



The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Charity Registration No. 264097

Trustees' report and unaudited accounts

For the year ended 5 April 2025

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Legal and administrative information

Trustees	Susan, Lady Gooch Lucinda Hutson MVO DL Victoria Vere Nicoll Charles Robert Gillett
Charity number	264097
Principal address	The Estate Office Hall Farm Benacre Beccles Suffolk NR34 7LJ
Accountants	S&W Partners LLP Accountants Old Library Chambers 21 Chipper Lane Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 1BG
Independent examiner	Julie Mutton FCA S&W Partners Audit Limited Chartered Accountants Old Library Chambers 21 Chipper Lane Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 1BG
Bankers	Lloyds Banking Group 114-116 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 3BD
Investment advisors	EFG Harris Allday 33 Great Charles Street Birmingham B3 3JN

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Contents

	Page
Trustees' report	1-3
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the accounts	7-12

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2025

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025.

The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 and 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).

Objects and activities

The objects of the charity are to make grants to any charities and for any charitable purpose as the trustees in their absolute discretion deem appropriate.

The charity owns freehold properties, which were donated by Sir Robert Gooch in 1972. The properties produce rental income, which is distributed in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity and there has been no change in these during the year.

Monies not required for the immediate purposes of the charity are invested in a bank deposit account. The charity also invests in the Charities Property Fund and a portfolio of shares is managed by EFG Harris Allday. Dividend and interest income produced by these investments is distributed in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Investment policy

The trustees have wide powers of investment and are investing for a balanced return. There are no restrictions on the trustees' power to invest the charity's unrestricted funds.

Public benefit

The trustees have considered the guidance provided by the Charity Commission with regard to meeting the public benefit objective. As all donations are made to registered charities, or charitable entities that do not require to be registered with the Charity Commission, the trustees believe that The Sir Robert Gooch Trust is acting for the benefit of the public.

Achievement, performance and financial review

Grants

Appeals coming to the notice of the trustees are considered and grants are awarded as the trustees deem appropriate. The total grants distributed by the trustees each year are generally intended to be in line with investment income received less any management and trustees' expenses for the year.

The charity made 42 (2024: 40) grants to institutions across the sectors as detailed in note 3. These have been made in line with the charity's objects.

Results for the year

The financial activities are summarised on page 5 of the accounts. During the year, the trustees had a net deficit before gains and losses on investments of £3,408 (2024: £244 surplus) having made grants totalling £36,075 (2024: £32,575).

During the year, the trust's investment portfolio with EFG Harris Allday has increased to £716,222 (2024: decreased to £687,653). The Charities Property Fund has increased to £120,288 (2024: decreased to £117,701).

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2025

Reserves policy

The charity aims to keep only a minimal level of free reserves, the majority of unrestricted funds of the charity being invested as detailed above to produce future income for distribution. Free reserves were maintained in accordance with this policy throughout the year.

The trustees are confident that the charity has sufficient reserves to enable them to meet financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

Governance, structure and management

Governance

The charity was established by a charitable trust deed on 1 May 1972 and is registered with the Charity Commission, number 264097.

The trustees who served during the year and subsequently were:

Susan, Lady Gooch
Lucinda Hutson MVO DL
Victoria Vere Nicoll
Charles Robert Gillett

New trustees are recruited, appointed, inducted and trained as the trustees feel appropriate.

The charity is administrated and controlled by the Board of Trustees as a body. There is no single individual who can, or does, control the charity.

Structure

The day to day administration of the charity is carried out by Mrs Lucinda Hutson MVO DL. The trustees run the charity and meet at least once a year to discuss the affairs of the charity.

Risk factors

The trustees have reviewed the risks to the charity's assets and are satisfied that adequate controls are in place to mitigate these risks. The risks are reviewed on a regular basis.

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2025

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable regulations). Under that law the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (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.

On behalf of the board of trustees

Lucinda Hutson

.....
Lucinda Hutson MVO DL

Trustee

Date: 13/11/25

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Sir Robert Gooch Trust for the year ended 5 April 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Julie Mutton

Julie Mutton

Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

S&W Partners Audit Limited

Chartered Accountants

Old Library Chambers

21 Chipper Lane

Salisbury

Wiltshire

SP1 1BG

Date: **8 December 2025**

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 5 April 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income:			
Rental income		5,626	1,480
Investment income	2	41,125	44,675
Total income		46,751	46,155
Expenditure:			
Raising funds		9,170	8,992
Charitable activities - grants	3	36,075	32,575
Charitable activities - support costs		4,914	4,344
Total expenditure	4	50,159	45,911
Net (deficit)/surplus before gains and losses on investments		(3,408)	244
Net gain on investment properties		-	12,000
Net gain/(loss) on investments		23,002	(20,439)
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		19,594	(8,195)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		1,073,346	1,081,541
Total funds carried forward		1,092,940	1,073,346

