

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

England & Wales · Charity number 299872

Details

Other names COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1988-08-02

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

Contact

Address Royal College Of Ophthalmologists
18 Stephenson Way
London
NW1 2HD

Phone 03000302020

Website www.rcophth.ac.uk

Activities

Objects: TO (A) ADVANCE THE SCIENCE AND PRACTISE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY (B) EDUCATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN THE SCIENCE AND PRACTISE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY (C) MAINTAIN PROPER STANDARDS IN THE PRACTISE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC (D) PROMOTE STUDY AND RESEARCH OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND RELATED SUBJECTS AND PUBLISH THE USEFUL RESULTS OF SUCH STUDY AND RESEARCH (E) FURTHER INSTRUCTION ON AND TRAINING IN OPHTHALMOLOGY BOTH IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OVERSEAS (F) EDUCATE THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO VISION AND THE HEALTH OF THE HUMAN EYE

Activities: The College creates and maintains standards in ophthalmic training and practice, organises examinations and sets the curriculum. It maintains a CPD system and provides surgical skills courses for trainees. It organises scientific meetings, publishes a scientific journal and provides information on ophthalmic matters for practitioners and the general public. It encourages eye related research.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£6,645,000	£6,627,000	£12,682,000	39
2023-12-31	£6,210,000	£6,679,000	£12,295,000	37
2022-12-31	£5,529,000	£5,619,000	£12,540,000	37
2021-12-31	£5,137,000	£4,750,000	£13,144,000	32
2020-12-31	£3,712,000	£4,258,000	£12,562,000	32

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Prof Benjamin Burton	Chair	2023-05-23
Anthony Carey		2022-12-31
Colin Vize		2025-05-20
Darren Ting		2025-05-20
Dilani Siriwardena		2025-05-20
Dr Christopher Way		2025-08-14
Dr Vikas Chadha		2025-05-20
MARK EASTON		2022-02-10
MELANIE CORBETT		2025-05-20
MOHAMED ELALFY		2019-05-21
Professor Andrew Lotery		2023-10-01
STEPHEN WINDER		2025-05-20
Stephen Jones		2025-05-20
Swetha Maddula Batambuze		2025-05-20

Linked charities

- [EDRIDGE-GREEN LECTURE \(299872-1\)](#)
- [SIR WILLIAM LISTER AWARD IN OPHTHALMOLOGY \(299872-2\)](#)
- [ASHTON LECTURE TRUST \(299872-3\)](#)

Accounts



Charity Number: 299872
OSCR Number: SCO45652

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Contents

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Reference and administrative details	1
Introduction from the President and Chief Executive.....	2
Report of the Trustees.....	5
Independent auditor’s report	16
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)	20
Balance sheet	21
Statement of cash flows	22
Notes to the financial statements	23

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity number	299872 in England and Wales and SC045652 in Scotland	
Registered office and operational address	18 Stephenson Way London NW1 2HD	
Trustees	The Trustees of the College who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Prof Ben Burton	President
	Prof SB Kaye	Vice President
	Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer
	Prof A Lotery	Honorary Secretary
	Mr MSM Elalfy	Member Trustee- Until September 2024
	Prof PN Hossain	Member Trustee
	Mr A El Salloukh	Member Trustee
	Mr W Newman	Member Trustee -Until December 2024
	Mrs V Manjunath	Member Trustee- From December 2024
	Mrs Sarah Maling	Member Trustee – Until August 2024
	Miss R Ford	Member Trustee – From August 2024
	Mr M Easton	Lay Trustee
	Mr A Carey	Lay Trustee
	Dr A Welchman	Lay Trustee
Investment managers	Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxton House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU	
Solicitors	Camerons Solicitors LLP 70 Wimpole Street London W1G 8AX	
Auditor	Sayer Vincent LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 110 Golden Lane, EC1Y 0TG	

Introduction from the President and Chief Executive

We had a dynamic year in 2024, with major strategic, educational, policy and research developments shaping our work and the wider field of ophthalmology. These include:

- Launching our new 3-year strategy, as part of efforts to make the College more responsive and relevant to member needs, including through an increased emphasis on our leadership role and realising improvements to the specialty.
- Publishing a manifesto ahead of the general election, and position statements on the need to increase ophthalmology training places to ensure a sustainable workforce, the role of artificial intelligence in the specialty, and our vision for integrated eye services.
- Undertaking a survey of clinical leads in ophthalmology departments to better understand and articulate the challenges faced by hospital eye services. The findings of this survey were cited in Parliament, BBC Newsnight and other media outlets.
- Delivering high-quality, robust examinations in the UK, Egypt, Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Greece and Singapore. The number of candidates sitting our exams continues to increase, with Malaysia and India mandating our exams, and a new partnership in place with Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai to run FRCOphth exams in UAE from 2025.
- Hosting our Annual Congress in Belfast for the first time, achieving consistently high approval ratings with 96.2% of delegates rated their overall experience as Good or Excellent and 92.7% of delegates rating the programme as Good or Excellent.
- Growing our journal *Eye* with over 2,000 article submissions and over 5 million article views online, alongside commissioning *Eye's* companion journal *Eye Open*.
- Publishing service guidance and clinical standards, alongside contributing to 14 NICE technology appraisals.
- Launching our new specialty curriculum in August, alongside an ePortfolio system, managing significant challenges with this transition which will continue into 2025.
- Publishing the seventh annual report of the National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) Audit for Cataract Surgery, and the second National AMD audit report.
- The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit being awarded a 5-year grant from Fight for Sight, providing long term funding to match the RCOphth investment in the Unit.
- Running 90 events supporting the education and learning of over 1500 colleagues.
- Managing a 20% increase in Portfolio Pathway applications compared with 2023, and publishing new speciality specific guidance (SSG) to support the new curriculum.
- Expanding our community of eyecare specialists nationally and internationally, reaching the milestone of 3,000 Fellows by the end of 2024.

Introduction from the President and Chief Executive

For the year ended 31 December 2024

- Continuing to embed our values and behaviours into our ways of working and College processes.
- Supporting the launch of the Welsh National Clinical Strategy for Ophthalmology. This work has been led by our Llywydd Rhianon Reynolds and should pave the way for tackling the serious challenges ophthalmology services in Wales face.
- Influencing the government's long-term plans for healthcare reform in England through our responses to the Darzi Review and 10 Year Health Plan consultation.
- Implementing a new strategic (and data-driven) approach to our communications, introducing brand guidelines to ensure a consistent look and feel for College activity, clear processes for our press office and member media, and an organisation-wide multichannel content plan.
- Meeting Health Ministers in all four UK nations to outline the challenges faced by ophthalmology services and the changes needed to improve patient care.
- Continuing to drive improvements in access to cataract training opportunities in the independent sector, undertaking surveys which showed encouraging progress albeit with much more work still needed.
- Commissioning a governance review, with a particular focus on our committees, to ensure we operate in line with best practice, strengthening accountability and the impact we deliver, whilst making best use of everyone's time.
- Launching an accreditation system for training courses run by external organisations, relevant to both online and face to face courses in the UK.
- Undertaking a pilot with NHSE on the role of Physician Associates in Ophthalmology.

We would like to thank everyone involved in helping us realise these achievements over the past 12 months – the staff team, committee members, trustees and many others – and look forward to continued success in 2025 and beyond.

Prof Ben Burton
President

Ali Rivett
Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees of the College present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of the attached accounts and comply with the College's Charter, applicable laws, and the requirements 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).

The Aims, Objectives and Activities of the College

Our strategic plan sets out our priorities for 2024 - 2026:

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Organisational strategy 2024–26

rcophth.ac.uk/our-work/the-strategy



Vision

To lead the way in eye health around the world



Strategic aims

1. Drive excellence and best practice in all aspects of ophthalmology
2. Realise change through our leadership voice
3. Support learning and development across the specialty
4. Build a thriving and sustainable community in and around the College



Mission

To champion the specialty and improve the health of those with eye conditions



Values

- Improvement
- Inclusion
- Innovation
- Integrity



Audiences

- Members of the RCOphth
- Ophthalmologists and eye care professionals in all sectors in the UK and worldwide

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

The results for the year are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 21 with further details shown in the notes to the accounts. The overall net incoming resources before gains and losses and transfers amount to £17k (2023: £469k outgoing) This is a combination of net income on unrestricted funds of £257k and net expenditure on endowment and restricted funds of £240k.

The College's total income for 2024 was £6.64m, an increase of £434k (7%) on 2023. Annual Congress income reduced to £630k in 2024 (2023: £876k) the main reason being that not all the exhibition space purchased was taken up by sponsors. Increases in overseas exams and the number of examination candidates taking written examinations this year saw exam income increase by £128k. This was mainly due to an increase in exam fees. The NOD funding increased to £603k in 2024 from £546k in 2023. Membership subscriptions increased by £161k in 2024 to £1.872m (2023 £1.711m) and is still the College's largest source of income.

The resources expended totalled £6.63m (2024: £6.68m) of which £348k relates to expenditure against the restricted funds. The remaining expenditure of £6.28m on unrestricted funds includes central costs of £2.3m which are allocated to the individual departments based on the number of staff employed in each department. The departmental expenditure both before and after this allocation is shown in more detail in note 5.

A major component of the college's assets is the building at 18 Stephenson Way and its installed contents and systems: The building is being depreciated over 30 years, while the electronic equipment and other moveable furniture and systems are being written off over periods of between three and ten years. Depreciation amounts to £233k in 2024. (2023 :£302k)

Reserves policy

The College has a policy of holding an income reserve to protect it against future and unforeseen fluctuations in its income and expenditure. Trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of no less than 6 months' running costs for the College. This target has been met, as at 31 December 2024, general reserves amounted to just over £5.8m or 11 months of 2024's unrestricted expenditure (2023 9 months).

At 31 December 2024, two restricted endowment funds (one permanent and one expendable) together valued at £784k, are used to fund research projects. Several restricted funds, together valued at £656k are used to fund scholarships, awards, and projects. Designated funds totalling £5.4m mostly comprise the property and equipment fund represented on the balance sheet.

Trustees have previously agreed to use these additional reserves to fund the additional programme of work in the College's strategic plan.

Investment policy and performance

The College has been given, by Royal Charter, wide powers to invest monies not immediately required. The College employs a professional fund manager, Sarasin & Partners LLP to invest funds not required for its immediate use to maintain the real value of its assets and the purchasing power of its income for both current and future beneficiaries of its services. The College also wishes to minimise its risk of capital and income losses and does this by restricting the range of investment instruments and by requiring its investment portfolio to be diversified by placing its investments in a range of common investment funds specifically designed for charities.

The College has previously committed to not invest in tobacco producing companies. Trustees will continue to monitor environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, and make investment decisions via discussions held with the fund manager twice a year.

The portfolio of investments currently has a market value at 31 December 2024 of £5.1m (2023: £4.6m).

Funds held as custodian trustee

The College holds funds donated to the Keeler Scholarship Fund which is a charitable fund registered separately with the Charity Commission but incorporated within these financial statements. The fund receives regular donations which are dispensed by way of a scholarship to enable a member of the College to acquire further skill, knowledge or experience. Two awards were made in 2024 (2023: Two). During 2024, awards valued at £45k were made and as at the end of 2024 the balance on this fund was £3k.

Risk Management

The College has a corporate risk register, highlighting the primary strategic, operational, reputational and financial risks. This is monitored and reviewed on a monthly basis by the Senior Leadership Team and regularly reviewed by the Trustees, including the action taken to mitigate the risks which have been identified. The key risks which have been identified are:

Key risk	This is being managed by:
Failure to deliver strategic leadership, direction and communication, aligned to the availability of resources, will negatively impact on the RCOphth's ability to position ourselves as relevant and responsive to the needs of the specialty	• New strategy launched in January, based on membership feedback • Individual and team objectives set, in line with operational plan • New templates implemented to monitor progress and impact, including the balanced scorecard • Monitoring of external policy developments

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Failure to manage the College in a financially sustainable way, leading to continued reduction in reserves, reputational damage and undermining our long-term viability	• Improved financial management being introduced • Ongoing review of contracts and financial systems • Updating of relevant policies • Seeking specialist tax advice on overseas examinations
Failure to fully implement new ePortfolio to support Curriculum 2024 at the new target date (August 2025), with possible reputational risk to RCOphth	• Robust project management with suppliers • Regular communication to stakeholders • Legacy data transfer solution developed and completed • Variation agreement and contract amendment in process
Inability of Trustees, Committee Chairs and Members to meet their legal responsibilities and commitments leading to difficult or protracted decision making, weakened leadership, and loss of strategic focus	• Implementation of governance review • Committee role descriptions updated and committee structures reviewed. • Training provided as part of standardised induction process
Failure to successfully manage employee engagement leading to increased staff turnover, employment disputes, disruption to services, reduction in staff morale, increased recruitment costs, and reputational damage	• Quarterly surveys on staff engagement in place • Outcome of staff consultation communicated with staff • New training programme in place to support development
Viability of membership: failure to successfully implement the membership strategy/respond to feedback, leading to static or loss of membership numbers, reduction in income and reputational damage	• Membership survey commissioned and results used to inform next steps • Improved communication to members in place
Viability of delivering annual Congress and other events on a UK-wide basis in response to member needs and capacity restraints	• Continuous development of events in response to feedback • Communication plans in place to promote key activities • New staff sponsorship role in place in order to increase sponsorship income.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Viability of delivering exams on a UK/overseas basis, in line with agreed strategy and in a sustainable and cost-effective way	• Key metrics to be incorporated into quarterly reporting to trustees, alongside regular updates on progress • Review exams offering, focusing efforts on countries where interest is greatest & within financial constraints
Inadequate or inappropriate financial standard operating procedures (SOPs) leading to fraud, financial loss, disruption to services, inaccurate reporting and ill-informed decision-making, and reputational damage.	• Review of financial systems undertaken and introduced a new expense management system. • Review and update of relevant policies
Failure to robustly protect the college from Cyber-attacks/crime	• Cyber awareness webinars and courses provided to staff • Roll out multi-factor authentication across the College

The Trustees consider that the major risks have been identified and adequate systems are in place to monitor the College's exposures and manage these risks.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and regularly review the ways in which the activities of the College are carried out to enable the College to achieve its aims and deliver public benefit. This is also considered in the planning of future activities. The principal ways in which the work of the College delivers public benefit are by the advancement of health and education and the promotion of the profession as fundamental to integrated primary health care.

All the activities of the College are directed to ensure high standards in the practice of ophthalmology for the benefit of both the medical profession and the public.

Future Planning

We have identified the following areas of work for 2025 which directly link to the Colleges three year strategy.

Strategic aim 1 – Drive excellence and best practice in all aspects of ophthalmology

Promote our activities overseas, including through strengthening links with COESCA, publishing a toolkit to support volunteering, reviewing IAPB membership, informing their 2026 summit and recognise those who have made outstanding global contributions.

Improve BOSU to support meaningful epidemiological ophthalmic research into rare eye disease and conditions through ongoing development of the digital reporting system, promoting the benefits of participation, improving response rates and seek funding for bursaries beyond 2025.

Foster the growth and development of Eye by launching the Eye Open cascade journal, publishing congress abstracts, improving services for authors by reducing turnaround times and publishing guidelines in Eye.

Implement the recommendations from the 2024 awards review.

Promote the uptake of NOD through timely publication of reports, challenging unacceptable performance, publicising key public health messages, informing opportunities for access to training and undertaking research into health inequalities.

Strategic aim 2 - Realise change through our leadership voice

Redevelop the website to ensure it is accessible, fully responsive, delivers an enhanced and seamless user experience, and better promotes membership, including archiving, deleting and/or updating all existing content.

Undertake a twice-yearly survey of trainees on cataract surgery training in the independent sector, using findings to raise awareness with our membership and other key stakeholders.

Strengthen our approach to stakeholder engagement and management across the four nations – shaping the work of the Northern Ireland Royal College Alliance and The Eyes Have It.

Develop, deliver and evaluate a plan for raising the President's thought leadership profile, including proactive media activity, digital content development, and publicity of speaking engagements.

Advance the College's influencing and thought leadership objectives by developing, publishing and promoting four case studies showcasing good practice in UK ophthalmology service design and delivery.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Support the gradual, safe, equitable and effective implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) in ophthalmology and increase our brand visibility by developing, launching and maintaining a registry of AI tools.

Strategic aim 3 - Support learning and development across the specialty

Undertake an evaluation of the current OPT programme, review the number of participants and ascertain if there are any barriers to completion, and determine whether further funding is required to support the wider ophthalmic team.

Provide a comprehensive educational programme to support all membership categories on a UK-wide basis, publishing the full 2025 programme, undertaking a review and using the findings to inform the publication of the 2026 programme.

Deliver Annual Congress and implement improvements from delegate and speaker feedback, ensuring the needs of all categories of membership is met, the full programme is published in advance of registration opening and a communications plan is in place to support the event.

Deliver our UK and overseas examinations programme, promoting greater interest through the implementation of a new communications plan, and improve financial viability.

Establish working groups to explore new examinations, secure state mandates overseas, map the new curriculum to the Part 1 and Part 2 exam blueprints and assess IT delivery systems.

Strategic aim 4 – Build a thriving and sustainable community in and around the College

Embed a multi-faceted approach to sustainability within RCOphth by starting to integrate the concept into RCOphth guidelines, a session at congress, measuring our carbon footprint and becoming a paperless organisation.

Implement the findings of the governance review, including to ensure all committees align their work to our strategy, update our byelaws for approval at the AGM, improve the election/appointments round and ensure new starters receive appropriate training and support.

Increase sponsorship income across key activities, strengthening our approach with congress exhibitors, gathering their feedback to implement improvements alongside realising opportunities with other College projects.

Increase members' engagement with Advisory appointments committees: recruit more volunteers, celebrate benefits implement online system for job description approval explore options to accredit Trust job descriptions.

Deliver and evaluate an integrated communications campaign to showcase the College's inclusivity, promote membership and volunteering, make our members feel valued and supported, and educate the public.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Enhance the efficiency, accuracy, and strategic value of financial operations through process optimisation, automation, and improved reporting systems, working with newly appointed auditors to ensure a smooth audit process and embedding new internal financial system.

Improve ways of working across the business by reviewing current process and streamlining workflows and systems by implementing Xero for financial record keeping cyber security accreditation to ensure the College meets the highest standards of data protection, information security, and compliance.

Review the Admissions Ceremony to determine a new model to ensure financial sustainability, how certificates are managed and implement changes from September.

Undertake a review of our member value proposition and benefits by membership grade and implement findings.

Review routes to membership clearly outline who is eligible for which grade clarify and document assessment process provide guidance for assessors.

Strengthen our member community, exploring opportunities for networking and regional member activities in collaboration with Regional Representatives.

Going concern

At 31 December 2024, the College holds more than 11 months' unrestricted reserves as reported above.

The Trustees, having reviewed scenarios on the financial position of the Charity including its forecasts and cashflows, liquidity position and existing commitments, confirm that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties impacting on the College's ability to be a going concern. Thus, the going concern basis of accounting is adopted in preparing the annual financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The College was incorporated under Royal Charter on 14 April 1988 and was registered as a charity on 2 August 1988 in England and Wales (number 299872) and on 29 May 2015 in Scotland (number SC045652).

The College is governed by the rules and regulations set down in the Ordinances and enacted within its Royal Charter.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board is the College's governing body and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board comprises 4 College Officers posts (the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer), four members nominated from Council (two Regional Representatives and two Chairs of Standing Committees), the Chair of the Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG) and lay members appointed by the Trustee Board (three). The Trustees who served during the year are listed on page 1.

The Trustee Board is responsible for the governance, financial and legal aspects of the College. The members of the Trustee Board are recruited as follows:

- The President is elected by all Fellows, members and diplomates in good standing, home and overseas and the current OTG Chair is elected by the OTG. The Vice President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed following an application and interview process.
- Lay Trustees - Lay Trustees are appointed following an application and interview process, with the posts advertised online.
- Chairs of Standing Committees - There are 5 Standing Committee chairs who are appointed, following an application and interview process. As mentioned above, 2 Standing Committee chairs serve on the Trustee Board on a rotating basis.

The College provides all new Trustees with an induction pack which outlines their responsibilities and gives an overview of the College, its functions and how it operates. In addition, training is provided on a range of relevant topics both to the Trustees as a whole and to individuals or groups where specific knowledge is required.

Senior Leadership Team

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is responsible for the delivery of operational activities by aligning resources, people and strategies with College aims and objectives.

Senior Leadership Team	Role
Mr A Rivett	Chief Executive
Ms E Barnes	Director of Professional Support
Mr D Costello	Director of Examinations
Mrs A Fedyk	Director of Education and Training
Mrs C Wilson	Director of People and Resources
Mrs A Chitty	Director of Communications and Engagement

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Council

Council reports directly to the Trustee Board and meets 4 times a year. Its function is to act in an advisory capacity in relation to professional and clinical matters. Council comprises not more than 40 members including the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, up to 20 members elected on a geographical basis and up to four members co-opted by the Council (Ordinance 28) and members appointed by the Council (Ordinance 32). The Editor of Eye attends as of right.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports directly to the Trustee Board. It meets regularly to enact College business in a timely manner and contributes to the formulation of the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic direction of the Royal College.

It provides an opportunity for College clinical and staff leaders to consider issues of importance, or which cut across defined committee or departmental boundaries in detail before they are brought to the Trustees for further debate and a final decision and acts in accordance with the strategic plan whilst being cognisant of financial and reputational risks.

Membership of the Executive Committee comprises the College Officers, the Chairs of the Standing Committees as well as the college Senior Leadership Team.

The College also relies on several sub-committees to provide advice on specialist issues and to help develop policy.

Staff and Remuneration Policy

Staff remuneration is structured around six bands which reflect the College's staffing team. In 2024, an external benchmarking exercise was undertaken to support remuneration decision-making.

Our pay and reward policy was reviewed and approved by the Remuneration Committee in 2024. This review shifted the College from an annual scale progressions process, focusing instead on recognising role and responsibility progression and rewarding change based upon evidence and outcomes.

No staff member is paid below the London living wage.

The Remuneration Committee operates under a delegated authority of the Trustees of the College. It has overall responsibility to set remuneration, with associated terms and conditions of employment, for all staff of the organisation in line with the pay policy agreed by the Trustee Board.

The Committee agrees any increase in employee salary, as well as any % annual inflationary salary increase based on market data and affordability.

Fundraising Statement

Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although the College does not undertake fundraising from the public, the legislation defines fundraising as “soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes.” Where discussions with organisations have resulted in a contribution to College activities, these are allocated in the accounts as income against the activity to which the contribution arose.

The College does not use commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties to raise funds. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Senior Leadership Team, which is accountable to the trustees.

We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. Our terms of employment require staff to behave reasonably at all times; we do not approach individuals for funds nor do we consider it necessary to design specific procedures to monitor such activities.

Charity relationships with suppliers, customers, partners, and others

The delivery of our charitable aims and objectives is dependent on a range of relationships with universities, suppliers and others, and we are extremely grateful for the advice and support received during the past year.

The College has maintained strong and effective relationships with communities, key opinion leaders, medical research charities and the NHS to help shape and inform our policies and further our objectives to ensure high standards of ophthalmic patient care and to save the sight of the nation.

Statement of the Trustee’s responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee’s report 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 and in Scotland 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 for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

Auditor

In 2024, the College undertook a tender process for our Auditors and a recommendation was made by the Finance and Risk Committee to the Board of Trustees and approved that we appoint Moore Kingston Smith. This was agreed to and will be presented to our members at our 2025 AGM for ratification. We would like to thank our outgoing auditors, Sayer Vincent, for their support in recent years.

Approved by the Trustees on 30th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Prof Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 December 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Auditor's 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 Royal College of Ophthalmologist'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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper 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 set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 an auditor's report 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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the executive and finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 auditor's 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.

12 May 2025

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2024 Total £'000s	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2023 Total £'000s
Income from:							
Charitable activities							
Subscriptions	2	1,872	–	1,872	1,711	–	1,711
Donations & legacies	2	–	–	–	16	–	16
Examinations	2	1,533	–	1,533	1,405	–	1,405
Education and Training	2	414	23	437	286	19	306
Professional Support	2	693	–	693	979	–	979
National Ophthalmic Database	2	603	–	603	441	105	546
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	2	1,130	–	1,130	935	–	935
Scholarships and Awards	2	–	–	–	6	15	21
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	2	–	61	61	–	30	30
Other trading activities	3	90	–	90	62	–	62
Investments	4	203	22	225	179	21	200
Total income		6,538	106	6,644	6,020	190	6,210
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities							
Examinations	5	1,650	–	1,650	1,959	–	1,959
Education and Training		1,633	68	1,701	1,274	89	1,363
Professional Support		1,320	–	1,320	1,323	–	1,323
National Ophthalmic Database		629	62	691	796	60	856
Journal "Eye" – joint venture		911	–	911	856	–	856
Scholarships and Awards		48	80	128	47	33	80
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)		88	138	226	100	142	242
Total expenditure		6,279	348	6,627	6,355	324	6,679
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains on investments		259	(242)	17	(335)	(134)	(469)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		370	–	370	224	–	224
Net income/(expenditure)	7	629	(242)	387	(111)	(134)	(245)
Transfers between funds	19	(36)	36	–	(111)	111	–
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		593	(206)	387	(222)	(23)	(245)
Net movement in funds		593	(206)	387	(222)	(23)	(245)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	19	10,649	1,646	12,295	10,871	1,669	12,540
Total funds carried forward	19	11,242	1,440	12,682	10,649	1,646	12,295

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 19 to the financial statements.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2024

	Note	£'000s	2024 £'000s	£'000s	2023 £'000s
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		5,288		5,511
Heritage Assets	12		58		58
Investments	13		5,090		4,621
			<u>10,436</u>		<u>10,190</u>
Current assets:					
Debtors	14	1,356		1,077	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	<u>2,227</u>		<u>2,356</u>	
		3,583		3,433	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>1,337</u>		<u>1,328</u>	
Net current assets			2,246		2,105
Total net assets			<u>12,682</u>		<u>12,295</u>
The funds of the charity:	19				
Restricted funds:					
Endowment Funds		784		833	
Restricted income funds		656		813	
			<u>1,440</u>		<u>1,646</u>
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds – functional property	18	5,305		5,528	
Other designated funds		94		95	
General funds		5,843		5,026	
			<u>11,242</u>		<u>10,649</u>
Total unrestricted funds			11,242		10,649
Total charity funds			<u>12,682</u>		<u>12,295</u>

Approved by the trustees on 12th May 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Prof. Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Prof. Benjamin Burton
President

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £000's	2023 £000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	(244)	(30)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		225	200
Purchase of fixed assets and artwork		(11)	(37)
Purchase of investments		(99)	(100)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		115	63
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(129)	33
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,356	2,323
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	2,227	2,356

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

- a) The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is incorporated by Royal Charter and a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales and Scotland.

The registered office address is 18 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

b) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The Trustees and Management, having reviewed a stress tested budget and cashflow, consider that there are no sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period, and therefore consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations received are credited directly to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Legacy donations are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable (i.e. when confirmation has been received that probate is granted, executors have established that there are sufficient assets to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled).

Subscriptions are accounted for on a receivable basis and credited to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate. Examination fee income is recognised when the examination takes place. Annual congress income is recognised when the event takes place. Journal 'Eye' income is an estimate based on financial forecasts received from the College's publishers, Springer Nature. The final figure is not known until July of the following year to which it relates.

f) Interest receivable

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.

g) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income from the permanent endowment fund (Bibby/Horton Scholarship) is used to part fund research fellowships jointly with the Medical Research Council.

The expendable Research Endowment Fund is used to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering examinations, training and educational activities and other services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and the associated support costs of providing these services.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of the charity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned, based on staff numbers engaged in each activity. Governance costs are apportioned on the same basis. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

j) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the same basis. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation lives in use are as follows:

● Freehold buildings	Thirty years
● Equipment, furniture and fittings	Between three and ten years
● Major computer and software systems	Between three and five years

Heritage assets comprise historic books and other ophthalmological artefacts which are preserved and maintained in display cabinets and are not to be disposed of. These are capitalised at historic cost where the College has reliable cost information. The current net book value is believed to be at least equal to the residual value, and as such no further depreciation has been charged.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) 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.

n) 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.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

o) Pensions

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists participates in two defined benefit pension schemes, the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a funded defined benefit scheme and the NHS Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The expected cost of providing pensions is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to spread the cost over the service lives of employees in such a way that the pension cost equals the annualised long-term cash outlay to the scheme.

Both schemes are multi-employer schemes of which the assets and liabilities cannot be identified for individual employers. The accounts therefore include contributions payable on an accruals basis. Further information for both schemes is given in note 17.

p) Investments

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net (losses)/gains on investments" in the statement of financial activities.

q) Grants payable

Grants payable are shown in the year in which the award is payable. If grants are in instalments over a period longer than a year the amounts shown relate to the instalment due in the year in question.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2a Income from charitable activities – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2024 Total –	2023 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,872	–	1,872	1,711
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,872	–	1,872	1,711
Donations & Legacies		–		16
Sub-total for Donations & Legacies		–		16
Examination fees	1,533	–	1,533	1,405
Sub-total for Examinations	1,533	–	1,533	1,405
Education and Training				
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	23	23	19
Fees for Skills Courses	347	–	347	209
Other income	67	–	67	77
Sub-total for Education and Training	414	23	437	305
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	630	–	630	876
Seminars	19	–	19	67
Other	44	–	44	35
Sub-total for Professional Support	693	–	693	979
National Ophthalmic Database				
Other contract income	603	–	603	441
Income from Donors	–	–	–	105
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	603	–	603	546
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with Springer nature	1,130	–	1,130	935
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	1,130	–	1,130	935
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	–	–	15
Chandra Award	–	–	–	6
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards		–		21
Fight for Sight	–	61	61	30
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	61	61	30
Total income from charitable activities	6,245	84	6,330	5,948

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2b Income from charitable activities – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,711	–	1,711	1,598
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,711	–	1,711	1,598
Donations & Legacies	16	–	16	61
Sub-total for Donations & Legacies	16	–	16	61
Examination fees	1,405	–	1,405	1,348
Sub-total for Examinations	1,405	–	1,405	1,348
Education and Training				
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	19	19	29
Fees for Skills Courses	209	–	209	180
Other income	77	–	77	73
Sub-total for Education and Training	286	19	305	282
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	876	–	876	620
Seminars	67	–	67	38
Other	35	–	35	43
Sub-total for Professional Support	979	–	979	701
National Ophthalmic Database				
Other contract income	441	–	441	313
Income from Donors	–	105	105	65
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	441	105	546	378
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	935	–	935	851
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	935	–	935	851
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	15	15	15
Chandra Award	6	–	6	–
Other income	–	–	–	1
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	6	15	21	16
Fight for Sight	–	30	30	32
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	30	30	32
Total income from charitable activities	5,777	169	5,948	5,267

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000s	2024 Total £'000s	2023 Total £'000s
Advertising in College publications and other miscellaneous income	90	90	62

All income from trading activities in 2023 and 2022 is unrestricted.

