

# CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 327493

## Details

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Other names	THE RETINOBLASTOMA SOCIETY, CHECT, CHECT RB SOCIETY, R B SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">02143917</a>
Registered	1987-07-14
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	The Royal London Hospital Whitechapel Road London E1 1BB
Phone	02073775578
Email	<a href="mailto:info@chect.org.uk">info@chect.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.chect.org.uk">www.chect.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROMOTE THE RELIEF OF CHILDREN WITH RETINOBLASTOMA AND TO PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT FOR THOSE AFFECTED

**Activities:** The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust provides a support and information service for children, families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma, a rare cancer which affects children, mostly under the age of five. It raises public and professional awareness and funds research projects aimed at increasing understanding of retinoblastoma and improving the treatment and care of children.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

## Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£519,370	£542,586	£295,548	10
2024-03-31	£449,484	£575,666	-	-
2023-03-31	£646,594	£604,841	£444,946	10
2022-03-31	£439,515	£481,748	-	-
2021-03-31	£625,310	£589,273	£445,426	9

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>IAN ELLINGTON</b>	Chair	2011-12-01
ALEXANDER BREBBIA		2015-03-21
Ainne Ward		2023-09-01
Alexis Michelle Boothroyd		2022-07-30
Elizabeth Coleman		2014-10-18
Matt Holt		2016-06-04
Patrick Tonks		2023-12-19
Robert Downes		2018-01-27
SARAH LEE WATSON		2025-11-22

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 327493

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02143917 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 327493

Trustees' Report and  
Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025  
for  
CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A2AD

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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**TRUSTEES**

Ian Ellington - Chairman  
Gemma Boggs - Treasurer  
Elizabeth Coleman  
Alexandra Brebbia  
Andrea Bonzano  
Matthew Holt  
Rob Downes  
Damian Yeo (resigned 08/03/2025)  
Alexis Michelle Boothroyd  
Ainee Ward  
Patrick Tonks  
Lisa Brown (resigned 24/06/2024)

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Rose-Marie Sexton

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Royal London Hospital,  
Whitechapel Road,  
London,  
E1 1FR

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER**

02143917 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER**

327493

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

Knox Cropper LLP,  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory  
Auditors,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London,  
EC3A2AD

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

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

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### Objects of the Charity

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The Objects of the Charity are to promote the relief of children with Retinoblastoma and to provide ongoing support for those affected.

This means the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is dedicated to helping anyone affected by retinoblastoma (Rb), a type of eye cancer that affects babies and young children, mainly under the age of six. We have been supporting families since 1987.

Around one child a week is diagnosed with Rb in the UK or 50 a year. It accounts for 3% of childhood cancers in the UK and 10% of cancers in babies under one. Around 45% of cases are heritable and this carries with it an increased risk of developing tumours in other parts of the body in later life.

The Charity was originally founded to provide support and information to those affected by Rb. In 1994 we merged with another charity that was funding research projects specifically related to Rb, and in 2004 we changed our name to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. As we grew, so did our aims and objectives and we began to run campaigns aimed at raising awareness among health professionals and the public in order to achieve the earliest possible diagnosis for children affected.

Our aims are to:

- Provide support and information to families and individuals affected by Rb.
- Raise funds to support research into issues concerned directly with Rb.
- Raise awareness of Rb among health professionals and others.
- Influence policy to improve service delivery for those affected by Rb.

### Objectives, Strategies for Achievement and Public Benefit

During the period of this report, we have continued to deliver against our three core goals of support, research, and awareness.

The Trustees annually review the core goals and have reaffirmed that these remain the charitable focus.

The Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have considered the objectives of the Charity and have given regard to how these objectives, and the associated activities meet the public benefit criteria of advancing health, saving lives and the relief of those in need because of ill health.

We are the only UK-wide charity providing support to people affected by Rb and we believe that they benefit from our services in the following ways:

### Main Objectives

**Support:** To ensure that everyone affected by Rb in the UK has access to support and information according to their need.

- Our Head of Support Services and two Support Workers offer support to all families and individuals affected by Rb.
- Support is provided on the wards and in clinics at the two specialist centres for Rb in the UK: Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital and The Royal London Hospital. On non-clinic

days, support is provided via telephone, video call, email, and social media.

- Support is also provided through the delivery of a programme of regular face-to-face or virtual meetings for families, teens and young adults, and adults.

Our team provides signposting to organisations for financial grants, benefits advice, therapeutic and psychological support, visual impairment support, holidays, travel expenses, white goods, and other items.

Support Workers also assist with applications for Blue Badges, Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, as well as supporting families with housing applications.

The support team collaborates with the wider CHECT team with stories from members for CHECT publications, information leaflets and social media.

**Awareness - healthcare professionals:** To save lives and minimise the impact of visual impairment by ensuring healthcare professionals are aware and know about Rb and its symptoms, listen to concerned parents and make urgent referrals where necessary.

- Targeted activities to healthcare professionals associated with children aged six and under.
- Distribution of resources that help early diagnosis and referral.
- Media campaigns and articles for specialist healthcare professional journals and magazines.

**Awareness - public:** To increase awareness of Rb and its signs and symptoms amongst parents, guardians and carers to promote the seeking of medical advice as soon as possible.

- Ensuring information for parents about the symptoms of Rb is available in all relevant NHS publications and on all NHS information websites.
- Media activity regarding the condition including the signs and symptoms and how / where to seek help.
- Developing relationships with organisations able to reach large sections of the public with a view to raising awareness.
- Regular and sustained social media activity with information and advice accessible on the charity's website.
- Promoting knowledge of the possible longer-term impact of having had Rb as a child with regard to genetics and other cancers.
- Information campaigns targeted towards people affected by Rb as a child.

**Research:** Proactively engaging in the advancement of knowledge of Rb, its treatment and its impact through the awarding of grants to groups or individuals who wish to pursue research projects or audits to advance knowledge of Rb and related issues.

- Supporting and funding clinical, psychosocial, and scientific research relating to Rb.
- Working through the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to identify and support suitable projects from a wide range of sources.
- Encouraging applications from the international research community.
- Supporting multi-centre and international collaboration including the sharing of experience, knowledge, and data.

The SAC is made up of experts from research and Rb-related fields. We also have three lay members representing families and the adult Rb community, and a CHECT Trustee and staff in attendance.

The committee evaluates the validity and appropriateness of the proposals using an agreed scoring matrix, seeking expert review for large projects, before making recommendations to the Board for funding. Grant recipients are required to provide six-monthly progress reports and present a final report to the SAC and Board on the conclusion of the project before disseminating the findings and learning through presentations and publications.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**

**Influencing:** Working with other organisations to bring about improvements in the way in which services are funded and delivered in the UK.

- Working with the treatment centres in the UK, the NHS National Commissioning Group, National Artificial Eye Service, and other umbrella bodies who provide services to people affected by Rb.
- Proactively seeking partnerships with other charities and organisations.

**Volunteers**

37 volunteers (including Trustees and SAC members) generously gave their time to support us in 2024/25.

Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

### Charitable activities

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#### Support

Whilst one of our core priorities is the delivery of support to the parents and carers of children affected by Rb, we extend the provision to encompass anyone affected, including teenagers whose unique needs are very different to those of a young child or baby, and adults, many of whom are living with the late effects of the treatment they received for Rb as a child. Membership of CHECT is open to anyone affected by retinoblastoma (as well as their friends and family), supporters of CHECT and health professionals. We do not charge a membership fee.

In 2024/25, 100% of families were offered support following a diagnosis of Rb in the UK. As well as face to face, email, and telephone, we continue to use virtual platforms to support our members.

There has been an increase in the number of face-to-face sessions delivered with over 1,440 sessions delivered across both treatment hospitals at inpatient and outpatient clinics.

We record and monitor support interactions so that we ensure the service is meeting the needs of those affected by Rb as best it can.

#### Face to face and remote support

The main areas that people sought support from CHECT in 2024/25 included:

- Practical and emotional support.
- Direct financial support and assistance with welfare applications.
- Detailed information about Rb including genetics, screening, fertility, and late effects of Rb.
- Signposting to other specialist organisations.
- Work and employment support.
- Housing support\*.

\*There are an increasing number of families with housing concerns and homelessness, including a rise in the numbers of those coming from abroad to seek treatment for their child.

We also continue to receive a small number of enquiries from non-members. These mainly consist of international patients requesting advice as well as UK based parents, guardians or carers who have symptom concerns in their child.

#### Social media support

Social media is a vital source of support resources and information, with both members and non-members contacting us. We also raise awareness utilising all social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn and TikTok. As well as our main public-facing Facebook page, we have two closed groups for members which are for parents of children with Rb and adults who have had Rb, both of which have seen increases in membership in the period.

#### Financial Support

In 2024/25 we provided 77 CHECT support grants totaling just over £11,000 to families and individuals to help with the costs associated with an Rb diagnosis and ongoing treatment - for example travel to and from hospital, or helping to buy some specialist equipment for those with a visual impairment.

The demand for support grants continues to increase and our team continues to work in partnership with other

organisations to offer as much financial support as possible, although we have seen many other charitable organisations having to reduce or stop this form of financial support.

### Support Events

In 2024/25, we organised and held three face-to-face Family Days in Cardiff, Leicester and London. These included the presentation of our CHECT Champions award to some incredibly brave and deserving children.

We also attended a CHECT-funded research day for teenagers and young adults in Birmingham, and hospital-organised events were also attended by our support team.

The support service hosted an online 'tea and chat' for grandparents and an online Christmas Meet-Up for teenagers and young adults. These virtual events provided opportunities for peer-to-peer support.

We also worked jointly with the oncology consultants at Birmingham Women's & Children's Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital to host an 'After Treatment, What's Next?' online session for parents. Thank you to Dr Cat Duncan and Dr Helen Jenkinson for their participation.

### Pip the Penguin

Pip (our enucleation support toy) continues to be very popular, with 15 more this year given to children who have lost an eye as part of their treatment. Pip is used as a support tool for families and clinicians to normalise and explain the enucleation process.

### Teenage and Young Adult (TYA) Support

TYA who had Rb as children can face specific challenges around self-esteem. We provide specialist support to meet need and facilitate invaluable peer support.

We have a specific website and Instagram channel for TYAs, where they can contribute stories, videos and information appropriate to their audience. We also have a closed WhatsApp group where they can chat to each other.

### Adults (Beyond Rb)

For some people, the effects of Rb are lifelong. We continue to respond to the needs of adults who were affected by Rb as children.

We have a specific Beyond Rb group, the membership of which has grown via a closed Facebook group and a dedicated WhatsApp Group. We also provide information on the specific issues faced by adults who had retinoblastoma in childhood.

### Partnerships

Collaboration and partnership development is a vital activity in the enhancement of our support provision.

Both support workers work very closely with the Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLOs) based in each specialist centre and who offer advice, information and resources for children living with a visual impairment. In Birmingham Women's & Children's Hospital this service is provided by the RNIB, and in the Royal London Hospital this service is provided by Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Ongoing partnership continues with immense gratitude via organisations such as Box4Kids, the Ellen McArthur Trust, the Free Kicks Foundation, the Gavin Glynn Foundation, LATCH Welsh Children's Cancer Charity, Lennox Children's Cancer Fund, Miracles the Charity, Molly Ollys Wishes and Young Lives vs Cancer.

### Feedback From Those Supported

"I cannot express my gratitude enough for CHECT and for my CHECT support worker. The support from this team has been incredibly helpful during the most challenging time of my life. Every time we visit, our support worker is there to check on us and provide the most incredible emotional support. We always receive messages and emails from them to check in on us and see how we are doing and if we need any support. We are truly grateful for CHECT and the amazing work they are doing with families like mine."

"Our Childhood Eye Cancer Trust Support Worker has been an amazing support. She wrote an employment support letter explaining how retinoblastoma is rare and a very complicated cancer which is hard to predict, hence the regular monitoring and treatments of children under anaesthetic. Each child has their own treatment pathway which is dictated from appointment to appointment. This can be very difficult for families and future planning – getting back to work can require some flexibility and understanding of this complexity. This really helped Sarah to feel less guilty about the lengthy absence and lack of clarity she was able to provide to her employer. She also supported Sarah emotionally, with chats in person when Thomas had examinations under anaesthetic, but also with telephone calls in between. The guides, resources and real-life stories of families affected by retinoblastoma which are available through CHECT continue to be an invaluable source of information for us."

"CHECT has been amazing. Our CHECT support worker, especially, was always there playing with Esmae, making her feel comfortable at the hospital, and also always there for her dad and me. She would always ask how we were and if there was anything she could do to help us. She did a lot for us, and we couldn't thank her enough. She also helped me through a tough time with work as they terminated my contract for being off with Esmae."

"The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust helped us with financial issues, support and connecting us with other parents of retinoblastoma patients. The Facebook group has been so helpful to ask other parents questions, and our support worker is always just a message away for us. I can't thank her enough for her support."

### Members' Survey

In September 2024 a survey was distributed to 1,863 CHECT members. We achieved an 11% response rate, of which 69% was from parents, and 22% from adults.

Areas of support most members rated as 'extremely valuable' were diagnosis and genetics info, face-to-face support and emotional support.

When asked "what is the most helpful thing CHECT has done for you" responses included;

- Emotional support
- Providing information / resources
- Grants / financial support

81% said CHECT support had reduced feelings of loneliness and isolation.

### **Awareness**

Rb is a rare disease which means that most people are not aware of it. Sadly, this can lead to a delay in a diagnosis being made and, because Rb is a fast-growing cancer, quick access to treatment can be vital to save a child's eyes, sight and life.

Raising awareness of Rb among both healthcare professionals and the public is therefore important in helping to drive early diagnosis and as such remains a key part of our work.

### Pathways to Diagnosis

In 2012, as part of its aim to reduce the delays in diagnosis of retinoblastoma experienced by some families in the UK, CHECT began to collect information from parents called 'Pathways to Diagnosis'.

This information is gathered by support workers during the course of their conversations with families, and focuses on whether the families had any prior awareness of retinoblastoma; the signs they noticed in their child's eyes that prompted them to seek help; and the actions taken by the healthcare professionals they consulted.

It is apparent that the range of experience is varied: from families who were referred to one of the two specialist Rb centres in the UK within days of noticing their child's symptoms; to families who spent over six months and numerous visits to various healthcare professionals before anyone recognised the significance of what they were reporting or carried out the appropriate tests and made appropriate referrals.

Recording these experiences in a quantitative way allowed CHECT to refine messages and information to address those areas where it was most needed: not only to alert parents of young children, but also GPs, health visitors and opticians to the main signs and symptoms of Rb, and the need for urgent examination and onward referral.

In 2024 the total number of pathways collected was 38, and we reviewed these against the ten-year average of reported figures.

A white glow in the eye remains the most common symptom overall. In 2024 more than the 10-year average noticed a white glow in the child's eye, and slightly more than average noticed it in a photograph. This is significant because the glow is likely to be noticeable earlier in a photo than with the naked eye. A new squint is still the second-most important symptom, but slightly fewer families reported this as a symptom in 2024 than in other years.

There was no change in that GPs were the first port of call for concerned families (55%), followed by opticians (16%) and then health visitors (11%).

In 2024 rates of urgent referrals were up amongst GPs and opticians who examined a child with retinoblastoma (54% and 75% respectively against a 10-year average of 47% and 66%)

Encouragingly, in 2024 61% of children were referred to their local ophthalmology department within the recommended two weeks of seeing a healthcare professional. Although this was significantly better than the ten-year average of 53%, it was down on the last two record years when over 70% were referred within this urgent two-week window.

Although Pathways to Diagnosis is designed to be a snapshot, or an indicator of trends in diagnosis in the UK, it is a key part of the resources we use to help CHECT achieve its aim of raising awareness of Rb in order to aid earlier diagnosis.

### Public awareness

It's often parents or carers who spot the signs of Rb, whether that's a white eye seen in a family photo, a squint, or another symptom. Public awareness is therefore an important area of our work to help ensure a swift diagnosis. We use traditional and digital media to reach parents and other members of the public and raise awareness of Rb.

#### Media:

Previous research carried out by, or on behalf of, CHECT has shown that many people first hear about Rb after reading an article. We created press releases centering around prominent events of the year, including Rare Disease Day, World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Christmas. We also utilise a freelance regional journalist who works throughout the UK to raise awareness of the stories of our CHECT Champions. During the reporting period we received over 111 mentions in the media, giving 264 million people the opportunity to see or hear across all media outlets. Coverage included the BBC and ITV TV, radio, and digital, various national newspapers across the UK as well as coverage around the world. In 2024, we were also featured on BBC's A Night of TV for Children in Need, which had 3.7 million views. In addition to this, we were mentioned in Olivia Deane's book, 'My New Normal'.

Digital:

We continue to adapt the CHECT website to ensure that it is easy to navigate and contains relevant and useful information to visitors, adding in the ability to directly buy items from the website and refreshing the website with a new look and updated material. The most visited pages remain our white eye and signs and symptoms and 'what causes retinoblastoma' pages. Our website hits reached over 111,000 people. Time spent on the website was at the highest ever level – indicating that awareness of CHECT's work and website has increased.

Social Media:

Social media is a key tool to raise awareness of Rb. In the period our Instagram followers increased by over 37% and our Facebook followers by 7%. We reached over 1 million people on Facebook and Instagram alone. Our TikTok channel has over 280 followers, our X channel over 3000 followers, our Instagram channel for CHECT TYA over 260 followers and a LinkedIn channel has over 600 followers.

Ongoing communication:

- We distribute monthly newsletters and emails filled with updates relating to support, awareness, research, fundraising, stories, and events. In 2024/25, the open rates averaged 43.5%, the highest ever recorded.
- We produce two editions of our magazine - InFocus - a year. These are distributed both digitally and in print. We offset the carbon footprint for printing.
- We maintain a blog with content, including news, events, real life stories, research, and support articles.

**Inclusivity**

We add image descriptions where appropriate to our social media posts, to make our posts more accessible for those unable to view the pictures. We also regularly review our websites to ensure that they remain as accessible as possible.

We use case studies from a range of Rb experiences, including those who are blind, those who have and have not lost an eye(s) to Rb.

**Research**

CHECT continues to support three ongoing projects:

Laboratory / Basic science

*Professor Yellapantula: Prognostic stratification and early detection of relapsed retinoblastoma using aqueous humor based cfDNA screening.*

Cancers shed DNA fragments, called cell-free DNA (cfDNA), into bodily fluids which facilitates detection of genomic alterations driving tumor growth. Using aqueous humor (AH), a watery fluid that fills the eye, collected during treatment, we will evaluate:

- 1) if serial monitoring of cfDNA can inform intraocular relapse of retinoblastoma earlier than clinical findings-based screening methods currently used.
- 2) if cfDNA prevalence at the end of treatment can inform prognosis of retinoblastoma.
- 3) the genomic and clinical features that differentiate low and high-risk of relapse.

*Professor Seigel: A retinal organoid platform for retinoblastoma drug development.*

One challenge in developing new treatments for retinoblastoma is to preserve vision by ensuring that Rb

tumour cells are killed without damaging surrounding normal retina. For this project, we have a new approach for testing promising retinoblastoma drugs. We can coax adult human stem cells to represent normal retinal tissue in a plastic dish (a "retina-in-a-dish"). If we add human Rb tumour cells to this same dish, we can disrupt the retina, like an Rb tumour might do in the human eye. This mixture of RB tumour cells with the retina-in-a-dish lets us use human cells to see whether our new drug treatments will kill Rb cells specifically without harming nearby retinal cells. This new method will be very useful for testing Rb treatments that we have developed with previous support from CHECT.

#### Clinical

*Dr Zerrin Onadim: Eloise Patterson Project: Study of records held at The Royal London Hospital and Childhood Cancer Research Group on retinoblastoma patients Phase II.*

This project was initially funded via a donation from a foundation, inspired by a young adult who has previously had retinoblastoma. Phase I (collection of clinical and mutation data and linking to Public Health England records) is now complete. This will provide complete information on type of Rb, type of mutation, treatment, follow-up data on second primary tumours and causes of any deaths.

We were delighted that the Foundation provided further support to allow for an additional phase to be delivered. Phase II (statistical analysis to estimate risks, which it is hoped could potentially lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of these second cancers in current - and future - Rb populations) is due to complete by the end of 2025.

In 2024/25 we continued our objective of delivering an annual research award.

*Professor Phillips: Co-production of a novel psychoeducation intervention for young people who have had Retinoblastoma' which will commence in January 2025.*

Our thanks go to all members of our Scientific Advisory Committee, both lay and professional, who volunteer their time to make CHECT's research programme possible, and thus support our aim of improving the lives of everyone affected by retinoblastoma in the future.

## **ACHIEVEMENT & PERFORMANCE**

### **Fundraising**

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#### **Fundraising Policy**

CHECT does not use fundraising services or external professional fundraisers to undertake its fundraising activities. Additionally, no data is shared with or sold to any external agencies. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake direct mail appeals to such lists.

The charity issues a biannual newsletter and a monthly e-newsletter / blog (both of which can be easily unsubscribed from) that share information about the charitable work and fundraising activities undertaken.

The charity occasionally invites individuals to attend events but does not exert undue pressure to attend or to donate. It does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work. A complaints policy is in place and is accessible on the charity's website ([www.chect.org.uk](http://www.chect.org.uk)). The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the Fundraising Manager. Any marketing materials and approaches are checked to ensure that they comply with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are recorded by the Fundraising Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter and certificate.

During the reporting period the generosity, creativity, and commitment to our supporters enabled the charity to exceed the budgeted income target, despite the many challenges faced by the wider charitable sector.

From individual challenges and community events to corporate partnerships, every donation has gone towards supporting those affected by retinoblastoma, raising awareness and investing in groundbreaking research.

We are incredibly grateful and overwhelmed by the passion and dedication of our supporters who go to such lengths to raise funds for us. Thank you.

#### **Community and Events**

A huge thank you to ALL the community groups, golf clubs and lodges that supported us including:

Acocks Lions Club - £200  
Stafford Lions Club - £150  
Lytham St Annes Lions Club - £500  
Brighton Lions Club - £500  
Luton Lions Club - £500  
Moseley Lions Club - £500  
Shirley Lions Club - £750  
Horley Lions Club - £500  
Launceston Lions Club - £250  
Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club - £200  
Kings Heath Lions Club - £500

#### **Great North Run**

All 5 of our supporters completed the Great North Run raising over £4,000.

#### 50K Your Way campaign

Following the success of 2023's 50K Your Way campaign, 34 supporters took part in the campaign, raising over £10,000.

#### The Lynch family Christmas Swim

The Lynch family took part in their 29th annual swim raising £3,446 for CHECT.

#### Miles for Nora

After Nora's diagnosis, shortly before her first birthday, Craig Anstey challenged himself to run at least 2 miles every day for a year (April 2024-2025) for his niece and raised over £10,000. He ran the 2025 London Marathon where friends and family watched him cross the finish line.

#### London Landmarks Half Marathon

Our supporters who took part in the London Landmarks Half Marathon raised over £1,400.

#### London Marathon

We were fortunate to have 14 runners who took part in, and finished the 2024 TCS London Marathon on 21st April 2024, raising £45,000.

### **Corporate Support**

We are grateful for the invaluable support of our corporate partners over the past year. Their commitment has played a crucial role in helping the charity. Thank you to Hancock & Wood, Loveluck Ltd, AJF Commercial and VML for their support. And to Highline Contracts for raising almost £4,000 through their corporate golf day.

### **Individual Giving**

Thank you to all who support us with a regular gift through a monthly pledge or Give As You Earn, as well as to those who so generously make a one-off donation to our charity. We understand that the economic situation is difficult for many and are very grateful to all who donate to our charity.

Victoria Cooper-Bird and Ian Bird attended a charity ball and auction in November, organised by Sheila & Clive Owen, which raised £4,000. Andy Lazenby and his band Major Accident played in Darlington, raising over £3,000 for CHECT.

### **Trusts & Foundations**

Income from charitable trusts and foundations totaled more than £200,000. We were delighted to become a beneficiary of BBC Children in Need during the year. We are enormously grateful to every one of the trusts and foundations that have so kindly and generously supported CHECT's work over the past twelve months.

