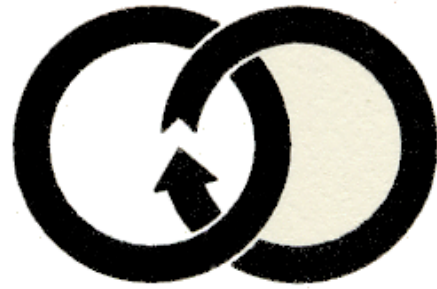


# **Annual Review 2022-2023**



**The Trust for Deaf Studies**

The Vassall Centre  
Gill Avenue  
Bristol BS16 2QQ  
Charity Number: 289302

[www.deafstudiestrust.org](http://www.deafstudiestrust.org)

## Chair Report

This is my sixth report as Chair of the Trust. All our Trustee discussions continued to be held on Zoom and Facetime. The impact on the deaf community has not lessened and we are still in uncertain times in regard to deaf community and preservation of deaf culture.



There is greater visibility for British Sign Language in the media and public agencies are more likely to offer BSL interpreting. However, there seems to be a widening gap between young people and the older adults. Where attendance at deaf clubs is more difficult and the inclusion that occurred in the past through deaf club activities, may not be reaching young deaf who are more and more likely to be educated in mainstream schools. The sense of ownership of a deaf space as in a club with a heritage has been affected.

The prevalence of cochlear implants changes the expectations of families and for the young people. The concept of deafhood now resides in two communities – BSL users and those who need cochlear enhancements to function in a hearing world.

We have begun a Lottery funded project with Gloucestershire Deaf Association and the Bristol Centre for Deaf people to interview a targeted sample of deaf people but this is in a very early stage.

As usual, I would like to thank Jim Kyle, our secretary, to Esther, our Treasurer and to the Trustees for their continuing efforts. Heather Pender took a sabbatical, but she has been offering a Yoga course for deaf adults.

Clark Denmark, Chair, 2023

## Secretary's Report

Deaf Studies Trust is now entering its 40<sup>th</sup> year of activity. In that time, we have contributed to or led, over 50 distinct projects and collected research data on a wide range of topics. Perhaps most significant in recent times has been the focus on the deaf community itself and the health and well-being of that community.



While this was an easier topic in 1984 when we started (as the deaf community was defined by its use of BSL and its interactions at deaf clubs throughout the country), things have changed. A much greater percentage of deaf children now attend hearing mainstream schools with varying amounts of interaction with other deaf people and limited interaction in BSL. Understanding this changing experience of life among deaf people has become a priority.

We are still determined to document and promote the history of deaf people (starting with the Bristol area in the last 200 years). We have collected a great deal of materials – old texts, diaries, photos, artefacts and videos. This is a medium-term programme and we will need additional funding.

The Trust will continue to work closely with deaf children and adults and with agencies who support.

Special thanks as always to Esther Drewe who manages our finances and to our Chair, Clark Denmark who shares his enormous experience in all matters to do with the deaf community.

Jim Kyle, Secretary

## **Deaf in the Covid Aftermath**

While in theory, the UK has recovered from Covid, many people continue to suffer from loss and ill-health. However, the impact on the deaf community was enormous during the pandemic but almost certainly continues to affect the way in which deaf people can lead their lives. During the pandemic. People were not allowed to congregate (deaf clubs closed down), they had to keep their distance whenever they did meet (so no deaf hugs) and worst of all members of society were meant to wear masks (making lip-reading impossible and seriously upsetting sign language interaction). It is true that these restrictions eased but it appears that the deaf community has not been returned to its previous state. More use has been made of social media and person to person contact happens more often online than in traditional deaf clubs.

In a new cooperation, in a Lottery-funded project with the Gloucestershire Deaf Association and the Centre for Deaf People, the Deaf Studies Trust aims to find out about deaf people's lives now and also to try to project their needs and aspirations over the next five to ten years. The project aims to interview 120 deaf people aged 20 to 80 years old to map their daily lives, to assess the importance of BSL and to analyse the changes which will become more obvious as the older residential deaf-school-educated deaf people are replaced by mainstream young people. The project began in February and will run into 2024.

## **Deaf Schools Athletics Competition again in 2023**

Partnering with the Yate Athletics Club Adaptative Athletics group, we organised and ran a full-day athletics competition for 65 deaf young people. Aged from 6 years to 15 years they came from Deaf Schools, and mainstream schools and some attended singly with their parents. We provided activities from the quad-kids programme for younger participants as well as from standard England Athletics events – Long Jump, High Jump, Javelin, and sprinting. We adjusted the events to



suit age and ability. All participants wore numbers, distances were measured, and times were taken in all the races. Results were collated and returned to school and to all those taking part. The competition was arranged at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex which has all the regular facilities for track and field events.