4a Income from investments – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2024 Total £'000s	2023 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	169	22	–	191	183
Bank interest	34	–	–	34	17
	203	22	–	225	200

4b Income from investments – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	162	21	–	183	145
Bank interest	17	–	–	17	2
	179	21	–	200	147

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities							Governance costs	Support costs	2024 Total	2023 Total
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	279	397	242	96	59	–	125	–	–	1,198	2,262
Other staff costs	13	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	76	109	185
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	513	79	109	1	–	–	1	12	26	740	783
Property and equipment costs	–	80	–	–	–	–	–	–	135	215	196
Depreciation	9	17	–	–	–	–	–	–	208	233	302
Venue hire	88	–	265	–	–	–	–	–	–	353	544
Patients' expenses	24	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	19
Print, post and stationary	–	–	1	–	218	–	–	–	11	229	231
Communications and PR	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	47	50	124
Insurance	2	–	8	–	–	–	–	–	65	75	49
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	1	–	–	–	–	128	–	–	–	129	83
Contractors' fees	–	2	–	315	–	–	–	–	–	317	310
Other project costs and third party charges	28	–	225	24	504	–	12	–	14	807	683
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	35	18	53	37
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	36	36	33
IT, telephone and software	136	40	–	31	17	–	–	–	253	476	476
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	77	77	65
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	34	–	34	33
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	–	15	16
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	162	162	70
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	41	41	20
Other costs	71	8	4	2	2	–	–	9	21	117	158
	1,163	643	855	469	800	128	138	105	1,190	5,491	6,679
Support costs	466	1,013	445	212	106	–	85	–	(2,326)	–	–
Governance costs	21	46	20	10	5	–	4	(105)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2024	1,650	1,701	1,320	691	911	128	226	–	–	6,627	6,679
Total expenditure 2023	1,959	1,363	1,323	856	856	80	242	–	–	6,679	

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities							Governance costs	Support costs	2023 Total
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Sta Staff employment costs (Note 8)	355	349	199	117	55	–	120	–		1,195
Oth Other staff costs	–	47	–	–	–	–	–	–	137	184
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and										
Trav events	503	86	87	1	2	–	–	20	85	784
Pro Property and equipment costs	–	47	–	–	–	–	–	–	148	195
Dep Depreciation	25	21	–	–	–	–	–	–	257	303
Ver Venue hire	186	–	358	–	–	–	–	–	–	544
Pati Patients' expenses	19	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	19
Prir Print, post and stationary	–	–	–	–	226	–	–	–	5	231
Cor Communications and PR	–	–	3	2	–	–	–	–	119	124
Ins Insurance	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	44	49
Sch Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	3	–	–	–	–	80	–	–	–	83
Cor Contractors' fees	–	43	–	267	–	–	–	–	–	310
Oth Other project costs and third party charges	9	–	154	46	427	–	21	–	26	683
Pro Professional fees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	32	5	37
Sub Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	33	33
IT, IT, telephone and software	124	53	–	46	–	–	–	–	253	476
Fin Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	65	65
Inv Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	33	–	33
Auc Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	–	16
Irre Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	70	70
Bad Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	20	20
Oth Other costs	61	17	15	1	21	(1)	1	30	12	157
	1,284	663	822	481	731	80	142	130	1,278	5,612
Support costs	639	663	474	355	118	–	95	–	(2,345)	–
Governance costs	36	37	26	20	7	–	5	(130)	–	–
Total expenditure 2023	1,959	1,363	1,323	856	856	80	242	–	–	6,679
Total expenditure 2022	1,638	1,144	1,110	798	742	57	130	–	–	5,619

6 Grant making – Scholarships and awards

Grants to individuals	2024 £'000s	2023 £'000s
Cost		
Foulds Trophy	–	1
Bibby/Horton Scholarship	34	28
Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Award	–	3
The Ethicon Scholarship	–	45
The Research Fund	49	2
Sadhu Gupta Award	1	–
Jack Kanski Prize	–	2
Dorey Bequest– Scholarship Awarded	–	1
At the end of the year	84	83

The basis of the grants to individuals is described in note 1.

7 Net (expenditure)/incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024 £'000s	2023 £'000s
Depreciation	233	302
Operating lease rentals:		
Other	19	21
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	15	13
Other services	2	3

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024 £'000s	2023 £'000s
Salaries and wages	1,844	1,740
Social security costs	198	184
Pension contributions	292	337
	2,334	2,262

Employees with salaries over £60,000 (not including National Insurance) were as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£60,000 – £70,000	2	2
£70,000 – £80,000	3	1
£80,000 – £90,000	1	2

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive and the five (2023: five) heads of department. Gross salaries, employer national insurance and employer pension contributions for key management personnel this year £480,133, £58,726 and £89,541 were respectively (2023: £505,494, £59,128 and £87,679). 2023 figures include payment to the previous Head of Finance for part of the year of £24,750, £3,102 and £2,970 respectively.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year, however one charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity in 2023 (£20k)

7 Trustees (2023:4) submitted expense claims relating to meetings and College related business activities totalling £1,966 (2023: £2,063). The College also incurred £2,160 (2023: £8,918) of expenditure, paid directly to suppliers, for activities relating solely to the role of President.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Examinations	5	4
Education and Training	9	6
Professional Support	4	5
National Ophthalmological Database	2	2
Journal "Eye" joint Venture	1	1
Support	18	17
	39	35

10 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in 2024 (2023: £20k).

Aggregate donations from related parties (trustees) were £NIL (2023: £NIL).

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000s	Fixtures and fittings £'000s	Computer equipment £'000s	Heritage Assets £'000s	Total £'000s
Cost					
At the start of the year	7,005	189	1,364	85	8,643
Additions in year	–	11	–	–	11
Disposals	–	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	7,005	200	1,364	85	8,654
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	1,578	168	1,302	27	3,075
Charge for the year	174	17	42	–	233
Disposals	–	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	1,752	185	1,344	27	3,308
Net book value					
At the end of the year	5,253	15	20	58	5,346
At the start of the year	5,427	22	62	58	5,569

Land with a value of £1,800,000 (2023: £1,800,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Listed investments

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	4,621	4,297
Additions at cost	99	100
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	370	224
Market value at the end of the year	5,090	4,621
Historic cost	3,607	3,499
Investments comprise:		
	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
UK Common Investment Funds	5,090	4,621
	5,090	4,621

The College has made investments in two Common Investment Funds, the Alpha Fund for Endowments and the Alpha Fund for Income and Reserves. Since the year-end, The Royal College of Ophthalmologists has seen the value of its investment portfolio fall by £269,187 (5.29%) primarily as a result of changes to US import tariffs in early April 2025.

14 Debtors

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade debtors	445	289
Other debtors	514	404
Prepayments	156	129
Congress expenses in advance	73	126
Other event costs in advance	168	129
	<u>1,356</u>	<u>1,077</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade creditors	441	433
Other Creditors	–	15
Taxation and social security	122	43
Deferred income	737	754
Accruals	37	83
	<u>1,337</u>	<u>1,328</u>

16 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for examinations, training and other events taking place in the following year.

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	754	422
Amount released to income in the year	(754)	(422)
Amount deferred in the year	737	754
Balance at the end of the year	<u>737</u>	<u>754</u>

17 Pension schemes

SAUL pension

The College participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London ("SAUL"), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and was contracted-out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently-managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Pension benefits accrued within SAUL currently build up on a Career Average Revalued Earnings ("CARE") basis.

The College is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency event of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining participating employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

Funding Policy

SAUL's statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions include appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

At the 31 March 2023 valuation SAUL was 105% (2020 94%) funded on its Technical Provisions basis. There is a funding surplus of £134 million. The cost of building up future benefits at 31 March 2023 was 19.3% of salaries, compared to the 27% of salaries currently paid in to SAUL as member and employer contributions. This results in a contribution buffer of 7.7% of salaries. However, once further employer contribution and member benefit changes are completed by April 2025, the cost of building future benefits will increase to 21.3%, and the contribution buffer will be 3.7%. This is a positive outcome for the scheme and for employers and members, as the contribution strain in 2020 was 13.4%. As part of the concluding work for the 2023 Valuation, the Scheme Actuary has confirmed that, as of May 2024, SAUL remains in surplus, and continues to enjoy a contribution buffer.

SAUL's next valuation will measure the Scheme's financial position on 31 March 2026. Any decisions made at the next valuation will depend on the financial position then.

As SAUL was in surplus on its technical provisions at 31 March 2023, the Trustee and the Scheme Actuary are not required to prepare a Recovery Plan for the 2023 valuation, unlike in 2020. The rest of the 2023 valuation's supporting documents have been prepared by the Scheme Actuary and agreed by the Trustee

Accounting Policy

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is a Participating Employer in SAUL. The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers. As a whole, the market value of SAUL's DB assets at 31 March 2023 was £3,096 million representing 105% of the liabilities

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The College accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraph 28.11 of FRS 102.

17 Pension schemes (continued)

1. NHS pension

One member of staff is in the NHS Pension Scheme, an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The total employer contribution payable in 2024 was £8,135 (2023: £6,806).

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the two NHS Pension Schemes. Details of the benefits payable and rules of the Schemes can be found on the NHS Pensions website at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions. Both are unfunded defined benefit schemes that cover NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies, allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in England and Wales. They are not designed to be run in a way that would enable NHS bodies to identify their share of the underlying scheme assets and liabilities. Therefore, each scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme: the cost to the NHS body of participating in each scheme is taken as equal to the contributions payable to that scheme for the accounting period.

In order that the defined benefit obligations recognised in the financial statements do not differ materially from those that would be determined at the reporting date by a formal actuarial valuation, the FReM requires that “the period between formal valuations shall be four years, with approximate assessments in intervening years”. An outline of these follows:

a) Accounting valuation

A valuation of scheme liability is carried out annually by the scheme actuary (currently the Government Actuary's Department) as at the end of the reporting period. This utilises an actuarial assessment for the previous accounting period in conjunction with updated membership and financial data for the current reporting period, and is accepted as providing suitably robust figures for financial reporting purposes. The valuation of the scheme liability as at 31 March 2020, is based on valuation data as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020 with summary global member and accounting data. In undertaking this actuarial assessment, the methodology prescribed in IAS 19, relevant FReM interpretations, and the discount rate prescribed by HM Treasury have also been used.

The latest assessment of the liabilities of the scheme is contained in the report of the scheme actuary, which forms part of the annual NHS Pension Scheme Accounts. These accounts can be viewed on the NHS Pensions website and are published annually. Copies can also be obtained from The Stationery Office.

b) Full actuarial (funding) valuation

The purpose of this valuation is to assess the level of liability in respect of the benefits due under the schemes taking into account recent demographic experience), and to recommend contribution rates payable by employees and employers.

The latest actuarial valuation undertaken for the NHS Pension Scheme was completed as at 31 March 2020. The results of this valuation set the employer contribution rate payable from April 2024 to 23.7% from 20.6% in April 2020, and the Scheme Regulations were amended accordingly.

Employer Contributions paid for all schemes in 2024 were £274,098 (2023: £334,000).

18a Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	5,305	41	5,346
Investments	3,885	–	1,205	5,090
Net current assets	1,958	94	194	2,246
Net assets at the end of the year – 2024	5,843	5,399	1,440	12,682

18b Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	5,528	41	5,569
Investments	3,344	–	1,277	4,621
Net current assets	1,682	95	328	2,105
Net assets at the end of the year – 2024	5,026	5,623	1,646	12,295

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Purposes of the Endowment Funds

The Bibby/Horton Scholarship

The late Miss Bernice Bibby left the College a substantial sum to create a permanent endowment fund, to provide for fellowships at post graduate level. The income from this endowment fund and from the related restricted fund will continue to be used to part fund research fellowships.

Research Endowment Fund

The Research Endowment Fund, an expendable endowment fund, was set up in 2008 to assure a stable mechanism to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Purposes of the Other Restricted Funds

Medical Training Initiative. The College has received funds from the Department of Health and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to support a scheme placing overseas doctors wishing to train as ophthalmologists in the UK before returning to their own country to practice. The priority focus of the MTI is to provide training opportunities for doctors from DfID priority or low and middle income countries.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training. The College received funding from the Medical Research Council Hearing and Communications Group to develop a curriculum for medical scientists working in ophthalmology.

Dual Sponsorship Scheme. The College has received funding from the Department of Health to match overseas doctors wishing to undertake specialist training in the UK with appropriate training settings.

E-Learning (Health Education England) and E-learning (Department of Health). The College has received funds from the Department of Health and related organisations to support the College's contribution to the UK E-Learning for Health project for aspect of the curriculum for trainee ophthalmologists.

E- Learning – E-Integrity Project. The College has received funds from the Department of Health for an additional e-learning project to provide resources for those providing training to ophthalmologists.

E-learning Maintenance. The College received funds to maintain the electronic resources produced using the funding received above.

Revalidation E-Cohort. The College has received funding from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to enable it to participate in a cohort scheme with other medical colleges and faculties to develop a system for collecting information for doctor appraisal. The development of the scheme was completed in 2012 and the remaining funding will be used to support and maintain the system, at no cost to members, for an initial period.

OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project. The Ophthalmological Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCCF) project was funded by Health Education England (HEE) and has been developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT). OPT trains postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses in secondary care to develop their skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina or emergency eye care.

NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb is a grant awarded to the College to carry out work on the National Ophthalmology Database now no longer funded by HQIP.

NOD AMD audit is funded in 2020 from a transfer from the Elizabeth Thomas Seminar fund, which was originally funded by the Macular Society. This funding will be used to set up the NOD AMD audit during 2020 and 2021. The fund also includes a contribution from Alcon.

Educational Website ST1 trainees. The College received funds from Bayer to subsidise access for ST1 trainees to an educational website with relevant learning content and advice for trainees at this level.

The Ethicon Scholarship provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for research or training.

The Jack Kanski Award is a lifetime achievement award to recognise passion, commitment and achievement in Ophthalmic Education. The fund was created in memory of Mr Jack Kanski who was an eminent ophthalmologist and Honorary Fellow who died in 2019.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

The Keeler Scholarship provides financial assistance to members and fellows to acquire ophthalmic skills, knowledge or experience.

The Sadhu Gupta Award will provide an award for the best performing international candidate in a RCOphth examination. This is a way to promote learning and increase the global level of ophthalmic knowledge.

John Lee Research Fund. The College established a fund in memory of Mr John Lee who died in 2010 during his term as President. The fund is used to fund research fellowships in ophthalmology jointly with the Medical Research Council and with Fight for Sight.

The Nettleship Fund provides a medal award every four years for the best paper on ophthalmology published in the preceding four years.

The Lister Award provides travel funds for study to any ophthalmologist who is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Edridge–Green Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture given at the Annual Meeting every year.

The Dorey Bequest provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for study or research.

The second Bibby Horton Scholarship Fund receives the income from the Bibby Horton Endowment Fund which is not used in the year. In the immediate future years part of the College's financial commitment to a research projects including fellowships will be met from this fund.

The Ashton Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture to be given at the Annual Meeting every four years or at the discretion of the Council.

Professor Barrie Jones provided funds for a lecture on the subject of preventative ophthalmology in the developing world to be given every four years at the Annual Congress.

Elizabeth Thomas Seminar Fund. The Macular Society has made donations, in memory of Elizabeth Thomas, which have supported an annual seminar on macular disease. The Macular Society has agreed a change of use of this fund which will now be used to support the College's aim to start an AMD national audit.

The Optic Lecture. Optic UK provides funding for a lecture at the annual Congress.

Winstanley Fund. The College acquired a collection of antiquarian ophthalmic books from Mr John Winstanley which are housed in the College.

The Peter Curran Bequest was given for the purchase of works of art to be displayed in the College. The initial purchase was sold during 2015 and the proceeds will be reinvested in a work of art appropriate to both ophthalmology and the new setting of the College's headquarters.

London Deanery Equipment Fund. The London Deanery of the NHS has provided funding for the College to acquire an ophthalmic surgery simulator which is used in a range of training situations. This fund was fully expended in 2019.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit operates a national system to assist with the surveillance of rare ophthalmological conditions. The College meets the costs of providing accommodation and office support services. Further funding is provided by Fight for Sight.

The Duke–Elder Memorial was set up in memory of Sir Stewart Duke–Elder, an eminent ophthalmologist and prolific writer. The fund has been used to support the Duke–Elder examinations which are open to medical undergraduates in the UK and Eire. When the funds come to an end the College will continue to fund an examination and a prize to be known as "The Royal College of Ophthalmologists – Duke–Elder Prize".

The Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Awards Fund provides the Council with wide discretion and it has been decided that the income of this fund is to be used to provide travel funds for medical undergraduates travelling abroad for research or training.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

John Lee Memorial Research Fund – the College established a restricted fund in 2011 to commemorate the contribution to ophthalmology of the late President with a joint MRC/College research fellowship the first of which completed in 2015. This fund represents the College's designation for the same purpose.

The Council was given wide discretion over funds transferred from the **Anne Allerton Fund**. Part of this fund was used to support the purchase of a second cataract simulator in 2016.

Professor Wallace Foulds left a legacy to continue the payment of **The Foulds Trophy** prize. It has been left to the discretion of the Trustees to use these funds in any way they feel necessary but Trustees have agreed to use the fund as Professor Foulds intended.

The Property and Equipment Fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the College excluding the assets held in the Winstanley Fund which are shown separately (above).

19a	Movements in funds – current year	At 1 January 2024 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2024 £'000s
	Permanent endowment fund					
	▪ The Bibby Horton Scholarship	663	–	–	–	663
	Expendable endowment fund					
	▪ Research Endowment Fund	170	–	(49)		121
		833	–	(49)	–	784
	Other restricted funds					
	▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	6		(6)	–	
	▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
	▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	126	23	–	–	149
	▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	36	–	–	–	36
	▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	56		(13)		42
	▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
	▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
	▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	1	–	–	–	1
	▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	40	–		(40)	–
	▪ NOD AMD audit	66	–	(62)	–	4
		365	23	(81)	(40)	266

19a	Movements in funds – current year (continued)	At 1 January 2024 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2024 £'000s
	Scholarships and Award Funds					
	▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	139	–	–	–	139
	▪ The Jack Kanski Award	20	–	–	–	20
	▪ The Keeler Scholarship	48	–	(45)		3
	▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	22	–	(1)		21
	▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–		–	8
	▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
	▪ The Lister Award	6	–	–	–	6
	▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
	▪ The Dorey Bequest	11		–	–	11
						–
		282	–	(46)	–	236
	Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
	▪ The Bibby Horton Scholarship	70	22	(34)		58
	▪ The Ashton Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	55	–	–	–	55
	▪ Optic Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
		166	22	(34)	–	154
	British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	61	(138)	76	0
	Total Other Restricted Funds	813	106	(298)	36	656
	Total Restricted Funds	1,646	106	(348)	36	1,440

19a

Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2024 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2024 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	62	–	–		62
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	–		–	–	–
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6		–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–		17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	9	–	–	–	9
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	5,529			(224)	5,305
<i>Total designated funds</i>	5,623	–	–	(224)	5,399
General funds	5,026	6,538	(5,909)	188	5,843
Total unrestricted funds	10,649	6,538	(5,909)	(36)	11,242
Total restricted funds	1,646	106	(348)	36	1,440
Total funds	12,294	6,644	(6,257)	–	12,682

19b	Movements in funds – prior year	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
	Permanent endowment fund					
	▪ The Bibby Horton Scholarship	663	–	–	–	663
	Expendable endowment fund					
	▪ Research Endowment Fund	215	–	(45)	–	170
		878	–	(45)	–	833
	Other restricted funds					
	▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	17	–	(11)	–	6
	▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
	▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	126	–	–	–	126
	▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	36	–	–	–	36
	▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	70	–	(14)	–	56
	▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
	▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
	▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	1	–	(1)	–	1
	▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	40	–	–	40
	▪ NOD AMD audit	62	65	(60)	–	66
	▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	–	–	–	–
		345	105	(85)	–	365

19b	Movements in funds – prior year (continued)	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
	Scholarships and Award Funds					
	▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	139	–	–	–	139
	▪ The Jack Kanski Award	20	–	–	–	20
	▪ The Keeler Scholarship	33	15	–	–	48
	▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	24	–	(2)	–	22
	▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
	▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
	▪ The Lister Award	7	–	(1)	–	6
	▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
	▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	(2)	–	11
		<u>272</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>282</u>
	Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
	▪ The Bibby Horton Scholarship	76	21	(28)	–	70
	▪ The Ashton Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	56	–	–	–	55
	▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ Optic Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
	▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
	▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	–	–	–	0	–
		<u>173</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>(28)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165</u>
	British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	<u>–</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>(142)</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Other Restricted Funds	<u>791</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>(260)</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>813</u>
	Total Restricted Funds	<u>1,669</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>(306)</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>1,646</u>

19b

Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	37	27	(2)	–	62
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	(3)	–	–
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	10	–	(1)	–	9
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	5,794	–	–	(266)	5,528
<i>Total designated funds</i>	5,867	27	(6)	(266)	5,623
General funds	5,004	5,992	(6,125)	155	5,026
Total unrestricted funds	10,871	6,020	(6,131)	(111)	10,649
Total restricted funds	1,669	171	(306)	111	1,646
Total funds	12,540	6,191	(6,437)	–	12,295

20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £'000s	2023 £'000s
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	387	(245)
Depreciation charges	233	302
Fixed Asset reclassification	1	1
(Gains)/losses on investments	(370)	(224)
Dividends and interest from investments	(225)	(200)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(279)	(95)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	9	431
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(244)	(30)

21 Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	At 1 January 2024 £'000s	Cash flows £'000s	At 31 December 2024 £'000s
Cash in hand	1,438	(129)	1,309
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	918		918
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,356	(129)	2,227

22 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Equipment 2024 £'000s	2023 £'000s
Less than 1 year	11	14
1 – 5 Years	5	13
	17	27

Accounts



The **ROYAL COLLEGE** of
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Charity Number: 299872

OSCR Number: SCO45652

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Contents

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Reference and administrative details	1
President and Chief Executive’s annual report.....	2
Report of the Trustees.....	4
Independent auditor’s report	15
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)	19
Balance sheet	20
Statement of cash flows	21
Notes to the financial statements	22

Reference and administrative details

Charity number 299872 in England and Wales and SC045652 in Scotland

**Registered office
and operational
address** 18 Stephenson Way
London
NW1 2HD

Trustees The Trustees of the College who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Mr B Chang	President – until 23 May 2023
Prof Ben Burton	President – from 23 May 2023
Mr SB Kaye	Vice President
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer
Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary – until 29 September 2023
Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary – until 29 September 2023
Prof A Lotery	Honorary Secretary – from 29 September 2023
Mr MSM Elalfy	Member Trustee
Mr PN Hossain	Member Trustee
Dr H Naveed	Member Trustee – until 1 August 2023
Mr A El Salloukh	Member Trustee – from 1 August 2023
Mr W Newman	Member Trustee
Prof S Sivaprasad	Member Trustee – until 6 July 2023
Mrs Sarah Maling	Member Trustee – from 6 July 2023
Mr M Easton	Lay Trustee
Mr A Carey	Lay Trustee
Dr A Welchman	Lay Trustee

**Investment
managers** Sarasin & Partners LLP
Juxton House
100 St Paul's Churchyard
London
EC4M 8BU

Solicitors Camerons Solicitors LLP
70 Wimpole Street
London
W1G 8AX

Auditor Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
110 Golden Lane, EC1Y 0TG

President and Chief Executive's Annual Report

We have been struck by the scale and scope of the activities we deliver to support our members and the wider specialty. Through the expertise of our staff and the generous time of our many clinical volunteers, we have achieved a number of notable highlights, including:

1. The publication of our workforce census, which continues to be an invaluable resource for explaining to external stakeholders the challenges we face and solutions we need to see. Whether in Parliamentary debates or think-tank reports, key facts from our census are regularly cited – the voice of ophthalmology is being loudly heard.
2. Through further work on our blueprint for cataract training in the independent sector, we have helped drive tangible improvements in the availability of such opportunities. In December, we published a report on progress, with our findings referenced in a BMJ editorial, and three leading ISPs committed to expanding their offering.
3. The delivery of high-quality, robust examinations in the UK, Egypt, India, Malaysia, Greece, Singapore and Trinidad and Tobago. The number of candidates sitting the written elements of FRCOphth Part 1 and Part 2 continues to increase now that the papers can be taken remotely and candidates are based in all parts of the globe.
4. The delivery of our most successful Annual Congress to date, with 1589 delegates attending. In 2023 97% of delegates rated Congress as Excellent and Good which is the highest score for Congress, up from 86% in 2017 and has been growing steadily.
5. The continued growth of our journal, Eye, which is now ranked a Q1 (top 25%) in the field.
6. The publication of 4 Clinical Practice Points, 2 guidelines: Abusive Head Trauma in Infants (update) Management of Angle Closure Glaucoma (new).
7. The development of our 3-year new strategy, based on an extensive engagement exercise to align our approach more closely to what our members would like us to prioritise. In total, over 800 individuals were involved through a membership survey, workshops and interviews, to help inform our approach from January 2024. To support this, a new, more structured approach to monitor progress and impact has also been introduced.
8. The launch of a dedicated space on our website to help the training community get ready for Curriculum 2024. Implementation plans have continued apace, and extensive user acceptance testing has taken place to adapt an established ePortfolio to our programme of assessment. A new Regional Curriculum Network has also been created.
9. The implementation of a new strategic (and data-driven) approach to our communications. We now have brand guidelines to ensure a consistent look and feel for College activity,

clear processes for our press office and member media, and an organisation-wide multichannel content plan. This has helped to increase our reach, with X (formerly Twitter) followers growing by 4% and LinkedIn followers by 20%. for LinkedIn. The open rate for our member newsletter, EyeMail, has also increased to 63% from 53% in 2022.

10. The publication of the sixth annual report of the National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) Audit for Cataract surgery, showing a continuation of the year-on-year reduction in complication rates. The first full National AMD audit report was also published, highlighting the importance of regular injections to stabilise vision and that early diagnosis and treatment are vital to maintaining good vision after treatment.
11. The launch of the new online BOSU system (March 2023) replacing the monthly yellow cards and postal questionnaires with an integrated email and online surveillance system.
12. The provision of advice and support in sharing information on patient safety incidents; Burkholderia cenocepacia novel cluster with suspected association with carbomer containing lubricating eye gel (November 2023) and EyeCee One and EyeCee One Crystal Preloaded Lenses.
13. The delivery of a significant number of educational courses and events, supporting 100's of colleagues working in the specialty. We have also invested in online learning through the development of INSPIRE, our online platform, with over 100 members involved in creating educational content and over 1,700 member sign ins.
14. The production of new specialty specific guidance (SSG) to help candidates to develop their Portfolio pathway applications which are assessed against the standards of knowledge, skills and experience (KSEs) required for practising as an eligible specialist in the UK.
15. The conclusion of our Culture Review which aims to improve ways of working across the organisation and is now being embedded through our values, behaviours and processes. This includes a renewed focus on the health and wellbeing of staff, strengthening communication and collaboration, to deliver more efficient and impactful outcomes.
16. The drafting of evidence for the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges' submission to the UK COVID-19 inquiry. Their subsequent formal response to the inquiry echoed our calls for better planning of elective and outpatient care, better communication between government bodies and royal colleges, and more effective coordination of pandemic preparedness and post-pandemic planning.
17. The launch of a new report calling for a national eye care plan, at an event we co-hosted on Westminster Eye Health Day as part of The Eyes Have It Partnership, attended by 33 MPs.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

President and Chief Executive's annual report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

18. As we reflect on the achievements of 2023, we would like to take this opportunity to thank each member of the college team, our committee members, volunteers and Trustees for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. Your contributions have truly made a difference and have been instrumental in our collective success.



Prof Benjamin Burton
President



Ali Rivett
Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees of the College present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of the attached accounts and comply with the College's Charter, applicable laws, and the requirements 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).

The Aims, Objectives and Activities of the College

The College's strategic plan sets out its focus areas and supporting aims as follows:

Strategic focus areas 2020 – 2023	Supporting strategic aims
To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology	• to deliver our charter in ways that are relevant to modern ophthalmic care • to offer ophthalmologists in the UK and overseas, throughout their working lives, relevant training, education and guidance
To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care	• to define the UK workforce required and campaign to ensure that it is developed and sustained • to invest in research to understand the future demand for eye care • to improve service transformation through guidance and leadership
To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short	• to continue to develop a proactive public affairs programme of activity in the UK • to implement and maintain strategic membership communications
To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes	• to implement a robust operational structure supported by efficient and consistent processes • to invest in the development of our staff and recruit effectively to attract the right skills and experience • to implement a strategy to broaden our sources of income

A review of the finances of the College

The results for the year are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 22 with further details shown in the notes to the accounts. The overall net outgoing resources before gains and losses and transfers amount to £469k (2022: £90k) This is a combination of net losses on unrestricted funds of £335k and net losses on endowment and restricted funds of £134k.

The College's total income for 2023 was £6.21m, an increase of £681k (12.3%) on 2022. Annual Congress income increased to £876k in 2023 (2022: £620k) as the event returned to pre-covid attendance. Increases in overseas exams and the number of examination candidates taking written examinations this year saw exam income increase by £57k. The NOD funding increased to £583k in 2023 from £378k in 2022. Membership subscriptions increased by £113k in 2023 and is still the College's largest source of income.

The resources expended totalled £6.7m (2022: £5.6m) of which £324k relates to expenditure against the restricted funds. The remaining expenditure of £6.3m on unrestricted funds includes central costs of £2.4m which are allocated to the individual departments based on the number of staff employed in each department. The departmental expenditure both before and after this allocation is shown in more detail in note 5.

A major component of expenditure is the depreciation of the costs of 18 Stephenson Way and its installed contents and systems: this amounts to £302k. The building is being depreciated over 30 years. The electronic equipment and other moveable furniture and systems are being written off over periods of between three and ten years.

Reserves policy

The College has a policy of holding an income reserve to protect it against future and unforeseen fluctuations in its income and expenditure. Trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of no less than 6 months' running costs for the College.

At 31 December 2023, two restricted endowment funds (one permanent and one expendable) together valued at £833k, are used to fund research projects. Several restricted funds, together valued at £813k are used to fund scholarships, awards, and projects. Designated funds totalling £5.6m mostly comprise the fixed assets represented on the balance sheet.

As at 31 December 2023, general reserves amounted to just under £5.0m or 9.0 months of 2023's unrestricted expenditure (2022: 11.0 months).

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Trustees have agreed to use these additional reserves to fund the additional programme of work in the College's strategic plan.

Investment policy and performance

The College has been given, by Royal Charter, wide powers to invest monies not immediately required. The College employs a professional fund manager, Sarasin & Partners LLP to invest funds not required for its immediate use to maintain the real value of its assets and the purchasing power of its income for both current and future beneficiaries of its services. The College also wishes to minimise its risk of capital and income losses and does this by restricting the range of investment instruments and by requiring its investment portfolio to be diversified by placing its investments in a range of common investment funds specifically designed for charities.

The College has previously committed to not invest in tobacco producing companies. Trustees will continue to monitor environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, and make investment decisions via discussions held with the fund manager twice a year.

For the 12-month period ending 31 December 2023, the performance of the funds was as follows:

Fund	Portfolio	Benchmark	Peer group benchmark (ARC charity peer group)
Income Reserves and Research and Other Fund	15.99%	0%	3.61%
Endowment and Reserves Fund	12.81%	0%	7.51%

There was no change in the benchmark between 2022 and 2023. The portfolio of investments currently has a market value at 31 December 2023 of £4.6m (2022: £4.3m).

Funds held as custodian trustee

The College holds funds donated to the Keeler Scholarship Fund which is a charitable fund registered separately with the Charity Commission but incorporated within these financial statements. The fund receives regular donations which are dispensed by way of a scholarship to enable a member of the College to acquire further skill, knowledge or experience. Zero awards were made in 2023 (2022: Two).