### **In Memoriam**

Thank you and sincere condolences to families and friends who have given in memory of a loved one during the year and are grateful to those who have kindly remembered us in their will.

Sandra Jeffs' son, Michael, was diagnosed with Rb at 3 months old. Sadly, he passed away in 2022 from soft tissue sarcoma. To honor his memory and to celebrate what would have been Michael's 30th birthday, Sandra created the 30 for 30 Campaign to raise money for the four charities involved in Michael's care. We are truly grateful to Sandra and the Jeffs family for raising over £30,000 for CHECT in this heartfelt way.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

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### **Reserves Policy**

CHECT maintains its reserves under two categories: (a) unrestricted (general) reserves, which are available for general use in pursuance of the charity's objectives, and (b) restricted reserves, which are for specifically earmarked purposes such as medical research or support to families belonging to a particular area.

The unrestricted funds of the Charity as of 31 March 2025 totaled £288,748. The Trustees have determined that the Charity should hold at least six months of running expenses in reserve. This figure represents the amount required to run the charity for six months excluding winding up costs and any special projects. Based on this calculation, the required value of reserves for the year 2025-26 is £247,947.

The reserves held as at 31 March 2025 represent 6.7 months of budgeted expenditure.

The Trustees review the Charity's reserves policy on a regular basis and no less than annually. The reserves position is reported at every board meeting.

### **Investment Policy**

Funds surplus to immediate requirements are to be invested in interest bearing accounts without risk to the capital. Such accounts are to be those offered by institutions covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). No more than the amount covered by the FSCS is to be invested in any one institution.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

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The 2024/25 budget was set at a deficit in line with the agreed policy of utilising the levels of free reserves built up at the end of 2022/23. This was on the assumption that the difficult economic and fundraising environment would continue to exist in the period.

This allowed for the continued delivery of the charity's three core pillars of activity;

- The delivery of support to anyone affected by Rb in the UK
- The funding of research into the causes and outcomes of Rb
- The raising of awareness of the signs and symptoms of Rb

The plan was that the deficit would reduce free reserves down to no less than 6.5 months at the end of 2024/25. Whilst this is above the minimum level reserves as per the policy, it was viewed as prudent to err on the side of caution.

Income was budgeted to increase compared to 2024/25 with expenditure continuing to be carefully managed to ensure that this was focused on the delivery of the three pillars of activity alongside the pennies in the pound spent on charitable activity and the fundraising ratios protected.

Monthly expenditure (excluding research) was £46,600 in 2022/23, which reduced to £43,806 in 2023/2024 with the plan that this further reduce to around £42,000 in 2024/25.

The total incoming resources of the Charity were £519,370, which was an increase of £69,886 on 2023-24's total income of £449,484. Total resources expended during the year decreased by £33,080 to £542,586 (2023-24: £575,666).

Overall, the Charity recorded a deficit of £23,216 in 2024/25 compared to a deficit of £126,182 in 2023/24.

As of 31 March 2025, this has resulted in net assets decreasing from £318,764, at the preceding year end to £295,548.

This comprises restricted funds of £6,800 (2023/24: £6,800) and unrestricted funds of £288,748 (2023/24: £311,964)

## FUTURE PLANS

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Our vision continues to be the primary charity in the United Kingdom dedicated to helping families and individuals affected by Rb.

Our mission is to lessen the impact of retinoblastoma by driving early diagnosis, funding research into prevention and treatment, and offering lifelong support now and for future generations.

Our focus over the coming period is to:

- Place those that we support at the centre of everything that we do.
- Increase our impact by delivering incremental improvements in the delivery of our Support, Research, Awareness, and Influence activity.
- Increase the levels of funds raised in an ethical and sustainable manner.
- Live within our financial means by being mindful of expenditure and protecting the pennies in the pound spent on charitable activity.
- Be digitally enabled, focussed and savvy.
- Proactively seek alliances and partnerships to allow us to widen our reach, outputs, and impact.
- Be a caring and inclusive employer with a happy and focussed team.

### Support

The delivery of lifelong levels of support is the key focus of the charity using a support pathway that follows the key stages of the Rb journey – research, pre-diagnosis, diagnosis, treatment, follow up, end of life.

We will provide our information, practical, social, financial, and emotional support at each of the above stages and continue the offer of both the direct and indirect (partnership) delivered services.

We will run events for the three main groups of members: families; teens and young adults; and older adults (Beyond Rb), across different regions of the UK.

We will work closely with partner organisations allowing more children and young people to experience events that can increase confidence and resilience.

We will continue to offer members memorable experiences through our special relationships with organisations such as the Free Kicks Foundation and Box4Kids.

### Research

Research will continue to be a vital focus for us and our members. We were delighted to be able to make an award to Professor Phillips for his project *“Co-production of a novel psychoeducation intervention for young people who have had Retinoblastoma”* which will commence in January 2025.

We will continue to manage and support the existing projects referenced earlier and continue our commitment to research via another call for projects and a further investment during 2025-26 and beyond.

### Awareness

The raising of awareness around the signs and symptoms of Rb with both the public and the medical profession remains a vital function.

Using the ‘Pathways to Diagnosis’ as the guide, we will be focusing on key areas and moments in the diagnostic pathway to ensure that the right people have the right knowledge and information at the right time.

We are investing in digital media and are creating engaging content to aid in the raising of awareness.

**Influence**

We will continue to liaise with the different organisations involved in a child and family's journey to make sure the voice of our membership is heard and helps influence all, to deliver the best and most effective experience to all families.

Through partnership and alliance working, we will look to use our position to positively influence policy to improve the pathways and associated levels of support for all those affected by Rb.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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### Governing document

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) ('the Charity') is a charitable company limited by guarantee ('the Company'), incorporated on 1 July 1987 and a registered charity. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and are known as the board of trustees ('the Board'). The maximum number of trustees is 15.

The Company's Articles were amended in 2008 to change the charities objects and article 45 which focused on the of terms of the directors. In 2009 an amendment was made to include a new article, article 60 on authorizing director conflicts of interest, and in 2017 the articles as a whole were replaced. In October 2022, the Articles were further amended to remove article 47 which concerned a director's term and ability to apply for reflection, and to allow Society, General and Board of Trustee meetings to be held remotely.

In 2023 the board agreed that the articles of association required a full review, and that this provided the opportunity to put forward for adoption to Society members a set of modernised and updated articles of association.

The primary reason for undertaking the review was that the articles were originally written over 30 years ago. Therefore, the Trustees considered that it would be good practice for the articles to be reviewed to ensure that they remained appropriate and fit for purpose, including where relevant by reducing any unnecessary administrative burdens.

In September 2024, following the detailed review, the board considered an amended version of the Articles, which contained a number of largely administrative changes to the previous version, and resolved to approve the proposed revised articles of association, subject to approval by a resolution of the Society Members at a Society Meeting (in accordance with the Articles). Accordingly, it was resolved to invite the Society Members to vote on a proposed Special Resolution to approve the proposed new Articles of Association in substitution for and to the exclusion of all existing Articles of the Company.

Notice of the Society Meeting was served, and a quorate Special Meeting of Society Members was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024, during which 100% of votes / proxies were in favour of adopting the revised Articles. Accordingly, a special resolution was passed, and the revised Articles of Association were adopted.

### Organisational structure

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times a year and at the beginning of each meeting, the trustees are requested to declare any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared during this financial year. The Board's performance and trustees' skills are reviewed periodically and where possible new trustees are recruited to meet any needs or gaps identified. The Charity is a signatory to the NCVO's Good Governance Code for the voluntary and community sector.

To assist in the effectiveness and smooth running of the Charity, the Board continues to resource two sub-committees to help oversee certain aspects of the Charity's work. Sub-committees are currently set up for: Finance, Risk and Safeguarding and for Research (Scientific Advisory Committee).

The day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to the CEO, supported by the staff team. At the close of the year, staffing consisted of ten staff: a chief executive (four days per week); a head of finance & operations (two days per week); an operations & creative manager (full time); two fundraising managers and one fundraising officer (two full time and one four days per week); a head of support services (four days per week) and two support workers - one in London (four days per week) and one in Birmingham (four days per week); and a communications manager (three days per week).

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is not affiliated with any other charitable organisation and has no related parties except as shown in the notes to the accounts. The Charity is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, the National Institute of Health Research, and Cancer 52.

### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities as recommended by the Charity Commission and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). This includes: the trustee role description and person specification relevant to the role, the Charity's confidentiality policy, and the eligibility requirements for becoming a trustee. They are also supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the strategic development plan and the chief executive's report and minutes from two previous board meetings.

Trustee roles are advertised on the CHECT website and on occasion, using external recruitment organisations. Enquiries are also occasionally received from members. A selection panel made up of the Chair and CEO considers the application and the suitability of the applicant using agreed criteria identified on the person specification and the role description. The prospective trustee is then invited to observe a board meeting prior to appointment and standing for election, which is voted on and approved by the Board.

Induction meetings covering the background to current matters take place with the CEO and key members of the staff team. Training on matters relevant to the role and responsibilities of trustees is encouraged and the Board subscribes to literature pertinent to good governance. All trustees are required to sign: a code of conduct; the conflict-of-interest policy; and confirmation of their eligibility to serve as a director. They also undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and clearance.

The majority of trustees have personal experience of retinoblastoma and its impact, but individuals with other key skills are also recruited to the Board to ensure an appropriate balance to meet the needs of the Charity.

### **Risk management**

The trustees regularly assess the risks to the Charity and maintain a comprehensive risk register which includes plans to mitigate or manage the risks identified.

The risk register is reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee at each of their meetings and in detail twice a year. Their discussions are reported at each Board Meeting, who in turn undertake a detailed annual review. The Chief Executive reviews on a monthly basis after which any concerns are discussed with the Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee.

In addition to the Treasurer and Finance and Risk Committee, there are nominated trustees with oversight and non-executive lead for Human Resources, Policies & Procedures, Safeguarding, Data Protection, Legal Matters, and Information Technology.

The trustees are satisfied that there are systems and arrangements in place to manage the risks identified as far as possible.

### **Safeguarding**

As a charity we are committed to safeguarding our employees and all those who receive and give support.

Safeguarding children, young people, and adults, with a focus on those who are vulnerable and may be at risk is a priority for the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. Our safeguarding focus helps our trustees and employees to remove, reduce and manage safeguarding risks for those we support and work with.

We review our safeguarding policy on an annual basis, have clear reporting processes, and follow up on any safeguarding concerns. All staff and trustees undertake annual safeguarding training. The delivery of our safeguarding obligations is person-centered, and outcomes focused, ensuring we are timely and proportionate in all our actions.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. These give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware: there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, have been re-appointed with a unanimous vote in favour by Trustees.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

  
Ian Ellington – Trustee

20/9/2025

Date

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### Other Information

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

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinions on Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### Matters on Which we are Required to Report by Exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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- The charitable company is required to comply with both company law and charity law as applicable in England and Wales and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures, and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

### Use of our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Richard Billinghamurst FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

Date: ..... 26/09/2025 .....

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND**  
**EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and Legacies	2	334,637	173,333	507,970	437,109
Other Trading Activities	3	843	-	843	1,046
Investment Income	4	10,557	-	10,557	11,329
<b>Total</b>		<b>346,037</b>	<b>173,333</b>	<b>519,370</b>	<b>449,484</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Raising Funds	5	154,967	-	154,967	128,670
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Medical Research and Grant Making		77,537	24,600	102,137	109,834
Awareness Raising		111,526	-	111,526	113,002
Family Support and Information		5,682	148,733	154,415	202,831
Influencing		19,541	-	19,541	21,329
<b>Total</b>		<b>369,253</b>	<b>173,333</b>	<b>542,586</b>	<b>575,666</b>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(23,216)	-	(23,216)	(126,182)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Brought Forward		311,964	6,800	318,764	444,946
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>£288,748</b>	<b>£6,800</b>	<b>£295,548</b>	<b>£318,764</b>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

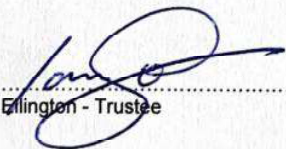
CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)  
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2025**

		2024	2024
	Notes	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Assets	14	-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	15	34,887	20,771
Cash at Bank and in Hand		473,048	478,558
		<u>507,935</u>	<u>499,329</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	16	(137,757)	(155,565)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>370,178</u>	<u>343,764</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		370,178	343,764
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	17	(74,630)	(25,000)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>£295,548</u>	<u>£318,764</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	20	288,748	311,964
Restricted funds		6,800	6,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>£295,548</u>	<u>£318,764</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 20/9/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ian Ellington - Trustee

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash Generated from Operations	22	(16,067)	(161,602)
Finance Costs Paid		-	-
Net Cash (Used in)/Provided by Operating Activities		(16,067)	(161,602)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>			
Interest Received		10,557	11,329
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		10,557	11,329
<b>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in reporting period</b>		<b>(5,510)</b>	<b>(150,273)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of reporting period</b>		<b>478,558</b>	<b>628,831</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period</b>		<b>£473,048</b>	<b>£478,558</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 1. Accounting Policies

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that the Charity's cash at the date of approval of the financial statements and its projected cash flows for the following year are sufficient such that the Charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. In making this judgement, the trustees and senior management team have considered future agreed funding and the anticipated impact of external factors on future funding and expenditure.

### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The critical judgements and estimates are reflected in these accounting policies.

### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income when appropriate:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the Charity, are recognised when the Charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity only where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts. Donated goods are measured at fair value and included within income.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time or estimated usage basis as set out in the notes to these accounts.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 1. Accounting Policies – continued

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. The cost of minor additions or those costing below £250 are not capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which in all cases is estimated at 4 years.

### **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.

### **Debtors**

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

### **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount, after allowing for any trade discounts due.

### **Financial instruments**

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

### **Employee benefits**

Short-term benefits are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received. Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102. The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate and are allocated between activities and funds based on the use of the resource i.e. where employees spend their time.

### **Taxation**

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2. Donations and Legacies**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants from Trusts & Foundations	28,264	173,333	201,597	189,214
	<u>28,264</u>	<u>173,333</u>	<u>201,597</u>	<u>189,214</u>
<b>Donations:</b>				
General Donations	24,893	-	24,893	40,862
Standing Orders	29,618	-	29,618	21,770
In Memoriam	32,516	-	32,516	16,541
GAYE	2,126	-	2,126	4,644
Collecting Tins	457	-	457	2
Community Donations	-	-	-	333
Other Corporate Donations	20,604	-	20,604	36,092
London Marathon	45,837	-	45,837	16,525
Great North Run	21,319	-	21,319	6,852
Other Running Events and walks	-	-	-	5,531
Other events, Sporting Activities and Community Fundraisers	129,003	-	129,003	98,743
	<u>306,373</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>306,373</u>	<u>247,895</u>
<b>Legacies</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Income from Donations and Legacies</b>	<u>£334,637</u>	<u>£173,333</u>	<u>£507,970</u>	<u>£437,109</u>

The Trustees would like to thank all the members and supporters who have contributed their time and effort to raising money for the Trust.

**3. Other Trading Activities**

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Christmas Cards	465	201
Merchandise Sales	378	845
	<u>£843</u>	<u>£1,046</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**4. Investment Income**

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Bank Interest	<u>10,557</u>	<u>11,329</u>
	<b>£10,557</b>	<b>£11,329</b>

**5. Raising Funds**

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b>Raising Donations and Legacies</b>		
Staff Costs	100,911	73,138
Fundraising Costs	14,259	6,247
Support Costs	39,797	49,285
	<u>£154,967</u>	<u>£128,670</u>

**6. Charitable Activities**

	Direct Costs (see note 7) £	Grant Funding of Activities (see note 8) £	Support Costs (see note 9) £	2025 Total £
Medical Research and Grant Making	57,048	37,130	7,959	102,137
Awareness Raising	73,321	-	38,205	111,526
Family Support and Information	76,158	12,990	65,267	154,415
Influencing	11,582	-	7,959	19,541
	<u>218,109</u>	<u>50,120</u>	<u>119,390</u>	<u>£387,619</u>

**7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities**

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Staff Costs	203,157	218,829
Newsletter Costs	3,810	3,324
Other Direct Costs	11,142	13,412
	<u>£218,109</u>	<u>£235,565</u>

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

8. Grants Payable

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Medical Research and Grant Making	<b>37,130</b>	43,463
Family Support and Information	<b>12,990</b>	20,114
	<b><u>£50,120</u></b>	<u>£63,577</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**9. Support Costs**

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time. Governance costs of £15,163 are included in support costs. This includes trustee expenses and two years of audit fees as they were not fully accounted for in the prior year.

	Raising Donations and Legacies £	Medical Research and Grant Making £	Awareness Raising £	Family Support and Information £	Influencing £	Total Activities 2025 £	Total Activities 2024 £
Salaries	27,252	5,450	26,162	44,693	5,450	109,007	121,406
Premises Rent	2,266	453	2,176	3,717	453	9,065	16,844
Premises Costs	34	7	33	56	7	137	568
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	672
Insurance	233	47	222	382	47	931	-
Communications and Stationery	4,979	996	4,780	8,164	996	19,915	16,943
Meetings, Seminars and Staff Training	182	36	175	299	36	728	1,746
Travel and Subsistence	126	25	121	206	25	503	754
Recruitment	162	32	155	266	32	647	24,906
Accountancy Fees	2,481	496	2,382	4,070	496	9,925	7,263
Sundries	200	40	192	328	40	800	1,620
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	465
Bank Charges	73	15	70	119	15	292	492
Auditors' Remuneration	1,809	362	1,737	2,967	362	7,237	3,460
	<b>39,797</b>	<b>7,959</b>	<b>38,205</b>	<b>65,267</b>	<b>7,959</b>	<b>£159,187</b>	<b>£197,139</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**10. Net Income (Expenditure)**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Auditors Remuneration	<b>3,048</b>	3,542
Depreciation – Owned Assets	-	465
Auditors' Remuneration – Non Audit Services	<b>3,302</b>	3,838

In the prior year audit fees had not been fully accrued for in the accounts due to materiality, however it was disclosed in the note above. In the current year two years of audit fee have been included in support costs.

**11. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits**

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

**Trustees Expenses**

During the current year £85 of expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees (2024: £71).

**12. Staff Costs**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	<b>373,078</b>	368,800
Social Security Costs	<b>28,855</b>	33,447
Other Pension Costs	<b>11,141</b>	11,126
	<b><u>£413,074</u></b>	<u>£413,373</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
Average Number of Employees	10	10

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
£60,000 - £70,000	-	1
£70,000 - £80,000	1	-

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 13. Comparatives For the Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and Legacies	279,695	157,414	437,109
Other Trading Activities	1,046	-	1,046
Investment Income	11,329	-	11,329
<b>Total</b>	292,070	157,414	449,484
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising Funds	128,670	-	128,670
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Medical Research and Grant Making	104,834	5,000	109,834
Awareness Raising	113,002	-	113,002
Family Support and Information	57,217	145,614	202,831
Influencing	21,329	-	21,329
<b>Total</b>	425,052	150,614	575,666
<b>NET INCOME /(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(132,982)	6,800	(126,182)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total Funds Brought Forward	444,946	-	444,946
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	£311,964	£6,800	£318,764

## 14. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer and Office Equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	28,428
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2024	28,428
Charge for Year	-
At 31 March 2025	28,428
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2025	£-
At 31 March 2024	£-

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**15. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<b>14,859</b>	509
Other Debtors	<b>7,388</b>	2,792
Prepayments and Accrued Income	<b>12,640</b>	17,470
	<u><b>£34,887</b></u>	<u>£20,771</u>

**16. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Creditors	-	15,674
Pension and PAYE Creditor	<b>1,515</b>	4,052
Deferred Income	<b>66,275</b>	23,489
Accruals	<b>69,967</b>	112,350
	<u><b>£137,757</b></u>	<u>£155,565</u>

Included within Accruals is £62,315 for research grants awarded but expected to be drawn down within 12 months of the year end (2024: £108,418).

Deferred income relates to donations received in respect of future events, all of which is released in the following financial year.

**17. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After One Year**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	<u><b>£74,630</b></u>	<u>£25,000</u>

Accruals reflect grants awarded but not expected to be drawn down until more than 12 months after the current year end.

**18. Leasing Agreements**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Within One year	<u>-</u>	<u>£5,125</u>

The current lease expired in August 2025, with no commitment remaining. A new lease was signed in August 2025 for a two year period with a six month notice period.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 19. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Current Assets	501,135	6,800	507,935	499,329
Current Liabilities	(137,757)	-	(137,757)	(155,565)
Long Term Liabilities	(74,630)	-	(74,630)	(25,000)
	<b>£288,748</b>	<b>£6,800</b>	<b>£295,548</b>	<b>£318,764</b>

## 20. Movement In Funds

	At 1.4.24 £	Net Movement in Funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	311,964	(23,216)	288,748
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	6,800	-	6,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>318,764</b>	<b>(23,216)</b>	<b>295,548</b>

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

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in Funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	346,037	(369,253)	(23,216)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	148,733	(148,733)	-
Research	24,600	(24,600)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>519,370</b>	<b>(542,586)</b>	<b>(23,216)</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 20. Movement In Funds - continued

**Comparatives for Movement in Funds**

	<b>At 1.4.23</b>	<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	<b>At 31.3.24</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	444,946	(132,982)	311,964
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	-	6,800	6,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>£444,946</u>	<u>(126,182)</u>	<u>318,764</u>

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

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement in Funds</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	292,070	(425,052)	(132,982)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	152,414	(145,614)	6,800
	5,000	(5,000)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>449,484</u>	<u>(575,656)</u>	<u>(126,182)</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Medical Research	Available for research into various projects that promote the objects of the Charity
Support	To provide support and information to families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma.
Kent Travel	A fund to provide eligible families living in Kent with one-off travel grants for financial assistance with travel to UK clinics.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

## 21. Related Party Disclosures

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

## 22. Reconciliation of Net (Expenditure)/Income To Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
<b>Net (Expenditure)/Income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>(23,216)</b>	(126,182)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation Charges	-	465
Interest Received	<b>(10,557)</b>	(11,329)
Finance Costs	-	-
Decrease in Debtors	<b>(14,116)</b>	(10,383)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	<b>31,822</b>	(14,173)
<b>Net Cash (used in)/provided by operations</b>	<b>£(16,067)</b>	£(161,602)

## 23. Analysis Of Changes In Net Funds

	<b>At 1.4.24</b>	<b>Cash Flow</b>	<b>At 31.3.25</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash</b>			
Cash at Bank	478,558	(5,510)	473,048
Total	<u>£478,558</u>	<u>£(5,510)</u>	<u>£473,048</u>

## 24. Capital Commitments

At the year end there were no capital commitments (2024: £nil).



 **KNOX CROPPER**  
chartered accountants

**Childhood Eye Cancer Trust**

**Audit Findings Report**

**Year Ended 31 March 2025**



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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The Board of Trustees

Childhood Eye Cancer Trust

19 August 2025

Dear Trustees

### **Audit findings for the year ended 31 March 2025**

This Audit Findings Report highlights the significant findings arising from the audit and sets out the key matters which we are required to formally report to those charged with governance in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) 260.

As you will appreciate, our audit procedures are designed primarily to enable us to form an opinion on the accounts as a whole. Our procedures include such tests of the accounting records and internal control systems as are, in our opinion, necessary for audit purposes. Consequently, whilst our procedures may identify certain weaknesses which may exist, the audit procedures in themselves should not be relied upon to reveal all the weaknesses which may exist in the system.

This report has been prepared for your sole use and we assume no responsibility to any other party in respect of its contents. The report should not be disclosed to any third party without our prior written consent.

This report is not exhaustive and deals with only the more significant matters which came to our attention during the audit. Other matters of lesser significance have been discussed with the relevant staff during the course of our audit work.

In conclusion we would like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation to management and staff for their assistance and co-operation during the course of our audit. If you have any queries on any of the points in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely

**Knox Cropper LLP**



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Audit Overview

#### General

The purpose of our audit is to gather sufficient evidence to allow us to conclude that the transactions and balances disclosed in the accounts are unlikely to be materially misstated, to establish that disclosures reflected in the accounts comply with the requirements of legislation and relevant accounting standards, to assess whether the accounting policies adopted are appropriate and consistently applied and to assess whether judgements exercised and estimates made in the preparation of the accounts are fair and reasonable.

