,097</u></u>


The notes form part of these financial statements

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2021**

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	10	6,029,666	5,735,676
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		72,803	57,726
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year		(6,212)	(6,305)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>66,591</u>	<u>51,421</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	11		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		66,591	51,421
Capital		<u>6,029,666</u>	<u>5,735,676</u>
		<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>6,096,257</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .....22 July 2021..... and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
S B Tiley - Trustee

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 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.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

The charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a trust deed.

##### **Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions**

The charity has taken exemption from preparing a cash flow statement under the charities SORP (FRS 102) Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2 February 2016, as the charity constitutes a small charity.

##### **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.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

##### **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 payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

The charity does not make multi-year grants and all grants are unconditional.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

## W H Smith Benevolent Fund

### Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **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.

##### **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

##### **Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year.

Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### **Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

##### **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
UK investments	<u>154,859</u>	<u>217,498</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**3. RAISING FUNDS**

**Investment management costs**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Portfolio management	<u>852</u>	<u>30</u>

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Grant funding of activities (see note 5)	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£
Grantmaking	<u>389,156</u>	<u>25,181</u>	<u>414,337</u>

**5. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grantmaking	<u>389,156</u>	<u>181,864</u>

The total grants paid to individuals during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
General Grants	348,016	135,902
Income Support / WNA	25,480	24,327
Recuperative Holidays	4,130	7,763
Carebreak	<u>11,530</u>	<u>13,872</u>
	<u>389,156</u>	<u>181,864</u>

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Grantmaking	<u>22,181</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>25,181</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	Grantmaking	Total activities
	£	£
Wages	21,954	23,509
Telephone	-	1,114
Printing, postage & stationery	-	183
Expenses	227	3,344
Auditors' remuneration	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,754</u>
	<u>25,181</u>	<u>30,904</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>21,954</u>	<u>23,509</u>

Employees consist of a grants administrator (employed by WH Smith and recharged to the Charity), and 1 self employed persons. None of the staff earned more than £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were nil.

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Investment income	217,498
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	30
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Grantmaking	<u>212,768</u>
<b>Total</b>	212,798
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(705,617)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(700,917)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	6,488,014
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>5,787,097</u>

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2020	5,735,676
Disposals	(275,000)
Realised (losses)/gains	40,131
Net unrealised (losses)/gains	<u>528,859</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>6,029,666</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2021	<u>6,029,666</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>5,735,676</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2021 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2021	568,990
Valuation in 2020 and prior Cost	422,683
	<u>5,037,993</u>
	<u>6,029,666</u>

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets. All investments have been valued by Blackrock Advisors (UK) Limited and are based on the Bid price as at the close of business on the valuation date. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The significance of financial instruments to the ongoing financial sustainability of the charity is considered in the financial review and investment policy and performance sections of the Trustees' Annual Report.

The main risk to the charity from financial instruments lies in the combination of uncertain investment markets and volatility in yield. The charity is reliant on dividend yield in part to finance its work.

Liquidity risk is anticipated to be low as all assets are traded. The charity's investments are traded in markets with good liquidity and high trading volumes. The charity has no investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

The charity manages these investment risks by retaining expert advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification of holdings within investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges. The Trust does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer term yield total return and historic studies of quoted financial.

**W H Smith Benevolent Fund**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	51,421	(257,916)	273,086	66,591
Capital	<u>5,735,676</u>	<u>567,076</u>	<u>(273,086)</u>	<u>6,029,666</u>
	<u>5,787,097</u>	<u>309,160</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>5,787,097</u>	<u>309,160</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,096,257</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	155,359	(415,189)	1,914	(257,916)
Capital	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>567,076</u>	<u>567,076</u>
	<u>155,359</u>	<u>(415,189)</u>	<u>568,990</u>	<u>309,160</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>155,359</u>	<u>(415,189)</u>	<u>568,990</u>	<u>309,160</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	147,402	4,700	(100,681)	51,421
Capital	<u>6,340,612</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>	<u>100,681</u>	<u>5,735,676</u>
	<u>6,488,014</u>	<u>(700,917)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>6,488,014</u>	<u>(700,917)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,787,097</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	217,498	(212,798)	-	4,700
Capital	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>
	<u>217,498</u>	<u>(212,798)</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>	<u>(700,917)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>217,498</u>	<u>(212,798)</u>	<u>(705,617)</u>	<u>(700,917)</u>

The capital fund represents the market value of the investments plus cash held on investment.

**Transfers between funds**

The transfer between funds is made to reflect the net movement in the investment portfolio.

W H Smith Benevolent Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

**12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.