Leading up to the competition day we provided weekly training for participants from the deaf schools – in preparation for the main day. On the England Athletics 9-point scale of progress, some of the performances could be rated at bronze, silver and gold and two were even at the elite level. There are potential competitive athletes in the group.

Perhaps unknown is that there is no deaf participation in Para-Athletics (long story dating back to the 1920s and it is very hard for deaf children to join regular athletics clubs due to differing communication needs. For most of the participants this was a rare opportunity to be on a track, to wear competition numbers and to have their events managed and timed by qualified England Athletics Officials.

The event was a great success and is to be repeated in 2023. For the Deaf Studies Trust there has to be uniqueness in the initiative also the collection of data on the interaction of the deaf participants. Given the post-covid period, the participating levels are very important and in terms of research, they can be monitored from year to year.

## **Deaf Yoga**

As part of the DST agenda to intervene to support deaf people's health and well-being, we offered a ten week yoga class at the Vassall Centre. The purpose was to offer deaf participants, a signing approach to yoga exercises. Initially successful and well attended, there was a gradual drop off as we realised that the timing and the location were not ideal for participants. We are now seeking a different approach perhaps linking it with other activities which will occupy a longer session period.

As a result of our earlier research work on deaf people's access to health, DST remains committed to investigating the most effective way to support deaf health and physical wellbeing – Yoga is just one

aspect of this. The other strand of our approach is to train student-doctors in BSL and in deaf awareness.

### **“Dealing with Deaf”**

#### **Training of Second Year Medical Students in the University of Bristol**

This continues to be a rewarding and effective programme. Students from the University of Bristol Medical School are provided with an immersive course of three weeks duration. In 2022, this was located at the Vassall Centre with a full day programme of BSL and background lectures based on research work.



We continue to use the techniques developed in the Language Skills project, augmented by materials for self-teaching (homework) where the student matches their own signing to that of the doctor (or the patient).

Interestingly the course also allows the students to practise remote video consultations with a deaf patient and with an interpreter online. This has become a more common form of interaction during the pandemic when on-site consultation has been considerable reduced.

## **The Statement of Financial Activities for the Year to 31st March 2023**

The financial situation in outline (31st March 2023) is as follows:

Balance in the bank of £86k. Last year's balance was £68k.

Income over the year has been from the course for Medical students learning about deaf health and communication in October (£34k).

Looking forward, the Trust has plans to work on future activities – We have started the Deaf aftermath of Covid project in conjunction with GDA and CfD Bristol.

Medic student training will again take place in Sept – Oct, and continue with the Health & Sports, and Dementia Awareness and this work should generate future projects and thereby, repay any financial investments made. We expect to receive nearly £30k for the medic training in 2023.

We have continuing overheads of rent, accounting and website costs amounting around £3.5k per annum. We do not have any pension liabilities and we contract as necessary for different activities.

The Trust is in a good financial position at this time.

Esther Drewe

September 2023



**The Deaf Studies Trust continues to move forward in its work. It succeeds with low overhead margins and does not seek to generate large profits on its work.**

**The Deaf Studies Trust strives continuously to make Deaf people's lives more valued and understood by the society at large.**



## The Trust for Deaf Studies

The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 2QQ  
[www.deafstudiestrust.org](http://www.deafstudiestrust.org)



Chair: Clark Denmark



Secretary:  
Jim Kyle



Treasurer:  
Esther Drewe



Trustee: Hilary  
Sutherland



Trustee:  
Mike Gulliver



Trustee:  
Heather Pender



Charity no. 289302

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

**FARQUHAR PARTNERSHIP LIMITED**

Chartered Accountants, 151 Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2RA

**The Trust for Deaf Studies  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' Annual Report	1
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6

# **The Trust for Deaf Studies Trustees' Annual Report Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

## **Reference and administrative details**

Registered charity name	The Trust for Deaf Studies
Charity registration no.	289302
Principle office	The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 2QQ

## **Trustees and Officers**

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Dr H Sutherland  
M Gulliver  
A C Denmark  
H A Pender  
A Gibbs

Secretary J Kyle

Independent examiner R. Bourke ACCA  
of Farquhar Partnership Limited  
Chartered Accountants, 151 Whiteladies Road, Clifton,  
Bristol, BS8 2RA

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Trust for Deaf Studies is a registered charity, number 289302 and is governed by a trust deed. The charity is an unincorporated organisation, established in 1984.