#### Audit Report

We confirm that we have completed the audit to our satisfaction and intend to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the Financial Statements. This means that we have no material reservations over the figures or information disclosed in the financial statements.

The wording of our audit report is in accordance with the standard text for unqualified audit reports prescribed by the Financial Reporting Council. Our report also includes a section which is specific to this audit setting out our response to the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities arising from non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

#### Estimates and Judgments

There are no key estimates and judgments made by management affecting the financial statements.

We have concluded that management have exercised judgments and calculated estimates in a fair and reasonable way.

#### Accounting Policies and Disclosures

The accounting policies which have been adopted in the financial statements are in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and are, in all material respects, appropriate to the organisation's operations and in compliance with FRS 102 and the Charity SORP.

Adequate consideration was given to the potential impact of changes in legislation and accounting standards which arose during the year.

No significant changes arose during the current year which affected the financial statements and therefore the form and content of the accounts are consistent with the preceding year.

### Professional Ethics and Independence

We confirm our compliance with the Ethical Standard issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

We confirm that we have not carried out any non-audit work which could impair our independence and there are no other matters in relation to our audit engagement which we consider should be brought to your attention.

### Other Audit Matters

In accordance with UK auditing standards, we confirm the following matters in relation to our audit of the financial statements:

- a) We have not identified or been made aware of any incidents of fraud or suspected fraud. We would emphasise that our work as auditor is not intended to identify any instances of fraud of a non-material nature and should not be relied upon for this purpose.
- b) We have not identified or been made aware of any incidents of non-compliance with laws and regulations which could have a material impact on the financial statements.
- c) We have not identified or been made aware of any related party transactions other than matters which have been disclosed in the financial statements.
- d) We have received all requested third-party confirmations which represent an essential element of our audit evidence.
- e) Apart from the matters set out in this report, there were no significant matters discussed with management during the audit which we are required to bring to your attention. There were no significant disagreements with management or any limitations placed on the scope of our work. No significant difficulties were encountered during the audit.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Materiality and Audit Adjustments

#### Materiality

Materiality is used both to plan the nature and extent of audit testing and to evaluate the effect of misstatement. In accordance with ISA (UK) 260 'Communication with those charged with governance', we are obliged to include details in this report of all unadjusted errors which are below materiality unless they are clearly trivial. Whilst our audit procedures are designed to identify misstatements which are material to our audit opinion, we also report to those charged with governance and management any uncorrected misstatements of lower value errors to the extent that our audit identifies these.

Omissions or misstatements are regarded as material if they would reasonably influence the users of the financial statements. The assessment of what is material is a matter of professional judgement.

Our assessment of materiality the year ended 31 March 2025 was calculated as follows:

	£	Explanation
Overall Materiality for the Financial Statements	10,851	Accounts materially misstated where total errors exceed this value
Performance Materiality	8,138	Work performed to capture individual errors at this level.
Triviality Level	542	Unadjusted errors above this level are reported.

#### Audit Adjustments

There were no material adjustments made to the financial statements arising from our audit work.

We confirm that no further misstatements were detected during the audit which remain uncorrected in the financial statements other than matters which are both individually and cumulatively clearly trivial.

## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

### Key Audit Risks and Conclusions

The following schedule sets out the key risks which we identified as part of our audit planning. It sets out our approach to ensuring that these risks did not give rise to any material misstatement in the financial statements and our audit findings.

	Risk	Audit Approach	Audit Findings
1	Going concern – The charity has recorded intentional deficits in the last year. Budgets going forward are expected to break even.	We will review the charity's forecasts for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and assess the validity of the underlying assumptions in respect of future income and expenditure streams.	We have reviewed current year budget, three year outlook and management assessment of going concern. The current year budget is to break even although the organisation is currently performing better than budget. We are satisfied that the charity can continue as a going concern for the next 12 months.
2	Completeness of income receivable from grants, donations and legacies. These income streams are sometimes received by instalments and may relate to current or future periods. In addition, they may also be in a form other than cash.	We will review the underlying supporting documentation to ensure that the Trust was entitled to the income in the current period, that it was measurable and that it was probable that the Trust would receive the income. We will also confirm that, where income related to a future period or was due to the Trust at the year end, it is correctly accounted for either as a debtor or as deferred income.	We have reviewed a sample of income documentation and agreed it to the nominal ledger. All deferred and accrued income sampled has been correctly accounted for and income appears to be fairly stated in the accounts. We have reviewed any restrictions that apply to grants and are satisfied that the expenditure is in accordance with the grant agreements.
3	Due to the size and nature of the entity, the potential for management override of controls is considered a significant risk.	We review a sample of income and expenditure to ascertain the validity of income and expenditure allocation. In addition, we review expenditure in totality to ascertain whether the amounts identified are	We have reviewed the income and expenditure and obtained explanations for large variances as well as carrying out detailed testing.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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	reasonable and consistent with our expectations.	We have reviewed controls operating within the organisation and checked that they are working effectively. We have reviewed journals and adjustments that have been processed through the accounting system and not noted anything unusual.
4	Opening balances- the Charity moved accounting systems at the beginning of the year and there is a risk that opening balances have not been correctly captured in the new system.	We will review all opening balances transferred across and agree them back to signed accounts. We have reviewed the opening balances and are satisfied that they have been correctly transferred across. It was noted that the fixed assets have not been transferred across but after discussion with management this was noted to be due to the fact that all assets have a nil value on the balance sheet and were due to be disposed of during 2025/26. We have agreed that this disposal will be reflected in the financial statements in 2025/26.

### Internal Control Observations and Recommendations

We are required to report to you, in writing, significant deficiencies in the internal controls and the internal control environment that we have identified during the course of our audit. These matters are limited to those which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to be reported to you. Our audit cannot necessarily be expected to disclose all deficiencies in the system and, as a result, the matters reported may not be the only ones which exist.

The accounting records continued to be adequately maintained during the year and we can report that no significant weaknesses were identified during the audit.

## Emerging Issues

### Charity Legislation

#### Charities Act 2022

- The provisions of the Charities Act 2022 have now been fully implemented.
- The Act does not impose any additional obligations on charity trustees. Instead, it simplifies the administrative steps which trustees are required to take when making certain decisions.
- The main provisions which were implemented in October 2022 were:
  - The power to pay trustees for the supply of goods to the charity
  - A simplified process for dealing with situations where an appeal fails to raise sufficient funds or raises too much
  - The power to make certain ex-gratia payments without charity commission approval
- The main provisions which were implemented during 2023 were:
  - The power to spend small permanent endowments and borrow up to 25% from any permanent endowment
  - A relaxation of the requirements when charities are selling land, including a widening of the list of experts who can advise, and discretions on how to advertise.
- The main provision implemented in March 2024 was:
  - The power to make amendments to the charity's governing document without Charity Commission approval, except for 'regulated alterations' (such as a change to the objects) which will continue to require approval.

### Company Law legislation: Companies House Reform

#### Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act

- The provisions of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 are in the process of being implemented, enhancing Companies House's role in ensuring the accuracy of the register.
- Under the provisions, Companies House has greater powers to query, challenge and remove information on the register which appears to be inaccurate or inconsistent.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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- With effect from Autumn 2025, identification checks will be carried out on all existing directors, persons with significant control and officials with responsibility for filing with Companies House, such as a company secretaries. This will affect all charitable companies, trading subsidiaries, and corporate trustee companies.
- The provisions relating to the requirement to file all accounts using approved software is not expected to be implemented until late in 2026.

### Employment and Payroll Legislation

- The salary costs of charities will have increased from April 2025 due to the increased rate and lower threshold for employers' national insurance and increases to the national minimum wage.
- A number of changes to employee rights have also already been implemented including the right to request flexible working hours, redundancy protection for employees on maternity leave and statutory right to a week's unpaid carers leave.
- **The Employment Rights Bill** contains provisions to provide employees with rights and protection from their first day of employment, including parental leave, sick pay and protection from unfair dismissal. Sick pay will also be reformed with no lower earnings limit or waiting period. Significant changes to zero hours contracts are also proposed.
- From 6 April 2027, all benefits will be required to be processed through the payroll instead of through P11Ds, with the exception of beneficial loans and living accommodation. This will require up to date and accurate information being available in real time.

### Accounting and Reporting

#### Changes to Charity Financial Reporting

- **Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102** has been updated and is effective for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2026. All charity Financial Statements are required to comply with FRS 102. The two principal changes in the updated standard are:
  - The requirement to account for most operating leases, including property leases, on the balance sheet. As a result, for those charities that lease assets, there will be an increase in assets and liabilities on the balance sheet.
  - The requirement to implement a five-step revenue recognition model for income derived from exchange contracts (trading/business income). Charities will need to carefully assess their revenue recognition accounting policies to ensure they are compliant with the new requirements.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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- **The Charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)** is in the process of being updated and a consultation draft was issued in March 2025 (available at [charitySORP.org](http://charitySORP.org)). and. Its effective implementation date will also be for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2026. The draft revised SORP:
  - Incorporates the changes to FRS 102, referred to above.
  - Categorises charities into 3 tiers, based on their income, which determines the amount of disclosure required. For example, in future, only charities with income exceeding £15m will be required to produce a cash flow statement.
  - Substantially revises the reporting requirements of the Trustees Report with a greater focus on impact reporting and areas considered to be of key concern to stakeholders including sustainability reporting, going concern reporting, reserve reporting and additional details about volunteers.

### Company size thresholds

- From 6 April 2025, the thresholds determining whether a company is large, medium, small or micro have been revised in accordance with **The Companies (Accounts and Reports) (Amendment and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2024**. The turnover and asset thresholds have been increased by approximately 50%. However, no change has been made to employee number threshold.
- The most significant impact will be for the estimated 14,000 companies which will move from medium to small. They will, potentially, no longer have a requirement to have a statutory audit and they will be able to take advantage of reduced reporting requirements. This may impact charitable subsidiaries but will not affect incorporated charities which remain subject to the Charities Act audit requirements.

### Consultation on Charity Financial Thresholds

- In April 2025, the Department of Culture Media and Sport commenced a consultation into raising a number of financial thresholds to reflect inflation since the thresholds were first set. These thresholds include the financial thresholds above which charities must:
  - Register with the Charity Commission
  - Submit an annual return
  - Prepare accounts on the accruals basis
  - Have an independent examination of their financial statements
  - Have an audit of their financial statements
- The government response to the consultation is planned for September 2025.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### International Non-Profit Accounting Standard (INPAS)

- A project is currently underway to produce an international standard for non-profit entities. The project, sponsored by CIPFA and Humentum, is nearing completion and there are plans to release a Standard (referred to as INPAS) in October 2025. The standard seeks to standardise financial reporting, in accordance with best practice, and to remove inconsistent practices across countries. There is no direct impact on UK Charity accounting but this standard may influence future charity SORPs in the UK in the longer term.

### The Charities (Annual Return) Regulations 2024

- These regulations came into force on 1 January 2025, outlining the information required for annual returns for financial years ending on or after this date. New questions include details on high-value donations and whether charity property is held by a holding trustee.

### Recent Charity Commission Guidance

#### Updated Guidance on Charities and Investment (CC14)

- This revised guidance was drafted in August 2023 following the **Butler-Sloss** case.
- The guidance makes it clear that trustees have discretion to take other factors into account, apart from maximising financial return, when setting the investment policy. Such factors may include:
  - Avoiding investments which conflict with the charity's objects
  - Avoiding investments which might cause reputational damage
- However, trustees' personal opinions or preferences should not be taken into account.

#### Updated Guidance on Decision Making for Charity Trustees (CC27)

- This updated guidance, which was issued in September 2024, states that the trustee decision making process should follow 7 key principles.
- Trustees should clearly record their decisions and take responsibility for them, 'jointly' and 'collectively', even where delegated.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Updated Guidance on Trustee Meetings (CC48)

- Trustees should review their Governing Document to consider whether it needs to be updated in relation to Trustee Meetings, including procedures for on-line meetings and decision making by telephone and e-mail.
- Changes such as these to the Governing Document no longer need approval from the charity commission.

### Guidance on Internal Controls (CC8)

- The restructured guidance, which was issued in April 2023, is now more concise and it covers issues that were not in existence or widely relevant to the sector when first drafted. New sections cover the use of mobile payments systems, such as Google Pay and Apple Pay, and the receipt of donations in the form of cryptoassets, such as cryptocurrency and NFTs.
- Existing advice on more traditional risks, including the risks relating to fundraising and public collections, making payments to related parties, and operating internationally has been updated. There is also a new section on accepting hospitality.

### Guidance on Social Media Use

- This guidance, which was issued in September 2023, recognises the increasing importance of the use of social media to engage with beneficiaries and the wider public. However, it also highlights the risks and the need for mitigation.
- The guidance states that where social media is used by the charity, there should be a policy in place (appropriate for the size of the charity) to mitigate the risk of reputational damage and to assist the charity to promote its charitable purposes.

### Guidance on Accepting or Refusing Donations

- Although there is an expectation that Charities will accept most donations, there may be occasions when Trustees refuse a donation. A decision to refuse a donation may be for operational reasons (for example, the conditions attached are unacceptable) or for reputational reasons (the donor may not be acceptable).
- Trustees should base any decision on the best interests of the charity and should not take into account personal opinions.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### **Cyber Security:**

The Charity Commission has issued further updated guidance on the measures Charities should take to mitigate the threat from cybercrime and on how to report incidents of suspected and actual cybercrime.

### **Governance Codes**

#### **Revised Charity Governance Code**

A new version of the Charity Governance Code is expected in 2025, offering updated best practice guidelines. This will help charities review their governance structures, ensuring they are transparent and accountable. Charities should review the updated code upon its release while continuing to utilise the existing code.

<https://www.charitygovernancecode.org/en/front-page>

#### **Review of the Code of Fundraising Practice**

The Code of Fundraising Practice is undergoing a comprehensive review, with a 'soft launch' scheduled for 2025. The revised Code aims to be more principles-based, shorter, and easier to use, with new rules on unstaffed collections and fundraising platforms. A six-month transition period will follow the launch.

<https://www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk/more-from-us/get-involved/code-review-2022-24>



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Letter of Representation

International auditing standards require us to obtain, from the trustees, a number of specific representations and also confirmation of any other material representation given to us during the course of our audit which forms part of our audit evidence. The representations should be made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and expertise.

The following is the full list of representations which we will require to be formally provided to us in a letter, signed on behalf of the trustees, prior to signing our audit report.

#### Confirmation of Responsibilities

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as trustees under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework (FRS 102 and the Charity SORP).
2. We confirm that all accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit, in accordance with your terms of engagement, and that all the transactions undertaken by the charitable company have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all management and trustees' meetings, have been made available to you. We have given you unrestricted access to persons within the charitable company in order to obtain audit evidence and have provided any additional information that you have requested for the purposes of your audit.
3. We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditors and confirm that:
  - so far as each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which you as auditors are unaware; and
  - each Trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information.

#### Estimates and Judgments

4. We confirm that the methods, significant assumptions and source data used by us in making accounting estimates, and their disclosure in the financial statements, are appropriate and in compliance with the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of FRS 102.
5. We confirm that all known actual or possible litigation and claims, the implication of which should be considered when preparing the financial statements, have been disclosed to you and have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with FRS102 and the Act.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Post Balance Sheet Events and Commitments

6. We confirm that there have been no events since the balance sheet date which necessitate revision of the figures in the financial statements, or inclusion of a note thereto, other than those matters which have already been disclosed or included in the financial statements.
7. We confirm that the charitable company has not contracted for any capital expenditure other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
8. We confirm that we have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and, where relevant, the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

### Related Parties

9. We confirm that we are aware of the definition of a related party as set out in FRS102 and the charity SORP.
10. We confirm that we have disclosed to you all related parties and related party transactions relevant to the charitable company and that we are not aware of further related party transactions other than those already disclosed in the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of FRS102 and the Act.
11. We confirm that the charity/company has not had, at any time during the year, an arrangement, transaction or agreement to provide credit facilities for trustees, nor to provide guarantees of any kind on behalf of the trustees, except as disclosed in the financial statements.

### Laws, Regulations and Contractual Agreements

12. We confirm that we are not aware of any possible or actual instance of non-compliance with those laws and regulations which provide a legal framework within which the charitable company conducts its operations, non-compliance with which could affect the financial statements.
13. The charitable company has complied with all aspects of contractual and other agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

### Internal Control and Fraud

14. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of controls to prevent and detect fraud and we confirm that we have assessed the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud and that we have made this assessment available to you. We also confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no significant deficiencies in internal control during the year.



## Childhood Eye Cancer Trust: Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

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15. We confirm that we have disclosed to you our knowledge of any actual or suspected instances of fraud involving management, employees with a significant role in internal control, and others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. We also confirm that we have disclosed to you our knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements, which have been communicated by employees, former employees, regulators or others.

### **Going Concern**

16. We confirm that, having considered financial projections which reflect the charitable company's expectations and intentions for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are expected to be approved, in our opinion, the charitable company's financial statements should be prepared on the going concern basis.

### **Uncorrected Misstatements**

17. We confirm that, in our opinion, the effects of any uncorrected misstatements which have been set out in the Audit Findings Report, are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole.

### **Charity Issues**

18. All grants, donations and other incoming resources, receipt of which is subject to specific terms or conditions, have been notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms and conditions in the application of such incoming resources.
19. We confirm that we have informed you of the details of all correspondence with the charity's regulators during the year and, in particular, the details of all Serious Incident Reports that we have made to the Charity Commission.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 327493

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02143917 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 327493

Trustees' Report and  
Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024  
for  
CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A2AD

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**TRUSTEES**

Ian Ellington - Chairman  
Gemma Boggs - Treasurer  
Lisa Brown (resigned 24.06.24)  
Elizabeth Coleman  
Alex Brebbia  
Andrea Bonzano  
Matthew Holt  
Rob Downes  
Damian Yeo  
Michelle Boothroyd  
Anya Ward (appointed 01.09.23)  
Patrick Tonks (appointed 19.12.23)

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Rose-Marie Sexton

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Royal London Hospital,  
Whitechapel Road,  
London,  
E11BB

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER**

02143917 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER**

327493

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

Knox Cropper LLP,  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory  
Auditors,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London,  
EC3A2AD

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

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objects of the Charity**

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The Objects of the Charity are to promote the relief of children with Retinoblastoma and to provide ongoing support for those affected.

This means the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is dedicated to helping anyone affected by retinoblastoma (Rb), a type of eye cancer that affects babies and young children, mainly under the age of six. We have been supporting families since 1987.

Around one child a week is diagnosed with Rb in the UK or 50 a year. It accounts for 3% of childhood cancers in the UK and 10% of cancers in babies under one. Around 45% of cases are heritable and this carries with it an increased risk of developing tumours in other parts of the body in later life.

The Charity was originally founded to provide support and information to those affected by Rb. In 1994 we merged with another charity that was funding research projects specifically related to Rb, and in 2004 we changed our name to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. As we grew, so did our aims and objectives and we began to run campaigns aimed at raising awareness among health professionals and the public in order to achieve the earliest possible diagnosis for children affected.

Our aims are to:

- Provide support and information to families and individuals affected by Rb.
- Raise funds to support research into issues concerned directly with Rb.
- Raise awareness of Rb among health professionals and others.
- Influence policy to improve service delivery for those affected by Rb.

### **Objectives, Strategies for Achievement and Public Benefit**

During the period of this report, we have continued to deliver against our three core goals of support, research, and awareness.

The Trustees annually review the core goals and have reaffirmed that these remain the charitable focus.

The Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have considered the objectives of the Charity and have given regard to how these objectives and the associated activities meet the public benefit criteria of advancing health, saving lives and the relief of those in need by reason of ill health.

We are the only UK-wide charity providing support to people affected by Rb and we believe that they benefit from our services in the following ways:

### **Main Objectives**

**Support:** To ensure that everyone affected by Rb in the UK has access to support and information according to their need.

- Our Head of Support Services and two Support Workers offer support to all families and individuals affected by Rb.
- Support is provided on the wards and in clinics at the two specialist centres for Rb in the UK: Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital and The Royal London Hospital. On non-clinic

days, support is provided via telephone, video call, email, and social media.

- Support is also provided through the delivery of a programme of regular face-to-face or virtual meetings for families, teens and young adults, and adults.

Our team provides signposting to organisations for financial grants, benefits advice, therapeutic and psychological support, visual impairment support, holidays, travel expenses, white goods, and other items.

Support Workers also assist with applications for Blue Badges, Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, as well as supporting families with housing applications.

The support team collaborates with the wider CHECT team with stories from members for CHECT publications, information leaflets and social media.

**Awareness - healthcare professionals:** To save lives and minimise the impact of visual impairment by ensuring healthcare professionals are aware and know about Rb and its symptoms, listen to concerned parents and make urgent referrals where necessary.

- Targeted activities to healthcare professionals associated with children aged six and under.
- Distribution of resources that help early diagnosis and referral.
- Media campaigns and articles for specialist healthcare professional journals and magazines.
- Working with healthcare professionals to develop and implement standard referral protocols for those with suspected Rb.

**Awareness - public:** To increase awareness of Rb and its signs and symptoms amongst parents, guardians and carers to promote the seeking of medical advice as soon as possible.

- Ensuring information for parents about the symptoms of Rb is available in all relevant NHS publications and on all NHS information websites.
- Media activity regarding the condition including the signs and symptoms and how / where to seek help.
- Developing relationships with organisations able to reach large sections of the public with a view to raising awareness.
- Regular and sustained social media activity with information and advice accessible on the charity's website.
- Promoting knowledge of the possible longer-term impact of having had Rb as a child with regard to genetics and other cancers.
- Information campaigns targeted towards people affected by Rb as a child.

**Research:** Proactively engaging in the advancement of knowledge of Rb, its treatment and its impact.

- Supporting and funding clinical, psychosocial, and scientific research relating to Rb.
- Working through the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to identify and support suitable projects from a wide range of sources.
- Encouraging applications from the international research community.
- Supporting multi-centre and international collaboration including the sharing of experience, knowledge, and data.

**Influencing:** Working with other organisations to bring about improvements in the way in which services are funded and delivered in the UK.

- Working with the treatment centres in the UK, the NHS National Commissioning Group, National Artificial Eye Service, and other umbrella bodies who provide services to people affected by Rb.
- Proactively seeking partnerships with other charities and organisations.

**Research Grant Making:** We award grants to groups or individuals who wish to pursue research projects or audits to advance knowledge of Rb and related issues.

Applications go before the Scientific Advisory Committee which is made up of CHECT Trustee(s) and Chief Executive plus experts from research and Rb-related fields. We also have three lay members representing families and the adult Rb community within the SAC.

The committee evaluates the validity and appropriateness of the proposals using an agreed scoring matrix, seeking expert review for large projects and where necessary for other reasons, before making recommendations to the Board for funding.

Grant recipients are required to provide six-monthly progress reports and present a final report to the SAC and Board on the conclusion of the project before disseminating the findings and learning through presentations and publications.

### **Volunteers**

26 volunteers (including Trustees and SAC members) generously gave their time to support us throughout the year.

Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

### Charitable activities

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#### Support

Whilst one of our core priorities is the delivery of support to the parents and carers of children affected by Rb, we have extended this to encompass anyone affected, including teenagers whose unique needs are very different to those of a young child or baby, and adults, many of whom are living with the late effects of the treatment they received for Rb as a child. Membership of CHECT is open to anyone affected by retinoblastoma (as well as their friends and family), supporters of CHECT and health professionals. We do not charge a membership fee.

In 2023/24, 100% of families were offered support following a diagnosis of Rb in the UK. As well as face to face, email, and telephone, we continue to use virtual platforms to support our members.

There has been an increase in the number of face-to-face sessions delivered with over 1,300 sessions delivered across both treatment hospitals at inpatient and outpatient clinics.

We record and monitor support interactions so that we ensure the service is meeting the needs of those affected by Rb as best it can.