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Balance sheet as at 5 April 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Investment properties	7		205,000		205,000
Investments	8		836,510		805,354
			<u>1,041,510</u>		<u>1,010,354</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	9	1,663		3,029	
Cash at bank and in hand		55,949		65,155	
		<u>57,612</u>		<u>68,184</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(6,182)		(5,192)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			51,430		62,992
Total net assets			<u>1,092,940</u>		<u>1,073,346</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Income funds					
Unrestricted general fund	11		898,240		878,646
Unrestricted revaluation reserve	11		194,700		194,700
			<u>1,092,940</u>		<u>1,073,346</u>
Total charity funds			<u>1,092,940</u>		<u>1,073,346</u>

Trustees' approval

Approved by the board of trustees on 13th November 25 and signed on their behalf by:

Lucinda Hutson.....
Lucinda Hutson MVO DL
 Trustee

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 General information

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust is an unincorporated charity, registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (No. 264097). The address of the registered office is The Estate Office, Hall Farm, Benacre, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7LJ.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments and freehold property which have been included at market value.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The trustees confirm that the charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are prepared on the going concern basis; there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

The charity has no restricted or endowment funds.

1.4 Income

Investment and rental income is credited in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable. Bank interest is included in the period in which it is received.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under the headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the charitable objects of the charity. The grants are accounted for where the trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition and the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant.

Support costs consist of costs not directly attributable to raising funds or charitable activities but which are in respect of the general administration of the charity and overall management of the funds.

1.6 Investment properties

The trust owns freehold properties as investment property, which are included at market value.

1.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

Unrealised gains or losses are recognised in the statement of financial activities. Realised gains are the difference between disposal proceeds and carrying value and are recognised in the statement of financial activities under gains and losses on investment assets.

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

2 Investment income

	2025 £	2024 £
Income from quoted investment portfolio	33,955	35,793
Income from Charities Property Fund	5,683	7,732
Interest receivable	1,487	1,150
	<u>41,125</u>	<u>44,675</u>

3 Grants payable

	2025 £	2024 £
Grants to institutions 42 (2024: 40) grants:		
Donations £1,000 or over	18,000	21,000
Donations £500 to £999	18,050	11,550
Donations under £500	25	25
	<u>36,075</u>	<u>32,575</u>
Medical	17,000	16,500
Welfare and poverty relief	11,100	14,050
Religious	25	25
Education	4,150	-
Animal welfare	3,800	2,000
	<u>36,075</u>	<u>32,575</u>

A list of recipients can be obtained by writing to the trustees at The Estate Office, Hall Farm, Benacre, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7LJ.

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

4 Expenditure

	2025 £	2024 £
Charitable activities - grants		
Grants payable (see note 3)	36,075	32,575
Raising funds		
Insurance	399	375
Managing agent fees	7,962	7,842
Office wages recharged	809	775
Charitable activities - support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fee	4,914	4,344
	<u>50,159</u>	<u>45,911</u>

5 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year nor any reimbursed expenses for the year (2024: nil). Charles Gillett is a director at Pennycuick Collins. Pennycuick Collins have provided services to the trust during the year. The total amount paid for those services is £203 (2024: £201).

6 Employees

There were no employees during the year (2024 : nil).

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

7 Investment properties

Freehold
property
£

At 6 April 2024

205,000

Revaluation

-

Market value at 5 April 2025

205,000

The investment properties comprise of :

17 - 24 Pickford Street, Birmingham

162 - 168 Gooch Street, Birmingham

The historical cost of the properties is £10,300 (2024: £10,300).

The properties were valued by the trustees in conjunction with Pennycuik Collins on 5 April 2025, having considered the reduction in the unexpired term of the long leases and the movement in the marketplace.

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

8 Fixed asset investments

	Quoted investment portfolio £	Charities Property Fund £	Total £
Market value at 6 April 2024	687,653	117,701	805,354
Disposals at carrying value	(123,316)	-	(123,316)
Acquisitions at cost	138,561	-	138,561
Change in value in the year	13,324	2,587	15,911
	<u>716,222</u>	<u>120,288</u>	<u>836,510</u>
Market value at 5 April 2025	<u>716,222</u>	<u>120,288</u>	<u>836,510</u>

	Market value £
Investments at market value comprised :	
Equities	430,907
Fixed interest securities	193,318
Alternatives	84,497
Money Market	7,500
The Charities Property Fund	120,288
	<u>836,510</u>
Cash held within investment portfolio	9,331
	<u>845,841</u>

9 Debtors	2025 £	2024 £
Rents receivable	-	1,375
Dividend receivable	1,562	1,557
Prepayments	101	97
	<u>1,663</u>	<u>3,029</u>

The Sir Robert Gooch Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2025

10	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024 £
	Accountancy and independent examination fees	4,914	3,924
	Deferred rental income	1,268	1,268
		<u>6,182</u>	<u>5,192</u>

11	Statement of funds	Brought Forward	Income	Expenditure	Valuation gains and losses	Balance at 5 April 2025
		£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds					
	General fund	878,646	46,751	(50,159)	23,002	898,240
	Revaluation reserve	194,700	-	-	-	194,700
		<u>1,073,346</u>	<u>46,751</u>	<u>(50,159)</u>	<u>23,002</u>	<u>1,092,940</u>