Risk Management

The Trustees understand that they have a duty to identify the major risks to which the College is, or might be, exposed. A new approach to managing risk was subsequently developed in 2023 and approved by the Board of Trustees in November, based around the implementation and monitoring of a corporate risk register, highlighting the primary strategic, operational, reputational and financial risks. These are monitored on a monthly basis by the Senior Management Team and

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

regularly reviewed by the Trustees, including the action taken to mitigate the risks which have been identified. The key risks which have been identified are:

Key risk	This is being managed by:
Failure to manage the College in a financially sustainable way, leading to continued reduction in reserves, reputational damage and undermining our long-term viability	- Improved financial controls, including through the introduction of a Finance Committee and review of contracts and policies - Training for all budget holders - Recruitment of sponsorship manager to increase income from key activities
Inability of Trustees, Committee Chairs and Members to meet their legal responsibilities and commitments leading to difficult or protracted decision making, weakened leadership, and loss of strategic focus	- Standardised induction process to be implemented for all new appointments, including governance training for trustees - Commission governance review in February to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of our committee structures
Failure to deliver strategic leadership, direction and communication, aligned to the availability of resources, will negatively impact on the RCOphth's ability to position ourselves as relevant and responsive to the needs of the specialty	- New strategy launched in January, based on membership feedback - Individual and team objectives set, in line with operational plan - New templates implemented to monitor progress and impact, including the balanced scorecard
Failure to successfully manage employee engagement leading to increased staff turnover, employment disputes, disruption to services, reduction in staff morale, increased recruitment costs, and reputational damage	- New flexible working and TOIL policies created and implemented, following insight from staff through consultation - Learning & Development Programme updated and reviewed to support needs and longer-term career aspirations
Viability of membership; failure to successfully implement the membership strategy/respond to feedback, leading to static or loss of membership numbers, reduction in income and reputational damage	- New membership strategy and recruitment plan in draft - Feedback from 2023 membership survey integrated into 2024 plans

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Viability of delivering exams on a UK/overseas basis, in line with agreed strategy and in a sustainable and cost-effective way	• Key metrics to be incorporated into quarterly reporting to trustees, alongside regular updates on progress • Budget and operational plans integrated into 2024 planning
Viability of delivering annual congress and other events on a UK-wide basis in response to member needs and capacity restraints	• Review of delegate/sponsor pricing undertaken and implemented • Continuous development of events including new platforms and suppliers that respond to customer preferences
Inadequate or inappropriate financial standard operating procedures (SOPs) leading to fraud, financial loss, disruption to services, inaccurate reporting and ill-informed decision-making, and reputational damage (including cyber fraud).	• Business continuity plans to be updated, with a specific focus on cyber fraud • Review and update scheme of delegation • Quarterly phasing of income & expenditure from 2024 introduced to underpin more accurate reporting

The Trustees consider that the major risks have been identified and adequate systems are in place to monitor the College's exposures and manage these risks.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and regularly review the ways in which the activities of the College are carried out to enable the College to achieve its aims and deliver public benefit. This is also considered in the planning of future activities. Some of the ways in which the work of the College delivers public benefit are by the advancement of health and education and the promotion of the profession as fundamental to integrated primary health care.

All the activities of the College are directed to ensure high standards in the practice of ophthalmology for the benefit of both the medical profession and the public.

Going concern

At 31 December 2023, the College holds more than 9.0 months' unrestricted reserves.

The Trustees, having reviewed scenarios on the financial position of the Charity including its forecasts and cashflows, liquidity position and existing commitments, confirm that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties impacting on the College's ability to be a going concern. Thus, the going concern basis of accounting is adopted in preparing the annual financial statements.

Plans for the future

The development of our 3-year new strategy was launched in January 2024, based on an extensive engagement exercise to align our approach more closely to what our members would like us to prioritise:

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Organisational strategy 2024–26

rcophth.ac.uk/our-work/the-strategy



Vision

To lead the way in eye health around the world



Strategic aims

1. Drive excellence and best practice in all aspects of ophthalmology
2. Realise change through our leadership voice
3. Support learning and development across the specialty
4. Build a thriving and sustainable community in and around the College



Mission

To champion the specialty and improve the health of those with eye conditions



Values

- Improvement
- Inclusion
- Innovation
- Integrity



Audiences

- Members of the RCOphth
- Ophthalmologists and eye care professionals in all sectors in the UK and worldwide

Structure, Governance and Management

The College was incorporated under Royal Charter on 14 April 1988 and was registered as a charity on 2 August 1988 in England and Wales (number 299872) and on 29 May 2015 in Scotland (number SC045652).

The College is governed by the rules and regulations set down in the Ordinances and enacted within its Royal Charter.

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board is the College's governing body and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board comprises 4 College Officers posts (the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer), four members nominated from Council (two Regional Representatives and two Chairs of Standing Committees), the Chair of the Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG) and lay members appointed by the Trustee Board (three).

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustee Board is responsible for the governance, financial and legal aspects of the College. The members of the Trustee Board are recruited as follows:

- The President is elected by all Fellows, members and diplomates in good standing, home and overseas and the current OTG Chair is elected by the OTG. The Vice President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed following an application and interview process.
- Lay Trustees – Lay Trustees are appointed following an application and interview process, the posts are advertised in national newspapers and online.
- Chairs of Standing Committees – There are 5 Standing Committee chairs who are appointed, following an application and interview process. 2 Standing Committee chairs serve on the Trustee Board on a rotating basis.

The College provides all new Trustees with an induction pack which outlines their responsibilities and gives an overview of the College, its functions and how it operates. In addition, training is provided on a range of relevant topics both to the Trustees as a whole and to individuals or groups where specific knowledge is required.

Council

Council reports directly to the Trustee Board and meets 4 times a year. Its function is to develop the College's policy in relation to professional and clinical matters. Council comprises not more than 40 members including the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, up to 20 members elected on a geographical basis and up to four members co-opted by the Council (Ordinance 28) and members appointed by the Council (Ordinance 32). The Editor of Eye attends as of right.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports directly to the Trustee Board. It meets regularly to enact College business in a timely manner and contributes to the formulation of the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic direction of the Royal College.

It provides an opportunity for College clinical and staff leaders to consider issues of importance, or which cut across defined committee or departmental boundaries in detail before they are brought to the Trustees for further debate and a final decision and acts in accordance with the strategic plan whilst being cognisant of financial and reputational risks.

Membership of the Executive Committee comprises the College Officers, the Chairs of the Standing Committees as well as key management personnel (defined as those in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis) at the College:

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Committee/role	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mr B Chang	President	(23 May 2023)
Prof Ben Burton	President	23 May 2023
Mr SB Kaye	Vice President	
Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary	(29 September 2023)
Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary	(29 September 2023)
Prof A Lotery	Honorary Secretary	29 September 2023
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer	
Ms R Ford	Chair – Education Committee	
Mr G Shuttleworth	Chair – Examinations Committee	
Mr W Newman	Chair – Professional Standards Committee	
Dr S Sivaprasad	Chair – Scientific Committee	
Mrs S Maling	Chair – Training Committee	

Key Management Personnel		
Mrs K Evans	Chief Executive	(31 May 2023)
Mr Ali Rivett	Chief Executive	5 June 2023
Ms E Barnes	Head of Professional Support	
Mr D Costello	Head of Examinations	
Mrs A Fedyk	Head of Education and Training	
Ms A Frater	Interim Head of Finance and Operations	(8 June 2023)/26 September 2023
Mr P Day	Head of Finance and Operations	31 May 2023/10 October 2023
Mrs C Wilson	Head of People and Resources	11 December 2023
Ms E Price	Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	(21 July 2023)
Mrs Alexandra Chitty	Head of Communications and Engagement	20 November 2023

The College also relies on several sub-committees to provide advice on specialist issues and to help develop policy.

Staff and Remuneration Policy

Staff remuneration is now based on a scale comprising 6 grades each with 1 entry, 3 established and 2 discretionary points. Each grade's entry range is aligned to the recruitment market median for organisations of a similar size and carrying out similar activities to the College. No staff member is paid below the London living wage.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Staff progress up the pay scale in January of each year on successful completion of an annual performance review. Key management personnel meet annually to review and agree performance review summaries for all staff – and the Remuneration Committee reviews and ratifies this decision. The Remuneration Committee reviews the performance reviews for all key management personnel and agrees their progression up the pay scale as well as the % salary increase to apply to the College's pay scale based on market data and affordability.

Fundraising Statement

Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although the College does not undertake fundraising from the public, the legislation defines fundraising as "soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes." Where discussions with organisations have resulted in a contribution to College activities, these are allocated in the accounts as income against the activity to which the contribution arose.

The College does not use commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties to raise funds. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Senior Management Team, who are accountable to the trustees.

We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. Our terms of employment require staff to behave reasonably at all times; we do not approach individuals for funds nor do we consider it necessary to design specific procedures to monitor such activities.

Charity relationships with suppliers, customers, partners, and others

The delivery of our charitable aims and objectives is dependent on a range of relationships with universities, suppliers and others, and we are extremely grateful for the advice and support received during the past year.

The College has maintained strong and effective relationships with communities, key opinion leaders, medical research charities and the NHS to help shape and inform our policies and further our objectives to ensure high standards of ophthalmic patient care and to save the sight of the nation.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report 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, Scotland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

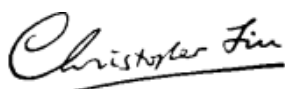
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the auditor of the College during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Prof Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 December 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Auditor's 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 Royal College of Ophthalmologist'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.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper 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 set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 an auditor's report 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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the executive and finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 auditor's 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.



24 April 2024

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Income from:							
Charitable activities							
Subscriptions	2	1,711	–	1,711	1,598	–	1,598
Donations & legacies	2	16	–	16	61	–	61
Examinations	2	1,405	–	1,405	1,348	–	1,348
Education and Training	2	286	19	305	252	30	282
Professional Support	2	979	–	979	700	1	701
National Ophthalmic Database	2	441	105	546	313	65	378
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	2	935	–	935	851	–	851
Scholarships and Awards	2	6	15	21	–	16	16
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	2	–	30	30	–	32	32
Other trading activities	3	62	–	62	115	–	115
Investments	4	179	21	200	126	21	147
Total income		6,020	190	6,210	5,364	165	5,529
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities							
Examinations	5	1,959	–	1,959	1,638	–	1,638
Education and Training		1,274	89	1,363	1,093	51	1,144
Professional Support		1,323	–	1,323	1,110	–	1,110
National Ophthalmic Database		796	60	856	732	66	798
Journal "Eye" – joint venture		856	–	856	742	–	742
Scholarships and Awards		47	33	80	–	57	57
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)		100	142	242	90	40	130
Total expenditure		6,355	324	6,679	5,405	214	5,619
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains on investments		(335)	(134)	(469)	(41)	(49)	(90)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		224	–	224	(514)	–	(514)
Net income/(expenditure)	7	(111)	(134)	(245)	(555)	(49)	(604)
Transfers between funds	19	(111)	111	–	(8)	8	–
Net movement in funds		(222)	(23)	(245)	(563)	(41)	(604)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	19	10,871	1,669	12,540	11,434	1,710	13,144
Total funds carried forward	19	10,649	1,646	12,295	10,871	1,669	12,540

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 19 to the financial statements.

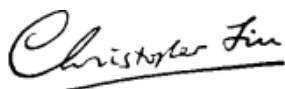
The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	£'000s	2023 £'000s	£'000s	2022 £'000s
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		5,511		5,777
Heritage assets	12		58		58
Investments	13		4,621		4,297
			10,190		10,132
Current assets:					
Debtors	14	1,077		982	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	2,356		2,323	
		3,433		3,305	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	1,328		897	
Net current assets			2,105		2,408
Total net assets			12,295		12,540
The funds of the charity:	19				
Restricted funds:					
Endowment funds		833		878	
Restricted income funds		813		791	
			1,646		1,669
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds – functional property	18	5,528		5,794	
Other designated funds		95		73	
General funds		5,026		5,004	
Total unrestricted funds			10,649		10,871
Total charity funds			12,295		12,540

Approved by the trustees on 18 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Prof. Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer



Prof. Benjamin Burton
President

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £000's	2022 £000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	(30)	70
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		200	147
Purchase of fixed assets and artwork		(37)	(114)
Purchase of investments		(100)	(1,077)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		63	(1,044)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		33	(974)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,323	3,297
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	2,356	2,323

1 Accounting policies

- a) The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is incorporated by Royal Charter and a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales and Scotland.

The registered office address is 18 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

b) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

Management, having reviewed a stress tested budget and cashflow, consider that there are no sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period, and therefore consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations received are credited directly to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Legacy donations are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable (i.e. when confirmation has been received that probate is granted, executors have established that there are sufficient assets to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled).

Subscriptions are accounted for on a receivable basis and credited to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate. Examination fee income is recognised when the examination takes place. Annual congress income is recognised when the event takes place. Journal 'Eye' income is an estimate based on financial forecasts received from the College's publishers, Springer Nature. The final figure is not known until July of the following year to which it relates.

f) Interest receivable

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.

g) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income from the permanent endowment fund (Bibby/Horton Scholarship) is used to part fund research fellowships jointly with the Medical Research Council.

The expendable Research Endowment Fund is used to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering examinations, training and educational activities and other services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and the associated support costs of providing these services.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of the charity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned, based on staff numbers engaged in each activity. Governance costs are apportioned on the same basis. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

j) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the same basis. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation lives in use are as follows:

● Freehold buildings	Thirty years
● Equipment, furniture and fittings	Between three and ten years
● Major computer and software systems	Between three and five years

Heritage assets comprise historic books and other ophthalmological artefacts which are preserved and maintained in display cabinets and are not to be disposed of. These are capitalised at historic cost where the College has reliable cost information. The current net book value is believed to be at least equal to the residual value, and as such no further depreciation has been charged.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) 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.

n) 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.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

o) Pensions

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists participates in two defined benefit pension schemes, the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a funded defined benefit scheme and the NHS Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The expected cost of providing pensions is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to spread the cost over the service lives of employees in such a way that the pension cost equals the annualised long-term cash outlay to the scheme.

Both schemes are multi-employer schemes of which the assets and liabilities cannot be identified for individual employers. The accounts therefore include contributions payable on an accruals basis. Further information for both schemes is given in note 17.

p) Investments

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net (losses)/gains on investments" in the statement of financial activities.

q) Grants payable

Grants payable are shown in the year in which the award is payable. If grants are in instalments over a period longer than a year the amounts shown relate to the instalment due in the year in question.

2a Income from charitable activities – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2023 Total –	2022 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,711	–	1,711	1,598
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,711	–	1,711	1,598
Donations & Legacies	16	–	16	61
Sub-total for Donations & Legacies	16	–	16	61
 Examination fees	 1,405	 –	 1,405	 1,348
Sub-total for Examinations	1,405	–	1,405	1,348
Education and Training				
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	19	19	29
Fees for Skills Courses	209	–	209	180
Other income	77	–	77	73
Sub-total for Education and Training	286	19	305	282
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	876	–	876	620
Seminars	67	–	67	38
Other	35	–	35	43
Sub-total for Professional Support	979	–	979	701
National Ophthalmic Database				
Other contract income	441	–	441	313
Income from Donors	–	105	105	65
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	441	105	546	378
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with Spriger nature	935	–	935	851
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	935	–	935	851
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	15	15	15
Chandra Award	6	–	6	–
Other income	–	–	–	1
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	6	15	21	16
Fight for Sight	–	30	30	32
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	30	30	32
Total income from charitable activities	5,777	169	5,948	5,267

2b Income from charitable activities – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,598	–	1,598	1,531
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,598	–	1,598	1,531
Donations & Legacies	61	–	61	–
Sub-total for Donations & Legacies	61	–	61	–
Examination fees	1,348	–	1,348	1,127
Sub-total for Examinations	1,348	–	1,348	1,127
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	–	–	5
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	29	29	21
Fees for Skills Courses	180	–	180	143
Other income	72	1	73	108
Sub-total for Education and Training	252	30	282	277
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	620	–	620	274
Seminars	38	–	38	67
Other	42	1	43	5
Sub-total for Professional Support	700	1	701	346
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	–	–	–	24
Other contract income	313	–	313	265
Income from Trusts	–	–	–	409
Income from Donors	–	65	65	75
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	313	65	378	773
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	851	–	851	774
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	851	–	851	774
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	15	15	30
Sadhu Gupta	–	–	–	25
Other income	–	1	1	13
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	–	16	16	68
Fight for Sight	–	32	32	17
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	32	32	17
Total income from charitable activities	5,123	144	5,267	4,913

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Advertising in College publications and other miscellaneous income	62	62	115

All income from trading activities in 2023 and 2022 is unrestricted.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

4a Income from investments – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	162	21	–	183	145
Bank interest	17	–	–	17	2
	<u>179</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>147</u>

4b Income from investments – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	124	21	–	145	121
Bank interest	2	–	–	2	3
	<u>126</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>124</u>

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities										
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2023 Total £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	355	349	199	117	55	–	120	–	1,067	2,262	2,029
Other staff costs	–	47	–	–	–	–	–	–	137	185	175
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	503	86	87	1	2	–	–	20	85	783	502
Property and equipment costs	–	47	–	–	–	–	–	–	148	196	225
Depreciation	25	21	–	–	–	–	–	–	257	302	362
Venue hire	186	–	358	–	–	–	–	–	–	544	321
Patients' expenses	19	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	19	7
Print, post and stationary	–	–	–	–	226	–	–	–	5	231	183
Communications and PR	–	–	3	2	–	–	–	–	119	124	55
Insurance	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	44	49	36
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	3	–	–	–	–	80	–	–	–	83	59
Contractors' fees	–	43	–	267	–	–	–	–	–	310	278
Other project costs and third party charges	9	–	154	46	427	–	21	–	26	683	550
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	32	5	37	57
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	33	33	29
IT, telephone and software	124	53	–	46	–	–	–	–	253	476	389
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	65	65	40
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	33	–	33	30
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	–	16	12
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	70	70	115
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	20	20	34
Other costs	61	17	15	1	21	(1)	1	30	12	158	131
	1,284	663	822	481	731	80	142	130	2,345	6,679	5,619
Support costs	639	663	474	355	118	–	95	–	(2,345)	–	–
Governance costs	36	37	26	20	7	–	5	(130)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2023	1,959	1,363	1,323	856	856	80	242	–	–	6,679	5,619
Total expenditure 2022	1,638	1,144	1,110	798	742	57	130	–	–	5,619	

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities							Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2022 Total £'000s
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s			
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	317	314	268	136	51	–	37	–	906	2,029
Other staff costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	175	175
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	344	60	66	–	–	–	1	13	18	502
Property and equipment costs	–	69	–	–	–	–	–	–	156	225
Depreciation	18	17	–	–	–	–	–	–	327	362
Venue hire	111	–	210	–	–	–	–	–	–	321
Patients' expenses	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7
Print, post and stationary	–	–	–	–	177	–	1	–	5	183
Communications and PR	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	54	55
Insurance	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	30	36
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	1	–	3	–	–	55	–	–	–	59
Contractors' fees	–	4	–	274	–	–	–	–	–	278
Other project costs and third party charges	3	–	93	36	401	–	–	–	17	550
Professional fees	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	55	1	57
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	29
IT, telephone and software	144	48	–	4	–	–	–	–	193	389
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	40	40
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30	–	30
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	–	12
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	115	115
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	34	34
Other costs	85	1	12	9	–	2	1	11	10	131
	1,030	513	659	460	629	57	40	121	2,110	5,619
Support costs	575	597	426	320	107	–	85	–	(2,110)	–
Governance costs	33	34	25	18	6	–	5	(121)	–	–
Total expenditure 2022	1,638	1,144	1,110	798	742	57	130	–	–	5,619

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Grant making – Scholarships and awards

Grants to individuals	2023 £'000s	2022 £'000s
Cost		
Foulds Trophy	1	–
Bibby/Horton Scholarship	28	49
Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Award	3	–
The Research Fund	45	–
Sadhu Gupta Award	2	1
Optic Lecture	–	3
Jack Kanski Prize	–	5
Dorey Bequest– Scholarship Awarded	2	–
Lister Award– Scholarship	1	–
Nettleship Fund	–	1
At the end of the year	83	59

The basis of the grants to individuals is described in note 1.

7 Net (expenditure)/incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £'000s	2022 £'000s
Depreciation	302	362
Operating lease rentals:		
Other	21	41
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	13	12
Other services	3	3

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023 £'000s	2022 £'000s
Salaries and wages	1,740	1,591
Social security costs	184	177
Pension contributions	337	261
	2,262	2,029

Employees with salaries over £60,000 (not including National Insurance) were as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
£60,000 – £70,000	2	4
£70,000 – £80,000	1	–
£80,000 – £90,000	2	1
£90,000 – £100,000	–	–
£110,000 – £120,000	–	–
£120,000 – £130,000	–	1

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive and the five (2022: five) heads of department. Gross salaries, employer national insurance and employer pension contributions for key management personnel this year £505,494, £59,128 and £87,679 were respectively (2022: £469,314, £60,296 and £80,919 respectively).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil), however one charity trustee received payment of £20k for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

4 (2022: 6) Trustees submitted expense claims relating to meetings and College related business activities totalling £2,063 (2022: £2,319). The College also incurred £8,918 (2022: £7,635) of expenditure, paid directly to suppliers, for activities relating solely to the role of President.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Examinations	4	6
Education and Training	6	6
Professional Support	5	5
National Ophthalmological Database	2	3
Journal "Eye" joint Venture	1	1
Support	17	16
	35	37

10 Related party transactions

Dr Sobha Sivaprasad, a trustee whose term came to an end on 25/07/2023 was paid an honorarium of £20k for work done as editor in chief of the Eye Journal in 2023 (2022: none).

Aggregate donations from related parties (trustees) were £NIL (2022: £NIL).

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000s	Fixtures and fittings £'000s	Computer equipment £'000s	Heritage Assets £'000s	Total £'000s
Cost					
At the start of the year	7,005	189	1,327	85	8,607
Additions in year	–	–	37	–	37
Disposals	–	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	7,005	189	1,364	85	8,643
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	1,404	150	1,190	27	2,772
Charge for the year	174	18	111	–	302
Disposals	–	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	1,578	168	1,302	27	3,074
Net book value					
At the end of the year	5,427	22	63	58	5,569
At the start of the year	5,601	39	137	58	5,835

Land with a value of £1,800,000 (2021: £1,800,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Listed investments

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	4,297	3,734
Additions at cost	100	1,077
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	224	(514)
Market value at the end of the year	4,621	4,297
Historic cost	3,499	3,399
Investments comprise:		
	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
UK Common Investment Funds	4,621	4,297
	4,621	4,297

The College has made investments in two Common Investment Funds, the Alpha Fund for Endowments and the Alpha Fund for Income and Reserves

14 Debtors

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade debtors	289	44
Other debtors	404	401
Prepayments	129	67
Congress expenses in advance	126	216
Other event costs in advance	129	219
HMRC	0	35
	1,077	982

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade creditors	433	383
Other Creditors	15	–
Taxation and social security	43	–
Deferred income	754	422
Accruals	83	92
	1,328	897

16 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for examinations, training and other events taking place in the following year.

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	422	444
Amount released to income in the year	(422)	(444)
Amount deferred in the year	754	422
Balance at the end of the year	754	422

17 Pension schemes

SAUL pension

The College participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London ("SAUL"), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and was contracted-out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently-managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Pension benefits accrued within SAUL currently build up on a Career Average Revalued Earnings ("CARE") basis.

The College is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency event of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining participating employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

Funding Policy

SAUL's statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions include appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

At the 31 March 2020 valuation SAUL was 94% funded on its Technical Provisions basis. Subsequent market movements following the valuation date were positive and the Trustee and Employers agreed to allow for post-valuation experience up to 30 April 2021. As SAUL was in surplus on its Technical Provisions basis at that date, no deficit contributions were required. The Trustee and the Employers agreed that the ongoing Employers' contributions would be 21% of CARE Salaries from 1 January 2023.

A formal actuarial valuation of SAUL is carried out every three years by a professionally qualified and independent actuary. The last actuarial valuation was carried out with an effective date of 31 March 2023, but is not yet published. Informal reviews of SAUL's position, reflecting changes in market conditions, cash flow information and new accrual of benefits, are carried out between formal valuations. The last mini health check was carried out in March 2022 and revealed that SAUL is 116% funded.

The funding principles were agreed by the Trustee and employers in June 2021 and will be reviewed again when the results of SAUL's formal valuation as at 31st March 2023 become available, currently expected by 30th June 2024.

Accounting Policy

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is a Participating Employer in SAUL. The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers. The market value of SAUL's assets at 31 March 2022 was £4,564 million representing 116% of the estimated liabilities.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The College accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraphs 28.11 of FRS 102.

Employer Contributions paid in 2023 were £334,000 (2022: £264,000).

17 Pension schemes (continued)

NHS pension

One member of staff is in the NHS Pension Scheme, an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The total employer contribution payable in 2023 was £6,806 (2022: £6,500).

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the two NHS Pension Schemes. Details of the benefits payable and rules of the Schemes can be found on the NHS Pensions website at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions. Both are unfunded defined benefit schemes that cover NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies, allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in England and Wales. They are not designed to be run in a way that would enable NHS bodies to identify their share of the underlying scheme assets and liabilities. Therefore, each scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme: the cost to the NHS body of participating in each scheme is taken as equal to the contributions payable to that scheme for the accounting period.

In order that the defined benefit obligations recognised in the financial statements do not differ materially from those that would be determined at the reporting date by a formal actuarial valuation, the FReM requires that “the period between formal valuations shall be four years, with approximate assessments in intervening years”. An outline of these follows:

a) Accounting valuation

A valuation of scheme liability is carried out annually by the scheme actuary (currently the Government Actuary's Department) as at the end of the reporting period. This utilises an actuarial assessment for the previous accounting period in conjunction with updated membership and financial data for the current reporting period, and is accepted as providing suitably robust figures for financial reporting purposes. The valuation of the scheme liability as at 31 March 2020, is based on valuation data as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020 with summary global member and accounting data. In undertaking this actuarial assessment, the methodology prescribed in IAS 19, relevant FReM interpretations, and the discount rate prescribed by HM Treasury have also been used.

The latest assessment of the liabilities of the scheme is contained in the report of the scheme actuary, which forms part of the annual NHS Pension Scheme Accounts. These accounts can be viewed on the NHS Pensions website and are published annually. Copies can also be obtained from The Stationery Office.

b) Full actuarial (funding) valuation

The purpose of this valuation is to assess the level of liability in respect of the benefits due under the schemes taking into account recent demographic experience), and to recommend contribution rates payable by employees and employers.

The latest actuarial valuation undertaken for the NHS Pension Scheme was completed as at 31 March 2020. The results of this valuation set the employer contribution rate payable from April 2024 to 23.7% from 20.6% in April 2020, and the Scheme Regulations were amended accordingly.

The 2020 funding valuation reveals that the employer cost cap of the scheme lies outside the 3% cost cap corridor.

18a Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	5,528	41	5,569
Investments	3,344	–	1,277	4,621
Net current assets	1,682	95	328	2,105
Net assets at the end of the year – 2023	5,026	5,623	1,646	12,295

18b Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	5,794	41	5,835
Investments	3,020	–	1,277	4,297
Net current assets	1,984	73	351	2,408
Net assets at the end of the year – 2022	5,004	5,867	1,669	12,540

19a Movements in funds – current year

	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	663	–	–	–	663
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	215	–	(45)	–	170
	878	–	(45)	–	833
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	17	–	(11)	–	6
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	126	–	–	–	126
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	36	–	–	–	36
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	70	–	(14)	–	56
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	1	–	(1)	–	1
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	40	–	–	40
▪ NOD AMD audit	62	65	(60)	–	66
	345	105	(85)	–	365

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	139	–	–	–	139
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	20	–	–	–	20
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	33	15	–	–	48
▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	24	–	(2)	–	22
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	(1)	–	6
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	(2)	–	11
	272	15	(5)	–	282
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	76	21	(28)	–	70
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	56	–	–	–	55
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
	173	21	(28)	–	165
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	30	(142)	111	0
Total Other Restricted Funds	791	171	(260)	111	813
Total Restricted Funds	1,669	171	(306)	111	1,646

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	37	27	(2)	–	62
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	(3)	–	–
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	10	–	(1)	–	9
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	5,794	–	–	(266)	5,528
<i>Total designated funds</i>	5,867	27	(6)	(266)	5,623
General funds	5,004	5,992	(6,125)	155	5,026
Total unrestricted funds	10,871	6,020	(6,131)	(111)	10,649
Total restricted funds	1,669	171	(306)	111	1,646
Total funds	12,540	6,191	(6,437)	–	12,295

19b Movements in funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	663	–	–	–	663
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	214	1	–	–	215
	877	1	–	–	878
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	25	–	(8)	–	17
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	105	29	(8)	–	126
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	–	–	–	–	–
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	37	–	(1)	–	36
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	–	(14)	–	70
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	17	–	(16)	–	1
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	–	–	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	63	65	(66)	–	62
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	–	–	–	–
	365	94	(113)	–	346

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	137	2	–	–	139
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	25	–	(5)	–	20
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	15	(3)	–	33
▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	25	–	(1)	–	24
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	264	17	(9)	–	272
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	21	(49)	–	76
▪ The Ashton Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	56	–	–	–	56
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	–	–	–	–	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	(3)	–	–
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	–	–	–	–	–
	204	21	(52)	–	173
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	32	(40)	8	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	833	164	(214)	8	791
Total Restricted Funds	1,710	165	(214)	8	1,669

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	24	14	(1)	–	37
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	10	–	–	–	10
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,099	–	–	(305)	5,794
<i>Total designated funds</i>	6,159	14	(1)	(305)	5,867
General funds	5,275	5,350	(5,918)	297	5,004
Total unrestricted funds	11,434	5,364	(5,919)	(8)	10,871
Total restricted funds	1,710	165	(214)	8	1,669
Total funds	13,144	5,529	(6,133)	–	12,540

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Purposes of the Endowment Funds

The Bibby/Horton Scholarship

The late Miss Bernice Bibby left the College a substantial sum to create a permanent endowment fund, to provide for fellowships at post graduate level. The income from this endowment fund and from the related restricted fund will continue to be used to part fund research fellowships.

Research Endowment Fund

The Research Endowment Fund, an expendable endowment fund, was set up in 2008 to assure a stable mechanism to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Purposes of the Other Restricted Funds

Medical Training Initiative. The College has received funds from the Department of Health and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to support a scheme placing overseas doctors wishing to train as ophthalmologists in the UK before returning to their own country to practice. The priority focus of the MTI is to provide training opportunities for doctors from DfID priority or low and middle income countries.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training. The College received funding from the Medical Research Council Hearing and Communications Group to develop a curriculum for medical scientists working in ophthalmology.

Dual Sponsorship Scheme. The College has received funding from the Department of Health to match overseas doctors wishing to undertake specialist training in the UK with appropriate training settings.

E-Learning (Health Education England) and E-learning (Department of Health). The College has received funds from the Department of Health and related organisations to support the College's contribution to the UK E-Learning for Health project for aspect of the curriculum for trainee ophthalmologists.

E- Learning – E-Integrity Project. The College has received funds from the Department of Health for an additional e-learning project to provide resources for those providing training to ophthalmologists.

E-learning Maintenance. The College received funds to maintain the electronic resources produced using the funding received above.

Revalidation E-Cohort. The College has received funding from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to enable it to participate in a cohort scheme with other medical colleges and faculties to develop a system for collecting information for doctor appraisal. The development of the scheme was completed in 2012 and the remaining funding will be used to support and maintain the system, at no cost to members, for an initial period.

OPT (formerly OCCCF) Project. The Ophthalmological Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCF) project was funded by Health Education England (HEE) and has been developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT). OPT trains postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses in secondary care to develop their skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina or emergency eye care.

NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb is a grant awarded to the College to carry out work on the National Ophthalmology Database now no longer funded by HQIP.

NOD AMD audit is funded in 2020 from a transfer from the Elizabeth Thomas Seminar fund, which was originally funded by the Macular Society. This funding will be used to set up the NOD AMD audit during 2020 and 2021. The fund also includes a contribution from Alcon.

Educational Website ST1 trainees. The College received funds from Bayer to subsidise access for ST1 trainees to an educational website with relevant learning content and advice for trainees at this level.

The Ethicon Scholarship provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for research or training.

The Jack Kanski Award is a lifetime achievement award to recognise passion, commitment and achievement in Ophthalmic Education. The fund was created in memory of Mr Jack Kanski who was an eminent ophthalmologist and Honorary Fellow who died in 2019.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

The Keeler Scholarship provides financial assistance to members and fellows to acquire ophthalmic skills, knowledge or experience.

The Sadhu Gupta Award will provide an award for the best performing international candidate in a RCOphth examination. This is a way to promote learning and increase the global level of ophthalmic knowledge.

John Lee Research Fund. The College established a fund in memory of Mr John Lee who died in 2010 during his term as President. The fund is used to fund research fellowships in ophthalmology jointly with the Medical Research Council and with Fight for Sight.

The Nettleship Fund provides a medal award every four years for the best paper on ophthalmology published in the preceding four years.

The Lister Award provides travel funds for study to any ophthalmologist who is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Edridge–Green Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture given at the Annual Meeting every year.

The Dorey Bequest provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for study or research.

The second Bibby Horton Scholarship Fund receives the income from the Bibby Horton Endowment Fund which is not used in the year. In the immediate future years part of the College's financial commitment to a research projects including fellowships will be met from this fund.

The Ashton Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture to be given at the Annual Meeting every four years or at the discretion of the Council.

Professor Barrie Jones provided funds for a lecture on the subject of preventative ophthalmology in the developing world to be given every four years at the Annual Congress.