#### Face to face and remote support

The main areas that people sought support from CHECT in 2023/24 included:

- Practical and emotional support.
- Direct financial support and assistance with welfare applications.
- Detailed information about Rb including genetics, screening, fertility, and late effects of Rb.
- Signposting to other specialist organisations.
- Work and employment support.
- Housing support\*

\*There is an increasing number of families with housing concerns and homelessness, including a rise in the numbers of those coming from abroad to seek treatment for their child. This often requires enhanced levels of support.

We also continue to receive a small number of enquiries from non-members. These mainly consist of international patients requesting advice as well as UK based parents, guardians or carers who have symptom concerns in their child.

#### Social media support

Social Media is a vital source of support resources and information, with both members and non-members contacting us. We also raise awareness utilising all social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn and TikTok. As well as our main public-facing Facebook page, we have two closed groups for members which are for parents of children with Rb and adults who have had Rb, both of which have seen increases in membership in the period.

#### Financial Support

In 2023/24 we provided 63 CHECT support grants totaling £10,250 to families and individuals to help with the costs associated with an Rb diagnosis and ongoing treatment - for example travel to and from hospital as well as occasionally helping to buy some specialist equipment for those with a visual impairment.

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

The demand for support grants continues to increase in line with the cost-of-living crisis and our team continues to work in partnership with other organisations to offer as much financial support as possible.

In addition to the above we were fortunate to receive a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund's Community Cost of Living Fund. This allowed us to offer further emergency grants in the form of supermarket vouchers to member families who were in need. A total of 52 families received vouchers in March 2024.

### Support Events

In 2023/24, we organised 5 face-to-face support events:

- Family Days: 3 events in Stafford, Glasgow, and London - these included the presentation of our CHECT Champions award to some incredibly brave and deserving children.
- Teenage and Young Adult Day: 1 event in Watford.
- Adult Day: 1 event in Sheffield.

Hospital organised events were also attended by our support team.

The support service also delivered 7 online events:

- Teens and Young Adults: 3 events.
- Grandparents: 3 events.
- Ask the expert: 1 event on the topic of the genetics of Rb with guest speaker was Dr Ellie Hay from Great Ormond Street Hospital.

These virtual events provided opportunities for peer-to-peer support.

### Pip the Penguin

Pip (our enucleation support toy) continues to be very popular with 98 given to affected children. This support tool is used as a support tool for families and clinicians to normalise and explain the enucleation process.

### Teenage and Young Adult (TYA) Support

TYA who had Rb as children can face specific challenges around self-esteem. We provide specialist support to meet need and facilitate invaluable peer support.

We have a specific website and Instagram channel for TYAs, where they can contribute stories and information appropriate to their audience.

### Adults (Beyond Rb)

For some people, the effects of Rb are lifelong. We continue to respond to the needs of adults who were affected by Rb as children.

We have a specific Beyond Rb group, the membership of which has grown via Facebook into a dedicated WhatsApp Group.

### Partnerships

Collaboration and partnership development is a vital activity in the enhancement of our support provision.

Both support workers work very closely with the Guide Dogs Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLOs) based in each specialist centre and who offer advice, information and resources for children living with a visual impairment.

Ongoing partnership continues with immense gratitude via organisations such as Family Fund, Young Lives vs Cancer, the Free Kicks Foundation, and the Gavin Glynn Foundation. We continue to offer

activities to children and young people indirectly through partners such as Barretstown, the Ellen MacArthur Trust, and VICTA.

New partnerships have enhanced support for people affected by Rb and include wish organisation Molly Ollys; and Box4Kids who gift our members experiences and free events tickets.

#### Feedback From Those Supported

"Your support means a lot to us, especially during this challenging time. As I am currently temporarily not working, this voucher (given to us via CHECT) will really make a difference in helping me provide for my little one. It will go a long way in ensuring we have enough for food, milk, and nappies. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are truly appreciated, and I am grateful to be a recipient of your support. Thank you once again for your kindness and for making a positive impact in our lives."

"We were put through to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust on the day that we had the diagnosis, and their support worker was allocated to us – she's been a godsend. She helped us out with some grants."

"CHECT have always been there, calling or texting me. Our support worker has been great and always offered her support and checked in every time we have been at Royal London Hospital through the good and bad times. As I haven't been able to work or go back to work, she has helped me with contacting charities for financial support. CHECT are great and cannot recommend enough."

"Our support worker from CHECT is always so lovely and supportive in the clinic. She makes sure that she spends time with each family to see if there is anything they need and any way that CHECT can help. She put us in touch with a charity that provided a tablet for our daughter to watch her favourite programs on when she has to attend clinic appointments, which has been great. I know that if I needed any advice or support that I can contact CHECT."

"The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) has been with us from day one when we went to Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital, offering advice when needed and making sure we are supported. I remember at the start when we found out about our daughter having cancer it was hard to process and we were overwhelmed, but it was good to know that CHECT is there, and we can contact them whenever we need to. They kept checking how we are doing mentally and financially, letting us know we are not alone in this situation. Reading other people's stories who went through retinoblastoma on the CHECT website was also helpful to have a better understanding of what we may go through and relate to some scenarios. Our support worker from CHECT is such a friendly, cheerful, and kind person, she kept in touch asking how we all are doing."

"Our support worker is at the hospital every time we visit, to offer us and the other families' support, put a smile on [our son's] face and help us with anything we need. She is a massive comfort to us, and this journey would be incredibly hard without her."

#### **Awareness**

Rb is a rare disease which means that most people are not aware of it. Sadly, this frequently leads to a delay in a diagnosis being made and, because Rb is a fast-growing cancer, quick access to treatment can be vital in order to save a child's eyes, sight and life.

Raising awareness of Rb among both healthcare professionals and the public is therefore important in helping to drive early diagnosis and as such remains a key part of our work.

#### Pathways to Diagnosis

In 2012, as part of its aim to reduce the delays in diagnosis of retinoblastoma experienced by some families in the UK CHECT began to collect information from parents called 'Pathways to Diagnosis'.

This information is gathered by support workers during the course of their conversations with families, and

focused on whether the families had any prior awareness of retinoblastoma; the signs they noticed in their child's eyes that prompted them to seek help; and the actions taken by the healthcare professionals they consulted.

It is apparent that the range of experience is huge: from families who were referred to one of the two specialist Rb centres in the UK within days of noticing their child's symptoms; to families who spent over six months and numerous visits to various healthcare professionals before anyone recognised the significance of what they were reporting or carried out the appropriate tests and made appropriate referrals.

Recording these experiences in a quantitative way allowed CHECT to refine messages and information to address those areas where it was most needed: not only to alert parents of young children, but also GPs, health visitors and opticians to the main signs and symptoms of Rb, and the need for urgent examination and onward referral.

In 2023 the total number of pathways collected was 33.

Unusually, this year less parents took their child to the GP in the first instance on noticing something unusual with their eyes than any year since this study started in 2012. And more than in any other year, they took their child to an optician in the first instance.

This may be either because families are struggling to get an appointment with their GP, or because GP surgeries are 'triaging' eye queries towards opticians. It is an interesting development, and potentially positive for those families concerned, as opticians have a much better track record at making appropriate referrals for children with retinoblastoma than GPs (69% vs 45% from 2014 – 2023).

Encouragingly, this year saw more children than ever, since 2012, following the appropriate referral route. 67% of children received urgent referrals after their first consultation with a healthcare professional to their local ophthalmology department (and then onto one of the specialist Rb centres). This is compared to the eleven-year average of 44%.

Unsurprisingly, this was reflected in the overall speed of referrals. 2012 to 2022 shows that 22% of children were diagnosed at one of the specialist Rb centres within a week of first going to a healthcare professional with signs of Rb. In 2023 this was 59%. Overall, 72% of children were diagnosed within the recommended two-week period, second only to 2022 when 73% of children were diagnosed within this time period.

Although Pathways to Diagnosis is designed to be a snapshot, or an indicator of trends in diagnosis in the UK, it is a key part of the resources we use to help CHECT achieve its aim of raising awareness of Rb in order to aid earlier diagnosis.

### Public awareness

It's often parents or carers who spot the signs of Rb - whether that's a white eye seen in a family photo, a squint, or another symptom - public awareness is an important area of our work to help ensure a swift diagnosis. We use traditional and digital media to reach parents and other members of the public and raise awareness of Rb.

### Media:

Previous research carried out by, or on behalf of, CHECT has shown that many people first hear about Rb after reading an article. We created press releases centering around prominent events of the year, including Rare Disease Day, World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Christmas. We also have a freelance regional journalist who works throughout the UK to raise awareness of the stories of our CHECT Champions. During the reporting period we received over 130 mentions in the media, including 45 national pieces, giving 2.7 billion (+50% v previous year) people the opportunity to see or hear across all media outlets. Coverage included the BBC and ITV TV, radio, and digital, various national newspapers across the UK as well as coverage as far as America and Australia.

#### Digital:

We continue to adapt the CHECT website to ensure that it is easy to navigate and contains relevant and useful information to visitors. The most visited pages remain our white eye and signs and symptoms and 'what causes retinoblastoma' pages. Our website hits in the last reporting period are at a four-year high reaching over 153,000 people. New visitors and time spent on the website was at the highest ever levels—indicating that awareness of CHECT's work and website has increased.

#### Social Media:

Social media is a key tool to raise awareness of Rb. In the period our Instagram followers increased by 17% and our Facebook followers by 2%. We reached over 500k people on Facebook, 200k people on Instagram and over 70k people on Twitter. Our TikTok channel has over 220 followers, our Instagram channel for CHECT TYA has over 230 followers and a LinkedIn channel has over 500 followers.

#### Ongoing communication:

- We distribute monthly newsletters and emails filled with updates relating to support, awareness, research, fundraising, stories, and events. In 2023/24, the open rates averaged 42.6%.
- We produce two editions of our magazine - InFocus - a year. These are distributed both digitally and in-print. We offset the carbon footprint for printing.
- We maintain a blog with content, including news, events, real life stories, research, and support articles.

#### **Inclusivity**

We have an Inclusivity Working Group to ensure that the charity is fully accessible and represents all those we support.

#### In the period outputs include:

- We translated our signs and symptoms posters into Polish and Romanian.
- We reviewed our awareness material and have made this more inclusive.
- We add image descriptions where appropriate to our social media posts, to make our posts more accessible for those unable to view the pictures.
- We use case studies from a range of Rb experiences, including those who are blind, those who have lost an eye(s) to Rb and also those who haven't but have had Rb.

#### **Research**

CHECT continues to support three ongoing projects:

#### Laboratory / Basic science

Professor Shin-Ichi Ohnuma: Evaluation of PRELP function using retinoblastoma samples.

Previous research by Professor Ohnuma has found that whilst PRELP protein is highly expressed in normal retinal tissues, it is not expressed in retinoblastoma. Preliminary data from cell cultures indicate that administration of PRELP to the established laboratory retinoblastoma cell lines inhibited cancer progression. Now, this team wants to confirm that these results have clinical application, by applying PRELP protein to the human retinoblastoma tissues and examining the effect on retinoblastoma development. The advantage of such an approach over some current methods is that only affected cells will be impacted by the treatment, with no expected toxicity to surrounding normal, unaffected retinal cells, thereby preserving more of the child's vision.

*Professor Seigel: A retinal organoid platform for retinoblastoma drug development.*

One challenge in developing new treatments for retinoblastoma is to preserve vision by ensuring that Rb

tumour cells are killed without damaging surrounding normal retina. For this project, we have a new approach for testing promising retinoblastoma drugs. We can coax adult human stem cells to represent normal retinal tissue in a plastic dish (a "retina-in-a-dish"). If we add human Rb tumour cells to this same dish, we can disrupt the retina, like an Rb tumour might do in the human eye. This mixture of RB tumour cells with the retina-in-a-dish lets us use human cells to see whether our new drug treatments will kill Rb cells specifically without harming nearby retinal cells. This new method will be very useful for testing Rb treatments that we have developed with previous support from CHECT.

### Clinical

*Dr Zerrin Onadim: Eloise Patterson Project: Study of records held at The Royal London Hospital and Childhood Cancer Research Group on retinoblastoma patients Phase II.*

This project was initially funded via a donation from the Greendale Foundation, inspired by a young adult who has previously had retinoblastoma, Eloise Patterson. Phase I (collection of clinical and mutation data and linking to Public Health England records) is now complete. This will provide complete information on type of Rb, type of mutation, treatment, follow-up data on second primary tumours and causes of any deaths.

We were delighted that the Greendale Foundation provided further support to allow for an additional phase to be delivered - Phase II (statistical analysis to estimate risks, which it is hoped could potentially lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of these second cancers in current - and future - Rb populations), due to complete by the end of 2024.

### Psychosocial

*Dr Bob Phillips: Developing an evidence-based psycho-educational intervention for teenagers and young adults who have had retinoblastoma.*

There is little guiding evidence about the specific challenges that teenagers who have had retinoblastoma face as they transition towards adulthood. Understanding the psycho-educational needs of teenagers and young adults as they transition is essential if we are to offer effective interventions to support them. This PhD studentship aims to develop an evidence-based intervention for teenagers and young adults with retinoblastoma that offers relevant, accessible, and effective psycho-educational support.

In 2023/24 we continued our objective of delivering an annual research award.

*Professor Yellapantula's 'Prognostic stratification and early detection of relapsed retinoblastoma using aqueous humor based cfDNA screening' will start in July 2024.*

Our thanks go to all members of our Scientific Advisory Committee, both lay and professional, who volunteer their time to make CHECT's research programme possible, and thus support our aim of improving the lives of everyone affected by retinoblastoma in the future.

## ACHIEVEMENT & PERFORMANCE

### Fundraising

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#### Fundraising Policy

CHECT does not use fundraising services or external professional fundraisers to undertake its fundraising activities. Additionally, no data is shared with or sold to any external agencies. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake direct mail appeals to such lists.

The charity issues a biannual newsletter and a monthly e-newsletter / blog (both of which can be easily unsubscribed from) that share information about the charitable work and fundraising activities undertaken.

The charity occasionally invites individuals to attend events but does not exert undue pressure to attend or to donate. It does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work. A complaints policy is in place and is accessible on the charity's web site ([www.chect.org.uk](http://www.chect.org.uk)). The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the Fundraising Manager. Any marketing materials and approaches are checked to ensure that they comply with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are recorded by the Fundraising Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter and certificate.

#### Community and Events

We are incredibly grateful and always overwhelmed by the passion and dedication of our supporters, who go to such lengths to raise vital funds for us through the events and sponsored challenges they organise.

Highlights include:

- Phil Booth hosted a golf day in September 2023.
- Ashton Science Community undertook a Docks to Disney event.
- James Utting set a World Record for running the fastest Half Marathon in high heels for CHECT. He was featured in multiple press coverage and radio where he spoke about CHECT.
- Anthony Carroll and five friends completed the 3 Peaks Challenge in August.
- For the third year in a row, The Le De Spencer's Arms hosted their Brass Band & Carols and quiz night at Christmas to support CHECT.
- Roisin Lynch, along with her family and friends, braved the chilly seas of Lisfannon, Ireland for their 29<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Day Swim to support CHECT. To date, Roisin's annual Christmas Day Swim has raised over £48,700.
- In March 2024, Victoria and Ian Bird hosted a charity quiz.
- On 23<sup>rd</sup> April, our 10 runners battled the rain to complete the London Marathon race.
- We had seven runners successfully complete the Great North Run for CHECT, as well as a child and their mum taking part in the Junior & Mini Great North Run.

#### Corporate Support

A huge thank you to the corporates who have supported us throughout the year.

Highlights include:

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

- Advanced Maintenance UK Ltd. A staff member at Advanced Maintenance UK Ltd had a child who was diagnosed with Rb at the start of 2023. The company hosted a fundraising day for CHECT.
- Andrew Davenport. Andrew sponsored a corporate charity ball in October 2023.
- Renato Lounge. A staff member nominated CHECT as their chosen charity for #LoungeAid month and hosted a quiz night.
- Enterprise RAC UK. Generously donated.
- Provide Community Interest Company. A gift was received as a result of a nomination from an employee.
- Twenty Essex. Supported CHECT as their charity of the year during 2023.
- Rawlings Opticians. Rawlings Opticians Purley donated funds following their annual event in August.
- Highline Contracts. We are very grateful to Highline Contracts for their continued support to CHECT. In July 2023, they held their third annual CHECT golf day.
- Sackers and Partners LLP. We are grateful to law firm Sackers and Partners LLP, who continue to make their meeting spaces available to us.

### Individual Giving

We are extremely grateful to all those who support us with a regular gift through a monthly pledge or Give As You Earn, as well as to those who so generously make a one-off donation to our charity.

We understand that the economic situation is difficult for many and are very grateful to all who donate to our charity.

### Campaigns

A new campaign "50km Your Way" was launched aimed at encouraging individuals to complete 50km in a month. The distance represented the approximate number of cases of Rb diagnosed each year. This took place during September's Childhood Cancer Awareness Month with £15,921 raised.

Over the Christmas period, our annual campaign raised over £12,000.

### Trusts & Foundations

2023/24 was a challenging year, due to this area of fundraising being particularly hard hit by the cost-of-living crisis immediately following the Covid-19 pandemic. Income from charitable trusts and foundations totaled just under £190k. We are extremely grateful to every trust and foundation which supported CHECT's work so generously during this period.

In particular we express our gratitude to the National Lottery Community Fund's Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund, which was financed by the UK Government. The Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund awarded CHECT a grant of £65,420 towards our work providing direct specialist support to families affected by retinoblastoma. This grant was urgently needed at a very challenging time, and we are very grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund.

We would also like to thank the Greendale Foundation, the Eveson Trust, the February Foundation and the Jessica Mathers Trust for many years of very generous support.

Some of CHECT's other funders included the Jan & Catherine Nasmyth Charitable Foundation; the Horners' Charity Fund; the Sandra Charitable Trust; the Lord Austin Trust and Baron Davenport's Charity.

We are enormously grateful to every one of the trusts and foundations that have so kindly and generously supported CHECT's work over the past year and send our thanks to them all.

### In Memoriam

Trustees and staff would like to thank and offer sincere condolences to families and friends who have given

in memory of a loved one during the year and are grateful to those who have kindly remembered us in their will.

**With Thanks**

Grandparents Ian and Heather demonstrated their generosity by donating £5,000 to CHECT following their grandson's diagnosis and treatment of unilateral retinoblastoma (Rb) at the Royal London Hospital. The impact of Ian and Heather's kindness provides a vital lifeline for families like theirs who are experiencing the challenges of Rb.

"We thank [CHECT] for the outstanding support you provided to our grandson and his family during the treatment of his retinoblastoma. Our grandson now has a special eye but continues to excel at sport and academically. We commend you for the superb work that you do." Ian & Heather.

We would like to express our gratitude to Ian and Heather for their support of CHECT. Their generous gift will play a pivotal role in ensuring we can continue to support every family in the UK who has been impacted by Rb.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

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### **Reserves Policy**

CHECT maintains its reserves under two categories: (a) unrestricted (general) reserves, which are available for general use in pursuance of the charity's objectives, and (b) restricted reserves, which are for specifically earmarked purposes such as medical research or support to families belonging to a particular area.

The unrestricted funds of the Charity as of 31 March 2024 totalled £311,964. The Trustees have determined that the Charity should hold at least six months of running expenses in reserve. This figure represents the amount required to run the charity for six months excluding winding up costs and any special projects. Based on this calculation, the required value of reserves for the year 2024-25 is £247,947.

The reserves held as at 31 March 2024 represent 7.1 months of budgeted expenditure reducing to 6.1 months at the end of the coming financial year.

The Trustees review the Charity's reserves policy on a regular basis and no less than annually. The reserves position is reported at every board meeting.

### **Investment Policy**

Funds surplus to immediate requirements are to be invested in interest bearing accounts without risk to the capital. Such accounts are to be those offered by institutions covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). No more than the amount covered by the FSCS is to be invested in any one institution.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

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At the end of 2020/23 CHECT had deliberately built up a high level of unrestricted reserves as it was assumed that a difficult economic and fundraising environment would exist for both the 2023/24 and the 2024/25 period.

The objective was to ensure the delivery of the charities three pillars of activity;

- The delivery of support to anyone affected by Rb in the UK
- The funding of research into the causes and outcomes of Rb
- The raising of awareness of the signs and symptoms of Rb

Income was budgeted to fall as Trusts & Foundations would not be able to sustain their level of support. Additionally, it was anticipated that the long-term corporate partnership with Vision Express would come to an end.

Expenditure was to be carefully managed to ensure that this was focused on the delivery of the three pillars of activity alongside the pennies in the pound spent on charitable activity being protected and the fundraising ratio's improving. Monthly expenditure (excluding research) was £46,600 in 2022/23, which reduced to £43,806 in 2023/2024 with the plan that this further reduces to £41,300 in 2024/25. This represents an 11% reduction in the period.

The charity planned a deficit budgeted 2023/24 knowing that the period was going to be a challenging financial climate.

The total incoming resources of the Charity were £449,484, which was a decrease of £197,110 on 2022-23's total income of £646,594. Total resources expended during the year decreased accordingly to £575,666 (2022-23: £604,841).

Overall, the Charity has recorded a deficit for the year of £126,182 compared to a surplus of £41,753 in 2022-23. As of 31 March 2024, this has resulted in net assets decreasing from £444,946, at the preceding year end to £318,764. This comprises restricted funds of £6,800 (2022-23: £nil) and unrestricted funds of £311,964 (2022-23: £444,946)

## FUTURE PLANS

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Our vision continues to be the leading charity in the United Kingdom dedicated to helping families and individuals affected by Rb.

Our mission is to lessen the impact of retinoblastoma by driving early diagnosis, funding research into prevention and treatment, and offering lifelong support now and for future generations.

Our focus over the coming period is to:

- Place those that we support at the centre of everything that we do.
- Increase our impact by delivering incremental improvements in the delivery of our Support, Research, Awareness, and Influence activity.
- Increase the levels of funds raised in an ethical and sustainable manner.
- Live within our financial means by being mindful of expenditure and protecting the pennies in the pound spent on charitable activity.
- Be digitally enabled, focussed and savvy.
- Proactively seek alliances and partnerships to allow us to widen our reach, outputs, and impact.
- Be a caring and inclusive employer with a happy and focussed team.

### Support

The delivery of lifelong levels of support is the key focus of the charity using a support pathway that follows the key stages of the Rb journey – research, pre-diagnosis, diagnosis, treatment, follow up, end of life.

We will provide our information, practical, social, financial, and emotional support at each of the above stages and continue the offer of both the direct and indirect (partnership) delivered services.

We will run events for the three main groups of members: families; teens and young adults; and older adults (Beyond Rb), across different regions of the UK.

We will work closely with partner organisations allowing more children and young people to experience events that can increase confidence and resilience.

We will continue to offer members memorable experiences through our special relationships with organisations such as the Free Kicks Foundation and Box4Kids.

We will carry out a Members' Survey in Autumn 2024 to monitor that we are meeting members' needs as best we can, and to get members' feedback on a range of organisational areas.

### Research

Research will continue to be a vital focus for us and our members. We were delighted to be able to make an award to Professor Venkata Yellapantula for his project " Prognostic stratification and early detection of relapsed retinoblastoma using aqueous humor based cfDNA screening" which commences in July 2024.

We will continue to manage and support the existing projects referenced earlier and continue our commitment to research via another call for projects and a further investment during 2024-25 and beyond.

### Awareness

The raising of awareness around the signs and symptoms of Rb with both the public and the medical profession remains a vital function.

Using the "Pathways to Diagnosis' as the guide we will be focusing on key areas and moments in the

diagnostic pathway to ensure that the right people have the right knowledge and information at the right time.

We are investing in digital media and are creating engaging content to aid in the raising of awareness.

**Influence**

We will continue to liaise with the different organisations involved in a child and family's journey to make sure the voice of our membership is heard and helps influence all, to deliver the best and most effective experience to all families.

Through partnership and alliance working we will look to use our position to positively influence policy to improve the pathways and associated levels of support for all those affected by Rb.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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### **Governing document**

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) ('the Charity') is a charitable company limited by guarantee ('the Company'), incorporated on 1 July 1987 and a registered charity. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and are known as the board of trustees ('the Board'). The maximum number of trustees is 15.