When recruiting new trustees, the board looks for individuals with skills and experience which are likely to be of value to the organisation. If there is likely to be support for an applicant, initial contact will be made with the individual to ascertain both their suitability and their interest in a vacancy.

## **Objectives and activities**

The main objective of the Trust is to improve communication and understanding among deaf people and the members of the hearing community by unlocking the potential of the sign language using community and reaching out to hard of hearing people. The intention is to increase mutual respect and participation.

The Trust's work is driven by research with deaf people and concerning their interface with hearing organisations, families and society as a whole. The Trust carries out this research and makes it available to all, in response to individual requests and directly to groups, in courses, in conferences and workshops and online through our website.

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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**Achievements and performance**

From April 2022 to March 2023, although we have passed through the Covid period, our office in the Vassall Centre remains under-used. Partner meetings have been mainly through the use of Zoom. We requested an additional room and a move of the DST office in order to house the archive material but for various administrative reasons at the Vassall Centre, the move has not taken place. This has significantly delayed the start of our archive deaf history project. We hope to begin later in 2023.

We have been able again to offer the three-week full time training for 2nd year medic students (this time in 2 blocks in September and October). We used a programme of on-site teaching and lectures but linked into the use of Zoom for self-teaching. The outcomes were excellent and the students gave very positive reports on their progress. We have accumulated significant database of video materials for doctor-patient interaction which we plan to move towards a 3D format (see below).

The Deaf schools athletics programme re-started in June and ran weekly up to the Deaf Athletics event. This event used the format of quad kids (run-jump-throw) for the younger participants and the mainstream England Athletics programme for older participants. Over 50 children took part and deaf assistants made it feel like a deaf-focused event.

After a long period of proposal writing and submission to the Lottery, we were able to begin work in January. The aim was to interview 120 deaf people about their experiences in covid and how the deaf community is today. We predict a major shift in the activities of deaf people since the early 2000s.

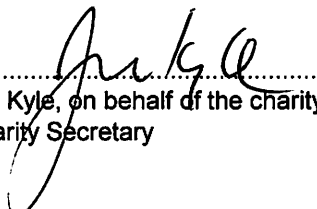
One of the Trustees, Heather Pender ran a weekly yoga class for deaf people... which was successful but numbers of participants were less than expected. We are looking for a different format.

A new opportunity arose in conjunction with Bath University to produce new medical materials through motion capture – this may offer us 3-D video to use for student self-teaching. Initial pilot work was not completely successful but we are due to go back for further trials.

**Financial review**

The financial situation is monitored regularly and at the year end by the trustees. The charity's free reserves are represented by the unrestricted funds. The trustees believe the organisation's free reserves should be approximately three months unrestricted expenditure, which equates to £2,000. At the year end the charity's free reserves were £47,204.

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

  
.....  
Jim Kyle, on behalf of the charity's trustees  
Charity Secretary

  
.....  
Heather Pender, 2023

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**  
**Charity no. 289302**

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023 set out on pages 4 to 10.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

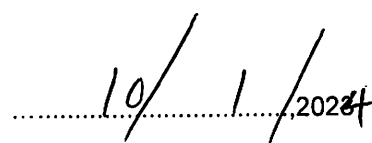
**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



R. Bourke ACCA  
of Farquhar Partnership Limited  
Chartered Accountants, 151 Whiteladies Road, Clifton,  
Bristol, BS8 2RA

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
From generating funds:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	-	34,200	34,200	18,333
Other income	3	1,575	-	1,575	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>1,575</b>	<b>34,200</b>	<b>35,775</b>	<b>18,333</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	4	4,193	12,386	16,579	16,021
Governance costs	4	720	-	720	720
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>4,913</b>	<b>12,386</b>	<b>17,299</b>	<b>16,741</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(3,338)</b>	<b>21,814</b>	<b>18,476</b>	<b>1,592</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	10,11	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(3,338)</b>	<b>21,814</b>	<b>18,476</b>	<b>1,592</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		50,542	17,240	67,782	66,190
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>47,204</b>	<b>39,054</b>	<b>86,258</b>	<b>67,782</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and as a result a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

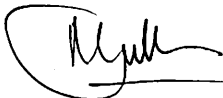
All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.