Elizabeth Thomas Seminar Fund. The Macular Society has made donations, in memory of Elizabeth Thomas, which have supported an annual seminar on macular disease. The Macular Society has agreed a change of use of this fund which will now be used to support the College's aim to start an AMD national audit.

The Optic Lecture. Optic UK provides funding for a lecture at the annual Congress.

Winstanley Fund. The College acquired a collection of antiquarian ophthalmic books from Mr John Winstanley which are housed in the College.

The Peter Curran Bequest was given for the purchase of works of art to be displayed in the College. The initial purchase was sold during 2015 and the proceeds will be reinvested in a work of art appropriate to both ophthalmology and the new setting of the College's headquarters.

London Deanery Equipment Fund. The London Deanery of the NHS has provided funding for the College to acquire an ophthalmic surgery simulator which is used in a range of training situations. This fund was fully expended in 2019.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit operates a national system to assist with the surveillance of rare ophthalmological conditions. The College meets the costs of providing accommodation and office support services. Further funding is provided by Fight for Sight.

The Duke–Elder Memorial was set up in memory of Sir Stewart Duke–Elder, an eminent ophthalmologist and prolific writer. The fund has been used to support the Duke–Elder examinations which are open to medical undergraduates in the UK and Eire. When the funds come to an end the College will continue to fund an examination and a prize to be known as "The Royal College of Ophthalmologists – Duke–Elder Prize".

The Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Awards Fund provides the Council with wide discretion and it has been decided that the income of this fund is to be used to provide travel funds for medical undergraduates travelling abroad for research or training.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

John Lee Memorial Research Fund – the College established a restricted fund in 2011 to commemorate the contribution to ophthalmology of the late President with a joint MRC/College research fellowship the first of which completed in 2015. This fund represents the College's designation for the same purpose.

The Council was given wide discretion over funds transferred from the **Anne Allerton Fund**. Part of this fund was used to support the purchase of a second cataract simulator in 2016.

Professor Wallace Foulds left a legacy to continue the payment of **The Foulds Trophy** prize. It has been left to the discretion of the Trustees to use these funds in any way they feel necessary but Trustees have agreed to use the fund as Professor Foulds intended.

The **Property and Equipment Fund** represents the value of the fixed assets held by the College excluding the assets held in the Winstanley Fund which are shown separately (above).

20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £'000s	2022 £'000s
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(245)	(604)
Depreciation charges	302	362
Fixed Asset reclassification	1	57
(Gains)/losses on investments	(224)	514
Dividends and interest from investments	(200)	(147)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(95)	40
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	431	(152)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(30)	70

21 Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	At 1 January 2023 £'000s	Cash flows £'000s	At 31 December 2023 £'000s
Cash in hand	1,408	30	1,438
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	915	3	918
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,323	33	2,356

22 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Equipment 2023 £'000s	2022 £'000s
Less than 1 year	14	14
1 – 5 Years	13	27
	27	41

Accounts



The **ROYAL COLLEGE of
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS**

Charity Number: 299872

OSCR Number: SCO45652

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Contents

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Reference and administrative details	1
Chief Executive's annual report.....	2
Report of the Trustees.....	4
Independent auditor's report	17
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)	21
Balance sheet	22
Statement of cash flows	23
Notes to the financial statements	24

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Charity number	299872 in England and Wales and SC045652 in Scotland	
Registered office and operational address	18 Stephenson Way London NW1 2HD	
Trustees	The Trustees of the College who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Mr B Chang	President
	Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President – until 24 May 2022
	Mr SB Kaye	Vice President – from 24 May 2022
	Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer
	Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary
	Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary
	Mr MSM Elalfy	Member Trustee
	Mr PN Hossain	Member Trustee
	Dr S Mamtora	Member Trustee – until 17 Nov 2022
	Dr H Naveed	Member Trustee – from 17 Nov 2022
	Mr W Newman	Member Trustee
	Prof S Sivaprasad	Member Trustee
	Mr M Easton	Lay Trustee – from 7 January 2022
	Mr B Smith	Lay Trustee – until 30 Dec 2022
	Mr A Carey	Lay Trustee – from 31 Dec 2022
	Dr A Welchman	Lay Trustee
Investment managers	Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxton House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU	
Solicitors	Camerons Solicitors LLP 70 Wimpole Street London W1G 8AX	
Auditor	Sayer Vincent LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Invicta House 108–114 Golden Lane EC1Y 0TL	

Chief Executive's Annual Report

The College is, in essence, about people and information and in 2022 the RCOphth has tried to get back to normal, whilst building on the lessons learned in the pandemic. A few specific date points illustrate some of the work undertaken:

- In February, we overhauled the way Academic Ophthalmic Research is presented on the RCOphth website to encourage ophthalmologists to participate in and contribute to clinical research as part of their core activity.
- Ophthalmology is a very popular specialty. National Recruitment took place virtually in March; there were over 700 applicants, 230 interviews were offered, 120 appointable candidates for 66 posts. Since March the number of training posts have increased but we continue to argue that as patient need increases, more training posts are required.
- In May, we held a hybrid Congress in Glasgow, our major opportunity to disseminate information. 1,425 delegates registered from 37 countries; 44% of delegates attended in person, 56% of delegates attended virtually and 91% of all delegates rated the programme good or excellent. In addition, the Scientific and Events team delivered a series of well-attended, informative seminars through-out the year.
- The National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) team continued to run the well-respected Cataract Audit and in May was able to carry out the first full data extraction of the Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) audit. This provided data for 20,000 treatment naïve eyes and demonstrated some variation in processes and outcomes, useful information that will be further analysed in the coming year.
- In June, we reported on the continued success of the Eye journal and the upward trajectory of its impact factor, in 5 years it has gone from 2.28 to 4.64.
- INSPIRE, the learning platform designed to stimulate and support the development of ophthalmologists and colleagues in eye care, was launched in October. Multi-media materials cover the whole clinical spectrum and the project has required sustained effort from the Education team and a complex system of editors, trainee editors and contributors.
- The Membership team started preparations to elect the next President early in 2022 and when voting opened in November, the seven candidates had produced written election statements and videos and had submitted declaration of interest forms. For the first time there was a hustings event, posted to the website. Ben Burton was elected and will take office at the May 2023 AGM.
- During November and December, the Policy and Comms team ran an ophthalmology workforce census.

Other on-going work continued, such as:

- The Examinations team continued to deliver high-quality, robust examinations in the UK through-out 2022. For the first time they have also run examinations in Egypt and Trinidad and Tobago, resumed diets in Singapore and, after many years, ran exams in India. The number of candidates sitting the written elements of FRCOphth Part 1 and Part 2 has dramatically increased now that the papers can be taken remotely and candidates are based in all parts of the globe.
- The Training team has worked on Curriculum 2024, the new Ophthalmic Specialist Training curriculum, and has been assiduous in informing trainees and trainers of developments.
- The Quality & Standard team has produced guidance on safety alerts, drug shortages and unexpected responses to cataract surgery. It has responded to tariff consultations and worked with the Getting it Right First Time (GIRFT) to improve services.
- Work on the Culture Review project which started in 2021 continued during the year and in July the Trustee Board formally adopted the values of **Inclusion, Integrity, Innovation and Improvement**.

The values are underpinned by a set of behaviours; the College demonstrates its values by being:

Adaptable: working to deliver on its aims and plans while being adaptable and responsive

Collaborative: working together as equal partners across the College; working productively with stakeholders

Decisive: making timely decisions based on consultation with stakeholders

Respectful: empowering people to express a diversity of views; treating those views considerately

Trusted: engendering a climate of trust in how it works so that stakeholders view the College as reliable and credible

Sustainable: adopting policies and practices that help the College, its communities and stakeholders be viable and resilient.

The next phase of the project is to embed these behaviours in day to day work and a specific task is to improve induction processes for staff and clinicians taking on new roles. Behind the scenes, the staff have carried out the HR and finance functions, maintained the premises and developed our IT infrastructure. We have regularly communicated with members via Eye Mail and College News and supported CESR and Dual Sponsorship applicants.

This will be my last annual report as Chief Executive. Thank you to all my colleagues and to the members for their support, kindness and dedication and for making this a very interesting and covetable role.

Kathy Evans

Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees of the College present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of the attached accounts and comply with the College's Charter, applicable laws, and the requirements 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).

The Aims, Objectives and Activities of the College

The College's strategic plan sets out its focus areas and supporting aims as follows:

Strategic focus areas 2020 – 2022	Supporting strategic aims
To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology	• to deliver our charter in ways that are relevant to modern ophthalmic care • to offer ophthalmologists in the UK and overseas, throughout their working lives, relevant training, education and guidance
To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care	• to define the UK workforce required and campaign to ensure that it is developed and sustained • to invest in research to understand the future demand for eye care • to improve service transformation through guidance and leadership
To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short	• to continue to develop a proactive public affairs programme of activity in the UK • to implement and maintain strategic membership communications
To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes	• to implement a robust operational structure supported by efficient and consistent processes • to invest in the development of our staff and recruit effectively to attract the right skills and experience • to implement a strategy to broaden our sources of income

Achievements and Performance

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

The RCOphth ran two, fully subscribed Student Ophthalmology Review Days (SORD) to provide medical students and foundation doctors with the support to learn essential ophthalmology skills.

We organised the inaugural Medical Students Societies meeting.

We ran our popular one and two-day Introduction to Ophthalmic Surgery and Phacoemulsification courses for trainees.

We launched INSPIRE the learning platform for all ophthalmologists and eye care professionals.

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

The President's session at Congress was devoted to sustainable healthcare.

The College launched the 2022 census.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit celebrated its 25 years of rare disease surveillance, having maintained a high participation rate, changed clinical practice and had its 85th peer-reviewed paper published.

The RCOphth Differential Attainment Report contained data and recommendations.

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

Together with the College of Optometrists we have called for the standardisation of digital imaging across eye care services

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/news-views/the-royal-college-of-ophthalmologists-and-the-college-of-optometrists-call-for-the-standardisation-of-digital-imaging-across-eye-care-services/>

We have helped shape the development of cataract pathways in Scotland

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/news-views/holyrood-eye-health-day-helps-to-highlight-ophthalmology-challenges-in-scotland/>

We facilitated the Pyott Report on eyecare services in Wales.

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/news-views/gwyn-williams-llywydd-of-the-royal-college-of-ophthalmologists-wales-committee-reflects-on-the-minister-for-health-and-social-services-in-wales-encouragement-to-the-eyecare-community-to-dev/>

We have spoken out about the capacity challenge facing ophthalmology and been an advocate for the importance of SAS doctors

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/news-views/gmc-workforce-report-illustrates-capacity-challenge-facing-ophthalmology-and-growing-role-of-sas-doctors/>

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

We have run an open and transparent President's election.

We have carried out a review of HR processes and agreed a hybrid working policy.

We have expanded the electronic invoicing process.

We have participated in the National Medical Director's Clinical Fellow Scheme (2021 /2 – Vishal Shah, 2022/3 Sunil Mamtora). Successive RCOphth Fellows have contributed to the research and activity of the College.

A review of the finances of the College

The results for the year are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 21 with further details shown in the notes to the accounts. The overall net outgoing resources before gains and losses and transfers amount to £90k (2021: net incoming resources of £387k). This is a combination of net losses on unrestricted funds of £41k and net losses on endowment and restricted funds of £49k.

The College's total income for 2022 exceeded £5.5m, an increase of £392k (7.6%) on 2021. Annual Congress income increased as the event returned to pre-covid attendance. Increases in overseas exams and the number of examination candidates taking written examinations this year saw exam income increase by £221k. The NOD funding has reduced as one of the main funders has ceased contributions. Membership subscriptions marginally increased in 2022 and is still the College's largest source of income.

The resources expended totalled £5.6m of which £214k relates to expenditure against the restricted funds. The remaining expenditure of £5.4m on unrestricted funds includes central costs of £2.1m which are allocated to the individual departments based on the number of staff employed in each department. The departmental expenditure both before and after this allocation is shown in more detail in note 5.

A major component of expenditure is the depreciation of the costs of 18 Stephenson Way and its installed contents and systems: this amounts to £362k. The building is being depreciated over 30 years. The electronic equipment and other moveable furniture and systems are being written off over periods of between three and ten years.

Reserves policy

The College has a policy of holding an income reserve to protect it against future and unforeseen fluctuations in its income and expenditure. Trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of no less than 6 months' running costs for the College.

At 31 December 2022, two restricted endowment funds (one permanent and one expendable) together valued at £878k, are used to fund research projects. Several restricted funds, together valued at £791k are used to fund scholarships, awards, and projects. Designated funds totalling £5.9m mostly comprise the fixed assets represented on the balance sheet.

As at 31 December 2022, general reserves amounted to just over £5.0m or 11 months of 2022's unrestricted expenditure (2021: 14 months).

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Trustees have agreed to use these additional reserves to fund the additional programme of work in the College's strategic plan where necessary. This includes additional work

- to carry out a review of the Ophthalmological workforce
- to review the structure, culture and governance of the College
- to improve the efficiency of the College's processes, and
- to introduce a greater focus on policy work
- to develop a learning management system and introduce a new e-portfolio.

This will result in additional expenditure that may not be covered by income receipts, but which are deemed important for the College's future.

Investment policy and performance

The College has been given, by Royal Charter, wide powers to invest monies not immediately required. The College employs a professional fund manager, Sarasin & Partners LLP to invest funds not required for its immediate use to maintain the real value of its assets and the purchasing power of its income for both current and future beneficiaries of its services. The College also wishes to minimise its risk of capital and income losses and does this by restricting the range of investment instruments and by requiring its investment portfolio to be diversified by placing its investments in a range of common investment funds specifically designed for charities.

The College has previously committed to not invest in tobacco producing companies. Trustees will continue to monitor environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, and make investment decisions via discussions held with the fund manager twice a year.

For the 12-month period ending 31 December 2022, the performance of the funds was as follows:

Fund	Portfolio	Benchmark	Peer group benchmark (ARC charity peer group)
Income Reserves and Research and Other Fund	-15.4%	-14.7%	-8.4%
Endowment and Reserves Fund	-9.6%	-6.9%	-9.61%

The portfolio of investments currently has a market value at 31 December 2022 of £4.3m (2021: £3.7m). As at the date of signing these accounts, the value of investments was £4.5m – having increased almost £200k because of global market recovery.

Funds held as custodian trustee

The College holds funds donated to the Keeler Scholarship Fund which is a charitable fund registered separately with the Charity Commission but incorporated within these financial statements. The fund receives regular donations which are dispensed by way of a scholarship to

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

enable a member of the College to acquire further skill, knowledge or experience. Two awards were made in 2022 (2021: two).

Risk Management

The Trustees understand that they have a duty to identify the major risks to which the College is, or might be, exposed. They also have a duty to establish systems to ensure that the exposure to these risks is minimised. A Risk Management Group was set up in 2022 to increase scrutiny of the risks the College faces. The key operational, reputational and financial risks are included in a risk matrix which is regularly reviewed by the Trustees and action is taken to ensure that mitigation measures are in place and acted on by all staff.

Key risk	This is being managed by:
• Lack of capacity in the department if new tasks being added to workload, staff not having time to undertake all tasks to required standard leading to delays or mistakes negatively affecting deadlines or quality of work.	• Effective framework for decision making via the consistent use of business plans and other decision making tools • Clarity on the College's main operational and strategic priorities to enable work to be reallocated, delayed or ceased as appropriate • The College will create a new membership services department in 2023 to increase capacity
• Employing NHS Trusts do not allow members to spend time on College business	• Communicating the benefits of College services to a wide audience • Writing supportive letters to trusts to encourage them to release members for College work • Active promotion of College roles to widen participation rates • Encouraging the use of technology to hold meetings e.g. video conferencing
• Impact of inflation on the College finances	• Close monitoring of budgets and expenditure • Development of events to generate income.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees consider that the major risks have been identified and adequate systems are in place to monitor the College's exposures and manage these risks.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and regularly review the ways in which the activities of the College are carried out to enable the College to achieve its aims and deliver public benefit. This is also considered in the planning of future activities. Some of the ways in which the work of the College delivers public benefit are by the advancement of health and education and the promotion of the profession as fundamental to integrated primary health care.

All the activities of the College are directed to ensure high standards in the practice of ophthalmology for the benefit of both the medical profession and the public.

Going concern

At 31 December 2022, the College holds more than 11 months' unrestricted reserves.

The Trustees, having reviewed scenarios on the financial position of the Charity including its forecasts and cashflows, liquidity position and existing commitments, confirm that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties impacting on the College's ability to be a going concern. Thus, the going concern basis of accounting is adopted in preparing the annual financial statements.

Plans for the future

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

We will develop INSPIRE

We will promote the new Associate Membership category in order to support medical students, foundation doctors and eye care professionals.

We will test the new ePortfolio in advance of the introduction of Curriculum 2024.

We will launch a new course for recently appointed consultants.

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

We will publish a report on the findings of the 2022 census.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

We will build on the Paediatric Subcommittee's report on the Paediatric Ophthalmology Workforce report which contains recommendations to deal with problems arising from: waiting lists and workloads, new ways of working and training, recruitment and retention.

We will consider how the role of Physician Associates may be developed to support the hospital eye service.

We expect to work with the College of Optometrists to determine the current and future eye care workforce trends for each UK nation.

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

We will develop standards for the delivery of Cataract Services. This will include the production of a self-assessment tool to allow departments to assess themselves against the Cataract Service Standards.

We will develop Concise Practice Points to succinctly describe the available scientific and clinical evidence. These are to help clinicians make better decisions about appropriate healthcare where there is recognised uncertainty.

We will report on the findings of the AMD Audit.

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

We will begin work on the Strategic Plan 2024 – 2026.

We will strengthen our approach to risk management with the development of a Risk Management Group to review the registers for all departments for consistency and to identify omissions. This will provide the Trustee Board with reassurance that significant risks have been managed effectively.

We will agree and begin to implement a Digital Strategy to provide digital solutions to enhance membership engagement and provide seamless access to products and services.

We will improve our on-boarding processes so that staff and clinicians feel welcome and are productive early on in their relationship with the College.

Structure, Governance and Management

The College was incorporated under Royal Charter on 14 April 1988 and was registered as a charity on 2 August 1988 in England and Wales (number 299872) and on 29 May 2015 in Scotland (number SC045652).

The College is governed by the rules and regulations set down in the Ordinances and enacted within its Royal Charter.

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board is the College's governing body and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board comprises 4 College Officers posts (the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer), four members nominated from Council (two Regional Representatives and two Chairs of Standing Committees), the Chair of the Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG) and lay members appointed by the Trustee Board (three).

The Trustee Board is responsible for the governance, financial and legal aspects of the College. The members of the Trustee Board are recruited as follows:

- The President is elected by all Fellows, members and diplomates in good standing, home and overseas and the current OTG Chair is elected by the OTG. The Vice President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed following an application and interview process.
- Lay Trustees – Lay Trustees are appointed following an application and interview process, the posts are advertised in national newspapers and online.
- Chairs of Standing Committees – There are 5 Standing Committee chairs who are appointed, following an application and interview process. 2 Standing Committee chairs serve on the Trustee Board on a rotating basis.

The College provides all new Trustees with an induction pack which outlines their responsibilities and gives an overview of the College, its functions and how it operates. In addition, training is provided on a range of relevant topics both to the Trustees as a whole and to individuals or groups where specific knowledge is required.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Council

Council reports directly to the Trustee Board and meets 4 times a year. Its function is to develop the College's policy in relation to professional and clinical matters. Council comprises not more than 40 members including the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, up to 20 members elected on a geographical basis and up to four members co-opted by the Council (Ordinance 28) and members appointed by the Council (Ordinance 32). The Editor of Eye attends as of right.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports directly to the Trustee Board. It meets regularly to enact College business in a timely manner and contributes to the formulation of the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic direction of the Royal College.

It provides an opportunity for College clinical and staff leaders to consider issues of importance, or which cut across defined committee or departmental boundaries in detail before they are brought to the Trustees for further debate and a final decision and acts in accordance with the strategic plan whilst being cognisant of financial and reputational risks.

Membership of the Executive Committee comprises the College Officers, the Chairs of the Standing Committees as well as key management personnel (defined as those in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis) at the College:

	Committee/role	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mr B Chang	President	
Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President	(24 May 2022)
Mr SB Kaye	Vice President	24 May 2022
Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary	
Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary	
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer	
Ms R Ford	Chair – Education Committee	25 May 2021
Mr G Shuttleworth	Chair – Examinations Committee	
Mr W Newman	Chair – Professional Standards Committee	
Dr S Sivaprasad	Chair – Scientific Committee	
Miss AF Spencer	Chair – Training Committee	(24 May 2022)
Mrs S Maling	Chair – Training Committee	24 May 2022

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Key Management Personnel		
Mrs K Evans	Chief Executive	
Ms E Barnes	Head of Professional Support	
Mr D Costello	Head of Examinations	
Mrs A Fedyk	Head of Education and Training	
Ms T Mtetwa	Head of Finance and Operations	(14 October 2022)
Ms A Frater	Interim Head of Finance and Operations	3 October 2022
Ms E Price	Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	

The College also relies on several sub-committees to provide advice on specialist issues and to help develop policy.

Staff and Remuneration Policy

Staff remuneration is now based on a scale comprising 6 grades each with 1 entry, 3 established and 2 discretionary points. Each grade's entry range is aligned to the recruitment market median for organisations of a similar size and carrying out similar activities to the College. No staff member is paid below the London living wage.

Staff progress up the pay scale in January of each year on successful completion of an annual performance review. Key management personnel meet annually to review and agree performance review summaries for all staff – and the Remuneration Committee reviews and ratifies this decision. The Remuneration Committee reviews the performance reviews for all key management personnel and agrees their progression up the pay scale as well as the % salary increase to apply to the College's pay scale based on market data and affordability.

Fundraising Statement

Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although the College does not undertake fundraising from the public, the legislation defines fundraising as "soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes." Where discussions with organisations have resulted in a contribution to College activities, these are allocated in the accounts as income against the activity to which the contribution arose.

The College does not use commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties to raise funds. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Senior Management Team, who are accountable to the trustees.

We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. Our terms of employment require staff to behave reasonably at all times; we do not approach individuals for funds nor do we consider it necessary to design specific procedures to monitor such activities.

Charity relationships with suppliers, customers, partners, and others

The delivery of our charitable aims and objectives is dependent on a range of relationships with universities, suppliers and others, and we are extremely grateful for the advice and support received during the past year.

The College has maintained strong and effective relationships with communities, key opinion leaders, medical research charities and the NHS to help shape and inform our policies and further our objectives to ensure high standards of ophthalmic patient care and to save the sight of the nation.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report 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, Scotland 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 for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances. 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.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the auditor of the College during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 6 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Prof Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 December 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Auditor's 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 Royal College of Ophthalmologist'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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper 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 set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 an auditor's report 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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the Executive and Finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 auditor's 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.

13 June 2023

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Income from:							
Charitable activities							
Subscriptions	2	1,598	–	1,598	1,531	–	1,531
Donations & legacies	2	61	–	61	–	–	–
Examinations	2	1,348	–	1,348	1,127	–	1,127
Education and Training	2	252	30	282	245	32	277
Professional Support	2	700	1	701	344	2	346
National Ophthalmic Database	2	313	65	378	698	75	773
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	2	851	–	851	774	–	774
Scholarships and Awards	2	–	16	16	10	58	68
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	2	–	32	32	–	17	17
Other trading activities	3	115	–	115	100	–	100
Investments	4	126	21	147	93	31	124
Total income		5,364	165	5,529	4,922	215	5,137
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities							
Examinations	5	1,638	–	1,638	1,432	–	1,432
Education and Training		1,093	51	1,144	1,032	78	1,110
Professional Support		1,110	–	1,110	767	–	767
National Ophthalmic Database		732	66	798	439	57	496
Journal "Eye" – joint venture		742	–	742	691	–	691
Scholarships and Awards		–	57	57	–	111	111
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)		90	40	130	85	58	143
Total expenditure		5,405	214	5,619	4,446	304	4,750
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains on investments		(41)	(49)	(90)	476	(89)	387
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(514)	–	(514)	195	–	195
Net income/(expenditure)	7	(555)	(49)	(604)	671	(89)	582
Transfers between funds	19	(8)	8	–	(41)	41	–
Net movement in funds		(563)	(41)	(604)	630	(48)	582
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	19	11,434	1,710	13,144	10,804	1,758	12,562
Total funds carried forward	19	10,871	1,669	12,540	11,434	1,710	13,144

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 19 to the financial statements.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2022

	Note	£'000s	2022 £'000s	£'000s	2021 £'000s
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		5,777		6,082
Heritage Assets	12		58		58
Investments	13		4,297		3,734
			<u>10,132</u>		<u>9,874</u>
Current assets:					
Debtors	14	982		1,022	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,323		3,297	
		<u>3,305</u>		<u>4,319</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	897		1,049	
				<u></u>	
Net current assets			<u>2,408</u>		<u>3,270</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>12,540</u></u>		<u><u>13,144</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	19				
Restricted funds:					
Endowment Funds		878		877	
Restricted income funds		791		833	
			<u>1,669</u>		<u>1,710</u>
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds – functional property		5,794		6,099	
Other designated funds		73		60	
General funds		5,004		5,275	
		<u></u>	<u>10,871</u>	<u></u>	<u>11,434</u>
Total unrestricted funds			<u>10,871</u>		<u>11,434</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>12,540</u></u>		<u><u>13,144</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 6 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Prof. Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Mr Bernie Chang
President

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £000's	2021 £000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	70	728
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		147	124
Purchase of fixed assets and artwork		(114)	(157)
Purchase of investments		(1,077)	(65)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(1,044)	(98)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(974)	630
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,297	2,667
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	2,323	3,297

1 Accounting policies

- a) The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is incorporated by Royal Charter and a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales and Scotland.

The registered office address is 18 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

b) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

Following the conversion of examinations to an electronic format and the running of a virtual Congress during 2020, the College's income levels improved significantly during 2021 as reliance on generating income from in-person activities was reduced.

The main source of uncertainty going forward is the movement in the value of investments as a result of the current global unrest – however, the College is not dependent on investment income to continue our activities.

The trustees, having reviewed a stress tested budget and cashflow, consider that there are no sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period, and therefore consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations received are credited directly to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Legacy donations are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable (i.e. when confirmation has been received that probate is granted, executors have established that there are sufficient assets to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled).

Subscriptions are accounted for on a receivable basis and credited to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate. Examination fee income is recognised when the examination takes place. Annual congress income is recognised when the event takes place. Journal 'Eye' income is an estimate based on financial forecasts received from the College's publishers, Springer Nature. The final figure is not known until July of the following year to which it relates.

f) Interest receivable

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.

g) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income from the permanent endowment fund (Bibby/Horton Scholarship) is used to part fund research fellowships jointly with the Medical Research Council.

The expendable Research Endowment Fund is used to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering examinations, training and educational activities and other services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and the associated support costs of providing these services.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of the charity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned, based on staff numbers engaged in each activity. Governance costs are apportioned on the same basis. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

j) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the same basis. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation lives in use are as follows:

● Freehold buildings	Thirty years
● Equipment, furniture and fittings	Between three and ten years
● Major computer and software systems	Between three and five years

Heritage assets comprise historic books and other ophthalmological artefacts which are preserved and maintained in display cabinets and are not to be disposed of. These are capitalised at historic cost where the College has reliable cost information. The current net book value is believed to be at least equal to the residual value, and as such no further depreciation has been charged.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) 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.

n) 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.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

o) Pensions

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists participates in two defined benefit pension schemes, the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a funded defined benefit scheme and the NHS Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The expected cost of providing pensions is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to spread the cost over the service lives of employees in such a way that the pension cost equals the annualised long-term cash outlay to the scheme.

Both schemes are multi-employer schemes of which the assets and liabilities cannot be identified for individual employers. The accounts therefore include contributions payable on an accruals basis. Further information for both schemes is given in note 17.

p) Investments

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net (losses)/gains on investments" in the statement of financial activities.

q) Grants payable

Grants payable are shown in the year in which the award is payable. If grants are in instalments over a period longer than a year the amounts shown relate to the instalment due in the year in question.

2a Income from charitable activities – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2022 Total –	2021 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,598	–	1,598	1,531
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,598	–	1,598	1,531
Donations & Legacies	61	–	61	–
Sub-total for Donations & Legacies	61	–	61	–
Examination fees	1,348	–	1,348	1,127
Sub-total for Examinations	1,348	–	1,348	1,127
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	–	–	5
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	29	29	21
Fees for Skills Courses	180	–	180	143
Other income	72	1	73	108
Sub-total for Education and Training	252	30	282	277
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	620	–	620	274
Seminars	38	–	38	67
Other	42	1	43	5
Sub-total for Professional Support	700	1	701	346
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	–	–	–	24
Other contract income	313	–	313	265
Income from Trusts	–	–	–	409
Income from Donors	–	65	65	75
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	313	65	378	773
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	851	–	851	774
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	851	–	851	774
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	15	15	30
Jack Kanski Award	–	–	–	–
Sadhu Gupta	–	–	–	25
Other income	–	1	1	13
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	–	16	16	68
Fight for Sight	–	32	32	17
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	32	32	17
Total income from charitable activities	5,123	144	5,267	4,913

Contingent Asset

In 2021 the College had a contingent asset in the form of a legacy receivable, this was received in 2022.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

2b Income from charitable activities – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,531	–	1,531	1,466
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,531	–	1,531	1,466
Examination fees	1,127	–	1,127	553
Sub-total for Examinations	1,127	–	1,127	553
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	5	5	5
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	21	21	21
Fees for Skills Courses	143	–	143	104
Other income	102	6	108	69
Sub-total for Education and Training	245	32	277	199
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	274	–	274	64
Seminars	67	–	67	45
Other	3	2	5	2
Sub-total for Professional Support	344	2	346	111
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	24	–	24	11
Other contract income	265	–	265	–
Income from Trusts	409	–	409	227
Income from Donors	–	75	75	101
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	698	75	773	339
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	774	–	774	748
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	774	–	774	748
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	30	30	–
Jack Kanski Award	–	–	–	25
Sadhu Gupta	–	25	25	–
Other income	10	3	13	3
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	10	58	68	28
Fight for Sight	–	17	17	29
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	17	17	29
Total income from charitable activities	4,729	184	4,913	3,473

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Advertising in College publications and other miscellaneous income	115	115	100

All income from trading activities in 2022 and 2021 is unrestricted.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

4a Income from investments – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	124	21	–	145	121
Bank interest	2	–	–	2	3
	<u>126</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>124</u>

4b Income from investments – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	90	31	–	121	121
Bank interest	3	–	–	3	10
	<u>93</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>131</u>

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities										
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2022 Total £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	317	314	268	136	51	–	37	–	906	2,029	1,749
Other staff costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	175	175	39
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	344	60	66	–	–	–	1	13	18	502	266
Property and equipment costs	–	69	–	–	–	–	–	–	156	225	257
Depreciation	18	17	–	–	–	–	–	–	327	362	344
Venue hire	111	–	210	–	–	–	–	–	–	321	238
Patients' expenses	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	7
Print, post and stationary	–	–	–	–	177	–	1	–	5	183	171
Communications and PR	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	54	55	62
Insurance	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	30	36	28
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	1	–	3	–	–	55	–	–	–	59	111
Contractors' fees	–	4	–	274	–	–	–	–	–	278	245
Other project costs and third party charges	3	–	93	36	401	–	–	–	17	550	463
Professional fees	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	55	1	57	38
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	29	34
IT, telephone and software	144	48	–	4	–	–	–	–	193	389	327
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	40	40	45
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30	–	30	26
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	–	12	14
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	115	115	84
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	34	34	87
Other costs	85	1	12	9	–	2	1	11	10	131	115
	1,030	513	659	460	629	57	40	121	2,110	5,619	4,750
Support costs	575	597	426	320	107	–	85	–	(2,110)	–	–
Governance costs	33	34	25	18	6	–	5	(121)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2022	1,638	1,144	1,110	798	742	57	130	–	–	5,619	4,750
Total expenditure 2021	1,432	1,110	767	496	691	111	143	–	–	4,750	

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities									
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2021 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	254	267	246	89	46	–	35	–	812	1,749
Other staff costs	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	36	39
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	152	56	14	–	–	–	–	7	37	266
Property and equipment costs	–	61	–	–	–	–	–	–	196	257
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	344	344
Venue hire	204	–	34	–	–	–	–	–	–	238
Patients' expenses	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7
Print, post and stationary	1	–	–	–	142	–	19	–	9	171
Communications and PR	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	59	62
Insurance	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	27	28
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	–	–	–	–	–	111	–	–	–	111
Contractors' fees	–	13	–	232	–	–	–	–	–	245
Other project costs and third party charges	3	–	23	28	395	–	–	–	14	463
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30	8	38
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	34	34
IT, telephone and software	135	45	–	5	–	–	1	–	141	327
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	45	45
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	–	26
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	14
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	84	84
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	87	87
Other costs	72	5	2	17	–	–	4	5	10	115
	829	447	320	373	586	111	59	82	1,943	4,750
Support costs	578	636	429	118	101	–	81	–	(1,943)	–
Governance costs	25	27	18	5	4	–	3	(82)	–	–
Total expenditure 2021	1,432	1,110	767	496	691	111	143	–	–	4,750

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

6 Grant making – Scholarships and awards

Grants to individuals	2022 £'000s	2021 £'000s
Cost		
Ashton Award	–	2
Bibby/Horton Scholarship	49	79
Keeler Scholarship	–	30
Sadhu Gupta Award	1	–
Optic Lecture	3	–
Jack Kanski Prize	5	–
Nettleship Fund	1	–
At the end of the year	<u>59</u>	<u>111</u>

The basis of the grants to individuals is described in note 1.