The Company's Articles were amended in 2008 with regards to the number of terms Trustees may serve. In October 2022, the Articles were further amended to remove the requirement for Trustees to be re-elected periodically. This was because, noting the size and nature of the Charity, it is difficult to identify sufficient numbers of appropriately qualified and experienced candidates to fill such positions, with the process also being administratively cumbersome. Amendments to the Articles were also made to allow Society, General and Board of Trustee meetings to be held remotely.

### **Organisational structure**

The Board meets six times a year and at the beginning of each meeting, the trustees are requested to declare any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared during this financial year. The Board's performance and trustees' skills are reviewed periodically and where possible new trustees are recruited to meet any needs or gaps identified. The Charity is a signatory to the NCVO's Good Governance Code for the voluntary and community sector.

To assist in the effectiveness and smooth running of the Charity the Board continues to resource two sub-committees to help oversee certain aspects of the Charity's work. Sub-committees are currently set up for: finance, risk and safeguarding and for research (Scientific Advisory Committee).

The day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to the CEO, supported by the staff team. At the close of the year, staffing consisted of ten staff: a chief executive (four days per week); a head of finance & operations (four days per week); an operations manager (full time); two fundraising managers and one fundraising officer (two full time and one four days per week); a head of support services (four days per week) and two support workers - one in London (four days per week) and one in Birmingham (four days per week); and a communications manager (three days per week).

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is not affiliated with any other charitable organisation and has no related parties except as shown in the notes to the accounts. The Charity is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, the National Institute of Health Research, and other charities with similar aims to CHECT working within the field of eye health, childhood cancers, genetic disorders, and rare diseases.

### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities as recommended by the Charity Commission and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). This includes: the trustee role description and person specification relevant to the role, the Charity's confidentiality policy, and the eligibility requirements for becoming a trustee. They are also supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the strategic development plan and the chief executive's report and minutes from two previous board meetings.

Trustee roles are advertised on the CHECT website and on occasion, using external recruitment organisations. Enquiries are also occasionally received from members. A selection panel made up of the CEO, the Chair and another trustee or a member of the charity considers the application and the suitability of the applicant using agreed criteria identified on the person specification and the role description. The prospective trustee is then invited to observe a board meeting prior to appointment and standing for election which is voted on and approved by the Board.

Induction meetings covering the background to current matters take place with the chief executive and key members of the staff team. Training on matters relevant to the role and responsibilities of trustees is encouraged and the Board subscribes to literature pertinent to good governance. All trustees are required to sign: a contract setting out their responsibilities; a confidentiality agreement; the conflict-of-interest policy; and confirmation of their eligibility to serve as a director. They are also asked to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The majority of trustees have personal experience of retinoblastoma and its impact but individuals with other key skills are also recruited to the Board to ensure an appropriate balance to meet the needs of the Charity.

### **Risk management**

The trustees regularly assess the risks to the Charity and maintain a comprehensive risk register which includes plans to mitigate or manage the risks identified.

The risk register is reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee at each of their meetings and in detail twice a year. Their discussions are reported at each Board Meeting, who in turn undertake a detailed annual review. The Chief Executive reviews on a monthly basis after which any concerns are discussed with the Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee.

In addition to the Treasurer and Finance and Risk Committee, there are nominated trustees with oversight and non-executive lead for Human Resources, Policies & Procedures, Safeguarding, Data Protection, Legal Matters, and Information Technology.

The trustees are satisfied that there are systems and arrangements in place to manage the risks identified as far as possible.

### **Safeguarding**

As a charity we are committed to safeguarding our employees and all those who receive and give support.

Safeguarding children, young people, and adults, with a focus on those who are vulnerable and may be at risk is a priority for the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. Our safeguarding focus helps our trustees and employees to remove, reduce and manage safeguarding risks for those we support and work with.

We review our safeguarding policy on an annual basis, have clear reporting processes, and follow up of any safeguarding concerns. All staff and trustees undertake annual safeguarding training. The delivery of our safeguarding obligations is person-centered, and outcomes focused, ensuring we are timely and proportionate in all our actions.

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland."

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. These give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### AUDITORS

The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, have been re-appointed with a unanimous vote in favour by Trustees.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of Trustees on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and signed on its behalf by;



Ian Ellington - Trustee

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### Other Information

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

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinions on Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### Matters on Which we are Required to Report by Exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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- The charitable company is required to comply with both company law and charity law as applicable in England and Wales and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures, and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

### Use of our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Richard Billinghamurst FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

23/10/2024

Date: .....

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND  
EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and Legacies	2	279,695	157,414	437,109	639,710
Other Trading Activities	3	1,046	-	1,046	1,077
Investment Income	4	11,329	-	11,329	5,807
<b>Total</b>		<b>292,070</b>	<b>157,414</b>	<b>449,484</b>	<b>646,594</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Raising Funds	5	128,670	-	128,670	169,066
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Medical Research and Grant Making		104,834	5,000	109,834	61,392
Awareness Raising		113,002	-	113,002	107,647
Family Support and Information		57,217	145,614	202,831	252,206
Influencing		21,329	-	21,329	14,530
<b>Total</b>		<b>425,052</b>	<b>150,614</b>	<b>575,666</b>	<b>604,841</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>(132,982)</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>(126,182)</b>	<b>41,753</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total Funds Brought Forward		444,946	-	444,946	403,193
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>311,964</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>318,764</b>	<b>444,946</b>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2024**

		2024	2023
	Notes	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Fixed Tangible Assets	14	-	465
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	15	20,771	10,388
Cash at Bank and in Hand		478,558	628,831
		499,329	639,219
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	16	(155,565)	(188,017)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		343,764	451,202
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		343,764	451,667
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	17	(25,000)	(6,721)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		318,764	444,946
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	20	311,964	444,946
Restricted funds		6,800	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		318,764	444,946

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....  
  
 Ian Ellington, Trustee

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash Generated from Operations	22	(161,602)	(2,487)
Finance Costs Paid		-	(577)
Net Cash (Used in)/Provided by Operating Activities		(161,602)	(3,064)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>			
Interest Received		11,329	5,807
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		11,329	5,807
<b>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in reporting period</b>		<b>(150,273)</b>	2,743
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of reporting period</b>		<b>628,831</b>	626,088
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period</b>		<b>478,558</b>	628,831

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

## 1. Accounting Policies

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that the Charity's cash at the date of approval of the financial statements and its projected cash flows for the following year are sufficient such that the Charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. In making this judgement, the trustees and senior management team have considered future agreed funding and the anticipated impact of external factors on future funding and expenditure.

### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The critical judgements and estimates are reflected in these accounting policies.

### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income when appropriate:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the Charity, are recognised when the Charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity only where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts. Donated goods are measured at fair value and included within income.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time or estimated usage basis as set out in the notes to these accounts.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

## 1. Accounting Policies – continued

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. The cost of minor additions or those costing below £250 are not capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which in all cases is estimated at 4 years.

### **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.

### **Debtors**

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

### **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount, after allowing for any trade discounts due.

### **Financial instruments**

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

### **Employee benefits**

Short-term benefits are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received. Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102. The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate and are allocated between activities and funds based on the use of the resource i.e. where employees spend their time.

### **Taxation**

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

## 2. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants from Trusts & Foundations	31,800	157,414	189,214	221,790
Government Grants	-	-	-	-
	<u>31,800</u>	<u>157,414</u>	<u>189,214</u>	<u>221,790</u>
<b>Donations:</b>				
General Donations	40,862	-	40,862	79,887
Standing Orders	21,770	-	21,770	21,782
In Memoriam	16,541	-	16,541	12,511
GAYE	4,644	-	4,644	5,549
Collecting Tins	2	-	2	1,149
Community Donations	333	-	333	2,434
Other Corporate Donations	36,092	-	36,092	101,654
London Marathon	16,525	-	16,525	39,075
Great North Run	6,852	-	6,852	9,747
Other Running Events and walks	5,531	-	5,531	66,251
Other events, Sporting Activities and Community Fundraisers	98,743	-	98,743	72,881
	<u>247,895</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,895</u>	<u>412,920</u>
<b>Legacies</b>	-	-	-	5,000
<b>Total Income from Donations and Legacies</b>	<u>279,695</u>	<u>157,414</u>	<u>437,109</u>	<u>639,710</u>

The Trustees would like to thank all the members and supporters who have contributed their time and effort to raising money for the Trust.

## 3. Other Trading Activities

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Christmas Cards	201	310
Merchandise Sales	845	767
	<u>1,046</u>	<u>1,077</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**4. Investment Income**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Bank Interest	<u>11,329</u>	<u>5,807</u>
	<u><b>11,329</b></u>	<u><b>5,807</b></u>

**5. Raising Funds**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
<b>Raising Donations and Legacies</b>		
Staff Costs	<b>73,138</b>	99,822
Fundraising Costs	<b>6,247</b>	8,171
Support Costs	<b>49,285</b>	61,073
	<u><b>128,670</b></u>	<u><b>169,066</b></u>

**6. Charitable Activities**

	<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>(see note 7)</b>	<b>Funding of</b>	<b>Costs (see</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	<b>Activities</b>	<b>note 9)</b>	£
		(see note 8)	£	
Medical Research and Grant Making	<b>56,514</b>	<b>43,463</b>	<b>9,857</b>	<b>109,834</b>
Awareness Raising	<b>65,689</b>	-	<b>47,313</b>	<b>113,002</b>
Family Support and Information	<b>101,890</b>	<b>20,114</b>	<b>80,827</b>	<b>202,831</b>
Influencing	<b>11,472</b>	-	<b>9,857</b>	<b>21,329</b>
	<u><b>235,565</b></u>	<u><b>63,577</b></u>	<u><b>147,854</b></u>	<u><b>446,996</b></u>

**7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Staff Costs	<b>218,829</b>	209,805
Newsletter Costs	<b>3,324</b>	3,075
Other Direct Costs	<b>13,412</b>	21,068
	<u><b>235,565</b></u>	<u><b>233,948</b></u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

8. Grants Payable

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Medical Research and Grant Making	<b>43,463</b>	43,500
Family Support and Information	<b>20,114</b>	13,335
	<hr/> <b>63,577</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 56,835 <hr/>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**9. Support Costs**

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time. Governance costs of £3,639 are included in support costs.

	Raising Donations and Legacies	Medical Research and Grant Making	Awareness Raising	Family Support and Information	Influencing	Total Activities 2024	Total Activities 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries	30,352	6,070	29,137	49,776	6,071	121,406	126,140
Premises Rent	4,211	842	4,043	6,906	842	16,844	11,409
Premises Costs	142	28	137	233	28	568	1,337
Repairs & Maintenance	168	34	161	275	34	672	635
Communications and Stationery	4,236	847	4,066	6,947	847	16,943	27,862
Meetings, Seminars and Staff Training	436	87	420	716	87	1,746	1,666
Travel and Subsistence	189	37	181	309	38	754	906
Recruitment	6,226	1,247	5,977	10,211	1,245	24,906	21,395
Accountancy Fees	1,816	363	1,743	2,978	363	7,263	7,345
Sundries	404	84	388	663	81	1,620	3,410
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	117	21	112	192	23	465	472
Bank Charges	123	24	118	202	25	492	579
Auditors' Remuneration	865	173	830	1,419	173	3,460	2,909
	<b>49,285</b>	<b>9,857</b>	<b>47,313</b>	<b>80,827</b>	<b>9,857</b>	<b>197,139</b>	<b>206,065</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**10. Net Income (Expenditure)**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Auditors Remuneration	<b>3,542</b>	2,909
Depreciation – Owned Assets	<b>465</b>	472
Auditors’ Remuneration – Non Audit Services	<b>3,838</b>	3,151

Net Income/(expenditure) as stated after charging/(crediting).

**11. Trustees’ Remuneration and Benefits**

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

**Trustees Expenses**

During the current year £71 of expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees (2023: £129).

**12. Staff Costs**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	<b>368,800</b>	369,537
Social Security Costs	<b>33,447</b>	26,338
Other Pension Costs	<b>11,126</b>	7,401
Interim Fees Payable	-	32,491
	<b>413,373</b>	435,767

Included within wages and salaries are the direct costs of the interim CEO.  
The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
Average Number of Employees	10	10

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
£60,000 - £70,000	1	-

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**13. Comparatives For the Statement of Financial Activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Fund £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and Legacies	553,401	86,309	639,710
Other Trading Activities	1,077	-	1,077
Investment Income	5,807	-	5,807
<b>Total</b>	560,285	86,309	646,594
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising Funds	169,066	-	169,066
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Medical Research and Grant Making	61,392	-	61,392
Awareness Raising	107,647	-	107,647
Family Support and Information	163,356	88,850	252,206
Influencing	14,530	-	14,530
<b>Total</b>	515,991	88,850	604,841
<b>NET INCOME /(EXPENDITURE)</b>	44,294	(2,541)	41,753
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total Funds Brought Forward	400,652	2,541	403,193
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	444,946	£-	444,946

**14. Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Computer and Office Equipment £</b>
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	28,428
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2023	27,963
Charge for Year	465
At 31 March 2024	28,428
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2024	0
At 31 March 2023	465

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

15. Debtors:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<b>509</b>	123
Other Debtors	<b>2,792</b>	2,792
Prepayments and Accrued Income	<b>17,470</b>	7,473
	<b>20,771</b>	10,388

16. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Creditors	<b>15,674</b>	32,096
Pension Creditor	<b>4,052</b>	7,948
Deferred Income	<b>23,489</b>	14,668
Accruals	<b>112,350</b>	133,305
	<b>155,565</b>	188,017

Included within Accruals is £108,418 for research grants awarded but expected to be drawn down within 12 months of the year end (2023: £79,936).

Deferred income relates to donations received in respect of future events, all of which is released in the following financial year.

17. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	<b>25,000</b>	6,721

Accruals reflect grants awarded but not expected to be drawn down until more than 12 months after the current year end.

18. Leasing Agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Within One year	<b>5,125</b>	-

In August 2023 a two-year lease was signed for office space and this lease includes a 6 month notice period for either party to end the agreement.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

19. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	465
Current Assets	492,529	6,800	499,329	639,219
Current Liabilities	(155,565)	-	(155,565)	(188,017)
Long Term Liabilities	(25,000)	-	(25,000)	(6,721)
	<b>311,964</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>318,764</b>	<b>444,946</b>

Included within restricted funds is the restricted Hobson grant which was received during the year but is restricted to activities in 2024/25.

20. Movement In Funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net Movement in Funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	444,946	(132,982)	311,964
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	-	6,800	6,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>444,946</b>	<b>(126,182)</b>	<b>318,764</b>

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

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in Funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	292,070	(425,052)	(132,982)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	152,414	(145,614)	6,800
Research	5,000	(5,000)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>449,484</b>	<b>(575,666)</b>	<b>(126,182)</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

20. Movement In Funds - continued

**Comparatives for Movement in Funds**

	<b>At 1.4.22</b>	<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	<b>At 31.3.23</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	400,652	44,294	444,946
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	2,541	(2,541)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	403,193	£41,753	£444,946

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

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement in Funds</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	560,285	(515,991)	44,294
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	86,309	(88,850)	(2,541)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	646,594	(604,841)	41,753

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Research	Available for research into various projects that promote the objects of the Charity
Family Support	To provide support and information to families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma.
Kent Travel	A fund to provide eligible families living in Kent with one-off travel grants for financial assistance with travel to UK clinics.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**21. Related Party Disclosures**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2023.

**22. Reconciliation of Net (Expenditure)/Income To Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
<b>Net (Expenditure)/Income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>(126,182)</b>	41,752
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation Charges	465	472
Interest Received	(11,329)	(5,807)
Finance Costs	-	580
Decrease in Debtors	(10,383)	125
(Decrease) in Creditors	(14,173)	(39,609)
<b>Net Cash (used in)/provided by operations</b>	<b>(161,602)</b>	<u>(2,487)</u>

**23. Analysis Of Changes In Net Funds**

	<b>At 1.4.23</b>	<b>Cash Flow</b>	<b>At 31.3.24</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash</b>			
Cash at Bank	628,831	(150,273)	478,558
Total	<u>628,831</u>	<u>(150,273)</u>	<u>478,558</u>

**24. Capital Commitments**

At the year end the Trust Board had no capital commitments (2023: £nil).

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 327493

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02143917 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 327493

Trustees' Report and  
Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023  
for  
CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A2AD

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Reference and Administrative  
Details for the Year Ended 31  
March 2023**

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**TRUSTEES**

Ian Ellington - Chairman  
Gemma Boggs - Treasurer  
Lisa Brown  
Elizabeth Coleman  
Alex Brebbia  
Andrea Bonzano  
Matthew Holt  
Rob Downes  
Damian Yeo (appointed 11.6.22)  
Michelle Boothroyd (appointed 30.7.22)

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Rose-Marie Sexton

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Royal London Hospital,  
Whitechapel Road,  
London,  
E1 1FR

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER**

02143917 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER**

327493

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

Knox Cropper LLP,  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory  
Auditors,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London,  
EC3A 2AD

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)

**Trustees' Report  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### Objects of the Charity

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The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is a charity dedicated to helping anyone affected by retinoblastoma (Rb), a type of eye cancer that affects babies and young children, mainly under the age of six. We have been supporting families since 1987.

Around one child a week is diagnosed with Rb in the UK or 50 a year. It accounts for 3% of childhood cancers in the UK and 10% of cancers in babies under one. Around 45% of cases are heritable and this carries with it an increased risk of developing tumours in other parts of the body in later life.

The Charity was originally founded to provide support and information to those affected by Rb. In 1994 we merged with another charity that was funding research projects specifically related to Rb, and in 2004 we changed our name to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. As we grew, so did our aims and objectives and we began to run campaigns aimed at raising awareness among health professionals and the public in order to achieve the earliest possible diagnosis for children affected.

Our aims are to:

- Provide support and information to families and individuals affected by Rb.
- Raise funds to support research into issues concerned directly with Rb.
- Raise awareness of Rb among health professionals and others.
- Influence policy to improve service delivery for those affected by Rb.

### Objectives, Strategies for Achievement and Public Benefit

During the period of this report, we have continued to successfully deliver on our three core goals of support, research, and awareness.

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's core goals and have reaffirmed that these remain the focus of all activity.

The Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have considered the objectives of the Charity and have given regard to how these objectives and the associated activities meet the public benefit criteria of advancing health, saving lives and the relief of those in need by reason of ill health.

We are the only dedicated UK-wide charity providing support to people affected by Rb and we believe that they benefit from our services in the following ways:

### Main Objectives

**Support:** To ensure that everyone affected by Rb in the UK has access to support and information according to their need.

- Our Head of Support and two Support Workers offer support to all families and individuals affected by Rb.
- This is provided on the wards and in clinics at the two specialist centres for Rb in the UK: Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital and The Royal London Hospital. On non-clinic days, support is provided via telephone, video call, email, and social media.
- Support is also provided through the delivery of a programme of quarterly face to face or virtual meetings for families, teens and young adults, and adults.

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- Additionally, our team provide signposting to organisations for financial grants, benefits advice, therapeutic and psychological support, visual impairment support, holidays, travel expenses, white goods, and other items.

Our Support Workers also assist with applications for Blue Badges, Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, as well as supporting families with housing applications.

The support team collaborates with the wider CHECT team with stories from members for CHECT publications, information leaflets and social media.

**Awareness - healthcare professionals:** To save lives and minimise the impact of visual impairment by ensuring that healthcare professionals know about Rb and its symptoms, listen to concerned parents and make urgent referrals where necessary. We provide:

- Targeted activities to healthcare professionals associated with children aged six and under.
- Distribution of resources that help early diagnosis and referral.
- Media campaigns and articles for specialist healthcare professional journals and magazines.
- Working with healthcare professionals to develop and implement standard referral protocols for those with suspected Rb.

**Awareness - public:** To increase awareness of Rb and its signs and symptoms amongst parents and carers so as to promote the seeking of medical advice as soon as possible. We do this by:

- Ensuring information for parents about the symptoms of Rb is available in all relevant NHS publications and on all NHS information websites.
- Media activity regarding the condition including the signs and symptoms and how / where to seek help.
- Developing relationships with organisations able to reach large sections of the public with a view to raising awareness.
- Regular and sustained social media activity with information and advice accessible on the charity's website.
- Promoting knowledge of the possible longer-term impact of having had Rb as a child with regard to genetics and other cancers.
- Information campaigns targeted towards people affected by Rb as a child.

**Research:** Proactively engaging in the advancement of knowledge of Rb, its treatment and its impact. We do this by:

- Supporting and funding clinical, psychosocial, and scientific research relating to Rb.
- Working through the Scientific Advisory Committee to identify and support suitable projects from a wide range of sources.
- Encouraging applications from the international research community.
- Supporting multi-centre and international collaboration including the sharing of experience, knowledge, and data.

**Influencing:** Working with other organisations to bring about improvements in the way in which services are delivered both in the UK and internationally. We:

- Work with the treatment centres in the UK, the NHS National Commissioning Group, National Artificial Eye Service, and other umbrella bodies who provide services to people affected by Rb.
- Proactively seek partnerships with other charities and organisations.

### **Research Grant Making Policy**

We award grants to groups or individuals who wish to pursue research projects or audits to advance the knowledge of Rb and related issues.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**

Applications go before the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) which is made up of a CHECT Trustee plus experts from research and Rb-related fields. We also have three lay members representing families and the adult Rb community within the SAC.

This committee evaluates the validity and appropriateness of the proposals using an agreed scoring matrix, seeking peer review for large projects and where necessary for other reasons, before making recommendations to the Board for funding.

Grant recipients are required to provide six-monthly progress reports and present a final report to the Board on the conclusion of the project before disseminating the findings and learning through presentations and publications.

**Volunteers**

30 volunteers (including Trustees and SAC members) generously gave their time to support us throughout the year.

Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

### Charitable activities

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#### Support

Whilst one of our core priorities is the delivery of support to the parents and carers of children affected by Rb, we have extended this to encompass anyone affected, including teenagers whose unique needs are very different to those of a young child or baby, and adults, many of whom are living with the late effects of the treatment they received for Rb as a child. Membership of CHECT is open to anyone affected by retinoblastoma (as well as their friends and family), supporters of CHECT and health professionals, and we do not charge a fee.

In 2022/23, 100% of families were offered support following a diagnosis of Rb in the UK. As well as face to face, email, and telephone, we continue to use virtual platforms to support our members.

There has been an increase in the number of face-to-face sessions delivered with almost 1,300 sessions delivered across both treatment hospitals at inpatient and outpatient clinics.

During the year, we conducted a detailed members' support services survey. This vital exercise has gifted us with invaluable feedback to ensure that our service developments are coproduced with those who continue to access our support to best respond to ongoing needs.

#### Face to face and remote support

The main areas that people sought support from CHECT in 2022/23 included:

- Practical and emotional support.
- Direct financial support and assistance with welfare applications.
- Detailed information about Rb including genetics, screening, fertility, and late effects of Rb.
- Signposting to other specialist organisations.
- Work and employment support.
- Housing support\*.

\*There was an increased number of families with housing concerns and homelessness, including a rise in the numbers of those coming from abroad to seek treatment for their child. This often requires enhanced practical, financial, emotional, and social support.

We also continue to receive around 15% of our enquiries from non-members. These mainly consist of international patients requesting advice as well as UK based parents who have symptom concerns in their child.

Our "Would You Recognise It?" leaflet continues to be a vital resource for people to take along to these initial investigative appointments with clinicians.

#### Social media support

Social Media is still an important source of support resources and information, with members contacting CHECT and our raising awareness on newer platforms, like TikTok and Instagram. As well as our main public-facing Facebook page, we have two closed groups for members which are for parents of children with Rb and adults who have had Rb, both of which have seen an increase in membership in the period.

#### Financial Support

In 2022/23 we provided 68 CHECT support grants totaling £12,000 to families and individuals to help with the costs associated with an Rb diagnosis and ongoing treatment - for example travel to and from hospital

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as well as occasionally helping to buy some specialist equipment for those with a visual impairment.

The demand for support grants has dramatically increased in line with the cost-of-living crisis and our team continue to work in partnership with other organisations to offer as much financial support as possible.

