

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2023	To	31	03	2024

Section A
Reference and administration details

Charity name	The Midland Neuroscience Teaching and Research Fund
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	313446
Charity's principal address	Suites 2&4, Lodge Park House
	Kettering Venture Park
	Kettering, Northants
	NN15 6XU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Graham Flint	Chairman		
2	Rowan Hardy	Scientific Adviser		
3	Tony Belli	Neurosurgery Adviser		
4	Elizabeth Formby	Lay Adviser		
5	Tom Hayton	Neurology Adviser	June 2023 onwards	Existing trustees
6				
7				
8				
9				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Treasurer	Rachel Whitwell	c/o Charity address
Research adviser	Olivia Gretch	c/o Charity address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Trust Deed 3rd September 1971

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Trust

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by existing Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Trust Fund is to be applied to, for and upon such charitable trusts and for such charitable institutions and charitable purposes as the trustees shall in their uncontrolled discretion from time to time determine. (It is intended that the Fund be used primarily for medical and surgical teaching and research).

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Charity was founded in 1971 with the principal purposes of supporting research and teaching into disorders of the brain, spinal cord and the nervous system. At that time, it was known as the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology Teaching and Research Fund, this name identifying the institution at which the Charity was founded. This hospital closed in 1997, at which time the clinical services that it had provided up until then were transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham (QEHB). The Charity therefore adopted QEHB as its “home” thereafter.

The Charity has now been in existence for over 50 years, during which time it has supported research into a variety of diseases affecting the nervous system. Historically the Charity did this principally by funding the purchase of various small items of equipment that were generally unavailable in NHS departments, but which might, thereafter, find use in the hospital environment. Because clinically useful equipment has since become much more expensive to buy, the Charity has, latterly, tended to fund the purchase of small items of equipment, or reagents, that can be used in laboratory-based, experimental work, albeit still work that is directed towards improving our understanding of the causes and potential treatment of disorders affecting the nervous system.

It is our firm belief that research is of little use unless it is followed by the dissemination of any knowledge gained. We therefore look to ensure that the findings of the research that we support are published in suitable medical or scientific journals. In addition, we sponsor guest lecturers to address audiences of practising clinicians and neurological scientists, about their own research, or that of others, thereby providing updates about the current state of knowledge of various neurological diseases.

By the above means we aim to advance understanding of the causes of and the potential prevention and treatment of a wide range of neurological conditions, such as stroke, head injury, dementia (e.g. Alzheimer’s disease), brain tumours, spinal tumours, multiple sclerosis (MS), epilepsy, movement disorders (e.g. Parkinson’s disease), motor neurone disease (MND) and a variety of disorders producing chronic pain, such as neuralgia and migraine.

Importantly, and continuing one of the original objectives of the Charity, the research grants awarded also support the personal development of the medical professionals involved in each project. In particular, the Charity aims to promote their understanding of clinical and laboratory research methods and ethics, such that they can, in turn, support further research work in the future.

Trustees of the Charity are all well experienced in their individual fields of expertise, be these clinical medicine, basic science research, financial management or elsewhere. A number of our trustees also work for or with other registered charities. All trustees have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We invite staff in the various departments of the clinical neurological sciences, in hospitals within the West Midlands region, to put proposals before us for funding of projects associated with their own specific aspects of research. Each proposal is then assessed by our medical and scientific advisers (who are hospital consultants and university research scientists) and fellow trustees. If we consider the proposed research to have adequate merit and ethical approval, we sanction the purchase of the necessary equipment or consumables and then monitor its or their use.

We are currently exploring the potential value of extending our remit to include the whole of the Midlands region of England, including the area generally referred to as East Midlands.

All Charity trustees and other advisers give their time and service on an entirely voluntary basis. The Charity does, however, employ the services of a professional company to assist in various administrative tasks, including matters of communication, the organisation of guest lectures and the running of trustee meetings. The Charity also pays for its website administration fees.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Charity continued to settle invoices arising from already approved research projects that were ongoing. Two new applications were also accepted for funding during 2023-2024.

Given that the Charity's main source of income is now from long-standing investments, it is likely that only two applications requesting our maximum grant level of £10,000 each will be accepted each year in the foreseeable future. If, however, applications for lesser amounts are received then three grants per annum may be possible.

Anticipated annual income above £20,000 (probably about £5,000) should then cover our administration costs, together with supporting a small programme of lectures from invited speakers, delivered to audiences made up of individuals working in the clinical and pre-clinical neurosciences.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity holds funds in a Lloyds Bank current account, in order to meet day-to-day running costs. The majority of its assets are in long-term investments, currently administered on its behalf by Harris Allday, whose portfolios have performed well and have served the interests of the Charity for many years. The trustees and other Charity officers nevertheless retain oversight of and responsibility for these assets and, in doing so, recognise and accept the risks associated with investment in mainstream financial markets, in exchange for returns over longer periods. The Charity aims to achieve a balanced return from income and capital growth, which is then used to provide research grants (normally up to £10,000 in value) and guest lecturer expenses (normally in the range of £100-£200).

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Charity receives income from the investments held and from donations. The Trustees review both cash and investment assets when considering any new proposals, and in reviewing the ongoing cash requirements of the existing projects.

In the current financial climate, the Charity anticipates being able to spend in the region of £25,000 annually in supporting research and educational projects. The trustees aim is to avoid calling upon its reserves to fund projects, preferring instead if possible, to preserve these assets to ensure the long-term stability of the Charity.

Section F

Other optional information

Professor Alex Sinclair, one of the Charity trustees, resigned in January 2023, as was recorded in last year's report. Since then, the remaining trustees have appointed Dr Tom Hayton, consultant neurologist, as a trustee and neurology advisor to the Charity.


The trustees are sad to report that, on 13th January 2024, our former chairman, Richard Ault, died. He had devoted a considerable amount of time and energy to this Charity, over many years, continuing the work carried out by his father, before him. Richard's passing means that the Charity has now lost its links with the founding members but the current trustees hope to preserve their legacy, as far as possible, into the future.

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Graham Arthur Flint	
Position	Chairman	
Date	18/01/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name The Midland Neuroscience Teaching and Research Fund	No (if any) 313446
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2023	To	Period end date 31/03/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Investment Income	28,349	-	-	28,349	29,743
Donations	379	-	-	379	1,053
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	28,728	-	-	28,728	30,796
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	28,728	-	-	28,728	30,796
A3 Payments					
Projects	19,089	-	-	19,089	18,139
Website costs	318	-	-	318	318
Other Expenditure	601	-	-	601	81
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	20,008	-	-	20,008	18,538
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	20,008	-	-	20,008	18,538
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,720	-	-	8,720	12,258
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	106,761	-	-	106,761	94,503
Cash funds this year end	115,481	-	-	115,481	106,761

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Lloyds Bank	115,481	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	115,481	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
EFG Investment portfolio	Trust	-	671,341
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

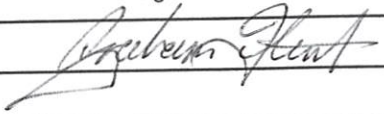
B5 Liabilities

Details

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature



Print Name

CRAWHAM FLINT

Date of approval

18/01/2015



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Midland Neuroscience Teaching and Research fund

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

313446

Set out on pages

Receipts and Payments Accounts (1 & 2) - form CC16a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

SR Kidd

Date:

18/01/2025

Name:

SARAH R KIDD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (ICAS)

Address:

BIRMINGHAM, B16 9DF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A