7 Net (expenditure)/incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £'000s	2021 £'000s
Depreciation	362	344
Operating lease rentals:		
Other	41	55
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	12	11
Other services	3	3

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £'000s	2021 £'000s
Salaries and wages	1,591	1,386
Social security costs	177	149
Pension contributions	261	214
	2,029	1,749

Employees with salaries over £60,000 (not including National Insurance) were as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
£60,000 – £70,000	4	2
£70,000 – £80,000	–	2
£80,000 – £90,000	1	–
£110,000 – £120,000	–	1
£120,000 – £130,000	1	–

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive and the five (2021: five) heads of department. Gross salaries, employer national insurance and employer pension contributions for key management personnel this year £469,314, £60,296 and £80,919 were respectively (2021: £451,106, £54,939 and £72,123 respectively).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

6 (2021: 13) Trustees submitted expense claims relating to meetings and College related business activities totalling £2,376 (2021: £3,561). The College also incurred £7,635 (2021: £5,234) of expenditure, paid directly to suppliers, for activities relating solely to the role of President.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as

	2022 No.	– No.
Examinations	6	5
Education and Training	6	6
Professional Support	5	5
National Ophthalmological Database	3	2
Journal "Eye" joint Venture	1	1
Support	16	13
	37	32

10 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2022 (2021: none).

Aggregate donations from related parties (trustees) were £NIL (2021: £NIL).

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000s	Fixtures and fittings £'000s	Computer equipment £'000s	Heritage Assets £'000s	Total £'000s
Cost					
At the start of the year	7,005	189	1,316	85	8,595
Additions in year	–	–	114	–	114
Disposals	–	–	(103)	–	(103)
At the end of the year	7,005	189	1,327	85	8,606
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	1,230	132	1,066	27	2,455
Charge for the year	174	18	170	–	362
Disposals	–	–	(46)	–	(46)
At the end of the year	1,404	150	1,190	27	2,771
Net book value					
At the end of the year	5,601	39	137	58	5,835
At the start of the year	5,775	57	250	58	6,140

Land with a value of £1,800,000 (2021: £1,800,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Listed investments

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	3,734	3,474
Additions at cost	1,077	65
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(514)	195
Market value at the end of the year	4,297	3,734
Historic cost	3,399	2,323
Investments comprise:		
	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
UK Common Investment Funds	4,297	3,734
	4,297	3,734

The College has made investments in two Common Investment Funds, the Alpha Fund for Endowments and the Alpha Fund for Income and Reserves

Non-adjusting post balance sheet event

The value of investments at the date of signing amounted to £4,477,545, an increase of £181,000 on the value listed in the balance sheet.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

14 Debtors

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Trade debtors	44	263
Other debtors	401	434
Prepayments	67	46
Congress expenses in advance	216	169
Other event costs in advance	219	110
HMRC	35	-
	982	1,022

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Trade creditors	383	543
Taxation and social security	-	14
Deferred income	422	444
Accruals	92	48
	897	1,049

16 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for examinations, training and other events taking place in the following year.

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	444	420
Amount released to income in the year	(444)	(420)
Amount deferred in the year	422	444
Balance at the end of the year	422	444

17 Pension schemes

SAUL pension

The College participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London ("SAUL"), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and was contracted-out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently-managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Pension benefits accrued within SAUL currently build up on a Career Average Revalued Earnings ("CARE") basis.

The College is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency event of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining participating employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

Funding Policy

SAUL's statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions include appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

A formal actuarial valuation of SAUL is carried out every three years by a professionally qualified and independent actuary. The last actuarial valuation was carried out with an effective date of 31 March 2020. Informal reviews of SAUL's position, reflecting changes in market conditions, cash flow information and new accrual of benefits, are carried out between formal valuations.

The funding principles were agreed by the Trustee and employers in June 2021 will be reviewed again at SAUL's next formal valuation in 2023.

At the 31 March 2020 valuation SAUL was 94% funded on its Technical Provisions basis. However, market movements following the valuation date were positive and the Trustee and Employers agreed to allow for post-valuation experience up to 30 April 2021. As SAUL was in surplus on its Technical Provisions basis at that date, no deficit contributions were required. However, the Trustee and the Employers have agreed that the ongoing Employers' contributions will increase from a rate of 16% of CARE Salaries to 19% of CARE Salaries from 1 April 2022 and to 21% of CARE Salaries from 1 January 2023.

Accounting Policy

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is a Participating Employer in SAUL. The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers. As a whole, the market value of SAUL's assets at 31 March 2020 was £3,612 million representing 94% of the liabilities. The market value of SAUL's assets at 30 April 2021 was £4,369 million representing 109% of the estimated liabilities.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The College accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraphs 28.11 of FRS 102.

Although there was a Technical Provisions deficit at 31 March 2020, allowing for post valuation experience to 30 April 2021, SAUL had a Technical Provisions surplus. Therefore, no deficit contributions were required following the 2020 valuation and there is no defined benefit liability (i.e. the present value of any deficit member contributions due to SAUL) to be recognised by the College. Employer Contributions paid in 2022 were £264,000 (2021: £209,000).

17 Pension schemes (continued)

NHS pension

One member of staff is in the NHS Pension Scheme, an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The total employer contribution payable in 2021 was £6,500 (2021: £6,000).

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the two NHS Pension Schemes. Details of the benefits payable and rules of the Schemes can be found on the NHS Pensions website at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions. Both are unfunded defined benefit schemes that cover NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies, allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in England and Wales. They are not designed to be run in a way that would enable NHS bodies to identify their share of the underlying scheme assets and liabilities. Therefore, each scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme: the cost to the NHS body of participating in each scheme is taken as equal to the contributions payable to that scheme for the accounting period.

In order that the defined benefit obligations recognised in the financial statements do not differ materially from those that would be determined at the reporting date by a formal actuarial valuation, the FReM requires that “the period between formal valuations shall be four years, with approximate assessments in intervening years”. An outline of these follows:

a) Accounting valuation

A valuation of scheme liability is carried out annually by the scheme actuary (currently the Government Actuary's Department) as at the end of the reporting period. This utilises an actuarial assessment for the previous accounting period in conjunction with updated membership and financial data for the current reporting period, and is accepted as providing suitably robust figures for financial reporting purposes. The valuation of the scheme liability as at 31 March 2020, is based on valuation data as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020 with summary global member and accounting data. In undertaking this actuarial assessment, the methodology prescribed in IAS 19, relevant FReM interpretations, and the discount rate prescribed by HM Treasury have also been used.

The latest assessment of the liabilities of the scheme is contained in the report of the scheme actuary, which forms part of the annual NHS Pension Scheme Accounts. These accounts can be viewed on the NHS Pensions website and are published annually. Copies can also be obtained from The Stationery Office.

b) Full actuarial (funding) valuation

The purpose of this valuation is to assess the level of liability in respect of the benefits due under the schemes (taking into account recent demographic experience), and to recommend contribution rates payable by employees and employers.

The latest actuarial valuation undertaken for the NHS Pension Scheme was completed as at 31 March 2016. The results of this valuation set the employer contribution rate payable from April 2019 to 20.6%, and the Scheme Regulations were amended accordingly.

The 2016 funding valuation was also expected to test the cost of the Scheme relative to the employer cost cap set following the 2012 valuation. Following a judgment from the Court of Appeal in December 2018 Government announced a pause to that part of the valuation process pending conclusion of the continuing legal process.

18a Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	5,794	41	5,835
Investments	3,020	–	1,277	4,297
Net current assets	1,984	73	351	2,408
Net assets at the end of the year – 2022	5,004	5,867	1,669	12,540

18b Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	6,099	41	6,140
Investments	2,457	–	1,277	3,734
Net current assets	2,818	60	392	3,270
Net assets at the end of the year – 2021	5,275	6,159	1,710	13,144

19a Movements in funds – current year

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	663	–	–	–	663
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	214	1	–	–	215
	877	1	–	–	878
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	25	–	(8)	–	17
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	105	29	(8)	–	126
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	–	–	–	–	–
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	37	–	(1)	–	36
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	–	(14)	–	70
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCF) Project	17	–	(16)	–	1
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	–	–	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	63	65	(66)	–	62
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	–	–	–	–
	365	94	(113)	–	346

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	137	2	–	–	139
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	25	–	(5)	–	20
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	15	(3)	–	33
▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	25	–	(1)	–	24
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	264	17	(9)	–	272
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	21	(49)	–	76
▪ The Ashton Lecture	–	–	–	–	–
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	56	–	–	–	56
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	–	–	–	–	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	(3)	–	–
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	–	–	–	–	–
	204	21	(52)	–	173
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	32	(40)	8	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	833	164	(214)	8	791
Total Restricted Funds	1,710	165	(214)	8	1,669

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	24	14	(1)	–	37
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	10	–	–	–	10
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,099	–	–	(305)	5,794
<i>Total designated funds</i>	6,159	14	(1)	(305)	5,867
General funds	5,275	5,350	(5,918)	297	5,004
Total unrestricted funds	11,434	5,364	(5,919)	(8)	10,871
Total restricted funds	1,710	165	(214)	8	1,669
Total funds	13,144	5,529	(6,133)	–	12,540

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

19b Movements in funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	715	27	(79)	–	663
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	210	4	–	–	214
	925	31	(79)	–	877
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	32	–	(7)	–	25
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	91	21	(7)	–	105
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	13	–	(13)	–	–
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	45	–	(8)	–	37
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	5	(5)	–	84
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	49	–	(32)	–	17
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	10	(10)	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	45	65	(47)	–	63
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	5	(5)	–	–
	393	106	(134)	–	365

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	133	4	–	–	137
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	25	–	–	–	25
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	30	(30)	–	21
▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	–	25	–	–	25
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	235	59	(30)	–	264
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	–	–	–	104
▪ The Ashton Lecture	2	1	(3)	–	–
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	55	1	–	–	56
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	–	–	–	–	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	–	–	3
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	–	–	–	–	–
	205	2	(3)	–	204
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	17	(58)	41	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	833	184	(225)	41	833
Total Restricted Funds	1,758	215	(304)	41	1,710

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	10	14	–	–	24
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	–	10	–	–	10
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,286	–	–	(187)	6,099
<i>Total designated funds</i>	6,322	24	–	(187)	6,159
General funds	4,482	4,898	(4,251)	146	5,275
Total unrestricted funds	10,804	4,922	(4,251)	(41)	11,434
Total restricted funds	1,758	215	(304)	41	1,710
Total funds	12,562	5,137	(4,555)	–	13,144

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Purposes of the Endowment Funds

The Bibby/Horton Scholarship

The late Miss Bernice Bibby left the College a substantial sum to create a permanent endowment fund, to provide for fellowships at post graduate level. The income from this endowment fund and from the related restricted fund will continue to be used to part fund research fellowships.

Research Endowment Fund

The Research Endowment Fund, an expendable endowment fund, was set up in 2008 to assure a stable mechanism to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Purposes of the Other Restricted Funds

Medical Training Initiative. The College has received funds from the Department of Health and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to support a scheme placing overseas doctors wishing to train as ophthalmologists in the UK before returning to their own country to practice. The priority focus of the MTI is to provide training opportunities for doctors from DfID priority or low and middle income countries.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training. The College received funding from the Medical Research Council Hearing and Communications Group to develop a curriculum for medical scientists working in ophthalmology.

Dual Sponsorship Scheme. The College has received funding from the Department of Health to match overseas doctors wishing to undertake specialist training in the UK with appropriate training settings.

E-Learning (Health Education England) and E-learning (Department of Health). The College has received funds from the Department of Health and related organisations to support the College's contribution to the UK E-Learning for Health project for aspect of the curriculum for trainee ophthalmologists.

E- Learning – E-Integrity Project. The College has received funds from the Department of Health for an additional e-learning project to provide resources for those providing training to ophthalmologists.

E-learning Maintenance. The College received funds to maintain the electronic resources produced using the funding received above.

Revalidation E-Cohort. The College has received funding from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to enable it to participate in a cohort scheme with other medical colleges and faculties to develop a system for collecting information for doctor appraisal. The development of the scheme was completed in 2012 and the remaining funding will be used to support and maintain the system, at no cost to members, for an initial period.

OPT (formerly OCCCF) Project. The Ophthalmological Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCF) project was funded by Health Education England (HEE) and has been developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT). OPT trains postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses in secondary care to develop their skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina or emergency eye care.

NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb is a grant awarded to the College to carry out work on the National Ophthalmology Database now no longer funded by HQIP.

NOD AMD audit is funded in 2020 from a transfer from the Elizabeth Thomas Seminar fund, which was originally funded by the Macular Society. This funding will be used to set up the NOD AMD audit during 2020 and 2021. The fund also includes a contribution from Alcon.

Educational Website ST1 trainees. The College received funds from Bayer to subsidise access for ST1 trainees to an educational website with relevant learning content and advice for trainees at this level.

The Ethicon Scholarship provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for research or training.

The Jack Kanski Award is a lifetime achievement award to recognise passion, commitment and achievement in Ophthalmic Education. The fund was created in memory of Mr Jack Kanski who was an eminent ophthalmologist and Honorary Fellow who died in 2019.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

The Keeler Scholarship provides financial assistance to members and fellows to acquire ophthalmic skills, knowledge or experience.

The Sadhu Gupta Award will provide an award for the best performing international candidate in a RCOphth examination. This is a way to promote learning and increase the global level of ophthalmic knowledge.

John Lee Research Fund. The College established a fund in memory of Mr John Lee who died in 2010 during his term as President. The fund is used to fund research fellowships in ophthalmology jointly with the Medical Research Council and with Fight for Sight.

The Nettleship Fund provides a medal award every four years for the best paper on ophthalmology published in the preceding four years.

The Lister Award provides travel funds for study to any ophthalmologist who is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Edridge–Green Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture given at the Annual Meeting every year.

The Dorey Bequest provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for study or research.

The second Bibby Horton Scholarship Fund receives the income from the Bibby Horton Endowment Fund which is not used in the year. In the immediate future years part of the College's financial commitment to a research projects including fellowships will be met from this fund.

The Ashton Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture to be given at the Annual Meeting every four years or at the discretion of the Council.

Professor Barrie Jones provided funds for a lecture on the subject of preventative ophthalmology in the developing world to be given every four years at the Annual Congress.

Elizabeth Thomas Seminar Fund. The Macular Society has made donations, in memory of Elizabeth Thomas, which have supported an annual seminar on macular disease. The Macular Society has agreed a change of use of this fund which will now be used to support the College's aim to start an AMD national audit.

The Optic Lecture. Optic UK provides funding for a lecture at the annual Congress.

Winstanley Fund. The College acquired a collection of antiquarian ophthalmic books from Mr John Winstanley which are housed in the College.

The Peter Curran Bequest was given for the purchase of works of art to be displayed in the College. The initial purchase was sold during 2015 and the proceeds will be reinvested in a work of art appropriate to both ophthalmology and the new setting of the College's headquarters.

London Deanery Equipment Fund. The London Deanery of the NHS has provided funding for the College to acquire an ophthalmic surgery simulator which is used in a range of training situations. This fund was fully expended in 2019.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit operates a national system to assist with the surveillance of rare ophthalmological conditions. The College meets the costs of providing accommodation and office support services. Further funding is provided by Fight for Sight.

The Duke–Elder Memorial was set up in memory of Sir Stewart Duke–Elder, an eminent ophthalmologist and prolific writer. The fund has been used to support the Duke–Elder examinations which are open to medical undergraduates in the UK and Eire. When the funds come to an end the College will continue to fund an examination and a prize to be known as "The Royal College of Ophthalmologists – Duke–Elder Prize".

The Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Awards Fund provides the Council with wide discretion and it has been decided that the income of this fund is to be used to provide travel funds for medical undergraduates travelling abroad for research or training.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

John Lee Memorial Research Fund – the College established a restricted fund in 2011 to commemorate the contribution to ophthalmology of the late President with a joint MRC/College research fellowship the first of which completed in 2015. This fund represents the College's designation for the same purpose.

The Council was given wide discretion over funds transferred from the **Anne Allerton Fund**. Part of this fund was used to support the purchase of a second cataract simulator in 2016.

Professor Wallace Foulds left a legacy to continue the payment of **The Foulds Trophy** prize. It has been left to the discretion of the Trustees to use these funds in any way they feel necessary but Trustees have agreed to use the fund as Professor Foulds intended.

The **Property and Equipment Fund** represents the value of the fixed assets held by the College excluding the assets held in the Winstanley Fund which are shown separately (above).

20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £'000s	2021 £'000s
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(604)	582
Depreciation charges	362	344
Fixed Asset write offs	57	–
(Gains)/losses on investments	514	(195)
Dividends and interest from investments	(147)	(124)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	40	(74)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(152)	195
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	70	728

21 Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	At 1 January 2022 £'000s	Cash flows £'000s	At 31 December 2022 £'000s
Cash in hand	2,697	(1,289)	1,408
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	600	315	915
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,297	(974)	2,323

22 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Equipment 2022 £'000s	2021 £'000s
Less than 1 year	14	14
1 – 5 Years	27	41
	41	55

23 Capital commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had committed £NIL for the development of the new CRM (2022: £33k)

Accounts



The **ROYAL COLLEGE** of
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Charity Number: 299872

OSCR Number: SCO45652

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Contents

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Reference and administrative details	1
Chief Executive's annual report	2
Report of the Trustees	5
Independent auditor's report	18
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)	22
Balance sheet	23
Statement of cash flows	24
Notes to the financial statements	25

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Charity number 299872 in England and Wales and SC045652 in Scotland

Registered office and operational address 18 Stephenson Way
London
NW1 2HD

Trustees The Trustees of the College who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Mr B Chang	President
Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer
Mr M Gupta	Honorary Secretary – to 24 May 2021
Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary – from 25 May 2021
Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary – from 25 May 2021
Miss M Corbett	Member Trustee – to 24 May 2021
Mr MSM Elalfy	Member Trustee
Mr PN Hossain	Member Trustee
Dr S Mamtara	Member Trustee
Mr W Newman	Member Trustee – from 8 July 2021
Prof S Sivaprasad	Member Trustee – from 8 July 2021
Mr M Easton	Lay Trustee – from 7 January 2022
Lord PA Hunt	Lay Trustee – to 31 December 2021
Mr B Smith	Lay Trustee
Dr A Welchman	Lay Trustee

Investment managers Sarasin & Partners LLP
Juxon House
100 St Paul's Churchyard
London
EC4M 8BU

Solicitors Camerons Solicitors LLP
70 Wimpole Street
London
W1G 8AX

Auditor Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Invicta House
108–114 Golden Lane
EC1Y 0TL

Chief Executive's Annual Report

This report looks at College life over the 12 months to 31 December 2021. Not everything fits in neatly to that time span; events and decisions made before January 2021 affected the year in question just as 2021 experiences will have an impact on years to come.

A prime example is Covid-19, which continued to exert its influence. We had demonstrated adaptability in 2020 and in 2021 our approach to hybrid working enabled us to respond to the various phases of lockdowns whilst still serving our members. The Covid-19 Action Group expanded, became the Covid-19 Recovery Group, the intensity of meetings gradually lessened to twice a month (down from daily in May 2020) and the focus moved to guidance on prioritisation and on restoration of services.

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/about/rcophth-covid-19-response/rcophth-guidance-on-restoring-ophthalmology-services/>

Similarly, the National Ophthalmology Comms Group, which helped the College keep in touch with the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) team and clinical leads across the country to understand regional difficulties, also adapted to changing circumstances. It was formed in May 2020, initially meeting twice weekly, then met on a monthly basis and has now run its course.

In September 2020, the RCOphth engaged Lucy Devine to conduct a review into the College's governance and structure and her recommendations were presented at a Strategy Day in January 2021. We set up 8 working groups to develop the recommendations, successfully embedding most of them during 2021. We ended the year having completed an extensive stock-take of College activities (the snappily entitled Review of Essential and Nice-to-have activities) and improving the processes around the operational plan. We rolled the responsibilities of the Finance Committee into the Executive Committee which has given the review of risk and its mitigation greater prominence, we have identified ways of improving communication with, and support of, the Academic Subcommittee and we have a clear plan for the development of overseas examinations, which will doubtless feature in next year's Annual Report.

However, there is still work to do on the College's role on the international stage and we have started but not finished the Cultural Review.

Of particular note:

- We created the RCOphth Subcommittee in Wales and Andy Pyott submitted his review of ophthalmic services in Wales to the Welsh Government.
- In July 2021, together with the College of Optometrists, we launched a new joint vision for delivering eye care services across the UK to encourage ambitious, co-ordinated and collaborative eye care services across the whole sector, at pace, to provide equitable access for all patients.

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/2021/07/the-college-of-optometrists-and-the-royal-college-of-ophthalmologists-launch-new-joint-vision-for-delivering-eye-care-services-across-the-uk/>

- The Education and Training department have laid the foundations for the tele-learning platform, please look out for information on *Inspire* in 2022.
- The National Recruitment 2021 round was conducted virtually and seamlessly. A record 607 applicants applied for approximately 70 training places
- The consultation on the new curriculum was completed and the curriculum submitted to the General Medical Council in October 2021. It was accepted, subject to some stretching but achievable conditions, in January 2022.
- We were able to run the mandatory introduction to phaco courses for all the newly appointed ST1 trainees and offer a full programme of Training-the-Trainers and College Tutors courses.
- The 2020 Impact Factor for EYE, announced in 2021, recorded an impressive increase from 2.455 to 3.775.
- The May 2021 virtual Congress went well, particularly in view of the short lead-in time arising from uncertainty surrounding lock-down restrictions. There were some technical issues and we anticipate that in 2022 these will have been ironed out.
- We have created the National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) Steering Group Chair from May 2021, the Cataract and AMD audits are funded and progressing as expected.
- All examinations are now completely paperless; the CertLRS exam in September 2021 was the final exam to go fully electronic.
- The Admissions Ceremony in September 2021 was larger than usual as the September 2020 event was cancelled due to Covid constraints. The build-up was fraught as it depended on Government's decisions on lifting lockdown restrictions but it went very well and was a joyful occasion.

Chief Executive's annual report

For the year ended 31 December 2021

- The new website was launched in December 2021 and has been well received.
- The membership survey showed that there is a lot to be proud of but we need to maintain our relevance and ensure all members feel welcome and connected to the College.
- Fight for Sight, the leading charity for research into visual loss, agreed to fund the British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU).
- The first RCOphth Clinical Fellow, Alex Chiu, appointed under the National Medical Director's Clinical Fellow Scheme, completed his year in July 2021 and was succeeded by Vishal Shah. They were appointed in the face of stiff opposition (with a 9:1 applicant to post ratio) and have both proved to be great assets.

And we give attention to all the day-to-day activities that keep the RCOphth a thriving organisation as we:

- Regularly communicate with members via Eye Mail and College News
- Support CESR and Dual Sponsorship Applicants
- Support Advisory Appointment Committees
- Act a nominating body for Clinical Excellence Awards
- Carry out HR and finance functions, maintain the premises and develop our IT infrastructure.

It has been another challenging year and, whatever the bumps on the road, the dedication of staff, clinicians and lay advisers associated with the College has been extraordinary.

Kathy Evans
Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees of the College present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of the attached accounts and comply with the College's Charter, applicable laws, and the requirements 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).

The Aims, Objectives and Activities of the College

The College's strategic plan sets out its focus areas and supporting aims as follows:

Strategic focus areas 2020 – 2022	Supporting strategic aims
To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology	• to deliver our charter in ways that are relevant to modern ophthalmic care • to offer ophthalmologists in the UK and overseas, throughout their working lives, relevant training, education and guidance
To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care	• to define the UK workforce required and campaign to ensure that it is developed and sustained • to invest in research to understand the future demand for eye care • to improve service transformation through guidance and leadership
To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short	• to continue to develop a proactive public affairs programme of activity in the UK • to implement and maintain strategic membership communications
To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes	• to implement a robust operational structure supported by efficient and consistent processes • to invest in the development of our staff and recruit effectively to attract the right skills and experience • to implement a strategy to broaden our sources of income

Achievements and Performance

The achievements and performance of the College during the year are set out below in the order of the four key strategic objectives.

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

Following a year of disruption, 2021 saw the College return to running a full programme of UK based practical examinations – and the successful completion of the project to convert all examinations to an electronic format. Practical overseas examinations were disrupted by the pandemic for another year however at the time of writing this report – several international examinations would have taken place.

The College continued to run its popular one and two-day Introduction to Ophthalmic Surgery and Phacoemulsification courses for trainees during 2021. The three day 2021 Annual Congress was a virtual event for the second year running and reached over 1,300 delegates.

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

A Cataract Workforce Guidance Development Group (CWGDG) brought together The College of Optometrists, the Royal College of Nursing, ophthalmologist consultants and trainees, and patient representation, to develop cataract workforce guidance to support local eye health systems to meet increasing demand for cataract surgery, in a joined-up, sustainable and COVID-safe way.

The Cataract Services & Workforce guidance and Calculator Tool was published in March 2021. This guidance aims to support local eye health systems, service leads and commissioners to plan and deliver safe, sustainable, and efficient cataract services to meet current and future demand. It also provides a ‘workforce calculator’ to support workforce planning by calculating the staff needed to deliver cataract services using community or hospital-based pathways for the patient population.

In September 2021, the College responded to a Health Education England (HEE) call for evidence to make the case for investment in the ophthalmology workforce to meet rapidly rising patient demand.

The key points from the response recognise that:

- Patient demand for ophthalmology services will increase significantly in the coming years, due primarily to an ageing population, the rising prevalence of diabetes, and innovative treatments that require ongoing care.
- Workforce numbers are insufficient to meet patient demand now, and this problem will only worsen as patient demand rises. As well as efforts to improve retention; we need to increase the number of training places available as soon as possible. RCOphth estimates there is capacity to train at least 20 more trainees nationwide annually for the next three years.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

- To help deliver eye care services, we must also focus on training more non-ophthalmologists as part of multidisciplinary team working. Greater attention needs to be paid to creating routes for roles such as imaging specialists and technicians.
- To support the development of the next generation of ophthalmologists, HEE and other stakeholders need to work together to increase the training opportunities available in the independent sector.

The full response can be read here:

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/RCOphth-response-to-HEE-Strategic-Framework-Call-for-Evidence-6-Sept-final-1.pdf>

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

Since 2010, the National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) Audit has analysed the outcomes of cataract surgery, the most commonly performed elective operation in the NHS (England & Wales). Funding to support this important work was received from the Health Quality improvement Partnership (HQIP) to 2019. Since then, hospital trusts and corporate supporters such as Bayer and Alcon have contributed to the continued running of this important audit.

During 2021, the College expanded its audit function to include Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD), following the receipt of funding from Bayer, Novartis and Roche – along with a donation from the Macular Society. AMD remains a leading cause of sight impairment and this new audit will help to ensure that the best possible clinical outcomes can be achieved via the provision of cost effective patient care.

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

The College began a review of its governance and decision making framework in July 2020 to ensure that it would be able to adapt to changes quickly and to deliver work efficiently. Actions recommended to the Trustee Board in January 2021 have been taken forward during the year. Development work on the customer relationship management system, iMIS, continued throughout the year. The College also carried out a pay benchmarking exercise to ensure that College staff are being paid in line with similar organisations. An electronic invoice approval system was launched in November 2021 and the new College website was launched in December 2021.

A review of the finances of the College

The results for the year are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 22 with further details shown in the notes to the accounts. The overall net incoming resources before gains and losses and transfers amount to £387k (2020: net outgoing resources of £546k). This is a combination of net gains on unrestricted funds of £476k and net losses on endowment and restricted funds of £89k.

The College's total income for 2021 exceeded £5.0m due to the increase in both the number of examinations run and an increase in the number of examination candidates taking written examinations this year. The funding received for the NOD project saw income in this area increase from £339k in 2020 to £773k in 2021 – further contributing to this increase. The College's largest source of income is from membership subscriptions which rose slightly in 2021 and accounted for approximately 30% of the College's income this year (2020: 39% – due to reduced income because of the pandemic).

The resources expended totalled £4.8m of which £79k relates to expenditure against the endowment fund and £225k relates to the costs of activities funded by external parties who have given funding for restricted purposes. The remaining expenditure of £4.5m on unrestricted funds includes central costs of £2.0m which are allocated to the individual departments based on the number of staff employed in each department. The departmental expenditure both before and after this allocation is shown in more detail in note 6.

A major component of expenditure is the depreciation of the costs of 18 Stephenson Way and its installed contents and systems: this amounts to £344k. The building is being depreciated over 30 years. The electronic equipment and other moveable furniture and systems are being written off over periods of between three and ten years.

Reserves policy

The College has a policy of holding an income reserve to protect it against future and unforeseen fluctuations in its income and expenditure. Trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of no less than 6 months' running costs for the College.

At 31 December 2021, two restricted endowment funds (one permanent and one expendable) together valued at £877k, are used to fund research projects. Several restricted funds, together valued at £833k are used to fund scholarships, awards, and projects. Designated funds totalling £6.1m mostly comprise the fixed assets represented on the balance sheet.

As at 31 December 2021, general reserves amounted to just under £5.3m or 14 months of 2021's unrestricted expenditure (2020: 11.4 months).

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Trustees have agreed to use these additional reserves to fund the additional programme of work in the College's strategic plan where necessary. This includes additional work

- to carry out a review of the Ophthalmological workforce
- to review the structure, culture and governance of the College
- to improve the efficiency of the College's processes, and
- to introduce a greater focus on policy work
- to develop a learning management system and introduce a new e-portfolio.

This will result in additional expenditure that may not be covered by income receipts, but which are deemed important for the College's future.

Investment policy and performance

The College has been given, by Royal Charter, wide powers to invest monies not immediately required. The College employs a professional fund manager, Sarasin & Partners LLP to invest funds not required for its immediate use to maintain the real value of its assets and the purchasing power of its income for both current and future beneficiaries of its services. The College also wishes to minimise its risk of capital and income losses and does this by restricting the range of investment instruments and by requiring its investment portfolio to be diversified by placing its investments in a range of common investment funds specifically designed for charities.

The College has previously committed to not invest in tobacco producing companies. Trustees will continue to monitor environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, and make investment decisions via discussions held with the fund manager twice a year.

For the 12-month period ending 31 December 2021, the performance of the funds was as follows:

Fund	Portfolio	Benchmark	Peer group benchmark (ARC charity peer group)
Income Reserves and Research and Other Fund	1.3%	1.0%	3.7%
Endowment and Reserves Fund	10.2%	13.7%	12.2%

The portfolio of investments currently has a market value at 31 December 2021 of £3.7m (2020: £3.5m). As at the date of signing these accounts, the value of investments was £3.5m – having decreased over £200k because of global unrest.