### Support Events

In 2022/23, we organised 5 face-to-face support events:

- Family Days: 3 events in Oxford, Newcastle, and Wrexham - this included the presentation of our CHECT Champions award to some incredibly brave and deserving children.
- Teenage and Young Adult Day: 1 event in Birmingham.
- Adult Day: 1 event in Liverpool.

Hospital organised events were also attended by our support team.

The support service also delivered online events:

- Family support: 3 events.
- Teen and Young Adults: 2 events.
- Adults: 3 events.

These virtual events provided opportunities for peer-to-peer support and connected members with clinicians and speakers from other organisations including the RNIB and Thomas Pocklington Trust.

### Pip the Penguin

In February 2023 we produced our first enucleation support toy. Pip the Penguin, named by our membership, is now being used as a support tool for families and clinicians to normalise and explain the enucleation process.

### Teenage and Young Adult (TYA) Support

TYA who had Rb as children can face specific challenges around self-esteem. We are increasingly looking at ways to support this group, to provide specialist support to meet need and facilitate invaluable peer support.

We have a specific group for TYAs, and they created a new website which launched in the autumn of 2022. The group populates the site with stories and information appropriate to their audience. This group also participated in a 'social media take-over' of CHECT's platforms to raise awareness in Teenage and Young Adult Cancer Awareness month.

### Adults (Beyond Rb)

For some people, the effects of Rb are lifelong. We continue to respond to the needs of adults who were affected by Rb as children.

We have a specific Beyond Rb group, the membership of which has grown via Facebook and the introduction of a WhatsApp Group, with high levels of attendance at online support events. The group have been heavily involved in the production of our new suite of adult patient information and resources.

This includes a "My Rb Summary" document, which is a critical resource as it allows individuals to document their treatment summary and side effects, as well as gaining knowledge to minimise cancer risk and remain vigilant for changes, particularly in those who have had facial radiotherapy or who have genetic Rb. It will also be a guide for clinicians who review these patients in primary care settings and late effects clinics.

### Partnerships

Collaboration and partnership development is a vital activity in the enhancement of our support provision.

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Ongoing partnership continues with immense gratitude via organisations such as Family Fund, Young Lives vs Cancer and the Gavin Glynn Foundation. Both Support Workers continue to offer activities to children and young people indirectly through partners such as Barretstown, the Ellen MacArthur Trust, Over the Wall Camps and VICTA.

New partnerships have enhanced support for people affected by Rb and include Love Oliver who financially and practically support families travelling from Scotland for treatment; and Free Kicks who gift our members experiences and free events tickets.

### Feedback

“CHECT has been a tower of strength to us since our 5-week-old baby was diagnosed with Rb. Right from the word ‘go’, where we were lying in pieces, a face-to-face support worker was in our room on the ward to make us aware how help could be provided. We’ve gradually picked ourselves up but have continued to receive enormous help from CHECT in terms of people regularly checking in with us at appointments to contacting us when we are home, assisting with adapting to living with a child with cancer, disability needs such as parking badges and coordinating different families so that they can support one another. In a world which could have been very isolating, they made sure this did not happen.” (Father of a newly diagnosed baby).

“Thank you so much for your help, what would we do without you.” (Mum of a child on active treatment)

“I really appreciated your help with referring me to the Late Effects Clinic. It has been a worrying time but feeling much better about everything now.” (Adult email)

“Thank you so much for encouraging me to contact my GP and optician. I took the red reflex leaflet with me.” (Worried mum)

### **Awareness**

Rb is a rare disease which means that most people are not aware of it. Sadly, this frequently leads to a delay in a diagnosis being made and, because Rb is a fast-growing cancer, quick access to treatment can be vital in order to save a child's eyes, sight and life.

Raising awareness of Rb among both healthcare professionals and the public is therefore important in helping to drive early diagnosis and as such remains a key part of our work.

We are incredibly grateful to the healthcare professionals who volunteer their time on our Health Care Professionals Focus Group, bringing their expertise and experience to enrich this awareness programme. Quite simply, much of this work wouldn't be possible without their generous input.

### Pathways to Diagnosis

In 2012, as part of its aim to reduce the delays in diagnosis of retinoblastoma experienced by some families in the UK, CHECT began to collect information from parents called 'Pathways to Diagnosis'.

This information is gathered by our Support Workers during the course of their conversations with families and focuses on whether the families had any prior awareness of retinoblastoma; the signs they noticed in their child's eyes that prompted them to seek help; and the actions taken by the healthcare professionals they consulted.

It became apparent that the range of experience was huge: from families who were referred to one of the two specialist Rb centres in the UK within days of noticing their child's symptoms; to families who spent over six months and numerous visits to various healthcare professionals before anyone recognised the significance of what they were reporting or carried out the appropriate tests and made appropriate referrals.

Recording these experiences in a quantitative way allowed CHECT to refine messages and information to address those areas where it was most needed: not only to alert parents of young children, but also GPs,

health visitors and opticians to the main signs and symptoms of Rb, and the need for urgent examination and onward referral.

In 2022 the total number of pathways collected was 38.

In 2022 we saw the best referral rates recorded since 2012: 73% of children with Rb receiving appropriate urgent referrals, and 3% waiting more than six months. This is against the eleven-year average of 48% urgent referrals and 10% waiting more than six months. Urgent referrals by GPs in particular are showing an encouraging upward trend, with 66% of GPs who saw a child with Rb in 2022 making the appropriate urgent referral, vs the survey average of 42%. And looking back to 2012 when the survey started, just 28% of GPs made the appropriate urgent referral. White eye continues to be the most common sign, with another record year for parents spotting the glow in a photo (37% vs survey average of 18%). This is significant because white eye may be visible via flash photography earlier than it would be observable with the naked eye, contributing to earlier diagnoses.

Although Pathways to Diagnosis is designed to be a snapshot, or an indicator of trends in diagnosis in the UK, it is a key part of the resources we use to help CHECT achieve its aim of raising awareness of Rb in order to aid earlier diagnosis.

#### Public awareness

It's often parents or carers who spot the signs of Rb - whether that's a white eye seen in a family photo, a squint, or another symptom – so public awareness is an important area of our work to help ensure a swift diagnosis. We use traditional and digital media to reach parents and other members of the public and raise awareness of Rb.

#### Media:

Previous research carried out by, or on behalf of, CHECT has shown that many people first hear about Rb after reading an article. During the reporting period we received over 83 mentions in the media, including 29 national pieces, giving an opportunity to see/hear of many millions (1.8 billion) across all media outlets.

#### Digital:

We continue to adapt the CHECT website to ensure that it is easy to navigate and contains relevant and useful information to visitors. The most visited pages remain our white eye and signs and symptoms and 'what causes retinoblastoma' pages. We have added an 'events' page to the website, so that we can publish the details of our upcoming support events. And, we have launched CHECT TYA – a new website aimed at teenagers and young adults who have had retinoblastoma. The website includes blogs written by our members, information and advice and helpful links.

#### Social Media:

Social Media is a key tool to raise the awareness of Rb. In the period our Instagram followers increased by 23%, our Facebook followers by 2.1% and our Twitter followers by 4%. We reached over 1 million people on Facebook, 174k people on Instagram and over 135k people on Twitter. We launched a TikTok channel, which has over 180 followers, and an Instagram channel for CHECT TYA which has over 170 followers.

#### Ongoing communication:

- We send out monthly newsletters and emails filled with updates relating to support, awareness, research, fundraising, stories, and events. In 2022/23, the open rates averaged 43.2%.
- We produce two editions of our magazine, InFocus, every year – this is distributed both digitally and in-print. We offset the carbon footprint for printing.
- We maintain a blog with content, including news, events, real life stories, research, and articles.

#### Inclusivity

We have created a Inclusivity Working Group to ensure that the charity is fully accessible and represents all those we support.

In the period outputs include:

- We are translating our signs and symptoms posters into the five most commonly spoken languages

in the United Kingdom. To date, through the generous support of Planet Languages, we have translated these into Polish and Romanian.

- We have looked at our awareness material with the view of making it more inclusive and included a child from a non-white ethnicity in our signs and symptoms imagery.
- We have now included the option of having our pronouns in our email signatures.
- We now add image descriptions where appropriate to our social media posts, to make our posts more accessible for those unable to view the pictures.
- We also use case studies from a range of Rb experiences, including those who are blind, those who have lost an eye(s) to Rb, and also those who have experienced differing levels of, or no visual impairment, as a result of their Rb.

## Research

The period saw the completion of projects by Dr Jesse Berry ('Comparing blood to aqueous humor as a liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma: determining the superiority of the aqueous humour as a source of tumour DNA'), Professor Majlinda Lako ('Assessing the feasibility of pluripotent stem cell derived retinal organoids as a model system to test the safety and efficacy of chemotherapeutic agents in retinoblastoma') and a joint-funded project with Fight for Sight led by Dr Amy Gerrish ('Further investigation into intra-ocular fluid as a liquid biopsy in retinoblastoma').

### Dr Jesse Berry

The main finding from the research is that aqueous humour (or AH, taken from the eye) has a higher amount and likelihood of finding circulating DNA compared to the blood, and so would work better as a 'liquid biopsy' for retinoblastoma. However, it has also found that important information relating to an increased risk of metastatic disease may be found in the blood. Although this is rare in the UK, it is the most dreaded outcome in the care of children with Rb. Thus, this research provides additional evidence that evaluating the blood is important and, in the future, may be used to guide any additional chemotherapy treatments the child may need.

### Professor Majlinda Lako

This team successfully developed lab-grown cell models called organoids, which can be used to test existing and new chemotherapeutic drugs. In this way, the models can be used to find those treatments which are least likely to cause sight loss, whilst effectively treating the retinoblastoma, as well as testing for optimal doses prior to clinical trials.

### Dr Amy Gerrish

This project showed that the analysis of cell-free DNA within fluid taken from the eye can be used as an alternative to tumour tissue, or 'liquid biopsy' 1) for the diagnosis of non-heritable retinoblastoma; and 2) to identify those tumours that are more resistant to treatment. Not only can this information be found from the one combined genetic test (important, as there is limited ocular fluid available for testing), but the team has also determined the optimal time point for ocular fluid collection to maximise results. This will be essential to facilitate implementation into clinical service, which is planned within the next 24 months.

CHECT continues to support three ongoing projects:

### Laboratory / Basic science

Professor Shin-Ichi Ohnuma: Evaluation of PRELP function using retinoblastoma samples.

Previous research by Professor Ohnuma has found that whilst PRELP protein is highly expressed in normal retinal tissues, it is not expressed in retinoblastoma. Preliminary data from cell cultures indicate that administration of PRELP to the established laboratory retinoblastoma cell lines inhibited cancer progression. Now, this team wants to confirm that these results have clinical application, by applying PRELP protein to the human retinoblastoma tissues and examining the effect on retinoblastoma development. The advantage of

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such an approach over some current methods is that only affected cells will be impacted by the treatment, with no expected toxicity to surrounding normal, unaffected retinal cells, thereby preserving more of the child's vision.

Clinical

Dr Zerrin Onadim: Eloise Patterson Project: Study of records held at The Royal London Hospital and Childhood Cancer Research Group on retinoblastoma patients Phase 2.

This project is initially funded via a donation from the Greendale Foundation, inspired by a young adult who has previously had retinoblastoma, Eloise Patterson. Phase I (collection of clinical and mutation data and linking to Public Health England records) is now complete. This will provide complete information on type of Rb, type of mutation, treatment, follow-up data on second primary tumours and causes of any deaths.

We were delighted that the Greendale Foundation provided further support to allow for an additional phase to be delivered - Phase II (statistical analysis to estimate risks, which it is hoped could potentially lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of these second cancers in current - and future - Rb populations), due to complete by the end of 2023.

Psychosocial

Dr Bob Phillips: Developing an evidence-based psycho-educational intervention for teenagers and young adults who have had retinoblastoma.

There is little guiding evidence about the specific challenges that teenagers who have had retinoblastoma face as they transition towards adulthood. Understanding the psycho-educational needs of teenagers and young adults as they transition is essential if we are to offer effective interventions to support them. This PhD studentship aims to develop an evidence-based intervention for teenagers and young adults with retinoblastoma that offers relevant, accessible, and effective psycho-educational support.

In 2022/23 we continued our objective of delivering an annual research award.

Professor Seigel

'A retinal organoid platform for retinoblastoma drug development' will start in July 2023 and builds upon previous CHECT-funded research.

Our thanks go to all members of our Scientific Advisory Group, both lay and professional, who volunteer their time to make CHECT's research programme possible, and thus support our aim of improving the lives of everyone affected by retinoblastoma in the future.

## ACHIEVEMENT & PERFORMANCE

### Fundraising

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#### Fundraising Policy

CHECT does not use fundraising services or external professional fundraisers to undertake its fundraising activities. Additionally, no data is shared with or sold to any external agencies. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake direct mail appeals to such lists.

The charity issues a biannual newsletter and a monthly e-newsletter / blog (both of which can be easily unsubscribed from) that share information about the charitable work and fundraising activities undertaken.

The charity occasionally invites individuals to attend events but does not exert undue pressure to attend or to donate. It does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work. A complaints policy is in place and is accessible on the charity's website ([www.chect.org.uk](http://www.chect.org.uk)). The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the Fundraising Manager. Any marketing materials and approaches are checked that they comply with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are recorded by the Fundraising Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter and certificate.

#### Community and Events

We are incredibly grateful and always overwhelmed by the passion and dedication of our supporters, who go to such lengths to raise vital funds for us through the events and sponsored challenges they organise.

Highlights include:

- In May, Clare Collins and a group of friends (some of whom had never cycled before) tackled a ride from Leeds to Inkersall, near Chesterfield. They arrived an hour ahead of schedule to a crowd of well-wishers sitting in the sunshine – and received a huge cheer, as well as raising £5,987. Natasha and Alex Finney held a Charity Night jointly for CHECT and Bolton Wanderers In The Community. With a magician, raffle and auction, each charity received a gift of £2,100.
- Joshua Young and six friends took on the National 3 Peaks in 24 hours in June. They faced difficult conditions but battled through, completing the challenge in 22:28 hours, raising £2,113.
- Dean and Kellie Ascheri have been raising funds for CHECT for over 15 years, firstly by staging football matches and then by holding their Annual Golf Day, which son Luca now helps to organise. In 2022 they raised £2,235, bringing their total to over £30,000.
- Oliver Lea cycled from London to Paris over four days in September, to raise funds and awareness for CHECT. He achieved his aim and raised £2,930.
- Former Chair of the Board of Trustees, Philip Moore, undertook the New York Marathon in November, raising £4,611.
- For the 27th year Roisin Lynch, her friends and family braved the cold waters of Donegal for their Annual Christmas Day Swim for CHECT, raising £3,217. Since 1995, the Lynch family have raised a total of over £45,000 from this much-anticipated event.
- Festus Fearon and his running group, Cool Runnings, took on the challenge of the Liverpool Half Marathon in March and have raised over £5,150 for CHECT.
- In October a total of 11 runners ran the post-Covid restricted London Marathon raising £39,000.

### **Charity of the Year Partnerships**

A huge thank you to the groups and organisations who chose us to be their Charity of the Year. We are very grateful to Next Warehousing and Twenty Essex for announcing that they will be supporting us in 2023.

### **Corporate Support**

We are very grateful for the continued support we receive from longstanding supporters Hancock & Wood and AJF Commercial Business Sales.

#### Vision Express

CHECT has been a proud partner of Vision Express since 2010, and the company has played an invaluable role in helping us to raise awareness of Rb, as well as generating significant funds to support our work. Vision Express was the first optician in the UK to roll out a protocol to ensure a quick and effective referral if Rb is suspected.

Continuing our joint charity partnership with Vision Express and the Macular Society, Vision Express colleagues held two months of fundraising in September and October, undertaking a creative variety of events and activities to raise funds for the two charities.

The charity partnership also saw the launch of another initiative - the Marvin the Mole soft toy. After appearing in Vision Express adverts, Marvin proved to be such a hit with the public that the high street optician brought him to life as a fluffy mascot, going on sale both online and in stores in March 2022. 100% of all profits raised from the sale of Marvin go to help those affected by retinoblastoma and people living with macular disease.

Vision Express colleagues, and Marvin, contributed an amazing £124,468 to be shared between the two charities during the period.

#### Birmingham Optical

Now into the seventh year of our partnership with Birmingham Optical, we are enormously grateful to everyone in the company for all their continued support through fundraising and awareness raising activities.

#### Highline Contracts

We are very grateful to all at Highline for holding their second Annual Golf Day, raising £3,250.

#### Alta Advisers Ltd

We are extremely grateful to Alta Advisers Ltd for choosing to donate £5,000 to CHECT. We were nominated by a staff member, who has a close friend who's relative was diagnosed with Rb.

#### CField Construction

We are very grateful to CField Construction and all their staff members for challenging themselves to collectively take 20,000,000 Steps in February 2023. As a result, they raised a fantastic £10,526 for CHECT.

#### Sackers and Partners LLP

We are grateful to law firm Sackers and Partners LLP, who generously make their fantastic meeting spaces available to us. As we have no meeting space of our own, this has been an invaluable asset to us.

### **Individual Giving**

We are extremely grateful to all those who support us with a regular gift through a monthly pledge or Give As

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You Earn, as well as to those who so generously make a one-off donation to our charity.

We understand that the economic situation is difficult for many and are very grateful to all who donate to our charity.

**Trusts & Foundations**

2022/23 income from charitable trusts and foundations exceeded £222k and we are extremely grateful to every trust and foundation that supported CHECT's work so generously in the period.

In particular we express our gratitude to the Clive Richards Foundation who fully funded a groundbreaking research project, and match funded the Christmas Appeal. We would also like to thank the Greendale Foundation for many years of extremely generous support.

Other funders included the Adobe Foundation; the Eveson Trust; the February Foundation; the Childwick Trust; the Hobson Charity; the David Family Foundation; the Lawson Trust; the Jessica Mathers Trust and the Ulverscroft Foundation.

We are enormously grateful to every one of the trusts and foundations that have so kindly and generously supported CHECT's work over the past year and send our thanks to them all.

**In Memoriam**

Trustees and staff would like to thank and offer sincere condolences to families and friends who have given in memory of a loved one during the year and are grateful to those who have kindly remembered us in their Will.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

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### Reserves Policy

CHECT maintains its reserves under two categories: (a) unrestricted (general) reserves, which are available for general use in pursuance of the charity's objectives, and (b) restricted reserves, which are for specifically earmarked purposes such as medical research or support to families belonging to a particular area. The unrestricted funds of the Charity as of 31 March 2023 totaled £444,946. The Trustees have determined that the Charity should hold at least six months of running expenses in reserve. This figure represents the amount required to run the charity for six months excluding winding up costs and any special projects. Based on this calculation, the required value of reserves for the year 2023-24 is £280,903. The reserves held as on 31 March 2023 represent 9.4 months of budgeted expenditure which is predicted at current levels to reduce to 6.7 months at the end of the coming financial year.

The Trustees review the Charity's reserves policy on a regular basis. The reserves position is reported at every board meeting.

### Investment Policy

Funds surplus to immediate requirements are to be invested in interest bearing accounts without risk to the capital. Such accounts are to be those offered by institutions covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Funds required for immediate, operational, requirements are held with CAF Bank Ltd

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

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The total incoming resources of the Charity were £646,954, which was an increase of £207,079 on 2021-22's total income of £439,515. Total resources expended during the year increased accordingly to £604,841 (2021-22: £481,748).

Overall, the Charity has recorded a surplus for the year of £41,753 compared to a deficit of £42,233 in 2021-22. As at 31 March 2023, this has resulted in net assets increasing from £403,193 at the preceding year end to £444,946. This is entirely comprised of unrestricted funds (2021-22: unrestricted funds of £400,652 and restricted funds of £2,541).

Anticipating that the charity would be operating in a very challenging financial climate it was planned to operate on a deficit budget in 2022/23.

## FUTURE PLANS

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Our vision continues to be the go-to charity in the United Kingdom for anyone affected by Rb.

Our mission is to lessen the impact of retinoblastoma by driving early diagnosis, funding research, and offering lifelong support now for future generations.

Our focus over the coming period is to continue to deliver on the objects of the charity, and in particular to:

- Always place those that we support at the centre of everything that we do.
- To increase our impact by delivering incremental improvements in the delivery of our Support, Research, Awareness, and Influence activity.
- To increase the levels of funds raised in an ethical and sustainable manner.
- To live within our financial means by being mindful of expenditure and protecting the pennies on the pound spent on charitable activity.
- To be digitally enabled, focussed and savvy.
- To proactively seek alliances and partnerships to allow us to widen our reach, outputs, and impact.
- To be a caring and inclusive employer with a happy and focussed team.

### Support

The delivery of lifelong levels of support is the key focus of the Charity with a focus on creating a support pathway that identifies the key stages of the Rb journey – research, pre diagnosis, diagnosis, treatment, follow up, end of life.

We will weave our information, practical, social, financial, and emotional support into the above and work towards widening the offer of both the direct and indirect (partnership) delivered services.

We have increased the frequency of both online and face to face events, ensuring to offer an event in each of the UK's regions annually and quarterly online events for TYA, family and Beyond Rb groups. Overall, we can see an increase in interest and need from our members for these events.

We continue to provide finances to ensure the value of our support grants provides a more significant level of financial support to individual families.

We will continue to grow our collaboration with third parties such as the Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust, Barretstown, Guide Dogs, Over the Wall Camps and VICTA, allowing more children and young people to experience events that can increase confidence and resilience.

We are also setting up more partnerships with other organisations and regionally based charities to offer members grants, treats and short breaks. These include football tickets from Free Kicks Foundation and various holiday parks, including a CenterParcs break.

### Research

Research will continue to be a vital focus for us and our members. We were delighted to be able to make an award to Professor Gail Seigel for her project "A retinal organoid platform for retinoblastoma drug development" which commences in July 2023.

We will continue to manage and support the existing projects referenced earlier and continue our commitment to research via another call for projects and a further investment during 2023-24 and beyond.

### Awareness

The raising of awareness around the signs and symptoms of Rb with both the public and the medical profession remains a vital function.

Using the “Pathways to Diagnosis” as the guide, we will be focusing on key areas and moments in the diagnostic pathway to ensure that the right people have the right knowledge and information at the right time.

We are investing more in digital media and are creating engaging content to aid in the raising of awareness.

**Influence**

We will continue to liaise with the different organisations involved in a child and family's journey to make sure the voice of our membership is heard and helps influence all, to deliver the best and most effective experience to all families.

Through partnership and alliance working we will look to use our position to positively influence policy to improve the pathways and associated levels of support for all those affected by Rb.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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### Governing document

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) ('the Charity') is a charitable company limited by guarantee ('the Company'), incorporated on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1987 and a registered charity. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and are known as the Board of Trustees ('the Board'). The maximum number of trustees is 15.

The Companies Articles were amended in 2008 with regards to the number of terms Trustees may serve. In October 2022, the Articles were further amended to remove the requirement for Trustees to be re-elected periodically. This was because, noting the size and nature of the Charity it is difficult to identify sufficient numbers of appropriately qualified and experienced candidates to fill such positions with the process also being administratively cumbersome. Amendments to the Articles were also made to allow Society, General and Board of Trustee meetings to be held remotely.

### Organisational structure

The Board meets six times a year and at the beginning of each meeting, the trustees are requested to declare any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared during this financial year. The Board's performance and trustees' skills are reviewed periodically and where possible new trustees are recruited to meet any needs or gaps identified. The Charity is a signatory to the NCVO's Good Governance Code for the voluntary and community sector.

To assist in the effectiveness and smooth running of the Charity, the Board continues to resource two sub-committees to help oversee certain aspects of the Charity's work. Sub-committees are currently set up for: finance and risk and for research (Scientific Advisory Committee).

The day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to the CEO, supported by the staff team. At the close of the year, staffing consisted of ten staff: a chief executive (four days a week); a head of finance & operations (four days a week); an operations manager (full time); two fundraising managers and one fundraising officer (full time); a head of support (full time) and two support workers – one in London (four days a week) and one in Birmingham (four days per week); an information & research manager (three days per week); and a communications manager (three days per week).