**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	6	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	7	86,258	69,065
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>86,258</u>	<u>69,065</u>
Creditors and accruals	8	-	1,283
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>86,258</u>	<u>67,782</u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Restricted income funds	9	39,054	17,240
Unrestricted income funds	10	47,204	50,542
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>86,258</u>	<u>67,782</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Trustee **MIKE GULLIVER**

6/12/  
 .....2023

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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**1. Basis of preparation**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by 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 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

**2. Accounting policies**

**RECONCILIATION WITH PREVIOUS GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRACTICE**

The policies applied under the entity's previous accounting framework are not materially different to FRS 102 and have not impacted on funds of the Charity or financial activities.

**INCOME**

**Recognition of income**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

**Offsetting**

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

**Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).

**Legacies**

Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

**Donated services and facilities**

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

**Support costs**

The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.

**Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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**2. EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

**Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

**Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

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

**Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

**Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

**Value added tax**

Resources expended include attributable VAT which can not be recovered.

**ASSETS**

**Tangible fixed assets for use by charity**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and valued at cost.

**Debtors**

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

<b>3. Analysis of income</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations and gifts	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Assessment & reports	-	-	-	-
<b>Grants receivable</b>				
Family	-	-	-	-
Short Courses Medical Students	-	34,200	34,200	21,600
Language Skills (repayment-2022)	-	-	-	(6,757)
Sports & Health	-	-	-	3,490
Dementia Awareness	-	-	-	-
BITS Deaf Awareness	-	-	-	-
Future Bright	-	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund for DeafStation	-	-	-	-
	-	34,200	34,200	18,333
<b>Other income</b>				
Other income	1,575	-	1,575	-
	1,575	-	1,575	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>34,200</b>	<b>35,775</b>	<b>18,333</b>
<b>4. Analysis of expenditure</b>				
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>				
Staff costs	-	11,699	11,699	3,873
Consultancy	610	-	610	8,029
Rent, rates and service charges	1,821	-	1,821	2,042
Insurance	277	-	277	261
Motor and travel	-	-	-	(738)
Room hire and course expenses	373	-	373	-
Accountancy	270	72	342	556
Telephone	-	-	-	-
Office expenses	730	-	730	1,488
Interpreting fees	112	615	727	510
Gifts and entertaining	-	-	-	-
Sundry	-	-	-	-
	4,193	12,386	16,579	16,021
<b>Governance and support costs</b>				
Independent Examiner's fees	720	-	720	720
	720	-	720	720
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>4,913</b>	<b>12,386</b>	<b>17,299</b>	<b>16,741</b>

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

5.	Staff Costs	2023 £	2022 £			
	Wages and salaries and employers NIC	-	-			
	Subcontractors	11,699	3,873			
		<u>11,699</u>	<u>3,873</u>			
	No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.					
		no.	no.			
	Average number of employees in the year involved with:					
	Charitable Activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>			
6.	Debtors and prepayments					
	Charitable Debtors	-	-			
	Prepayments	-	-			
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>			
7.	Cash at bank and in hand					
	Bank of Scotland	<u>86,258</u>	<u>69,065</u>			
8.	Creditors and accruals					
	National Lottery Community Fund for DeafStation	-	1,283			
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,283</u>			
9.	Restricted income funds					
		Balance 01.04.22 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.23 £
	Family Project	141	-			141
	Short Courses Medical Students	16,068	34,200	(10,483)		39,785
	Sports & Health	1,228	-	(1,903)		(675)
	Dementia Awareness	1	-	-		1
	National Lottery Community Fund for DeafStation	(198)	-			(198)
		<u>17,240</u>	<u>34,200</u>	<u>(12,386)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,054</u>
	Bank interest		-		-	
			<u>34,200</u>		<u>-</u>	
10.	Unrestricted income funds					
	General funds	50,542	1,575	(4,913)	-	47,204

**The Trust for Deaf Studies**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**Year Ended 31st March 2023**

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**11. Transfers between funds**

Transfers between funds represent the movement of net resources in line with conditions relating to the respective grants received.

<b>12. Transactions with related parties</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Name of trustee or related party	Legal authority		
H Sutherland, Trustee Teaching, lecturing, consultancy and expenses	Trust Deed	25	-
M Gulliver, Trustee Teaching, lecturing, consultancy and expenses	Trust Deed	-	-
A C Denmark, Trustee Teaching, lecturing, consultancy and expenses	Trust Deed	72	1,098
H A Pender, Trustee Teaching, lecturing, consultancy and expenses	Trust Deed	413	40
A Gibbs, Trustee Teaching, lecturing, consultancy and expenses	Trust Deed	-	-