Funds held as custodian trustee

The College holds funds donated to the Keeler Scholarship Fund which is a charitable fund registered separately with the Charity Commission but incorporated within these financial statements. The fund receives regular donations which are dispensed by way of a scholarship to

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

enable a member of the College to acquire further skill, knowledge or experience. Two awards were made in 2021 (2020: none).

Risk Management

The Trustees understand that they have a duty to identify the major risks to which the College is, or might be, exposed. They also have a duty to establish systems to ensure that the exposure to these risks is minimised. The key operational, reputational and financial risks are included in a risk matrix which is reviewed at each Trustee Board meeting, and action is taken to ensure that mitigation measures are in place and acted on by all staff.

Key risk	This is being managed by:
A lack of strategic leadership and direction will negatively impact on the RCOphth's ability to set strategic objectives and then align service delivery and resources to achieve agreed objectives.	- Ongoing discussions on the College's structure and decision making processes - Trustee Board monitors progress against strategic objectives
Lack of capacity in the department if new tasks being added to workload, staff not having time to undertake all tasks to required standard leading to delays or mistakes negatively affecting deadlines or quality of work.	- Effective framework for decision making via the consistent use of business plans and other decision making tools - Clarity on the College's main operational and strategic priorities to enable work to be reallocated, delayed or ceased as appropriate
Employing NHS Trusts do not allow members to spend time on College business	- Communicating the benefits of College services to a wide audience - Writing supportive letters to trusts to encourage them to release members for College work - Active promotion of College roles to widen participation rates - Encouraging the use of technology to hold meetings e.g. video conferencing

The Trustees consider that the major risks have been identified and adequate systems are in place to monitor the College's exposures and manage these risks.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and regularly review the ways in which the activities of the College are carried out to enable the College to achieve its aims and deliver public benefit. This is also considered in the planning of future activities. Some of the ways in which the work of the College delivers public benefit are by the advancement of health and education and the promotion of the profession as fundamental to integrated primary health care.

All the activities of the College are directed to ensure high standards in the practice of ophthalmology for the benefit of both the medical profession and the public.

Going concern

At 31 December 2021, the College holds more than 14 months' unrestricted reserves.

The Trustees, having reviewed scenarios on the financial position of the Charity including its forecasts and cashflows, liquidity position and existing commitments, confirm that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties impacting on the College's ability to be a going concern. Thus, the going concern basis of accounting is adopted in preparing the annual financial statements.

Plans for the future

The College aims to deliver its core services (examinations, seminars and curriculum courses) with a minimum level of disruption during 2022.

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

The College is expanding the prestigious Fellowship in Ophthalmology (FRCOphth) examinations overseas with new international host centres opening in India, Egypt and Trinidad and Tobago in 2022. More information on these new examinations can be found here:

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/news-views/rcophth-international-exams/>

In January 2022 the General Medical Council approved our new curriculum submission, subject to conditions that are stretching but achievable. It is anticipated that the revised curriculum and programme of assessment will be implemented in August 2024. The new curriculum will also require a new e-portfolio and initial scoping work has begun.

In addition to this, the College aims to introduce further tools to support its members by the implementation of a learning management system, *Inspire*, during 2022. The structure of the material on the LMS will follow that already used by the College for educational materials:

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

- Clinical Knowledge – by subspecialty
- Personal Development – Wellbeing/Mentoring/Buddying, Ophthalmic Practitioners, Trainees, SAS, New Consultants, Established Ophthalmologists
- Professional Development – Clinician, Trainer, Researcher, Manager, Leader

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

We are actively considering a proposal from the College of Optometrists to be part of a multi-professional eye care workforce supply and demand data modelling project.

The College carried out a membership survey in November 2021 to seek members' views on how the College is performing, satisfaction levels with the services and benefits and to provide a chance for the College to gather insights. Feedback was generally positive but work on developing a strategic approach to addressing members' needs will continue in 2022.

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

The College will move forward with setting up a national AMD audit, having secured funding from the Macular Society, Novartis, Roche and Bayer in 2021. The College will also be developing a new NOD website during 2022.

The College will also launch a new electronic database for the British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU) – which will enable the national collection of data on rare and important disorders in an efficient and more GDPR compliant manner.

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

Following a governance review in July 2020, the College commissioned Canham Hall Associates (CHA) to undertake a culture review to identify ways of improving ways of working across the College with a specific on:

- Values and behaviours
- Accountable and internal relationships
- Making Change
- Making Decisions
- Working in partnership

CHA submitted their first report in January 2022, and having spoken to several lay trustees, staff and clinicians, have developed seven candidate values. These values will be refined by a Pilot group comprising clinicians, staff and lay advisory members in Spring 2022 with any actions arising from this taken forward into late 2022 and 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

The College was incorporated under Royal Charter on 14 April 1988 and was registered as a charity on 2 August 1988 in England and Wales (number 299872) and on 29 May 2015 in Scotland (number SC045652).

The College is governed by the rules and regulations set down in the Ordinances and enacted within its Royal Charter.

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board is the College's governing body and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board comprises 4 College Officers posts (the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer), four members nominated from Council (two Regional Representatives and two Chairs of Standing Committees), the Chair of the Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG) and lay members appointed by the Trustee Board (three).

The Trustee Board is responsible for the governance, financial and legal aspects of the College. The members of the Trustee Board are recruited as follows:

- The President is elected by all Fellows, members and diplomates in good standing, home and overseas and the current OTG Chair is elected by the OTG. The Vice President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed following an application and interview process.
- Lay Trustees – Lay Trustees are appointed following an application and interview process, the posts are advertised in national newspapers and online.
- Chairs of Standing Committees – There are 5 Standing Committee chairs who are appointed, following an application and interview process. 2 Standing Committee chairs serve on the Trustee Board on a rotating basis.

The College provides all new Trustees with an induction pack which outlines their responsibilities and gives an overview of the College, its functions and how it operates. In addition, training is provided on a range of relevant topics both to the Trustees as a whole and to individuals or groups where specific knowledge is required.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Council

Council reports directly to the Trustee Board and meets 4 times a year. Its function is to develop the College's policy in relation to professional and clinical matters. Council comprises not more than 40 members including the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, up to 20 members elected on a geographical basis and up to four members co-opted by the Council (Ordinance 28) and members appointed by the Council (Ordinance 32). The Editor of Eye attends as of right.

Regional representatives	Region	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mrs D Sim	Moorfields	
Mr Gwyn Williams	Wales	
Mr IGM Duguid	NW Thames	
Mr M Mookhtair	Yorkshire	
Mr DC Mansfield	Scotland West	
Mr R Petrarca	South West Thames	
Mr P Puri	Trent	
Mr BJL Burton	East Anglia	
Mr A Reddy	NE Thames	
Mr IA Pearce	Mersey	
Mr M Adams	Oxford	
Mr MSM Elalfy	South East Thames	
Mr PN Hossain	Wessex	
Mr R Best	Northern Ireland	
Dr A Blake	Eire	
Dr AAE Pyott	Scotland East	(24 May 2021)
Mr A Reddy	Scotland East	25 May 2021
Mr S Sandramouli	West Midlands	(24 May 2021)
Miss S Rauz	West Midlands	25 May 2021
Prof JM Sparrow	South Western	(24 May 2021)
Miss C Bailey	South Western	25 May 2021
Mr S Mahmood	North Western	
Mrs V Manjunath	North	
Co-opted Members		
Mr D Boghani	Staff and Associate Specialists	(25 November 2021)
Dr S Maddula Batambuze	Staff and Associate Specialists	26 November 2021
Dr S Mamtora	Ophthalmologists in Training	
Will Dean	International	(10 September 2021)
Mr M Broom	Lay Advisory Group	
Prof JS Rahi	Academic sub committee	
Prof S Sivaprasad	Editor of Eye	

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports directly to the Trustee Board. It meets regularly to enact College business in a timely manner and contributes to the formulation of the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic direction of the Royal College.

It provides an opportunity for College clinical and staff leaders to consider issues of importance, or which cut across defined committee or departmental boundaries in detail before they are brought to the Trustees for further debate and a final decision and acts in accordance with the strategic plan whilst being cognisant of financial and reputational risks.

Membership of the Executive Committee comprises the College Officers, the Chairs of the Standing Committees as well as key management personnel (defined as those in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis) at the College:

	Committee/role	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mr B Chang	President	
Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President	
Mr M Gupta	Honorary Secretary	(24 May 2021)
Mrs M Hingorani	Honorary Secretary	25 May 2021
Mr M Parulekar	Honorary Secretary	25 May 2021
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer	
Miss M Corbett	Chair – Education Committee	(24 May 2021)
Ms R Ford	Chair – Education Committee	25 May 2021
Mr G Shuttleworth	Chair – Examinations Committee	
Mr W Newman	Chair – Professional Standards Committee	
Dr S Sivaprasad	Chair – Scientific Committee	
Miss AF Spencer	Chair – Training Committee	
Key Management Personnel		
Mrs K Evans	Chief Executive	
Ms E Barnes	Head of Professional Support	
Mr D Costello	Head of Examinations	
Mrs A Fedyk	Head of Education and Training	
Ms T Mtetwa	Head of Finance and Operations	
Ms E Price	Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	

The College also relies on several sub-committees to provide advice on specialist issues and to help develop policy.

Staff and Remuneration Policy

Staff remuneration is now based on a scale comprising 6 grades each with 1 entry, 3 established and 2 discretionary points. Each grade's entry range is aligned to the recruitment market median for organisations of a similar size and carrying out similar activities to the College. No staff member is paid below the London living wage.

Staff progress up the pay scale in January of each year on successful completion of an annual performance review. Key management personnel meet annually to review and agree performance review summaries for all staff – and the Remuneration Committee reviews and ratifies this decision. The Remuneration Committee reviews the performance reviews for all key management personnel and agrees their progression up the pay scale as well as the % salary increase to apply to the College's pay scale based on market data and affordability.

Fundraising Statement

Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although the College does not undertake fundraising from the public, the legislation defines fundraising as “soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes.” Where discussions with organisations have resulted in a contribution to College activities, these are allocated in the accounts as income against the activity to which the contribution arose.

The College does not use commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties to raise funds. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Senior Management Team, who are accountable to the trustees.

We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. Our terms of employment require staff to behave reasonably at all times; we do not approach individuals for funds nor do we consider it necessary to design specific procedures to monitor such activities.

Charity relationships with suppliers, customers, partners, and others

The delivery of our charitable aims and objectives is dependent on a range of relationships with universities, suppliers and others, and we are extremely grateful for the advice and support received during the past year.

The College has maintained strong and effective relationships with communities, key opinion leaders, medical research charities and the NHS to help shape and inform our policies and further our objectives to ensure high standards of ophthalmic patient care and to save the sight of the nation.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report 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, Scotland 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 for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the auditor of the College during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 7 April 2022 and signed on its behalf by

Prof Christopher Liu – Honorary Treasurer

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 December 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Auditor's 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 Royal College of Ophthalmologist'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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper 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 set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 an auditor's report 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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the audit and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 auditor's 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.

20 April 2022

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted / Endowment £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Income from:							
Charitable activities							
Subscriptions	2	1,531	–	1,531	1,466	–	1,466
Examinations	2	1,127	–	1,127	553	–	553
Education and Training	2	245	32	277	168	31	199
Professional Support	2	344	2	346	109	2	111
National Ophthalmic Database	2	698	75	773	319	20	339
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	2	774	–	774	748	–	748
Scholarships and Awards	2	10	58	68	–	28	28
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	2	–	17	17	–	29	29
Other trading activities	3	100	–	100	108	–	108
Investments	4	93	31	124	99	32	131
Total income		4,922	215	5,137	3,570	142	3,712
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities							
Examinations	5	1,432	–	1,432	1,110	–	1,110
Education and Training		1,032	78	1,110	867	81	948
Professional Support		767		767	1,001		1,001
National Ophthalmic Database		439	57	496	337	40	377
Journal "Eye" – joint venture		691	–	691	668	–	668
Scholarships and Awards		–	111	111	–	40	40
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)		85	58	143	71	43	114
Total expenditure		4,446	304	4,750	4,054	204	4,258
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains on investments		476	(89)	387	(484)	(62)	(546)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		195	–	195	191	–	191
Net income/(expenditure)	7	671	(89)	582	(293)	(62)	(355)
Transfers between funds	19	(41)	41	–	(8)	8	–
Net movement in funds		630	(48)	582	(301)	(54)	(355)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	19	10,804	1,758	12,562	11,105	1,812	12,917
Total funds carried forward	19	11,434	1,710	13,144	10,804	1,758	12,562

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 19 to the financial statements.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2021

	Note	£'000s	2021 £'000s	£'000s	2020 £'000s
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		6,082		6,269
Heritage Assets	12		58		58
Investments	13		3,734		3,474
			<u>9,874</u>		<u>9,801</u>
Current assets:					
Debtors	14	1,022		948	
Cash at bank and in hand		3,297		2,667	
		<u>4,319</u>		<u>3,615</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	1,049		854	
				<u>854</u>	
Net current assets			<u>3,270</u>		<u>2,761</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>13,144</u></u>		<u><u>12,562</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	19				
Restricted funds:					
Endowment Funds		877		925	
Restricted income funds		833		833	
			<u>1,710</u>		<u>1,758</u>
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds – functional property		6,099		6,286	
Other designated funds		60		36	
General funds		5,275		4,483	
		<u>11,434</u>		<u>10,804</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			<u>11,434</u>		<u>10,804</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>13,144</u></u>		<u><u>12,562</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 7 April 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Prof. Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Mr Bernie Chang
President

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £000's	2020 £000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	728	(342)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		124	131
Purchase of fixed assets and artwork		(157)	(138)
Purchase of investments		(65)	(66)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(98)	(73)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		630	(416)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,667	3,083
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	3,297	2,667

1 Accounting policies

- a) The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales and Scotland.

The registered office address is 18 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

b) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

Following the conversion of examinations to an electronic format and the running of a virtual Congress during 2020, the College's income levels improved significantly during 2021 as reliance on generating income from in-person activities was reduced.

The main source of uncertainty going forward is the movement in the value of investments as a result of the current global unrest – however, the College is not dependent on investment income to continue our activities.

The trustees, having reviewed a stress tested budget and cashflow, consider that there are no sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period, and therefore consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations received are credited directly to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Legacy donations are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable (i.e. when confirmation has been received that probate is granted, executors have established that there are sufficient assets to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled).

Subscriptions are accounted for on a receivable basis and credited to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate. Examination fee income is recognised when the examination takes place. Annual congress income is recognised when the event takes place. Journal 'Eye' income is an estimate based on financial forecasts received from the College's publishers, Springer Nature. The final figure is not known until July of the following year to which it relates.

f) Interest receivable

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.

g) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income from the permanent endowment fund (Bibby/Horton Scholarship) is used to part fund research fellowships jointly with the Medical Research Council.

The expendable Research Endowment Fund is used to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering examinations, training and educational activities and other services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and the associated support costs of providing these services.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of the charity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned, based on staff numbers engaged in each activity. Governance costs are apportioned on the same basis. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

j) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the same basis. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation lives in use are as follows:

● Freehold buildings	Thirty years
● Equipment, furniture and fittings	Between three and ten years
● Major computer and software systems	Between three

Heritage assets comprise historic books and other ophthalmological artefacts which are preserved and maintained in display cabinets and are not to be disposed of. These are capitalised at historic cost where the College has reliable cost information. The current net book value is believed to be at least equal to the residual value, and as such no further depreciation has been charged.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) 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.

n) 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.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

o) Pensions

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists participates in two defined benefit pension schemes, the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a funded defined benefit scheme and the NHS Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The expected cost of providing pensions is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to spread the cost over the service lives of employees in such a way that the pension cost equals the annualised long-term cash outlay to the scheme.

Both schemes are multi-employer schemes of which the assets and liabilities cannot be identified for individual employers. The accounts therefore include contributions payable on an accruals basis. Further information for both schemes is given in note 17.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

p) Investments

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading “Net (losses)/gains on investments” in the statement of financial activities.

q) Grants payable

Grants payable are shown in the year in which the award is payable. If grants are in instalments over a period longer than a year the amounts shown relate to the instalment due in the year in question.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

2a Income from charitable activities – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,531	–	1,531	1,466
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,531	–	1,531	1,466
Examination fees	1,127	–	1,127	553
Sub-total for Examinations	1,127	–	1,127	553
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	5	5	5
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	21	21	21
Fees for Skills Courses	143	–	143	104
Health Education England – OCCCF/OPT	–	–	–	–
Health Screener Diploma	–	–	–	–
Other income	102	6	108	69
Sub-total for Education and Training	245	32	277	199
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	274	–	274	64
Seminars	67	–	67	45
Other	3	2	5	2
Sub-total for Professional Support	344	2	346	111
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	24	–	24	11
Other contract income	265	–	265	–
Income from Trusts	409	–	409	227
Income from Donors	–	75	75	101
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	698	75	773	339
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	774	–	774	748
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	774	–	774	748
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	30	30	–
Jack Kanski Award	–	–	–	25
Sadhu Gupta	–	25	25	–
Other income	10	3	13	3
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	10	58	68	28
Fight for Sight	–	17	17	29
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	17	17	29
Total income from charitable activities	4,729	184	4,913	3,473

Contingent Asset

The College has a contingent asset in the form of a legacy receivable – the final value of which is dependent on the sale of a property, and therefore cannot be accurately estimated. At the date of signing the accounts, the College has received £15,000 of the legacy due.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

2b Income from charitable activities – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,466	–	1,466	1,442
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,466	–	1,466	1,442
Examination fees	553	–	553	764
Sub-total for Examinations	553	–	553	764
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	5	5	6
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	21	21	20
Fees for Skills Courses	104	–	104	155
Health Education England – OCCCCF	–	–	–	88
Health Screener Diploma	–	–	–	25
Other income	64	5	69	46
Sub-total for Education and Training	168	31	199	340
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	64	–	64	668
Optic UK for Optic lecture at Congress	45	–	45	94
Seminars	–	2	2	68
Sub-total for Professional Support	109	2	111	830
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	11	–	11	192
Income from Trusts	227	–	227	70
Income from Donors	81	20	101	38
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	319	20	339	300
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	748	–	748	710
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	748	–	748	710
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	–	–	15
Jack Kanski Award	–	25	25	–
Other income	–	3	3	14
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	–	28	28	29
Fight for Sight	–	29	29	28
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	29	29	28
Total income from charitable activities	3,363	110	3,473	4,443

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Advertising in College publications and other miscellaneous income	100	100	132

All income from trading activities in 2021 and 2020 is unrestricted.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

4a Income from investments – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	90	31	–	121	121
Bank interest	3	–	–	3	10
	<u>93</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>131</u>

4b Income from investments – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	89	32	–	121	118
Bank interest	10	–	–	10	18
	<u>99</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>136</u>

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities										
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2021 Total £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	254	267	246	89	46	–	35	–	812	1,749	1,637
Other staff costs	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	36	39	53
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	152	56	14	–	–	–	–	7	37	266	153
Property and equipment costs	–	61	–	–	–	–	–	–	196	257	172
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	344	344	299
Venue hire	204	–	34	–	–	–	–	–	–	238	303
Patients' expenses	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	4
Print, post and stationary	1	–	–	–	142	–	19	–	9	171	162
Communications and PR	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	59	62	38
Insurance	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	27	28	27
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	–	–	–	–	–	111	–	–	–	111	40
Contractors' fees	–	13	–	232	–	–	–	–	–	245	159
Other project costs and third party charges	3	–	23	28	395	–	–	–	14	463	527
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30	8	38	86
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	34	34	47
IT, telephone and software	135	45	–	5	–	–	1	–	141	327	288
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	45	45	23
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	–	26	23
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	14	14
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	84	84	63
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	87	87	60
Other costs	72	5	2	17	–	–	4	5	10	115	80
	829	447	320	373	586	111	59	82	1,943	4,750	4,258
Support costs	578	636	429	118	101	–	81	–	(1,943)	–	–
Governance costs	25	27	18	5	4	–	3	(82)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2021	1,432	1,110	767	496	691	111	143	–	–	4,750	4,258
Total expenditure 2020	1,110	948	1,001	377	668	40	114	–	–	4,258	

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities									
	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2020 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 8)	263	264	234	66	46	–	36	–	728	1,637
Other staff costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	53	53
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	82	25	10	–	–	–	–	5	31	153
Property and equipment costs	–	40	–	–	–	–	–	–	132	172
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	299	299
Venue hire	63	–	240	–	–	–	–	–	–	303
Patients' expenses	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4
Print, post and stationary	1	–	–	–	144	–	2	–	15	162
Communications and PR	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	37	38
Insurance	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	26	27
Scholarships and Awards (Note 6)	–	–	–	–	–	40	–	–	–	40
Contractors' fees	25	27	–	107	–	–	–	–	–	159
Other project costs and third party charges	1	2	121	2	385	–	3	–	13	527
Professional fees	–	–	–	79	–	–	–	5	2	86
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	47	47
IT, telephone and software	118	21	2	18	–	–	1	–	128	288
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	23
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	–	23
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	14
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	63	63
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	60	60
Other costs	39	4	11	–	3	–	1	13	9	80
	596	383	620	272	578	40	43	60	1,666	4,258
Support costs	496	545	368	101	87	–	69	–	(1,666)	–
Governance costs	18	20	13	4	3	–	2	(60)	–	–
Total expenditure 2020	1,110	948	1,001	377	668	40	114	–	–	4,258

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

6 Grant making – Scholarships and awards

Grants to individuals	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Cost		
Ashton Award	2	–
Bibby/Horton Scholarship	79	33
Keeler Scholarship	30	–
The Ethicon Scholarship	–	2
The Research Fund	–	5
At the end of the year	111	40

The basis of the grants to individuals is described in note 1.

7 Net (expenditure)/incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Depreciation	344	299
Operating lease rentals:		
Other	55	68
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	11	10
Other services	3	2

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Salaries and wages	1,386	1,307
Social security costs	149	140
Pension contributions	214	190
	1,749	1,637

Employees with salaries over £60,000 (not including National Insurance) were as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
£60,000 – £70,000	2	4
£70,000 – £80,000	2	1
£100,000 – £110,000	–	1
£110,000 – £120,000	1	–

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive and the five (2020: five) heads of department. Gross salaries, employer national insurance and employer pension contributions for key management personnel this year were £451,106, £54,939 and £72,123 respectively (2020: £431,940, £52,374 and £69,110 respectively).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

13 (2020: 12) Trustees submitted expense claims relating to meetings and College related business activities totalling £1,055 (2020: £3,561). The College also incurred £5,234 (2020: £12,642) of expenditure, paid directly to suppliers, for activities relating solely to the role of President.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Examinations	5	6
Education and Training	6	6
Professional Support	5	6
National Ophthalmological Database	2	1
Journal "Eye" joint Venture	1	1
Support	13	12
	32	32

10 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2021 (2020: none).

Aggregate donations from related parties (trustees) were £NIL (2020: £NIL).

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000s	Fixtures and fittings £'000s	Computer equipment £'000s	Heritage Assets £'000s	Total £'000s
Cost					
At the start of the year	7,005	189	1,159	85	8,438
Additions in year	–	–	157	–	157
At the end of the year	7,005	189	1,316	85	8,595
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	1,056	114	914	27	2,111
Charge for the year	174	18	152	–	344
At the end of the year	1,230	132	1,066	27	2,455
Net book value					
At the end of the year	5,775	57	250	58	6,140
At the start of the year	5,949	75	245	58	6,327

Land with a value of £1,800,000 (2020: £1,800,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Listed investments

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	3,474	3,217
Additions at cost	65	66
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	195	191
Market value at the end of the year	3,734	3,474
Historic cost	2,323	2,258
Investments comprise:		
	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
UK Common Investment Funds	3,734	3,474
	3,734	3,474

The College has made investments in two Common Investment Funds, the Alpha Fund for Endowments and the Alpha Fund for Income and Reserves

Non-adjusting post balance sheet event

The value of investments at the date of signing amounted to £3,508,000, a decrease of £229,000 on the value listed in the balance sheet.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

14 Debtors

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	263	392
Other debtors	434	385
Prepayments	46	29
Congress expenses in advance	169	32
Other event costs in advance	110	101
Subscriptions in arrears	-	9
	<u>1,022</u>	<u>948</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade creditors	333	89
Taxation and social security	14	40
Deferred income	444	420
Accruals	47	58
Other creditors	211	247
	<u>1,049</u>	<u>854</u>

16 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for examinations, training and other events taking place in the following year.

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	420	361
Amount released to income in the year	(420)	(361)
Amount deferred in the year	444	420
Balance at the end of the year	<u>444</u>	<u>420</u>

17 Pension schemes

SAUL pension

The College participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London ("SAUL"), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and was contracted-out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently-managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Pension benefits accrued within SAUL currently build up on a Career Average Revalued Earnings ("CARE") basis.

The College is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency event of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining participating employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

Funding Policy

SAUL's statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions include appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

A formal actuarial valuation of SAUL is carried out every three years by a professionally qualified and independent actuary. The last actuarial valuation was carried out with an effective date of 31 March 2020. Informal reviews of SAUL's position, reflecting changes in market conditions, cash flow information and new accrual of benefits, are carried out between formal valuations.

The funding principles were agreed by the Trustee and employers in June 2021 will be reviewed again at SAUL's next formal valuation in 2023.

At the 31 March 2020 valuation SAUL was 94% funded on its Technical Provisions basis. However, market movements following the valuation date were positive and the Trustee and Employers agreed to allow for post-valuation experience up to 30 April 2021. As SAUL was in surplus on its Technical Provisions basis at that date, no deficit contributions were required. However, the Trustee and the Employers have agreed that the ongoing Employers' contributions will increase from a rate of 16% of CARE Salaries to 19% of CARE Salaries from 1 April 2022 and to 21% of CARE Salaries from 1 January 2023.

Accounting Policy

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is a Participating Employer in SAUL. The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers. As a whole, the market value of SAUL's assets at 31 March 2020 was £3,612 million representing 94% of the liabilities. The market value of SAUL's assets at 30 April 2021 was £4,369 million representing 109% of the estimated liabilities.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The College accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraphs 28.11 of FRS 102.

Although there was a Technical Provisions deficit at 31 March 2020, allowing for post valuation experience to 30 April 2021, SAUL had a Technical Provisions surplus. Therefore, no deficit contributions were required following the 2020 valuation and there is no defined benefit liability (i.e. the present value of any deficit member contributions due to SAUL) to be recognised by the College. Employer Contributions paid in 2021 were £209,000 (2020: £183,000).

17 Pension schemes (continued)

NHS pension

One member of staff is in the NHS Pension Scheme, an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The total employer contribution payable in 2021 was £6,000 (2020: £6,000).

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the two NHS Pension Schemes. Details of the benefits payable and rules of the Schemes can be found on the NHS Pensions website at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions. Both are unfunded defined benefit schemes that cover NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies, allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in England and Wales. They are not designed to be run in a way that would enable NHS bodies to identify their share of the underlying scheme assets and liabilities. Therefore, each scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme: the cost to the NHS body of participating in each scheme is taken as equal to the contributions payable to that scheme for the accounting period.

In order that the defined benefit obligations recognised in the financial statements do not differ materially from those that would be determined at the reporting date by a formal actuarial valuation, the FReM requires that “the period between formal valuations shall be four years, with approximate assessments in intervening years”. An outline of these follows:

a) Accounting valuation

A valuation of scheme liability is carried out annually by the scheme actuary (currently the Government Actuary’s Department) as at the end of the reporting period. This utilises an actuarial assessment for the previous accounting period in conjunction with updated membership and financial data for the current reporting period, and is accepted as providing suitably robust figures for financial reporting purposes. The valuation of the scheme liability as at 31 March 2020, is based on valuation data as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020 with summary global member and accounting data. In undertaking this actuarial assessment, the methodology prescribed in IAS 19, relevant FReM interpretations, and the discount rate prescribed by HM Treasury have also been used.

The latest assessment of the liabilities of the scheme is contained in the report of the scheme actuary, which forms part of the annual NHS Pension Scheme Accounts. These accounts can be viewed on the NHS Pensions website and are published annually. Copies can also be obtained from The Stationery Office.

b) Full actuarial (funding) valuation

The purpose of this valuation is to assess the level of liability in respect of the benefits due under the schemes (taking into account recent demographic experience), and to recommend contribution rates payable by employees and employers.

The latest actuarial valuation undertaken for the NHS Pension Scheme was completed as at 31 March 2016. The results of this valuation set the employer contribution rate payable from April 2019 to 20.6%, and the Scheme Regulations were amended accordingly.

The 2016 funding valuation was also expected to test the cost of the Scheme relative to the employer cost cap set following the 2012 valuation. Following a judgment from the Court of Appeal in December 2018 Government announced a pause to that part of the valuation process pending conclusion of the continuing legal process.

18a Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	6,099	41	6,140
Investments	2,457	–	1,277	3,734
Net current assets	2,818	60	392	3,270
Net assets at the end of the year – 2021	5,275	6,159	1,710	13,144

18b Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	6,286	41	6,327
Investments	2,243	–	1,231	3,474
Net current assets	2,239	36	486	2,761
Net assets at the end of the year – 2020	4,482	6,322	1,758	12,562

19a Movements in funds – current year

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income & gains £'000s	Expenditure & losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	715	27	(79)	–	663
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	210	4	–	–	214
	925	31	(79)	–	877
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	32	–	(7)	–	25
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	91	21	(7)	–	105
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	13	–	(13)	–	–
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	45	–	(8)	–	37
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	5	(5)	–	84
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	49	–	(32)	–	17
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	10	(10)	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	45	65	(47)	–	63
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	5	(5)	–	–
	393	106	(134)	–	365

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	133	4	–	–	137
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	25	–	–	–	25
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	30	(30)	–	21
▪ The Sadhu Gupta Award	–	25	–	–	25
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	235	59	(30)	–	264
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	–	–	–	104
▪ The Ashton Lecture	2	1	(3)	–	–
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	55	1	–	–	56
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	–	–	–	–	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	–	–	3
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	–	–	–	–	–
	205	2	(3)	–	204
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	17	(58)	41	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	833	184	(225)	41	833
Total Restricted Funds	1,758	215	(304)	41	1,710

19a Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	10	14	–	–	25
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ The Foulds Trophy	–	10	–	–	10
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,286	–	–	(187)	6,099
<i>Total designated funds</i>	6,322	24	–	(187)	6,159
General funds	4,482	4,898	(4,251)	146	5,275
Total unrestricted funds	10,804	4,922	(4,251)	(41)	11,434
Total restricted funds	1,758	215	(304)	41	1,710
Total funds	12,562	5,137	(4,555)	–	13,144

19b Movements in funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2020 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2020 £'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	721	27	(33)	–	715
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	210	5	(5)	–	210
	931	31	(38)	–	925
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	37	–	(5)	–	32
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	75	21	(5)	–	91
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	24	–	(11)	–	12
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	46	–	(1)	–	45
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	5	(5)	–	84
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project	99	–	(50)	–	49
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	20	(20)	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	–	–	(20)	65	45
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	4	(4)	–	–
	399	50	(121)	65	393

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 2020

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2020 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2020 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	130	5	(2)	–	134
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	–	25	–	–	25
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	–	–	–	21
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	207	30	(2)	–	235
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	–	–	–	104
▪ The Ashton Lecture	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	54	1	–	–	55
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	65	–	–	(65)	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	–	–	3
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	6	–	–	(6)	–
	275	1	–	(71)	205
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	29	(43)	14	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	881	110	(166)	8	833
Total Restricted Funds	1,812	142	(204)	8	1,758

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 2020

19b Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2020 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2020 £'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	5	7	(2)	–	10
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,432	–	–	(146)	6,286
<i>Total designated funds</i>	6,463	7	(2)	(146)	6,322
General funds	4,642	3,563	(3,861)	138	4,482
Total unrestricted funds	11,105	3,570	(3,863)	(8)	10,804
Total restricted funds	1,812	142	(204)	8	1,758
Total funds	12,917	3,712	(4,067)	–	12,562

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Purposes of the Endowment Funds

The Bibby/Horton Scholarship

The late Miss Bernice Bibby left the College a substantial sum to create a permanent endowment fund, to provide for fellowships at post graduate level. The income from this endowment fund and from the related restricted fund will continue to be used to part fund research fellowships.