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is not affiliated with any other charitable organisation and has no related parties except as shown in the notes to the accounts. The Charity is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, the National Institute of Health Research, and other charities with similar aims to CHECT working within the field of eye health, childhood cancers, genetic disorders, and rare disease.

### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities as recommended by the Charity Commission and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). This includes: the trustee role description and person specification relevant to the role; the Charity's policies relevant to the Board including the confidentiality policy; and the eligibility requirements for becoming a trustee. They are also supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the strategic development plan and the chief executive's report and minutes from three previous board meetings.

Trustee roles are advertised on the CHECT website and on occasion, using external recruitment organisations. Enquiries are also occasionally received from members. A selection panel made up of the CEO, the Chair and another trustee or a member of the charity considers the application and the suitability of the applicant using agreed criteria identified on the person specification and the role description. The prospective trustee is then invited to observe a board meeting prior to appointment and standing for election which is voted on and approved by the board.

Induction meetings covering the background to current matters take place with the chief executive and key members of the staff team. Training on matters relevant to the role and responsibilities of trustees is encouraged and the Board subscribes to literature pertinent to good governance. All trustees are required to sign: a contract setting out their responsibilities; a confidentiality agreement; the conflict-of-interest policy; and confirmation of their eligibility to serve as a director. They are also asked to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The majority of trustees have personal experience of retinoblastoma and its impact but individuals with other key skills are also recruited to the Board to ensure an appropriate balance to meet the needs of the Charity.

### **Risk management**

The trustees regularly assess the risks to the Charity and maintain a comprehensive risk register which includes plans to mitigate or manage the risks identified.

Risks identified as red on the risk register are reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee at each of their meetings and in detail twice a year. Their discussions are reported at each Board meeting, who in turn undertake a detailed review annually. The Chief Executive reviews on a monthly basis after which any concerns are discussed with the Chair of the Finance & Risk Committee.

The trustees are satisfied that there are systems and arrangements in place to manage the risks identified as far as possible.

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware: there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### AUDITORS

The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at a forthcoming Board Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ian Ellington - Trustee

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### Other Information

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

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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### Opinions on Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### Matters on Which we are Required to Report by Exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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- The charitable company is required to comply with both company law and charity law as applicable in England and Wales and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures, and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

### Use of our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Richard Billinghamurst FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

01/12/2023

Date: .....

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND  
EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and Legacies	2	553,401	86,309	639,710	436,899
Other Trading Activities	3	1,077	-	1,077	841
Investment Income	4	5,807	-	5,807	1,775
<b>Total</b>		<b>£560,285</b>	<b>£86,309</b>	<b>£646,594</b>	<b>£439,515</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Raising Funds	5	169,066	-	169,066	135,198
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6				
Medical Research and Grant Making		61,392	-	61,392	69,256
Awareness Raising		107,647	-	107,647	85,895
Family Support and Information		163,356	88,850	252,206	171,098
Influencing		14,530	-	14,530	20,301
<b>Total</b>		<b>£515,991</b>	<b>£88,850</b>	<b>£604,841</b>	<b>£481,748</b>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		44,294	(2,541)	41,753	(42,233)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Brought Forward		400,652	2,541	403,193	445,426
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>£444,946</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£444,946</b>	<b>£403,193</b>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023**

		2023	2022
	Notes	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Assets	14	465	937
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	15	10,388	10,513
Cash at Bank and in Hand		628,831	626,088
		<u>639,219</u>	<u>636,601</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	16	(188,017)	(180,655)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>451,202</u>	<u>455,946</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>451,667</u>	<u>456,883</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	17	(6,721)	(53,690)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>444,946</u>	<u>403,193</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	20	444,946	400,652
Restricted funds		-	2,541
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>£444,946</u>	<u>£403,193</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Ian Ellington - Trustee

27 November 2023

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Cash Generated from Operations (see below)		(2,487)	(58,410)
Finance Costs Paid	22	(580)	(391)
Net Cash (Used in)/Provided by Operating Activities		<u>(3,067)</u>	<u>(58,801)</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>			
Interest Received		5,807	1,693
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		<u>5,807</u>	<u>1,693</u>
<b>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in reporting period</b>		<b>2,740</b>	<b>(57,108)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of reporting period</b>		<b>626,088</b>	<b>683,196</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period</b>		<b><u>£628,831</u></b>	<b><u>£626,088</u></b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

## 1. Accounting Policies

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that the Charity's cash at the date of approval of the financial statements and its projected cash flows for the following year are sufficient such that the Charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. In making this judgement, the trustees and senior management team have considered future agreed funding and the anticipated impact of external factors on future funding and expenditure.

### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The critical judgements and estimates are reflected in these accounting policies.

### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income when appropriate:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the Charity, are recognised when the Charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity only where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts. Donated goods are measured at fair value and included within income.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time or estimated usage basis as set out in the notes to these accounts.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

## 1. Accounting Policies – continued

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. The cost of minor additions or those costing below £250 are not capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which in all cases is estimated at 4 years.

### **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.

### **Debtors**

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

### **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount, after allowing for any trade discounts due.

### **Financial instruments**

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

### **Employee benefits**

Short-term benefits are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received. Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102. The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate and are allocated between activities and funds based on the use of the resource i.e. where employees spend their time.

### **Taxation**

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2. Donations and Legacies**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Grants</b>				
Grants from Trusts & Foundations	135,481	86,309	221,790	102,336
Government Grants	-	-	-	33,425
	<u>135,481</u>	<u>86,309</u>	<u>221,790</u>	<u>135,761</u>
<b>Donations:</b>				
General Donations	79,887	-	79,887	42,309
Standing Orders	21,782	-	21,782	20,497
In Memoriam	12,511	-	12,511	7,587
GAYE	5,549	-	5,549	6,607
Collecting Tins	1,149	-	1,149	451
Community Donations	2,434	-	2,434	2,819
Other Corporate Donations	101,654	-	101,654	55,193
London Marathon	39,075	-	39,075	48,172
Great North Run	9,747	-	9,747	5,686
Digital Fundraising Campaign	-	-	-	14,627
Other Running Events and walks	66,251	-	66,251	2,626
Other events, Sporting Activities and Community Fundraisers	72,881	-	72,881	84,552
	<u>412,920</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>412,920</u>	<u>291,126</u>
<b>Legacies</b>	5,000	-	5,000	10,012
<b>Total Income from Donations and Legacies</b>	<u>£553,401</u>	<u>£86,309</u>	<u>£639,710</u>	<u>£436,899</u>

The Trustees would like to thank all the members and supporters who have contributed their time and effort to raising money for the Trust.

**3. Other Trading Activities**

	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Christmas Cards	310	376
Merchandise Sales	767	465
	<u>£1,077</u>	<u>£841</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**4. Investment Income**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Divided Income	-	82
Bank Interest	<b>5,807</b>	1,693
	<b><u>£5,807</u></b>	<u>£1,775</u>

**5. Raising Funds**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
<b>Raising Donations and Legacies</b>		
Staff Costs	<b>99,822</b>	79,638
Fundraising Costs	<b>8,171</b>	9,474
Support Costs	<b>61,073</b>	46,086
	<b><u>£169,066</u></b>	<u>£135,198</u>

**6. Charitable Activities**

	<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>(see note 7)</b>	<b>Funding of</b>	<b>Costs (see</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	<b>Activities</b>	<b>note 9)</b>	£
		<b>(see note 8)</b>	£	
		£		
Medical Research and Grant Making	10,218	43,500	7,674	61,392
Awareness Raising	65,106	-	42,541	107,647
Family Support and Information	150,883	13,335	87,988	252,206
Influencing	7,741	-	6,789	14,530
	<b><u>£233,948</u></b>	<b><u>£56,835</u></b>	<b><u>£144,992</u></b>	<b><u>£435,775</u></b>

**7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Staff Costs	<b>209,805</b>	133,867
Newsletter Costs	<b>3,075</b>	4,134
Awareness Campaign	-	90
Other Direct Costs	<b>21,068</b>	7,875
Leaflets and Printing	-	100
	<b><u>£233,948</u></b>	<u>£146,066</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

8. Grants Payable

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Medical Research and Grant Making	<b>43,500</b>	50,000
Family Support and Information	<b>13,335</b>	9,797
	<b><u>£56,835</u></b>	<u>£59,797</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**9. Support Costs**

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time. Governance costs of £3,038 are included in support costs.

	Raising Donations and Legacies £	Medical Research and Grant Making £	Awareness Raising £	Family Support and Information £	Influencing £	Total Activities 2023 £	Total Activities 2022 £
Salaries	37,385	4,698	26,041	53,860	4,156	126,140	119,905
Premises Rent	3,381	423	2,355	4,874	376	11,409	15,958
Premises Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,435
Insurance	396	50	276	571	44	1,337	662
Repairs & Maintenance	188	24	131	271	21	635	10,714
Communications and Stationery	8,257	1,038	5,752	11,897	918	27,862	7,151
Meetings, Seminars and Staff Training	494	62	344	711	55	1,666	4,887
Travel and Subsistence	269	34	187	387	29	906	314
Recruitment	6,341	797	4,417	9,135	705	21,395	6,762
Accountancy Fees	2,177	274	1,516	3,136	242	7,345	12,433
Sundries	1,011	127	704	1,456	112	3,410	928
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	140	18	97	201	16	472	473
Bank Charges	172	21	120	247	19	579	391
Auditors' Remuneration	862	108	601	1,242	96	2,909	2,760
	<b>£61,073</b>	<b>£7,674</b>	<b>£42,541</b>	<b>£87,988</b>	<b>£6,789</b>	<b>£206,065</b>	<b>£186,773</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**10. Net Income (Expenditure)**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Auditors Remuneration	<b>2,909</b>	2,760
Depreciation – Owned Assets	<b>472</b>	473
Other Operating Leases		15,958
Auditors' Remuneration – Non Audit Services	<b>3,151</b>	3,000

**11. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits**

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

**Trustees Expenses**

During the current year £129 of expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees (2022:NIL).

**12. Staff Costs**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	<b>369,537</b>	297,615
Social Security Costs	<b>26,338</b>	26,360
Other Pension Costs	<b>7,401</b>	9,435
Interim Fees Payable	<b>32,491</b>	-
	<b>£435,767</b>	<u>£333,410</u>

Included within wages and salaries are the direct costs of the interim CEO.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
Average Number of Employees	10	9

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
£60,000 - £70,000	-	1

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

13. Comparatives For the Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and Legacies	381,438	55,461	436,899
Other Trading Activities	841	-	841
Investment Income	1,775	-	1,775
<b>Total</b>	384,054	55,461	439,515
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising Funds	135,198	-	135,198
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Medical Research and Grant Making	69,256	-	69,256
Awareness Raising	85,895	-	85,895
Family Support and Information	117,836	53,262	171,098
Influencing	20,301	-	20,301
<b>Total</b>	428,486	53,262	481,748
<b>NET INCOME /(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(44,432)	2,199	(42,233)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total Funds Brought Forward	445,084	342	445,426
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	400,652	2,541	403,193

14. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer and Office Equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	28,428
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2022	27,491
Charge for Year	472
At 31 March 2023	27,963
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2023	£465
At 31 March 2022	937

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

15. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<b>123</b>	526
Other Debtors	<b>2,792</b>	2,792
Prepayments and Accrued Income	<b>7,473</b>	7,195
	<u><b>£10,388</b></u>	<u>£10,513</u>

16. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Trade Creditors	<b>32,096</b>	56,879
Pension Creditor	<b>7,948</b>	1,726
Deferred Income	<b>14,668</b>	8,006
Accruals	<b>134,029</b>	114,044
	<u><b>£183,018</b></u>	<u>£180,655</u>

Included within Accruals is £79,936 for research grants awarded but expected to be drawn down within 12 months of the year end (2022: £107,048).

Deferred income relates to donations received in respect of future events, all of which is released in the following financial year.

17. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After One Year

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	<u><b>£6,721</b></u>	<u>£53,690</u>

Accruals reflect grants awarded but not expected to be drawn down until more than 12 months after the current year end.

18. Leasing Agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
Within One year	<u>-</u>	<u>10,080</u>

In August 2023 a two year lease was signed for office space and this lease includes a 6 month notice period for either party to end the agreement.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**19. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds**

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Fixed Assets	469	-	469	937
Current Assets	634,216	5,000	639,216	636,601
Current Liabilities	(183,018)	(5,000)	(188,018)	(180,655)
Long Term Liabilities	(6,721)	-	(6,721)	(53,690)
	<b>£444,946</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£444,946</b>	<b>£403,193</b>

Included within restricted funds is the restricted Hobson grant which was received during the year but is restricted to activities in 2023/24.

**20. Movement In Funds**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net Movement in Funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	400,652	44,294	444,946
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	2,541	(2,541)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>£403,193</b>	<b>£41,753</b>	<b>£444,946</b>

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

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in Funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	560,285	(515,991)	44,294
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	86,309	(88,850)	(2,541)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>646,594</b>	<b>(604,841)</b>	<b>41,753</b>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

20. Movement In Funds - continued

**Comparatives for Movement in Funds**

	<b>At 1.4.21</b>	<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	<b>At 31.3.22</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	445,084	(44,432)	400,652
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	342	2,199	2,541
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>445,426</u>	<u>(42,233)</u>	<u>403,193</u>

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

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement in Funds</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	384,054	(428,486)	(44,432)
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Family Support	55,461	(53,262)	2,199
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>439,515</u>	<u>(481,748)</u>	<u>(42,233)</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Medical Research	Available for research into various projects that promote the objects of the Charity
Support	To provide support and information to families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma.
Kent Travel	A fund to provide eligible families living in Kent with one-off travel grants for financial assistance with travel to UK clinics.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**21. Related Party Disclosures**

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

**22. Reconciliation of Net (Expenditure)/Income To Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Total</b>	Total
	£	£
<b>Net (Expenditure)/Income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>41,752</b>	(42,233)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation Charges	<b>472</b>	473
Interest Received	<b>(5,807)</b>	(1,693)
Finance Costs	<b>580</b>	391
Decrease in Debtors	<b>125</b>	989
(Decrease) in Creditors	<b>(39,609)</b>	(16,337)
<b>Net Cash (used in)/provided by operations</b>	<b>£(2,487)</b>	£(58,410)

**23. Analysis Of Changes In Net Funds**

	<b>At 1.4.22</b>	<b>Cash Flow</b>	<b>At 31.3.23</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash</b>			
Cash at Bank	626,088	2,740	628,828
<b>Total</b>	<b>£626,088</b>	<b>£2,740</b>	<b>£628,828</b>

**24. Capital Commitments**

At the year end the Board had agreed to commit to £79,965 of research expenditure in 2024/2025.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 327493

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02143917 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 327493**

**Trustees' Report and**  
**Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**  
**for**  
**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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

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## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Ian Ellington Chairman Ms Lisa Brown Amanda Moore (resigned 26.3.22) Elizabeth Coleman Alex Brebbia Andrea Bonzano Matthew Holt Rob Downes Gemma Boggs Treasurer Damian Yeo (appointed 11.6.22) Michelle Boothroyd (appointed 30.7.22)
<b>COMPANY SECRETARY</b>	Rose-Marie Sexton
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	The Royal London Hospital Whitechapel Road London E1 1BB
<b>REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER</b>	02143917 (England and Wales)
<b>REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER</b>	327493
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITORS</b>	Knox Cropper LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 65 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2AD

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

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

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

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objects of the Charity**

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is a charity dedicated to helping anyone affected by retinoblastoma (Rb), a type of eye cancer that affects babies and young children, mainly under the age of six. We have been supporting families since 1987.

Around one child a week is diagnosed with Rb in the UK or 50 a year. It accounts for 3% of childhood cancers in the UK and 10% of cancers in babies under one. Around 45% of cases are heritable and this carries with it an increased risk of developing tumours in other parts of the body in later life.

The Charity was originally founded to provide support and information to those affected by Rb. In 1994 we merged with another charity that was funding research projects specifically related to Rb, and in 2004 we changed our name to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. As we grew, so did our aims and objectives and we began to run campaigns aimed at raising awareness among health professionals and the public in order to achieve the earliest possible diagnosis for children affected.

Our aims are to:

- Provide support and information to families and individuals affected by Rb
- Raise funds to support research into issues concerned directly with Rb
- Raise awareness of Rb among health professionals and others
- Influence policy to improve service delivery for those affected by Rb

**Objectives, Strategies for Achievement and Public Benefit**

During the period of this report, we reached the final year of our three-year strategic plan which covers the period from 2018 to 2021 and our progress against this plan is reviewed annually. Within this strategy period we have continued to successfully deliver on our three core goals of support, research and awareness. Our next strategy review will take place during the financial year 2022-23.

The Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have considered the objectives of the Charity and have given regard to how these objectives and the associated activities meet the public benefit criteria of advancing health, saving lives and the relief of those in need by reason of ill health.

We are the only UK-wide charity providing support to people affected by Rb and we believe that they benefit from our services in the following ways:

**Main Objectives**

**Support:** To ensure that everyone affected by Rb in the UK has access to support and information according to their need.

- Our head of support and two support workers offer support to all families and individuals affected by Rb. This is provided on the wards and in clinics at the two specialist centres for Rb in the UK: Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital and The Royal London Hospital and also online via Zoom meetings.
- On non-clinic days, support is provided via telephone, email and Social Media.
- Support is also given by signposting to other charities for financial grants, visual impairment aids, holidays, travel expenses, white goods and other items.
- Support for teenagers and young people through specific events and opportunities for information sharing and peer support.
- Regional events, meetings and other support opportunities.
- A newsletter, blog, information factsheets and leaflets, website and annual members' events.
- Grants for those in financial difficulties to help with the costs related to an Rb diagnosis and subsequent treatment.

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

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**Awareness - healthcare professionals:** To save lives and minimise the impact of visual impairment by ensuring that healthcare professionals know about Rb and its symptoms, listen to concerned parents and make quick referrals where necessary.

- Targeted activities to healthcare professionals associated with children aged six and under.
- Distribution of information and awareness leaflets at relevant healthcare events.
- Targeted distribution of diagnostic information, tools and advice on referring.
- Education programmes for GPs, health visitors, opticians, optometrists and other healthcare professionals.
- Media campaigns and articles for specialist healthcare professional journals and magazines.
- Working with healthcare professionals to develop and implement standard referral protocols for those with suspected Rb.

**Awareness - public:** To encourage parents to seek medical advice more quickly by making them aware of Rb and its symptoms.

- Ensuring information for parents about the symptoms of Rb is available in all relevant NHS publications and on all NHS information websites.
- Media activity regarding the condition including how and where to seek help.
- Developing relationships with organisations able to reach large sections of the public with a view to raising awareness.
- Regular and sustained social media activity.
- Promoting knowledge of the possible longer-term impact of having had Rb as a child with regard to genetics and other cancers.
- Information campaigns targeted towards people affected by Rb as a child.
- Specific information and guidance accessible on our website.

**Research:** Proactively engaging in the advancement of knowledge of Rb, its treatment and its impact.

- Supporting and funding clinical, psychosocial and scientific research relating to Rb.
- Working through the Scientific Advisory Committee to identify and support suitable projects from a wide range of sources for funding.
- Encouraging applications from the international research community.
- Supporting multi-centre and international collaboration and sharing of experience, knowledge and data.

**Influencing:** Working with other organisations to bring about improvements in the way in which services are delivered both in the UK and internationally.

- Working with the treatment centres in the UK, the NHS National Commissioning Group, National Artificial Eye Service and other umbrella bodies who provide services to people affected by Rb.

**Research Grant Making Policy**

We award grants to groups or individuals who wish to pursue research projects or audits in order to advance the knowledge of Rb and related issues.

Applications go before the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) which is made up of CHECT Trustee(s) plus experts from the research and Rb field. We also have three lay members representing families and the adult Rb community within the SAC. This committee evaluates the validity and appropriateness of the proposal using an agreed scoring matrix, seeking peer review for large projects and where necessary for other reasons, before making recommendations to the Board for funding.

Grant recipients are required to provide six-monthly progress reports and present a final report to the Board on the conclusion of the project before disseminating the findings and learning through presentations and publication.

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

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Volunteers**

21 volunteers generously gave their time to support us throughout the year. Although there were limited opportunities for volunteering due to lockdown, we are grateful for the help given with administrative tasks (performed remotely), and the collection of donation cheques. When moving office we had 5 volunteers come to help clear out and paint our old office and a further 2 volunteers helped to move to the new office. Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

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

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

**SUPPORT.**

We were originally created to offer support to the parents of children affected by Rb and this continues to be one of our core priorities. This support has now been extended to anyone affected, including teenagers whose unique needs are very different to those of a very young child or baby, and adults, many of who are living with the late effects of the treatment they received for Rb as a child. Membership of CHECT is open to anyone affected by retinoblastoma (as well as their friends and family), supporters of CHECT and health professionals and we do not charge a fee.

In 2021, 100% of families were offered support following a diagnosis of Rb in the UK. Due to ongoing COVID restrictions, this was a mixture of face-to-face at the two specialist Rb centres, as well as virtually (Zoom, email, social media, text and telephone).

Just under 1,000 face-to-face sessions in total were carried out across both hospital sites in 2021, despite the beginning of the year spent working from home due to COVID. In addition to these numbers, our support workers offered occasional 'Storytime' sessions on Zoom at the start of the financial year. Between April and June there were 3 sessions with 15 children attending individual stories. It was decided that with clinics getting busier, we would stop Storytime on the proviso that parents could request sessions if they found them useful. Support Workers send stories to families by request for special occasions like birthdays.

We took a further 42 calls and emails from 26 non-members who contacted the charity for support - for example, because they had seen a white glow in their child's eye and were concerned that they might have Rb. In total, we provided around 2,500 hours of support.

"I don't want to be a time waster, its helpful to know that she needs seeing face to face, it didn't feel right just to send a photo" (Mother on the virtual GP appointment she was offered for concerns about her child's eye.)

"Thank you for all your support, I feel like I know nothing about who I was as a child, I'm just so grateful to be able to read information and see others like me, who knows I could have played with them in hospital! I appreciate you taking the time to help me" (A young adult who had only recently discovered they had been treated for Rb as a baby)

"I was treated in \*\*\*\*, but I don't really know much about it. I just want to be sure I keep healthy and don't have a risky pregnancy".... "thank you so much for sorting my appointment."

Social Media is still an important source of support and information and we are seeing members contacting CHECT and raising awareness on newer platforms, like TikTok and Instagram. As well as our main public-facing page, we have a number of specific support groups on Facebook - which are closed to the public - giving members a chance to talk freely and in confidence. They are for parents of children with Rb (414 members) and adults who have had Rb (137 members).

The main reasons for people seeking support from the charity during 2021 were:

- COVID-19 related information - hospital changes, practical support etc
- Help and support with emotional issues
- Information about genetics, screening, fertility and late effects of Rb
- Financial information and support
- Signposting to other specialist organisations
- Peer Support - networking with other members, finding out about each other, building a community

We gave 49 support grants to families, to help with the costs associated with an Rb diagnosis and ongoing treatment - for example travel to and from hospital (particularly as public transport was not recommended during lockdown) as well as occasionally helping to buy some specialist equipment for those with a visual impairment.

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

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**Events**

Due to varying social restrictions and lockdown throughout the period we have been unable to meet face to face with our members at social events. As restrictions ease we are assessing the risks and researching possible venues, and are aiming to offer Members' Days by summer 2022.

Both support workers have started to offer activities to children and young people during the summer holidays, hosted by other activity providers such as Barratstown, Ellen MacArthur Sailing, Over the Wall Camps and VICTA which have proved popular.

Our warmest congratulations to everyone in the specialist Rb team in Birmingham Women's and Children's hospital who celebrated their 20 year anniversary this year which we marked in our newsletter, we anticipate there may be in person events taking place next year.

**Teenagers**

We know that teenagers who had Rb as children can sometimes face specific challenges around self-esteem, self-confidence and bullying, and we are increasingly looking at ways to support them and ensure that we are meeting their needs.

As part of this focus, 2018 saw the formation of our youth council - the CHECT Teen Focus Council (TFC). There are currently 9 active members of the TFC. Two meetings and one social were held online in this financial year, with a face to face social planned for July 2023.