Research Endowment Fund

The Research Endowment Fund, an expendable endowment fund, was set up in 2008 to assure a stable mechanism to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Purposes of the Other Restricted Funds

Medical Training Initiative. The College has received funds from the Department of Health and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to support a scheme placing overseas doctors wishing to train as ophthalmologists in the UK before returning to their own country to practice. The priority focus of the MTI is to provide training opportunities for doctors from DfID priority or low and middle income countries.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training. The College received funding from the Medical Research Council Hearing and Communications Group to develop a curriculum for medical scientists working in ophthalmology.

Dual Sponsorship Scheme. The College has received funding from the Department of Health to match overseas doctors wishing to undertake specialist training in the UK with appropriate training settings.

E-Learning (Health Education England) and E-learning (Department of Health). The College has received funds from the Department of Health and related organisations to support the College's contribution to the UK E-Learning for Health project for aspect of the curriculum for trainee ophthalmologists.

E- Learning – E-Integrity Project. The College has received funds from the Department of Health for an additional e-learning project to provide resources for those providing training to ophthalmologists.

E-learning Maintenance. The College received funds to maintain the electronic resources produced using the funding received above.

Revalidation E-Cohort. The College has received funding from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to enable it to participate in a cohort scheme with other medical colleges and faculties to develop a system for collecting information for doctor appraisal. The development of the scheme was completed in 2012 and the remaining funding will be used to support and maintain the system, at no cost to members, for an initial period.

OPT (formerly OCCCF) Project. The Ophthalmological Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCF) project was funded by Health Education England (HEE) and has been developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT). OPT trains postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses in secondary care to develop their skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina or emergency eye care.

NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb is a grant awarded to the College to carry out work on the National Ophthalmology Database now no longer funded by HQIP.

NOD AMD audit is funded in 2020 from a transfer from the Elizabeth Thomas Seminar fund, which was originally funded by the Macular Society. This funding will be used to set up the NOD AMD audit during 2020 and 2021. The fund also includes a contribution from Alcon.

Educational Website ST1 trainees. The College received funds from Bayer to subsidise access for ST1 trainees to an educational website with relevant learning content and advice for trainees at this level.

The Ethicon Scholarship provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for research or training.

The Jack Kanski Award is a lifetime achievement award to recognise passion, commitment and achievement in Ophthalmic Education. The fund was created in memory of Mr Jack Kanski who was an eminent ophthalmologist and Honorary Fellow who died in 2019.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

The Keeler Scholarship provides financial assistance to members and fellows to acquire ophthalmic skills, knowledge or experience.

The Sadhu Gupta Award will provide an award for the best performing international candidate in a RCOphth examination. This is a way to promote learning and increase the global level of ophthalmic knowledge.

John Lee Research Fund. The College established a fund in memory of Mr John Lee who died in 2010 during his term as President. The fund is used to fund research fellowships in ophthalmology jointly with the Medical Research Council and with Fight for Sight.

The Nettleship Fund provides a medal award every four years for the best paper on ophthalmology published in the preceding four years.

The Lister Award provides travel funds for study to any ophthalmologist who is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Edridge–Green Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture given at the Annual Meeting every year.

The Dorey Bequest provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for study or research.

The second Bibby Horton Scholarship Fund receives the income from the Bibby Horton Endowment Fund which is not used in the year. In the immediate future years part of the College's financial commitment to a research projects including fellowships will be met from this fund.

The Ashton Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture to be given at the Annual Meeting every four years or at the discretion of the Council.

Professor Barrie Jones provided funds for a lecture on the subject of preventative ophthalmology in the developing world to be given every four years at the Annual Congress.

Elizabeth Thomas Seminar Fund. The Macular Society has made donations, in memory of Elizabeth Thomas, which have supported an annual seminar on macular disease. The Macular Society has agreed a change of use of this fund which will now be used to support the College's aim to start an AMD national audit.

The Optic Lecture. Optic UK provides funding for a lecture at the annual Congress.

Winstanley Fund. The College acquired a collection of antiquarian ophthalmic books from Mr John Winstanley which are housed in the College.

The Peter Curran Bequest was given for the purchase of works of art to be displayed in the College. The initial purchase was sold during 2015 and the proceeds will be reinvested in a work of art appropriate to both ophthalmology and the new setting of the College's headquarters.

London Deanery Equipment Fund. The London Deanery of the NHS has provided funding for the College to acquire an ophthalmic surgery simulator which is used in a range of training situations. This fund was fully expended in 2019.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit operates a national system to assist with the surveillance of rare ophthalmological conditions. The College meets the costs of providing accommodation and office support services. Further funding is provided by Fight for Sight.

The Duke–Elder Memorial was set up in memory of Sir Stewart Duke–Elder, an eminent ophthalmologist and prolific writer. The fund has been used to support the Duke–Elder examinations which are open to medical undergraduates in the UK and Eire. When the funds come to an end the College will continue to fund an examination and a prize to be known as "The Royal College of Ophthalmologists – Duke–Elder Prize".

The Patrick Trevor–Roper Travel Awards Fund provides the Council with wide discretion and it has been decided that the income of this fund is to be used to provide travel funds for medical undergraduates travelling abroad for research or training.

19 Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

John Lee Memorial Research Fund – the College established a restricted fund in 2011 to commemorate the contribution to ophthalmology of the late President with a joint MRC/College research fellowship the first of which completed in 2015. This fund represents the College's designation for the same purpose.

The Council was given wide discretion over funds transferred from the **Anne Allerton Fund**. Part of this fund was used to support the purchase of a second cataract simulator in 2016.

Professor Wallace Foulds left a legacy to continue the payment of **The Foulds Trophy** prize. It has been left to the discretion of the Trustees to use these funds in any way they feel necessary but Trustees have agreed to use the fund as Professor Foulds intended.

The **Property and Equipment Fund** represents the value of the fixed assets held by the College excluding the assets held in the Winstanley Fund which are shown separately (above).

20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	582	(355)
Depreciation charges	344	299
(Gains)/losses on investments	(195)	(191)
Dividends and interest from investments	(124)	(131)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(74)	95
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	195	(60)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	728	(343)

21 Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	At 1 January 2021 £'000s	Cash flows £'000s	At 31 December 2021 £'000s
Cash in hand	2,067	630	2,697
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	600	–	600
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,667	630	3,297

22 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Equipment 2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Less than 1 year	14	13
1 – 5 Years	41	55
	55	68

23 Capital commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had committed £NIL in respect of the development of a new website and £33k for the development of the new CRM (2020: £NIL for a new website, £37k for the CRM).

Accounts



Charity Number: 299872
in England and Wales
SC045652 in Scotland

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

For the year ended 31 December 2020

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Contents

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Reference and administrative details	1
Report of the Trustees.....	4
Independent auditor's report	18
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)	22
Balance sheet	23
Statement of cash flows.....	24
Notes to the financial statements	25

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Charity number 299872 in England and Wales and SC045652 in Scotland

Registered office and operational address 18 Stephenson Way
London
NW1 2HD

Trustees The Trustees of the College who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Mr MA Burdon	President – to 20 May 2020
Mr B Chang	President – from 21 May 2020
Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President
Mr N Wilson–Holt	Honorary Treasurer – to 7 July 2020*
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer – from 19 November 2020
Mr M Gupta	Honorary Secretary
Miss M Corbett	Member Trustee – from 21 May 2020
Mr MSM Elalfy	Member Trustee
Mrs M Hingorani	Member Trustee – from 21 May 2020
Mr PN Hossain	Member Trustee
Dr V Kirthi	Member Trustee – to 20 November 2020
Dr S Mamtora	Member Trustee – from 23 November 2020
Miss AF Spencer	Member Trustee – to 20 May 2020
Mr RH Taylor	Member Trustee – to 20 May 2020
Mr GG Cropper	Lay Trustee – to 19 November 2020
Lord PA Hunt	Lay Trustee
Mr B Smith	Lay Trustee
Dr A Welchman	Lay Trustee – from 4 December 2020

Investment managers	Solicitors	Auditor
Juxon House	Camerons Solicitors LLP	Sayer Vincent LLP
100 St Paul's Churchyard	70 Wimpole Street	Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
London	London	Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane
EC4M 8BU	W1G 8AX	EC1Y 0TL

*Mr Wilson–Holt died in July 2020. He was greatly respected by clinicians, staff and patients; the Trustees pay tribute to his outstanding contribution as Honorary Treasurer.

Foreword from the Chief Executive

Anyone interested in the use of English will find much to consider in the analysis produced by Oxford Languages 2020 – Words of an unprecedented year. <https://languages.oup.com/word-of-the-year/2020/>

It concluded that this year “cannot be neatly accommodated in one single word”.

I disagree and my word of the year is Covid-19, first known to be used in February 2020 by the World Health Organisation. While this report is peppered with words that would have been unfamiliar in 2019, the coronavirus disease has dominated our thinking and our actions since March when we closed the College for an initial 30 days. The transition to working from home went remarkably smoothly and we quickly adapted to Zoom meetings and the need to unmute before speaking.

In the event we kept the College closed completely until September when we returned on specified days for core business purposes, mainly to run courses and for some exam admin. The building had been well maintained by the Facilities Manager and everything worked satisfactorily. The refurbishment of building opposite was largely completed in our absence, but the area remained dominated by HS2 preparations and was strangely empty.

Remote working brings challenges; while many enjoy the freedom from commuting and some reported in a staff survey enhanced feelings of wellbeing, there is the danger of social isolation. In response, the College increased its training opportunities and we have had a series of webinars on topics such as managing mental health, equality and diversity, privilege and unconscious bias, leavened by a smattering of quizzes, social gatherings and, on one of the hottest days of the year, a chocolate making session.

Early on in lockdown we set up the COVID-19 Action Team. It initially met daily to produce guidance and step in to resolve local problems. It now meets on a weekly basis and its focus is on restoring ophthalmology services. <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/about/rcophth-guidance-on-restoring-ophthalmology-services/>

Of particular note, this year we have:

- Transformed the way written exams have been delivered. In a couple of years we have gone from a format that 19th century surgeons would recognise to computer-based exams taken at a place of the candidates choosing.
- Delivered the FRCOphth Part2 Oral using videos of patients rather than actual patients; trainees have appreciated the care this required from the Exams Team.
- Continued to run courses in the Skills Centre where we have been able to maintain social distancing (another 2020 word) and the feedback has been very positive.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

- Learned to run webinars, seminars, the AGM and committee meetings on-line. We had to cancel the Annual Congress planned for May 2020, which was a great shame, but we are making plans to come back stronger in 2021.
- Ramped up plans to start an AMD National Audit, whilst maintaining the Cataract National Audit.
- Developed the Cataract Workforce Project, soon to be published.
- Introduced a new HR system and a new database.

And all the while we have continued to:

- Regularly communicate with members via EYEMail and College News.
- Produce monthly issues of the journal EYE.
- Support CESR and Dual Sponsorship Scheme Applicants.
- Develop the Ophthalmic Community Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCCF) into the Ophthalmic Practitioners Training (OPT) programme for the allied graduate professionals.
- Support Advisory Appointment Committees.
- Pay suppliers, collect subscriptions and other fees, process the payroll and attend to all the regulatory commitments of running a Charity.

Throughout this unprecedented and extraordinary year, the contribution of the staff team, the clinicians connected with the College, the Lay Advisors, Council and Trustees has been immense.

Kathy Evans
Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees of the College present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 22 to 49 of the attached accounts and comply with the College's Charter, applicable laws, and the requirements 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 2015).

The Aims, Objectives and Activities of the College

The College's strategic plan sets out its focus areas and supporting aims as follows:

Strategic focus areas 2020 – 2022	Supporting strategic aims
To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology	• to deliver our charter in ways that are relevant to modern ophthalmic care • to offer ophthalmologists in the UK and overseas, throughout their working lives, relevant training, education and guidance
To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care	• to define the UK workforce required and campaign to ensure that it is developed and sustained • to invest in research to understand the future demand for eye care • to improve service transformation through guidance and leadership
To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short	• to continue to develop a proactive public affairs programme of activity in the UK • to implement and maintain strategic membership communications
To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes	• to implement a robust operational structure supported by efficient and consistent processes • to invest in the development of our staff and recruit effectively to attract the right skills and experience • to implement a strategy to broaden our sources of income

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Achievements and Performance

Last year's accounts were signed in April 2020 – just as COVID 19 was taking hold and beginning to impact the College's operations significantly. The College's offices were closed for business from 23 March 2020, and all staff were asked to work from home, which they still do at the date of signing of this report. Despite significant disruption to the College's activities during the period of national lockdown, resulting in the postponement and cancellation of many of our in person examinations and seminars – the College has still managed to maintain high levels of activity.

Working with our clinicians and external stakeholders, the College produced the following guidance and documentation to continue to engage with and provide guidance to members during the pandemic:

- COVID-19 Urgent Eyecare Service specification (CUES)
- Principles for the restarting of elective care services PPE and Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGP) principles for ophthalmology
- Non-contact tonometry and IOL COVID19
- RCOphth UKISCRS COVID cataract surgery restoring services 070520
- Prioritisation of ophthalmic outpatient appointments
- Prioritisation of ophthalmic procedures COVID19 060520
- Reopening and redeveloping ophthalmology services during COVID-19 – Interim guidance 290420
- Guidance on restarting Medical Retina Services
- RCOphth UKEGS Glaucoma management plans during recovery phase of COVID 020820
- Restarting and Redesigning of Cataract Pathways in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Resumption of Paediatric Ophthalmology Services during COVID-19
- Mitigating the Impact on Academic Ophthalmology and Ophthalmic Research

The achievements and performance of the College during the year are set out below in the order of the four key strategic objectives.

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

The College continued its aim to develop electronic examinations – a project that was accelerated because of the pandemic. Having just secured the facility for examinations candidates to take written exams at computer based testing centres, the pandemic necessitated a move to the delivery of online proctored examinations which could be delivered to and taken by candidates in their own homes. The College was able to run its overseas practical examination in Singapore in early 2020 but was forced to cancel its refraction exam in Malaysia. Both examinations are scheduled to run in 2021.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

The College also ran its recently re-formatted one and two-day Introduction to Ophthalmic Surgery and Phacoemulsification courses for trainees during 2020. These courses were run in Q3 and Q4 of 2020 as planned, albeit with reduced numbers due to social distancing requirements.

In addition to the production of the COVID specific guidance and documents listed above, the College produced a guideline document entitled ***Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Retinopathy: Recommendations on Monitoring***, following the publication of the RCOphth recommendations for monitoring in hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine users in 2018. This guideline was published due to recent data providing new evidence of hydroxychloroquine retinopathy being more common than previously reported.

The Annual Congress 2020 scheduled to run in May 2020 was cancelled and re-run as a smaller online event in October 2020. The College was also able to convert several seminars to webinars.

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

The College has committed to carrying out a Workforce Project over the current strategic period to help address workforce issues identified in the 2018 workforce survey. In November 2020, the College embarked on a Cataract Workforce Project and opened a **RCOphth Cataract Workforce Guidance Consultation** to seek views on the proposed RCOphth Cataract Workforce Guidance. This guidance aims to facilitate streamlining the cataract referral pathways and help implement the pathways at a local level.

The College has also continued to use funding received from Health Education England to continue to develop and roll out the Ophthalmology Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCF), a training programme for postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses working in secondary care to help develop skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina and emergency eye care. This framework was developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT) and was ready to be implemented in all units from March 2020.

The College will continue to engage with the Government about the impact of changes to the NHS as they affect ophthalmologists and the practice of ophthalmology to ensure that patients receive the best possible treatment and care.

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

Since August 2019, the College has sourced funding from Trusts and other interested parties to ensure that the Cataract National Ophthalmology Data audit can continue, with donations received from Bayer and Alcon. The fourth prospective National Ophthalmology Database (NOD) Audit report on cataract surgery performed in England, Wales and Guernsey during 01 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 was published on 15 September 2020. The NOD Audit Annual Report 2020 and the Key Findings Summary 2020 are available for download [here](#).

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

In December 2020, the College publicised that its **Eye to Eye Podcast** had been listed as one of Eye News' top five podcasts for trainees to listen to. In addition, the podcast has had its 10,000th listen. Reaching these two major milestones in the same week is testament to the popularity of this broadcast. The podcast is hosted by Doctor Sunil Mamtora, an Ophthalmology Trainee, but has content that all Ophthalmic healthcare professionals can enjoy.

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

The College has begun a review of its governance and decision making framework to ensure that it is able to adapt to changes quickly and to deliver work efficiently is set up.

In addition to the changes made to the delivery of examinations noted above, the College has continued to focus on improving the efficiency of its processes during 2020 by launching a new customer relationship management system, iMIS. The College also moved to an electronic HR system to support its aim to reduce its reliance on paper. The College has also continued its work to develop a new and more engaging website.

A review of the finances of the College

The results for the year are summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 22 with further details shown in the notes to the accounts. The overall net outgoing resources before gains and losses and transfers amount to £546,000 (2019: net outgoing resources of £335,000). This is combination of net losses on unrestricted, endowment and restricted funds of the College of £484,000, £6,000 and £56,000.

The College's total income for 2020 was approximately £1m lower than in 2019 due mainly to the cancellation of its annual congress (which generated ££670,000 in 2019 vs £14,000 in 2020) and a reduction in examination income because of the COVID pandemic. The College's largest source of income is from membership subscriptions which rose slightly in 2020 and accounted for approximately 39% of the College's (reduced) income this year (2019: 30%).

The resources expended totalled £4,258,000 of which £38,000 relates to expenditure against the endowment fund and £166,000 relates to the costs of activities funded by external parties who have given funding for restricted purposes. The remaining expenditure of £4,054,000 on unrestricted funds includes central costs of £1,726,000 which are allocated to the individual departments based on the number of staff employed in each department. The departmental expenditure both before and after this allocation is shown in more detail in note 6.

A major component of expenditure is the depreciation of the costs of 18 Stephenson Way and its installed contents and systems: this amounts to £299,000. The building is being depreciated over 30 years. The electronic equipment and other moveable furniture and systems are being written off over periods of between three and ten years.

Reserves policy

The College has a policy of holding an income reserve to protect it against future and unforeseen fluctuations in its income and expenditure, particularly in the current period of change regarding the College's role in training and education and its need to support ophthalmologists.

The College holds a mixture of restricted, designated and unrestricted funds. Two endowment funds (one permanent and one expendable) together valued at £925,000 at 31 December 2020 are used to fund research projects. Several restricted funds, together valued at £833,000 at 31 December 2020 are used to fund scholarships, awards, and projects. Designated funds totalling £6,286,000 at 31 December 2020 mostly comprise the fixed assets represented on the balance sheet at 31 December 2020.

Trustees have agreed to fund the additional programme of work in the College's strategic plan using the College's reserves where necessary. This includes additional work

- to carry out a review of the Ophthalmological workforce
- to review the structure of the College
- to improve the efficiency of the College's processes, and
- to introduce a greater focus on public affairs and policy work

and will result in additional expenditure that may not be covered by income receipts, but which are deemed important for the College's future. With that in mind, the Trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of no less than 6 months' running costs for the College.

As at 31 December 2020, general reserves amounted to just under £4,500,000 or 11.4 months of 2019's unrestricted expenditure (2019: 11.8 months).

Investment policy and performance

The College has been given, by Royal Charter, wide powers to invest monies not immediately required. It has appointed Sarasin & Partners LLP as investment managers.

The College aims to invest funds not required for its immediate use to maintain the real value of its assets and the purchasing power of its income for both current and future beneficiaries of its services. The College also wishes to minimise its risk of capital and income losses. It does this by employing a professional fund manager, by restricting the range of investment instruments and by requiring its investment portfolio to be diversified by placing its investments in a range of common investment funds specifically designed for charities. For 2020, the performance of the funds was as follows:

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Fund	Portfolio	Benchmark	Peer group benchmark (ARC charity peer group)
Income Reserves and Research and Other Fund	7.8%	6.7%	3.9%
Endowment and Reserves Fund	9.6%	6.8%	3.8%

The portfolio of investments currently has a market value at 31 December 2020 of £3,474,000 (2019: £3,227,000).

Funds held as custodian trustee

The College holds funds donated to the Keeler Scholarship Fund which is a charitable fund registered separately with the Charity Commission but incorporated within these financial statements. The fund receives regular donations which are dispensed by way of a scholarship to enable a member of the College to acquire further skill, knowledge or experience. No awards were made in 2020 (2019: none).

Risk Management

The Trustees understand that they have a duty to identify the major risks to which the College is, or might be, exposed. They also have a duty to establish systems to ensure that the exposure to these risks is minimised. The key operational, reputational and financial risks are included in a risk matrix which is reviewed at each Trustee Board meeting, and action is taken to ensure that mitigation measures are in place and acted on by all staff.

Key risk	This is being managed by:
A lack of strategic leadership and direction will negatively impact on the RCOphth's ability to set strategic objectives and then align service delivery and resources to achieve agreed objectives. This to be set against COVID-19 and restructuring uncertainties.	- Ongoing discussions on the College's structure and decision making processes - Trustee Board monitors progress against strategic objectives
Continued impact of Covid-19 leading to a major reduction in income, especially on the College's annual congress and examinations	- Effective framework for longer term financial planning - Monitoring of actual performance against budget - Effective collection of income due
Employing NHS Trusts do not allow members to spend time on College business	Communicating the benefits of College services to a wide audience

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	• Writing supportive letters to trusts to encourage them to release members for College work • Active promotion of College roles to widen participation rates • Encouraging the use of technology to hold meetings e.g. video conferencing
• Failure in infrastructure with an asset base that does not support RCOphth objectives	• Maintaining an up to date disaster recovery plan • Regular meetings with IT service providers • Active maintenance of College assets to ensure they support the College's objectives • Having support contracts in place • Strong ICT and facilities planning

The Trustees consider that the major risks have been identified and adequate systems are in place to monitor the College's exposures and manage these risks.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and regularly review the ways in which the activities of the College are carried out to enable the College to achieve its aims and deliver public benefit. This is also considered in the planning of future activities. Some of the ways in which the work of the College delivers public benefit are by the advancement of health and education and the promotion of the profession as fundamental to integrated primary health care.

All the activities of the College are directed to ensure high standards in the practice of ophthalmology for the benefit of both the medical profession and the public.

Going concern

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to have a significant impact on the College. A year after the date of the last report, College staff continue to work from home – and so far, there continue to be changes to the programme of events planned by the College during 2021.

The College has decided to cancel the refraction examination scheduled for January 2021 and will instead run a larger examination in May. Although this does not have a negative effect on the College's finances – it does evidence the College's need to adapt quickly to the still fluid circumstances because of COVID-19.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

One significant area of uncertainty surrounds the College's annual Congress – scheduled to run in May 2021. The College had planned to run a hybrid event – one where members would both attend Congress in Liverpool as well as providing sessions online. However, the College will now run a fully virtual event in May 2021. Congress usually generates a surplus of more than £200,000 for the College – with this surplus used to subsidise less profitable but vital activities at the College such as examinations and training. At the time of writing this report the College is unable to confidently predict the income that will be generated from this event – however it is anticipated that the event will at least break even.

Trustees and senior management continue to monitor the situation closely – and have been provided with a revised budget for 2021 which analyses best, worst and most likely scenarios. Trustees have also been provided with an assessment of the effect on the College's cash position at the end of 2021 and continue to review the risks to the College.

At 31 December 2020, the College holds more than 11 months' unrestricted reserves and can absorb the impact of this outbreak in the short term.

The Trustees, having reviewed scenarios on the financial position of the Charity including its forecasts and cashflows, liquidity position and existing commitments, confirm that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties impacting on the College's ability to be a going concern. Thus, the going concern basis of accounting is adopted in preparing the annual financial statement

Plans for the future

The College aims to deliver its core services (examinations, seminars and curriculum courses) with a minimum level of disruption during 2021.

Strategic Area 1 – To empower all our members to achieve the life-long learning and expertise needed for the future of ophthalmology

The College will continue its development of a new Curriculum for Ophthalmic Specialist Training as part of the GMC reform agenda (now due by 2023). In addition to this, the College aims to introduce further tools to support its members by the implementation of a learning management system during 2021. The structure of the material on the LMS will follow that already used by the College for educational materials:

- Clinical Knowledge – by subspecialty
- Personal Development – Wellbeing/Mentoring/Buddying, Ophthalmic Practitioners, Trainees, SAS, New Consultants, Established Ophthalmologists
- Professional Development – Clinician, Trainer, Researcher, Manager, Leader

Strategic Area 2 – To define the workforce and resources needed to deliver safe sustainable care

2021 will see the College take the results of the RCOphth Cataract Workforce Guidance consultation (which started in November 2020 to seek views on the proposed RCOphth Cataract Workforce Guidance) to help quantify the demand for cataract surgery over the next 10 years and define the workforce required to meet this demand in a sustainable way. This important work is being carried out in response to increasing vacancies for eye consultants in the UK in 2018, and the need for clarity on how to address the problem.

The College plans to carry out membership survey in June 2021 to seek members' views on how the College is performing, satisfaction levels with the services and benefits and to provide a chance for the College to gather insights.

Strategic Area 3 – To promote the highest achievable standards of eye care and speak out if care falls short

The College has committed to a three year project to develop an Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) national audit, in addition to the Cataract audit which is ongoing. AMD remains a leading cause of sight impairment – and the College aims to set up an audit to report on outcomes on AMD treatments in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Using funding from the Macular Society, the College embarked on a project to assess the feasibility of setting up the audit. Discussions with funders to support this vital work are ongoing with the aim that the project begins in earnest in late 2021.

The College will also launch a new electronic database for the British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU) – which will enable the national collection of data on rare and important disorders in an efficient and more GDPR compliant manner.

Strategic Area 4 – To deliver our work through efficient, flexible and transparent processes

The College has begun a wide programme of works to improve its efficiency and processes. In July 2020, the College employed the services of an external consultant to review and suggest improvements to the College's governance processes. Initial findings from the first part of this review are being discussed by Trustees, Committee members and College staff.

The College continues to undergo a digital transformation. Work on the recently launched customer relationship management system, iMIS continues in 2021. The new system should enable the College to better connect its members to each other – as well as to the College.

The College continues its project to deliver a new website – which is due for launch by summer 2021.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Structure, Governance and Management

The College was incorporated under Royal Charter on 14 April 1988 and was registered as a charity on 2 August 1988 in England and Wales (number 299872) and on 29 May 2015 in Scotland (number SC045652).

The College is governed by the rules and regulations set down in the Ordinances and enacted within its Royal Charter.

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board is the College's governing body and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board comprises 4 College Officers (the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer), four members nominated from Council (two Regional Representatives and two Chairs of Standing Committees), the Chair of the Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG) and lay members appointed by the Trustee Board (three).

The Trustee Board is responsible for the governance, financial and legal aspects of the College.

The members of the Trustee Board are recruited as follows:

- The President is elected by all Fellows, members and diplomates in good standing, home and overseas and the current OTG Chair is elected by the OTG. The Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed following an application and interview process.
- Lay Trustees – Lay Trustees are appointed following an application and interview process, the posts are advertised in national newspapers and online.
- Chairs of Standing Committees – There are 6 Standing Committee chairs who are appointed, following an application and interview process. 2 Standing Committee chairs serve on the Trustee Board on a rotating basis.

The College provides all new Trustees with an induction pack which outlines their responsibilities and gives an overview of the College, its functions and how it operates. In addition, training is provided on a range of relevant topics both to the Trustees as a whole and to individuals or groups where specific knowledge is required.

Council

Council reports directly to the Trustee Board and meets 4 times a year. Its function is to develop the College's policy in relation to professional and clinical matters. Council comprises not more than 40 members including the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, up to 20 members

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

elected on a geographical basis and up to four members co-opted by the Council (Ordinance 28) and members appointed by the Council (Ordinance 32). The Editor of Eye attends as of right.

Regional representatives	Region	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mrs D Sim	Moorfields	
Mr A Raghu Ram	Wales	(3 December 2020)
Mr Gwyn Williams	Wales	4 December 2020
Mr IGM Duguid	NW Thames	
Mr M Mookhtair	Yorkshire	
Mr DC Mansfield	Scotland West	
Mr R Petrarca	South West Thames	
Mr P Puri	Trent	
Mr BJL Burton	East Anglia	
Mr A Reddy	NE Thames	
Mr IA Pearce	Mersey	
Mr M Adams	Oxford	
Mr MSM Elalfy	South East Thames	
Mr PN Hossain	Wessex	
Miss G Silvestri	Northern Ireland	(20 May 2020)
Mr R Best	Northern Ireland	21 May 2020
Dr A Blake	Eire	
Dr AAE Pyott	Scotland East	
Mr S Sandramouli	West Midlands	
Prof JM Sparrow	South West	
Mr S Mahmood	North West	
Mrs V Manjunath	North	
Co-opted Members		
Mr D Boghani	Staff and Associate Specialists	
Dr V Kirthi	Ophthalmologists in Training	(20 November 2020)
Dr S Mamtora	Ophthalmologists in Training	23 November 2020
Mr W Dean	International	
Vacant	Lay Advisory Group	
Prof JS Rahi	Academic sub committee	
Dr S Sobha	Editor of Eye	

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports directly to the Trustee Board. It meets regularly to enact College business in a timely manner and contributes to the formulation of the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic direction of the Royal College.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

It provides an opportunity for College clinical and staff leaders to consider issues of importance, or which cut across defined committee or departmental boundaries in detail before they are brought to the Trustees for further debate and a final decision and acts in accordance with the strategic plan whilst being cognisant of financial and reputational risks.

Membership of the Executive Committee comprises the College Officers, the Chairs of the Standing Committees as well as key management personnel (defined as those in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis) at the College:

	Committee/role	Date appointed/(resigned)
Mr MA Burdon	President	(20 May 2020)
Mr B Chang	President	21 May 2020
Mr DW Flanagan	Vice President	
Mr M Gupta	Honorary Secretary	
Mr N Wilson-Holt	Honorary Treasurer (and Finance Committee Chair)	(7 July 2020)
Prof CSC Liu	Honorary Treasurer (and Finance Committee Chair)	19 November 2020
Miss M Corbett	Chair – Education Committee	
Mr R Taylor	Chair – Examinations Committee	(20 May 2020)
Mr G Shuttleworth	Chair – Examinations Committee	21 May 2020
Mrs M Hingorani	Chair – Professional Standards Committee	
Prof A Lotery	Chair – Scientific Committee	
Miss AF Spencer	Chair – Training Committee	
Key Management Personnel		
Mrs K Evans	Chief Executive	
Ms E Barnes	Head of Professional Support	
Mr D Costello	Head of Examinations	
Mrs A Fedyk	Head of Education and Training	
Ms T Mtetwa	Head of Finance and Operations	
Ms E Price	Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	

The College also relies on a several sub-committees to provide advice on specialist issues and to help develop policy.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Staff and Remuneration Policy

Staff remuneration is now based on a scale comprising 9 grades each with 2 entry, 4 established and 2 discretionary points. Each grade's entry range is aligned to the recruitment market median for organisations of a similar size and carrying out similar activities to the College. No staff member is paid below the London living wage.

Staff progress up the pay scale in January of each year on successful completion of an annual performance review. Key management personnel meet annually to review and agree performance review summaries for all staff – and the Remuneration Committee reviews and ratifies this decision. The Remuneration Committee reviews the performance reviews for all key management personnel and agrees their progression up the pay scale as well as the % salary increase to apply to the College's pay scale based on market data and affordability.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report 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 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 for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Charter and Ordinances. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Auditors

Sayer Vincent LLP were re-appointed as the auditors of the College during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 15 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by

Prof Christopher Liu – Honorary Treasurer

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 December 2020 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Auditor's 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 Royal College of Ophthalmologist'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 other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper 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 set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 an auditor's report 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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, internal audit and the audit and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Independent auditors' report

To the Trustees of

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 auditor's 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.

4 May 2021

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2020

				2020	2019
	Note	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	Total £'000s
Income from:					
Charitable activities					
Subscriptions	3	1,466	–	–	1,466
Examinations	3	553	–	–	553
Education and Training	3	168	–	31	199
Professional Support	3	109	–	2	111
National Ophthalmic Database	3	319	–	20	339
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	3	748	–	–	748
Scholarships and Awards	3	–	–	28	28
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	3	–	–	29	29
Other trading activities	4	108	–	–	108
Investments	5	99	32	–	131
Total income		3,570	32	110	3,712
Expenditure on:	6				
Cost of generating funds		–	–	–	–
Charitable activities					
Examinations		1,110	–	–	1,110
Education and Training		867	–	81	948
Professional Support		1,001	–	–	1,001
National Ophthalmic Database		337	–	40	377
Journal "Eye" – joint venture		668	–	–	668
Scholarships and Awards		–	38	2	40
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)		71	–	43	114
Total expenditure		4,054	38	166	4,258
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains on investments		(484)	(6)	(56)	(546)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		191	–	–	191
Net income/(expenditure)	8	(293)	(6)	(56)	(355)
Transfers between funds	20	(8)	–	8	–
Net movement in funds		(301)	(6)	(48)	(355)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	20	11,105	931	881	12,917
Total funds carried forward	20	10,804	925	833	12,562

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 20 to the financial statements.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2020

			2020	2019
	Note	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	13		6,269	6,420
Heritage Assets	13		58	58
Investments	14		3,474	3,227
			<u>9,801</u>	<u>9,705</u>
Current assets:				
Debtors	15	948		1,043
Cash at bank and in hand		2,667		3,083
		<u>3,615</u>		<u>4,126</u>
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	854		914
				<u>914</u>
Net current assets			<u>2,761</u>	<u>3,212</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>12,562</u></u>	<u><u>12,917</u></u>
The funds of the charity:	20			
Endowment Funds			925	931
Restricted income funds			833	881
Unrestricted income funds:				
Designated funds – functional property		6,286		6,432
Other designated funds		36		31
General funds		4,482		4,642
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total unrestricted funds			<u>10,804</u>	<u>11,105</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>12,562</u></u>	<u><u>12,917</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 15 April 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Prof. Christopher Liu
Honorary Treasurer

Mr Bernie Chang
President

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		£000's	£000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	21	(343)	(206)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		131	136
Purchase of fixed assets and artwork		(138)	(153)
Purchase of investments		(66)	(64)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(73)	(81)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(416)	(287)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,083	3,370
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	2,667	3,083

1 Accounting policies

- a) The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales and Scotland. The registered office address is 18 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

b) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The uncertainty caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in lower income from examinations and College events in 2020, however examinations have now been structured so that non-practical examinations can be run regardless of the pandemic. The College's annual congress will be scaled back to a virtual event in 2021 – however the reduced income from running a virtual event will be offset by the much reduced cost of doing so. The charity also holds general reserves equivalent to just over 11 months' operating costs, which will cushion the effect of any future reductions in income.

The trustees consider that there are no sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period. After having considered future income and expenditure and cash flow forecasts the trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations received are credited directly to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Legacy donations are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable (i.e. when confirmation has been received that probate is granted, executors have established that there are sufficient assets to pay the legacy and all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled).

Subscriptions are accounted for on a receivable basis and credited to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate. Examination fee income is recognised when the examination takes place. Annual congress income is recognised when the event takes place. Journal 'Eye' income is recognised when the College receives notification of the amounts receivable for the year.

f) Interest receivable

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.

g) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income from the permanent endowment fund (Bibby/Horton Scholarship) is used to part fund research fellowships jointly with the Medical Research Council. The expendable Research Endowment Fund is used to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering examinations, training and educational activities and other services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and the associated support costs of providing these services.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of the charity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned, based on staff numbers engaged in each activity. Governance costs are apportioned on the same basis. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

j) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the same basis. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation lives in use are as follows:

● Freehold buildings	Thirty years
● Equipment, furniture and fittings	Between three and ten years
● Major computer and software systems	Between

Heritage assets comprise historic books and other ophthalmological artefacts which are preserved and maintained in display cabinets and are not to be disposed of. These are capitalised at historic cost where the College has reliable cost information. The current net book value is believed to be at least equal to the residual value, and as such no further depreciation has been charged.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) 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.

n) 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.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

o) Pensions

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists participates in two defined benefit pension schemes, the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a funded defined benefit scheme and the NHS Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The expected cost of providing pensions is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to spread the cost over the service lives of employees in such a way that the pension cost equals the annualised long-term cash outlay to the scheme. Both schemes are multi-employer schemes of which the assets and liabilities cannot be identified for individual employers. The accounts therefore include contributions payable on an accruals basis. Further information for both schemes is given in note 18.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

p) Investments

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net (losses)/gains on investments" in the statement of financial activities.

q) Grants payable

Grants payable are shown in the year in which the award is payable. If grants are in instalments over a period longer than a year the amounts shown relate to the instalment due in the year in question.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statements of financial activities in 2019

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Income from:				
Charitable activities				
Subscriptions	1,442	–	–	1,442
Examinations	764	–	–	764
Education and Training	308	–	32	340
Professional Support	821	–	9	830
National Ophthalmic Database	290	–	10	300
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	710	–	–	710
Scholarships and Awards	11	–	18	29
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	–	–	28	28
Other trading activities	132	–	–	132
Investments	104	32	–	136
Total income	4,582	32	97	4,711
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds	17	9	–	26
Charitable activities				
Examinations	1,368	–	–	1,368
Education and Training	1,254	–	157	1,411
Professional Support	1,030	–	35	1,065
National Ophthalmic Database	346	–	10	356
Journal "Eye" – joint venture	634	–	–	634
Scholarships and Awards	2	–	44	46
The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU)	76	–	65	141
Total expenditure	4,727	9	311	5,047
Net income/(expenditure) before gains on investments	(144)	23	(214)	(335)
Net gains on investments	378	–	–	378
Net income/(expenditure)	234	23	(214)	43
Transfers between funds	(37)	–	37	–
Net movement in funds	197	23	(177)	43
Total funds brought forward	10,908	908	1,058	12,874
Total funds carried forward	11,105	931	881	12,917

3a Income from charitable activities – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,466	–	1,466	1,442
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,466	–	1,466	1,442
Examination fees	553	–	553	764
Sub-total for Examinations	553	–	553	764
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	5	5	6
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	21	21	20
Fees for Skills Courses	104	–	104	155
Health Education England – OCCCF/OPT	–	–	–	88
Health Screener Diploma	–	–	–	25
Other income	64	5	69	46
Sub-total for Education and Training	168	31	199	340
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	64	–	64	668
Seminars	45	–	45	94
Other	–	2	2	68
Sub-total for Professional Support	109	2	111	830
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	11	–	11	192
Income from Trusts	227	–	227	70
Income from Donors	81	20	101	38
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	319	20	339	300
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	748	–	748	710
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	748	–	748	710

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

3a Income from charitable activities – current year (continued)

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Scholarships and Awards				
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	–	–	15
Jack Kanski Award	–	25	25	
Other income	–	3	3	14
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	–	28	28	29
Fight for Sight	–	29	29	28
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	29	29	28
Total income from charitable activities	3,363	110	3,473	4,443

3b Income from charitable activities – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2019 Total £'000s	2018 Total £'000s
Membership subscriptions	1,442	–	1,442	1,345
Sub-total for Subscriptions	1,442	–	1,442	1,345
Examination fees	764	–	764	721
Sub-total for Examinations	764	–	764	721
Education and Training				
E-integrity for E-learning	–	6	6	5
Health Education England – for E-Learning	–	–	–	25
Dual Sponsorship fee income	–	20	20	20
Fees for Skills Courses	155	–	155	164
Health Education England – OCCCCF	88	–	88	265
Health Screener Diploma	25	–	25	–
Other income	40	6	46	65
Sub-total for Education and Training	308	32	340	544
Professional support				
Congress and specialty days	662	6	668	816
Optic UK for Optic lecture at Congress	94	–	94	105
Seminars	65	3	68	49
Sub-total for Professional Support	821	9	830	970
National Ophthalmic Database				
Contract income from Health Quality Improvement Partnership	192	–	192	–
Income from Trusts	70	–	70	–
Income from Donors	28	10	38	283
Sub-total for National Ophthalmic Database	290	10	300	283
Journal Eye joint venture				
Gross income from Joint Venture with MacMillan	710	–	710	651
Sub-total for Journal Eye joint venture	710	–	710	651

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

3b Income from charitable activities – prior year (continued)

	Unrestricted £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2019 Total £'000s	2018 Total £'000s
Scholarships and Awards				
Donations to John Lee Research Fellowship	–	–	–	3
Keeler Ltd for Keeler Scholarship	–	15	15	15
Other income	11	3	14	4
Sub-total for Scholarships and Awards	11	18	29	22
Fight for Sight	–	28	28	67
Sub-total for British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit	–	28	28	67
Total income from charitable activities	4,346	97	4,443	4,603

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Advertising in College publications and other miscellaneous income	108	108	132

All income from trading activities in 2020 and 2019 is unrestricted.

5a Income from investments – current year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	89	32	–	121	118
Bank interest	10	–	–	10	18
	99	32	–	131	136

5b Income from investments – prior year

	Unrestricted £'000s	Endowment £'000s	Restricted £'000s	2019 Total £'000s	2018 Total £'000s
Income from Common Investment Funds	86	32	–	118	111
Bank interest	18	–	–	18	11
	104	32	–	136	122

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

6 Analysis of expenditure

		Charitable activities										
	Cost of generating funds £'000s	Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s	Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2020 Total £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
Staff employment costs (Note 9)	–	263	264	234	66	46	–	36	–	728	1,637	1,633
Other staff costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	53	53	97
Travel and accommodation costs for meetings and events	–	82	25	10	–	–	–	–	5	31	153	517
Property and equipment costs	–	–	40	–	–	–	–	–	–	132	172	255
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	299	299	308
Venue hire	–	63	–	240	–	–	–	–	–	–	303	360
Patients' expenses	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	30
Print, post and stationary	–	1	–	–	–	144	–	2	–	15	162	144
Communications and PR	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	37	38	62
Insurance	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	26	27	29
Scholarships and Awards (Note 7)	–	–	–	–	–	–	40	–	–	–	40	46
Contractors' fees	–	25	27	–	107	–	–	–	–	–	159	302
Other project costs and third party charges	–	1	2	121	2	385	–	3	–	13	527	558
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	79	–	–	–	5	2	86	67
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	47	47	48
IT, telephone and software	–	118	21	2	18	–	–	1	–	128	288	312
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	23	35
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	–	23	23
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	14	11
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	63	63	74
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	60	60	69
Other costs	–	39	4	11	–	3	–	1	13	9	80	67
	–	596	383	620	272	578	40	43	60	1,666	4,258	5,047
Support costs	–	496	545	368	101	87	–	69	–	(1,666)	–	–
Governance costs	–	18	20	13	4	3	–	2	(60)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2020	–	1,110	948	1,001	377	668	40	114	–	–	4,258	5,047
Total expenditure 2019	26	1,368	1,411	1,065	356	634	46	141	–	–	5,047	

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

6 Analysis of expenditure – prior year

	Cost of generating funds £'000s	Charitable activities							Governance costs £'000s	Support costs £'000s	2019 Total £'000s
		Examinations £'000s	Education and Training £'000s	Professional Support £'000s	NOD £'000s	"Eye" Journal Joint Venture £'000s	Scholarships and Awards £'000s	BOSU £'000s			
Staff employment costs (Note 9)	9	243	356	207	67	45	–	36	–	658	1,633
Other staff costs	–	17	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	80	97
Travel and accommodation costs	–	217	119	99	6	–	–	2	30	44	517
Property and equipment costs	–	–	115	–	–	–	–	–	–	140	255
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	308	308
Venue hire	–	154	–	206	–	–	–	–	–	–	360
Patients' expenses	–	30	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30
Print, post and stationary	–	–	2	–	–	106	–	19	–	17	144
Communications and PR	–	–	–	6	4	3	–	–	–	49	62
Insurance	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	25	29
Scholarships and Awards (Note 7)	–	–	–	–	–	–	46	–	–	–	46
Contractors' fees	–	101	83	–	118	–	–	–	–	–	302
Other project costs and third party	–	7	23	134	4	385	–	3	–	2	558
Professional fees	–	–	–	–	31	–	–	–	22	14	67
Subscriptions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	48	48
IT, telephone and software	–	99	32	–	31	–	–	–	–	150	312
Finance charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	35	35
Investment management charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	–	23
Auditors' remuneration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	–	11
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	74	74
Bad debts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	69	69
Other costs	2	11	24	2	–	–	–	5	12	11	67
	11	879	754	658	261	539	46	65	98	1,736	5,047
Support costs	14	462	622	386	90	90	–	72	–	(1,736)	–
Governance costs	1	27	35	21	5	5	–	4	(98)	–	–
Total expenditure 2019	26	1,368	1,411	1,065	356	634	46	141	–	–	5,047

Scholarships and awards are given to support research and travel costs. These are awarded following an application for funding and approval by the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee.

7 Grant making – Scholarships and awards

Grants to individuals	2020 £'000s	2019 £'000s
Cost		
Bayer Award Scheme	–	8
Duke Elder	–	1
Bibby/Horton Scholarship	33	–
The Ethicon Scholarship	2	3
The Research Fund	5	
The Patrick Trevor Roper Travel Award	–	2
John Lee Research Fellowship	–	1
John Lee Primer	–	30
Lister Award	–	2
At the end of the year	40	47

The basis of the grants to individuals is described in note 21.

8 Net (expenditure)/incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2020 £'000s	2019 £'000s
Depreciation	299	308
Operating lease rentals:		
Other	68	52
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	10	10
Other services	2	2

9 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2020 £'000s	2019 £'000s
Salaries and wages	1,307	1,307
Redundancy and termination costs	–	12
Social security costs	140	141
Pension contributions	190	173
	1,637	1,633

Employees with salaries over £60,000 (not including National Insurance) were as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
£60,000 – £70,000	4	3
£70,000 – £80,000	1	1
£100,000 – £110,000	1	1

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive and the five (2019: five) heads of department. Gross salaries, employer national insurance and employer pension contributions for key management personnel this year were £431,940, £52,374 and £69,110 respectively (2019: £423,189, £51,294 and £67,846 respectively).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2019: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2019: £nil).

12 (2019: 12) Trustees submitted expense claims relating to meetings and College related business activities totalling £3,561 (2019: £23,414). The College also incurred £12,642 (2019: £10,801) of expenditure, paid directly to suppliers, for activities relating solely to the role of President.

10 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Examinations	6	5
Education and Training	6	7
Professional Support	6	6
National Ophthalmological Database	1	1
Journal "Eye" joint Venture	1	1
Support	12	12
	32	32

11 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2020 (2019: none).

Aggregate donations from related parties (trustees) were £NIL (2019: £10,500).

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000s	Fixtures and fittings £'000s	Computer equipment £'000s	Heritage Assets £'000s	Total £'000s
Cost					
At the start of the year	7,005	183	1,017	85	8,290
Additions in year	–	6	142	–	148
At the end of the year	7,005	189	1,159	85	8,438
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	882	96	807	27	1,812
Charge for the year	174	18	107	–	299
At the end of the year	1,056	114	914	27	2,111
Net book value					
At the end of the year	5,949	75	245	58	6,327
At the start of the year	6,123	87	210	58	6,478

Land with a value of £1,800,000 (2019: £1,800,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

14 Listed investments

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	3,217	2,775
Additions at cost	66	64
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	191	378
	<u>3,474</u>	<u>3,217</u>
Market value at the end of the year	<u>3,474</u>	<u>3,217</u>
Historic cost	<u>2,070</u>	<u>2,070</u>
Investments comprise:		
	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
UK Common Investment Funds	3,474	3,217
Cash held for works of art	–	10
	<u>3,474</u>	<u>3,227</u>

The College has made investments in two Common Investment Funds, the Alpha Fund for Endowments and the Alpha Fund for Income and Reserves.

15 Debtors

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Trade debtors	392	290
Other debtors	385	448
Prepayments	29	77
Congress expenses in advance	32	124
Other event costs in advance	101	101
Subscriptions in arrears	9	3
	<u>948</u>	<u>1,043</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Trade creditors	89	164
Taxation and social security	40	47
Deferred income	420	361
Accruals	58	89
Other creditors	247	253
	<u>854</u>	<u>914</u>

17 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for examinations, training and other events taking place in the following year.

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	361	174
Amount released to income in the year	(361)	(174)
Amount deferred in the year	420	361
Balance at the end of the year	420	361

18 Pension schemes

SAUL pension

The College participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London ("SAUL"), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and is contracted-out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently-managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Following a consultation with Members, the SAUL Final Salary Section closed from 31 March 2016 and all Members now build up benefits on a CARE basis from 1 April 2016.

The College is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency event of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining participating employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

SAUL's statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions include appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

A formal actuarial valuation of SAUL is carried out every three years by a professionally qualified and independent actuary. The last actuarial valuation was carried out with an effective date of 31 March 2017. Informal reviews of SAUL's position, reflecting changes in market conditions, cash flow information and new accrual of benefits, are carried out between formal valuations.

The funding principles were agreed in June 2018 and are due to be reviewed at SAUL's next formal valuation in 2020 which is currently ongoing and due for agreement and submission to the Pension Regulator by 30 June 2021.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The College accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraphs 28.11 of FRS 102. Employer Contributions paid in 2020 were £183,000 (2019: £166,000).

18 Pension schemes (continued)

NHS pension

One member of staff is in the NHS Pension Scheme, an unfunded defined benefit scheme. The total employer contribution payable in 2020 was £6,000 (2019: £7,000).

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the two NHS Pension Schemes. Details of the benefits payable and rules of the Schemes can be found on the NHS Pensions website at www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions. Both are unfunded defined benefit schemes that cover NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies, allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in England and Wales. They are not designed to be run in a way that would enable NHS bodies to identify their share of the underlying scheme assets and liabilities. Therefore, each scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme: the cost to the NHS body of participating in each scheme is taken as equal to the contributions payable to that scheme for the accounting period.

In order that the defined benefit obligations recognised in the financial statements do not differ materially from those that would be determined at the reporting date by a formal actuarial valuation, the FReM requires that "the period between formal valuations shall be four years, with approximate assessments in intervening years". An outline of these follows:

a) Accounting valuation

A valuation of scheme liability is carried out annually by the scheme actuary (currently the Government Actuary's Department) as at the end of the reporting period. This utilises an actuarial assessment for the previous accounting period in conjunction with updated membership and financial data for the current reporting period, and is accepted as providing suitably robust figures for financial reporting purposes. The valuation of the scheme liability as at 31 March 2020, is based on valuation data as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020 with summary global member and accounting data. In undertaking this actuarial assessment, the methodology prescribed in IAS 19, relevant FReM interpretations, and the discount rate prescribed by HM Treasury have also been used.

The latest assessment of the liabilities of the scheme is contained in the report of the scheme actuary, which forms part of the annual NHS Pension Scheme Accounts. These accounts can be viewed on the NHS Pensions website and are published annually. Copies can also be obtained from The Stationery Office.

b) Full actuarial (funding) valuation

The purpose of this valuation is to assess the level of liability in respect of the benefits due under the schemes (taking into account recent demographic experience), and to recommend contribution rates payable by employees and employers.

The latest actuarial valuation undertaken for the NHS Pension Scheme was completed as at 31 March 2016. The results of this valuation set the employer contribution rate payable from April 2019 to 20.6%, and the Scheme Regulations were amended accordingly.

The 2016 funding valuation was also expected to test the cost of the Scheme relative to the employer cost cap set following the 2012 valuation. Following a judgment from the Court of Appeal in December 2018 Government announced a pause to that part of the valuation process pending conclusion of the continuing legal process.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	6,286	41	6,327
Investments	2,243	–	1,231	3,474
Net current assets	2,239	36	486	2,761
Net assets at the end of the year – 2020	4,482	6,322	1,758	12,562

Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	–	6,437	41	6,478
Investments	2,060	–	1,167	3,227
Net current assets	2,582	26	604	3,212
Net assets at the end of the year – 2019	4,642	6,463	1,812	12,917

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

20 Movements in funds – current year

	At 1 January 2020	Income and gains	Expenditure and losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2020
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	721	27	(33)	–	715
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	210	5	(5)	–	210
	931	32	(38)	–	925
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	37	–	(5)	–	32
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	75	21	(5)	–	91
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	24	–	(11)	–	13
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	46	–	(1)	–	45
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	84	5	(5)	–	84
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OPT (formerly OCCCF) Project	99	–	(50)	–	49
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	20	(20)	–	–
▪ NOD AMD audit	–	–	(20)	65	45
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	4	(4)	–	–
	399	50	(121)	65	393

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

20 Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2020 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2020 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	130	5	(2)	–	133
▪ The Jack Kanski Award	–	25	–	–	25
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	21	–	–	–	21
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	8	–	–	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	7	–	–	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	26	–	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	<u>207</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>235</u>
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	104	–	–	–	104
▪ The Ashton Lecture	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	54	1	–	–	55
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	65	–	–	(65)	–
▪ Optic Lecture	3	–	–	–	3
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	6	–	–	(6)	–
	<u>275</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(71)</u>	<u>205</u>
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	29	(43)	14	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	<u>881</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>(166)</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>833</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>1,812</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>(204)</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1,758</u>

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

20 Movements in funds – current year (continued)

	At 1 January 2020	Income and gains	Expenditure and losses	Transfers	As at 31 December 2020
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Research Fund	–	–	–	–	–
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	5	7	(2)	–	10
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	3	–	–	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,432	–	–	(146)	6,286
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>6,463</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(146)</u>	<u>6,322</u>
General funds	<u>4,642</u>	<u>3,563</u>	<u>(3,861)</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>4,482</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>11,105</u>	<u>3,570</u>	<u>(3,863)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	<u>10,804</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,812</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>(204)</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1,758</u>
Total funds	<u><u>12,917</u></u>	<u><u>3,712</u></u>	<u><u>(4,067)</u></u>	<u><u>–</u></u>	<u><u>12,562</u></u>

20 Movements in funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2019	Income and gains	Expenditure and losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2019
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Permanent endowment fund					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	693	28	–	–	721
Expendable endowment fund					
▪ Research Endowment Fund	215	4	(9)	–	210
	908	32	(9)	–	931
Other restricted funds					
▪ Medical Training Initiative (Department of Health)	45	–	(8)	–	37
▪ Higher Specialist Scientist Training	3	–	–	–	3
▪ Dual Sponsorship Scheme – Pilot matching scheme fee income	63	20	(8)	–	75
▪ E-Learning Fund (Health Education England)	36	–	(12)	–	24
▪ E-Learning Fund (Department of Health)	50	–	(4)	–	46
▪ E-Learning Fund – E Integrity Project (Department of Health)	97	6	(19)	–	84
▪ E-Learning for Health – Maintenance	19	–	–	–	19
▪ Revalidation E-system cohort project	12	–	–	–	12
▪ OCCCCF Project	232	–	(133)	–	99
▪ NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb	–	10	(10)	–	–
▪ Educational website ST1 trainees	–	5	(5)	–	–
	557	41	(199)	–	399

20 Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2019 £'000s	Income and gains £'000s	Expenditure and losses £'000s	Transfers £'000s	At 31 December 2019 £'000s
Scholarships and Award Funds					
▪ The Ethicon Scholarship	130	3	(3)	–	130
▪ Bayer Award Scheme	8	–	(8)	–	–
▪ The Keeler Scholarship	6	15	–	–	21
▪ The John Lee Research Fund	38	–	(30)	–	8
▪ The Nettleship Fund	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Lister Award	9	–	(2)	–	7
▪ The Edridge–Green Lecture	25	1	–	–	26
▪ The Dorey Bequest	13	–	–	–	13
	<u>231</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>(43)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>207</u>
Project Funds, including Memorials and Bequests					
▪ The Bibby/Horton Scholarship	102	2	–	–	104
▪ The Ashton Lecture	2	–	–	–	2
▪ The Professor Barrie Jones Lecture Fund	53	1	–	–	54
▪ The Elizabeth Thomas Seminar	65	–	–	–	65
▪ Optic Lecture	–	6	(3)	–	3
▪ The Winstanley Book Collection	41	–	–	–	41
▪ The Peter Curran Bequest	6	–	–	–	6
▪ London Deanery Equipment	1	–	(1)	–	–
	<u>270</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>(4)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>275</u>
British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit	–	28	(65)	37	–
Total Other Restricted Funds	<u>1,058</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>(311)</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>881</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>1,966</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>(320)</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>1,812</u>

20 Movements in funds – prior year (continued)

	At 1 January 2019	Income and gains	Expenditure and losses	Transfers	As at 31 December 2019
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
▪ The Research Fund	2	–	(2)	–	–
▪ The Duke – Elder Memorial	7	–	(2)	–	5
▪ The Patrick Trevor – Roper Travel Awards	5	–	(2)	–	3
▪ John Lee Memorial Research Fund	6	–	–	–	6
▪ The Anne Allerton Fund	17	–	–	–	17
▪ Property and Equipment Fund	6,592	–	–	(160)	6,432
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>6,629</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(6)</u>	<u>(160)</u>	<u>6,463</u>
General funds	<u>4,279</u>	<u>4,582</u>	<u>(4,342)</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>4,642</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>10,908</u>	<u>4,582</u>	<u>(4,348)</u>	<u>(37)</u>	<u>11,105</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,966</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>(320)</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>1,812</u>
Total funds	<u><u>12,874</u></u>	<u><u>4,711</u></u>	<u><u>(4,668)</u></u>	<u><u>–</u></u>	<u><u>12,917</u></u>

20 Purposes of restricted and designated funds

Purposes of the Endowment Funds

The Bibby/Horton Scholarship

The late Miss Bernice Bibby left the College a substantial sum to create a permanent endowment fund, to provide for fellowships at post graduate level. The income from this endowment fund and from the related restricted fund will continue to be used to part fund research fellowships.

Research Endowment Fund

The Research Endowment Fund, an expendable endowment fund, was set up in 2008 to assure a stable mechanism to improve research in ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Purposes of the Other Restricted Funds

Medical Training Initiative. The College has received funds from the Department of Health and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to support a scheme placing overseas doctors wishing to train as ophthalmologists in the UK before returning to their own country to practice. The priority focus of the MTI is to provide training opportunities for doctors from DfID priority or low and middle income countries.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training. The College received funding from the Medical Research Council Hearing and Communications Group to develop a curriculum for medical scientists working in ophthalmology.

Dual Sponsorship Scheme. The College has received funding from the Department of Health to match overseas doctors wishing to undertake specialist training in the UK with appropriate training settings.

E-Learning (Health Education England) and E-learning (Department of Health). The College has received funds from the Department of Health and related organisations to support the College's contribution to the UK E-Learning for Health project for aspect of the curriculum for trainee ophthalmologists.

E- Learning, E-Integrity Project. The College has received funds from the Department of Health for an additional e-learning project to provide resources for those providing training to ophthalmologists.

E-learning Maintenance. The College received funds to maintain the electronic resources produced using the funding received above.

Revalidation E-Cohort. The College has received funding from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to enable it to participate in a cohort scheme with other medical colleges and faculties to develop a system for collecting information for doctor appraisal. The development of the scheme was completed in 2012 and the remaining funding will be used to support and maintain the system, at no cost to members, for an initial period.

OPT (formerly OCCCCF) Project. The Ophthalmological Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCCF) project was funded by Health Education England (HEE) and has been developed into Ophthalmic Practitioner Training (OPT). OPT trains postgraduate orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic nurses in secondary care to develop their skills in cataract, glaucoma, medical retina or emergency eye care.

NOD Cataract audit – Bausch and Lomb is a grant awarded to the College to carry out work on the National Ophthalmology Database now no longer funded by HQIP.

20. Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

NOD AMD audit is funded in 2020 from a transfer from the Elizabeth Thomas Seminar fund, which was originally funded by the Macular Society. This funding will be used to set up the NOD AMD audit during 2020 and 2021.

Educational Website ST1 trainees. The College received funds from Bayer to subsidise access for ST1 trainees to an educational website with relevant learning content and advice for trainees at this level.

The Ethicon Scholarship provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for research or training.

Bayer Award Scheme. The College has received funding from Bayer PLC to provide travel and study grants to enable ophthalmologists to present their work and research at scientific meeting in the UK and abroad and thereby develop practical applications of research. This fund was expended in 2019.

The Jack Kanski Award is a lifetime achievement award to recognise passion, commitment and achievement in Ophthalmic Education. The fund was created in memory of Mr Jack Kanski who was an eminent ophthalmologist and Honorary Fellow who died in 2019.

The Keeler Scholarship provides financial assistance to members and fellows to acquire ophthalmic skills, knowledge or experience.

John Lee Research Fund. The College established a fund in memory of Mr John Lee who died in 2010 during his term as President. The fund is used to fund research fellowships in ophthalmology jointly with the Medical Research Council and with Fight for Sight.

The Nettleship Fund provides a medal award every four years for the best paper on ophthalmology published in the preceding four years.

The Lister Award provides travel funds for study to any ophthalmologist who is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

The Edridge–Green Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture given at the Annual Meeting every year.

The Dorey Bequest provides travel funds to members and fellows who travel abroad for study or research.

The second Bibby Horton Scholarship Fund receives the income from the Bibby Horton Endowment Fund which is not used in the year. In the immediate future years part of the College's financial commitment to a research projects including fellowships will be met from this fund.

The Ashton Lecture Fund was set up to fund an ophthalmic lecture to be given at the Annual Meeting every four years or at the discretion of the Council.

Professor Barrie Jones provided funds for a lecture on the subject of preventative ophthalmology in the developing world to be given every four years at the Annual Congress.

Elizabeth Thomas Seminar Fund. The Macular Society has made donations, in memory of Elizabeth Thomas, which have supported an annual seminar on macular disease. The Macular Society has agreed a change of use of this fund which will now be used to support the College's aim to start an AMD national audit.

The Optic Lecture. Optic UK provides funding for a lecture at the annual Congress.

20. Purposes of restricted and designated funds (continued)

Winstanley Fund. The College acquired a collection of antiquarian ophthalmic books from Mr John Winstanley which are housed in the College.

The Peter Curran Bequest was given for the purchase of works of art to be displayed in the College. The initial purchase was sold during 2015 and the proceeds will be reinvested in a work of art appropriate to both ophthalmology and the new setting of the College's headquarters.

London Deanery Equipment Fund. The London Deanery of the NHS has provided funding for the College to acquire an ophthalmic surgery simulator which is used in a range of training situations. This fund was fully expended in 2019.

The British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit operates a national system to assist with the surveillance of rare ophthalmological conditions. The College meets the costs of providing accommodation and office support services. Further funding is provided by Fight for Sight.

The Research Fund accepts a number of small general donations to the College which are used to support College activities.

The Duke-Elder Memorial was set up in memory of Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, an eminent ophthalmologist and prolific writer. The fund has been used to support the Duke-Elder examinations which are open to medical undergraduates in the UK and Eire. When the funds come to an end the College will continue to fund an examination and a prize to be known as "The Royal College of Ophthalmologists – Duke-Elder Prize".

The Patrick Trevor-Roper Travel Awards Fund provides the Council with wide discretion and it has been decided that the income of this fund is to be used to provide travel funds for medical undergraduates travelling abroad for research or training.

John Lee Memorial Research Fund – the College established a restricted fund in 2011 to commemorate the contribution to ophthalmology of the late President with a joint MRC/College research fellowship the first of which completed in 2015. This fund represents the College's designation for the same purpose.

The Council was given wide discretion over funds transferred from the **Anne Allerton Fund**. Part of this fund was used to support the purchase of a second cataract simulator in 2016.

The **Property and Equipment Fund** represents the value of the fixed assets held by the College excluding the assets held in the Winstanley Fund which are shown separately (above).

21 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £'000s	2019 £'000s
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(355)	43
Depreciation charges	299	308
(Gains)/losses on investments	(191)	(378)
Dividends and interest from investments	(131)	(136)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	95	(373)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(60)	330
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(343)	(206)

22 Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	At 1 January £'000s	Cash flows £'000s	At 31 December 2020 £'000s
Cash in hand	2,483	(416)	2,067
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	600	–	600
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,083	(416)	2,667

23 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Equipment 2020 £'000s	2019 £'000s
Less than 1 year	13	12
1 – 5 Years	55	40
	68	52

24 Capital commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had committed £NIL in respect of the development of a new website and £37k for the development of the new CRM (2019: £40,000 for a new website, £145k for the CRM).