At our last meeting the young people were introduced to Nicola O'Donnell - our PhD Researcher - and there was much enthusiasm for her project, with each attendee offering their support for sitting on the steering group or being part of the interview process. The group are now committed to organise a face to face event for teenagers outside of the TFC to drive interest in their work, the research project and to succession plan for new members.

We have now developed a website of which the original aim had been for the TFC - members are keen for this reach to be broadened to all teenagers who had Rb, in the hope that this will drive interest and participation within the charity. The young people had been excited but unsure about how to increase their presence on social media, particularly TikTok and Instagram, but recognised the need to add content and get people looking at their website, so we have been in conversation with some "Rb Influencers and ambassadors" about how we may use their skills and knowledge to offer a volunteer role in guiding CHECT and the TFC.

**Beyond Rb**

For some people, the effects of Rb are lifelong and we are constantly looking for ways to ensure that adults who had the condition as children have the support and information that they need.

As well as an active Facebook group, our Beyond Rb group organises 'meet ups' in different parts of the UK. Unfortunately lockdown restrictions have meant that we have been unable to have 'meet ups' this financial year.

We have previously run focus groups with a small number of Beyond Rb adults to review our information provision for this group. These sessions have been incredibly helpful in identifying information priorities, gaps in the information CHECT currently provides, and a wish list for future information provision. We hope to continue working with this group to improve the content currently on offer and develop new formats for presenting the information to help address some of the issues this group is experiencing, in particular around late effects, second cancers, family planning and emotional impact of living as an adult after Rb.

**Ongoing communication**

Each month we send out a monthly newsletter filled with news and updates. For this, we have higher-than-average results compared to the industry standard. In 2021/22, our click rates were an average is 6.5% - the industry standard is 4.4%. Our open rates average out at over 33%.

**Trustees' Report  
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**InFocus**

We produce two editions of InFocus a year - which are sent out both digitally and in-print. Our carbon footprint for printing these is offset by a modest investment with an organisation that supports a range of projects that are able to evidence that they are reducing greenhouse emissions. Each edition of InFocus was each emailed to over 2,400 members and supporters.

In addition to InFocus, we also sent a monthly email update to approximately 2,400 subscribers and have a blog on our website which is regularly updated with content, including news, events, real life stories, research and support articles. Some of this content, along with posts about fundraising activities our members have undertaken, has also been shared on social media, typically attracting strong engagement from our followers.

**Trustees' Report  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE  
AWARENESS**

Retinoblastoma is a rare disease which means that most people are not aware of it. Sadly, this frequently leads to a delay in a diagnosis being made and, because Rb is a fast-growing cancer, quick access to treatment can be vital in order to save a child's eyes, sight and life. Raising awareness of Rb among both healthcare professionals and the public is therefore important in helping to drive early diagnosis and as such remains a key part of our work.

We are incredibly grateful to the healthcare professionals who volunteer their time on our Health Care Professionals Focus Group, bringing their expertise and experience to enrich this awareness programme. Quite simply, much of this work wouldn't be possible without their generous input.

**Healthcare Professionals**

As Rb is rare, most healthcare professionals will not encounter a case of it during their career. This means that when they are presented with the symptoms, which are often very subtle, many GPs and health visitors do not recognise it.

**Pathways to Diagnosis**

In 2012, as part of its aim to reduce the delays in diagnosis of retinoblastoma experienced by some families in the UK CHECT began to collect information from parents we called 'Pathways to Diagnosis'.

This information was gathered by support workers during the course of their conversations with families, and focussed on whether the families had any prior awareness of retinoblastoma; the signs they noticed in their child's eyes that prompted them to seek help; and the actions taken by the healthcare professionals they consulted.

Very quickly it became apparent that the range of experience was huge: from families who were referred to one of the two specialist Rb centres in the UK within days of noticing their child's symptoms; to families who spent over six months and numerous visits to various healthcare professionals before anyone recognised the significance of what they were reporting, or carried out the appropriate tests and made appropriate referrals.

Recording these experiences in a quantitative way in turn allowed CHECT to refine our messages and information to address those areas where it was most needed: not only to alert parents of young children, but also GPs, health visitors and opticians to the main signs and symptoms of Rb, and the need for urgent examination and onward referral.

**2021 findings:**

In total 37 Pathways were collected from 47 UK diagnoses. Seven children were diagnosed through Rb screening, two were identified during non-Rb screening, and one family had not become members at the time of collecting the Pathways.

Overall, referral rates seem to have recovered from the impact of the pandemic, with over a half of children (51%) with retinoblastoma receiving appropriate urgent referrals, and 8% waiting more than six months. This is an encouraging recovery from the previous year when just over a third (35%) received urgent referrals and 24% waited over six months. White eye continues to be the most common sign, with more parents than ever reporting this as a symptom, either seen in a photo (38%) or in their child's eye itself (73%). Previous awareness of Rb had fallen slightly amongst newly-diagnosed families however since 2019, suggesting perhaps that there just has not been much space for talking about non-Covid related health issues in the last two years.

As mentioned previously, this year we also had the opportunity to examine access to the ten-year trends:

**2012-2021 ten year findings:**

Over the ten years of Pathways to Diagnosis, we now have information from 334 families. This is important because it evens out some of the annual fluctuations that will inevitably occur because of the small number of children diagnosed each year, to reveal the more general trends for families in the UK.

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**Trustees' Report  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

A white glow spotted in the child's eye (rather than in a photograph), is the most common symptom parents report noticing at 60%. The survey also reveals however that the lesser-known symptom, a squint, was reported in over a third of cases (34%). This has caused CHECT to put much more emphasis on promoting the need for every squint to be checked to rule out Rb.

As we already knew from anecdotal reports from parents, there was significant variance in the number of GPs making appropriate referrals for children with symptoms of Rb. This is an area where there does seem to have been an improvement overall: in 2012 just 28% of GPs who saw a child with Rb made an urgent referral; in 2021 this was 59%.

Opticians are consistently a good route for referral, with 73% over the past ten years making appropriate referrals, and we continue to work with high street opticians to encourage them to see young children and babies where signs of Rb have been spotted (as some opticians do not routinely see very young children).

During the pandemic, the huge pressures on the NHS and the lack of face-to-face appointments did seem to impact on the referral of children with suspected Rb. The number of children who took over six months to receive a diagnosis at one of the Rb centres rose to 24% in 2020 against the ten-year average of 11%, and was the highest figure since the survey began. This does appear to have been an unusual year however, with just 8% of children with Rb the following year taking over six months to receive a diagnosis.

Thanks to hard work by our various communications managers over the years, and the families who have so kindly shared their stories, awareness of retinoblastoma amongst parents of newly-diagnosed children has increased from 15% in 2012, to 22% in 2021.

Although Pathways to Diagnosis has always been designed as a snapshot, or an indicator of trends in diagnosis in the UK, as you can tell, it represents an important voice and has been a key part of the resources we use to help CHECT achieve its aim of raising awareness of Rb in order to aid earlier diagnosis. As a result, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the families who have been involved since 2012; sharing your experiences so generously with us in order to help future families.

**Public awareness**

It's often mums, dads or other family members who will first spot the signs of Rb - whether that's a white eye seen in a family photo, a squint or another symptom - so public awareness is an important area of our work to help ensure a swift diagnosis. We use traditional and digital media to reach parents and other members of the public and raise awareness of Rb.

**Media**

Previous research carried out by, or on behalf of, CHECT has shown that many people first hear about Rb after reading an article about it, so traditional media coverage continues to play an important part in our communications strategy. During the 2021/22 financial year we received at least 37 mentions in the media, including 7 national pieces, reaching a potential audience of many millions (1.5 billion) across online, printed and televised press.

**Digital**

We had a 12% increase in visits to our website in 2021/22 in comparison to last year. We continue to monitor and adapt the CHECT website to ensure that it's easy to navigate and contains relevant and useful information to visitors.

Our article about 'what to do if you see a white glow in a photograph' remains our most frequently visited page each month and is the most popular landing page.

**Social Media**

Social Media is growing as a source of awareness around eye cancer in 2022, which was reflected in a recent survey generously undertaken on our behalf by MMR, which revealed that social media as a source of awareness has increased from 18% in 2020 to 24% in 2022.

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

Our social media presence continues to grow. We have increased our followers and engagement on Facebook - Facebook has changed the way it records results from likes to followers which makes it hard to compare, we did however have 7,563 followers at the end of April which was an increase. There was a decline in Twitter followers in 2020 compared to 2019, we now however have surpassed our Twitter followers in 2019 and have increased them by over 4% in comparison to 2020-21. Our Twitter mentions have also increased from 224 in 2020-21 to 475 in 2021-22. We have increased our Instagram followers by over 52% and increased our Instagram reach from 41,749 in 2020-21 to 98,803 in 2021-22. Our engagement rate has also increased by 11%.

**World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week 2021**

For Rb Week in 2021, we shared a story about mum Rada and her baby girl Katherina. Katherina was in a lot of pain, but GPs could not determine what was wrong. Thankfully her auntie glimpsed a white glow in Katherina's eye and remembered that it could be a symptom of something serious. Soon after, mum Rada took Katherina to A&E which led her to being diagnosed and treated at RLH. As well as raising awareness of symptoms, a key message of the story was to encourage parents to trust their intuition and to seek help from an alternative healthcare professional if unsatisfied. The story was covered in Kent Online (and later in print), KMFM Radio (where mum Rada was interviewed) and, The Mirror. The overall media coverage with the general public reached in excess of 1 million people.

**Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

To mark Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September 2021, we shared a press release about three-year-old Evie whose white coating on her eye was initially mistaken for a dog scratch. Her parents took her to GP, and she was referred to her hospital. This story was picked up by The Daily Mail, Yahoo News!, Wales Online, Belfast Online, London News Today, the Cambridge News, Essex Live and Nottingham Post, with circulation figures exceeding 5 million people.

Throughout September we also made a CHECT 'temporary profile' Facebook picture frame available so that people could promote the charity and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

We also updated our webpage to include new sections on donating, helping us to spread awareness, news about the new CHECT merchandise page and requesting awareness raising social media videos. We shared insights into the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma, spreading awareness of the resources and sharing member-made content to help us to raise awareness on social media. We also included a piece in the monthly newsletter on how to get involved in Childhood Cancer Awareness Week.

**NHS Campaign**

NHS England, after seeing a video we shared of Kitty attending a hospital appointment on social media, have created a video with Kitty discussing Rb, which they have shared on LinkedIn (which has over half a million followers), Twitter (which has 490,000 followers) and Instagram (which has over 100,000 followers) to raise awareness.

**National Eye Health Week**

For National Eye Health Week, an article about the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma - and the link to genetics - was featured on the Genetic Alliance website. They also shared Aazmeen Kharabada's story - sharing how inheriting the Rb gene has impacted her life.

**World Sight Day**

World Sight Day was on the 14th October with a theme of #LoveYourEyes. In order to help raise self-confidence amongst our members, we featured a blog from Olivia Deane - who is an advocate for self-love and acceptance. The blog post was well-received on social media, which reached over 7,000 on Facebook alone.

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Christmas Campaign**

Our Winter case study was about Imogen Lloyd, who was diagnosed with Rb on the 28th November 2020. The piece discussed her diagnosis journey as well as the complications Covid posed for the family. We published her emotive story on the one-year anniversary of her diagnosis date on social media and our blog and included it in InFocus magazine as a double-page spread. A first-person exclusive of the story was published in the Metro online, which has a 23 million-per-month readership.

**World Cancer Day**

To mark World Cancer Day, we created a seven-day advert on Facebook which featured an 'I Spy' symptom video and a link to our symptom website page. The aim of this campaign was to raise awareness around retinoblastoma and the signs and symptoms. We reached 18,933 people, 9,202 of which engaged with the post. 8,432 of these watched the video and 710 followed the link to our website, helping us to reach an audience who may never have heard of Rb or the main signs and symptoms. The audience was set to target both women and men - but the algorithm sharply changed to women as this was the most engaged demographic. We set the target audience to 18-65+, to reach both parents and grandparents. Due to the user demographic of Facebook, our advert did particularly well with those age 35-65+.

**Rare Disease Day**

Our Rare Disease Day case study was about Elijah Byrne, who was diagnosed with Rb in January 2021 after his parent's spotted a white glow in a Polaroid photo. After visiting A&E, he was referred to a specialist hospital and had his eye enucleated straight away. We also included two findings from our MMR survey - that only 19% of parents knew the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma, and that concern about children's eye health had decreased. Elijah's story was shared in The Sun, which had a circulation figure of 1,250,000.

For Rare Disease Day, we also boosted our case study post on Facebook and Instagram to reach a wider audience and share the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma. The post had 60,539 impressions on people on Facebook, with the core demographic being women between the ages of 24-54 and received over 500 likes on Facebook and over 100 likes on Instagram.

**RESEARCH**

This year saw the completion of projects by Dr Carmel McConville (Investigation of the mutational landscape of retinoblastoma) and Professor Shin-Ichi Ohnuma (Next generation sequencing analysis of retinoblastoma samples).

**McConville: Investigation of the mutational landscape of retinoblastoma**

This project was originally joint funded by CHECT and Fight for Sight as part of the Small Grants award scheme, with additional funding from CHECT. In October 2018 CHECT awarded a further £6,500 for a research extension.

The original aim of this project was to identify the genes which are most frequently mutated in retinoblastoma and to survey how the overall cellular genetic activity is influenced by these mutated genes.

Results obtained from the in vitro phase provided strong evidence for a significant role for the BCOR gene in normal retinal development. Later studies suggested that BCOR could be used as a marker to differentiate between retinoblastomas with a high risk of spread (BCOR-mutated) or a lower risk (BCOR-normal). This information is important to help doctors decide on the best treatment for retinoblastoma patients. It is also possible that new drugs could be developed to reverse the effects of BCOR mutation.

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Ohnuma: Next generation sequencing analysis of retinoblastoma samples**

Despite knowing the RB1 mutation it is difficult to predict the outcome of treatment. This project proposes to study the genetic changes that occur in retinoblastoma, using whole genome sequencing (the process of determining the complete DNA sequence) to detect those variants associated with good and bad prognosis or with a favourable treatment outcome. This new level of diagnosis could potentially make a significant contribution to the selection of treatment, and avoid the loss of one or both eyes. Also, identification of new cancer modifying genes may provide new targets for treatment. Furthermore, this study aims to establish a new system to diagnose Rb in the clinical setting, which includes detailed examination of patient genome sequencing/analysis. The team having submitted their final report which is to be reviewed by CHECT's Scientific Advisory Committee.

CHECT continued to support a further three ongoing projects. We are delighted that the four research awards made in 2019/20, which were paused in May 2020 due to the pandemic, are all now well underway (Berry, Lako and Phillips, and Gerrish-jointly with Fight for Sight). A summary of our ongoing projects follows:

**Laboratory / Basic science**

Professor Lako: Assessing the feasibility of pluripotent stem cell derived retinal organoids as a model system to test the safety and efficacy of chemotherapeutic agents in retinoblastoma

The recent advances in local delivery of chemotherapy to the eye (intra-arterial or intravitreal injection) have significantly improved the success of eye conserving treatment, with reduction in the need for enucleation. However, there is inevitably some toxicity associated with treatment, which can affect visual function in the eyes that are saved. Further refinements in these techniques and trials of new drugs are essential to maximise efficacy and minimise toxicity, to preserve useful vision. The recent development of retinal organoids by our group provides us with a unique laboratory model of human retina and retinoblastoma. This study is designed to test the safe and effective dose of current as well as novel drugs on the laboratory model (retinal organoids), and to study the toxic effects on the retina. This valuable information will help shape treatment strategies such as new drug combinations and new dosage schedules to treat effectively retinoblastoma tumours while minimising damage to vision.

**Clinical**

Professor Jesse Berry: Comparing blood to aqueous humor as a liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma: determining the superiority of the aqueous humour as a source of tumor DNA

A liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma is especially critical because unlike other cancers, retinoblastoma cannot be biopsied due to risk of spread outside the eye. To overcome this problem, this team has demonstrated that tumor DNA is present in the aqueous, the clear fluid in front of the eye, which is safe to extract. However, the question remains whether blood, which is less invasive, can be used as a liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma as it can with other cancers. The team aims to directly compare blood to aqueous to determine which is a superior source of tumor DNA and thus a better liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma. This critical research has potential to change paradigms of diagnosis, prognosis and future treatment protocols for affected children.

Dr Amy Gerrish: Further investigation into intra-ocular fluid as a liquid biopsy in retinoblastoma (joint award with Fight for Sight)

This group is developing a form of liquid biopsy, using cell-free DNA (cfDNA) found in ocular fluid to discover if a patient has the heritable or non-heritable form of Rb, and so whether they are at risk of developing further Rb tumours. This information is vital in identifying at risk individuals, and in excluding those not at risk from potentially unnecessary examinations under anaesthetic (EUAs).

Dr Zerrin Onadim: Eloise Patterson Project: Study of records held at The Royal London Hospital and Childhood Cancer Research Group on retinoblastoma patients Phase II.

**Trustees' Report  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

This project was funded by CHECT via a donation from the Greendale Foundation, inspired by Eloise Patterson. Phase I (collection of clinical and mutation data and linking to Public Health England records) is now complete. This will provide complete information on type of Rb, type of mutation, treatment, follow-up data on second primary tumours and causes of any deaths. We are delighted that a further donation has been made by the Greendale Foundation for Phase II (statistical analysis to estimate risks, which it is hoped could potentially lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of these second cancers in current - and future - Rb populations) which is now underway.

**Psychosocial**

Dr Bob Phillips: Developing an evidence-based psycho-educational intervention for teenagers and young adults who have had retinoblastoma

There is little guiding evidence about the specific challenges that teenagers who have had retinoblastoma face as they transition towards young adulthood. Understanding the psycho-educational needs of teenagers and young adults as they transition into adulthood is therefore essential if we are to offer effective interventions to support them. This PhD studentship aims to develop an evidence-based intervention for teenagers and young adults with retinoblastoma that offers relevant, accessible and effective psycho-educational support.

As always, our thanks go to all the members of the SAC, both lay and professional, who volunteer their time to make CHECT's research programme possible, and thus support our hope to improve the lives of everyone affected by retinoblastoma in the future.

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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**FUNDRAISING**

**Fundraising Policy**

CHECT does not use fundraising services or external professional fundraisers to undertake its fundraising activities. Additionally, no data is shared with or sold to any external agencies. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake direct mail appeals to such lists. The charity issues a biannual newsletter and a monthly e-newsletter / blog (both of which can be easily unsubscribed from) that share information about the charitable work and fundraising activities undertaken.

The charity occasionally invites individuals to attend events but does not exert undue pressure to attend or to donate. It does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work. A complaints policy is in place and is accessible on the charity's web site ([www.chect.org.uk](http://www.chect.org.uk)). The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the Fundraising Manager. Any marketing materials and approaches are checked that they comply with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are recorded by the Fundraising Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter and certificate.

**Community and Events**

We are always overwhelmed by the passion and dedication of our supporters, who go to such lengths to raise vital funds for us through the events and sponsored challenges they organise. The last year proved difficult in this respect as, due to Covid-19 restrictions, it was uncertain as to whether some of these fundraisers could go ahead. However, our supporters rose to the occasion and continued to support us in sometimes limiting circumstances. Here are just some of the highlights:

- Dean Alldis took part in our Squats Facebook Fundraiser in January 2021 and then decided to carry on throughout the whole year! He completed his challenge on New Year's Eve- achieving 75,000 Squats and raising £1,711.
- Tara and Anya Wilson hold the annual Stainton Tractor Run and for 2021 they chose to raise money for CHECT. B & W Funerals sponsored the event and family, friends and local businesses helped by shutting gates, raising money, creating videos, and of course, being on hand with cups of tea. They raised over £1,300.
- Monewden Airfield held their third Open Day with a Flypast for CHECT over the August Bank Holiday 2021 weekend, raising a record £5,088.
- Five year old Lavinia and her supportive friends pledged to walk the Castle Hill Steps in Thetford not once but five times, to raise funds. Undeterred by being unable to do it on their chosen day, due to rainstorms, they completed the challenge and raised £1,326.
- Margate Football Club played host to a charity match for CHECT at Hartsdown Park in July, raising £535. The two teams doubled their fundraising at a return match in November, making £1,150.
- For the 26th year Roisin Lynch, her friends and family braved the cold for their Annual Christmas Day Swim for CHECT, raising £2,465. While Roisin's event was, as always, in Lisfannon, two satellite events took place in Downings and over in Scotland. Since 1995, the Lynch family have raised a total of over £43,000 from this much anticipated event.
- On the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year, Jamie Butler decided to 'lose' a day by running (and walking) from dawn until dusk. He covered just over 39 miles, without music or podcasts, from his home to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, the home of time, raising £2,263.
- In February 2022 Ash Lamming braved a head shave, videoing it as it happened. She also wore an eye patch in the run up to the event to raise awareness. Ash raised £2,729.

As always, our amazing supporters pushed themselves to the limit in aid of CHECT. A total of 22 runners took part in the London Marathon for CHECT, both in the mass participation event and also virtually. They raised £41,813, which is a record amount for CHECT in this event. Although the London Marathon was cancelled, nine supporters took it on virtually in October, raising £11,846. The London Marathon organisers had also staged the 2.6 Challenge in April 2020, the month the original 2020 London Marathon had been scheduled to take place. The 'Challenge' was very simple, and by devising events around the numbers '2' and '6', our supporters raised £15,607.

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**Trustees' Report  
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**Charity of the Year Partnerships**

A huge thank you to the groups and organisations who chose us to be their Charity of the Year in 2021 or 2022. We are very grateful to the Shipowners' Club, Whissendine CofE Primary School and Barts & The London Students' Association RAG, who raised funds for us in sometimes difficult circumstances, due to the pandemic.

**Individual Giving**

We are extremely grateful to all those who support us with a regular gift through a monthly pledge or through Give as you Earn, as well as to those who so generously make a one-off donation to our charity.

We were very pleased and thankful that individual donations remained constant during what was a testing and uncertain year for everyone.

**Corporate Support**

**Vision Express**

CHECT has been a proud partner of Vision Express since 2010, and the company has played an invaluable role in helping us to raise awareness of Rb, as well as generating significant funds to support our work. Vision Express was also the first optician in the UK to roll out a protocol to ensure a quick and effective referral if Rb is suspected.

We are very pleased to have joined a new charity partnership with Vision Express and the Macular Society, which began in August 2021. Vision Express colleagues held a month of 'Joyous Fundraising' in October, undertaking events and activities of their choosing to raise funds for the two charities. The total raised during the year was £24,359.

The charity partnership has also seen the launch of another exciting new initiative - the Marvin the Mole soft toy. After appearing in Vision Express adverts in 2021, Marvin proved to be such a hit with the public that the high street optician brought him to life as a fluffy mascot, going on sale both online and in stores in March 2021. 100% of all profits raised from the sale of Marvin will help those affected by retinoblastoma and people living with macular disease. The fluffy mascot went on sale both online and in Vision Express stores at the end of March,

We remain indebted to the wonderful help, support and commitment of all the staff at Vision Express and we look forward to working closely with them over the coming months and years.

**Birmingham Optical**

Now into the sixth year of our partnership with Birmingham Optical, we are enormously grateful to everybody in the company for all their fundraising activities, especially during such challenging economic times and for their much appreciated, continued support of CHECT.

**Dell**

When the son of a member of Dell staff was diagnosed with Rb two days before his third birthday the Dell Giving Account matched scheme launched an appeal to employees globally for her chosen charity, CHECT. We are so thankful to all who donated, contributing to a grand total of £10,000.

**The Training Club Gym**

This gym, in Washington, NE England, organised 12 events in 12 hours, to support a member whose two children have been diagnosed with Rb. All they asked was for people to turn up, take part in one event, and donate whatever they were able, whether it was monetary, a prize towards the raffle/hamper or just support in raising awareness. Together, they raised over £3,000.

**Highline Contracts - £1,650**

We are very grateful to all at Highline for holding a Golf Day, which we hope will become an annual event, raising £1,400.

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**Hancock & Wood**

This department store in Warrington, Cheshire, is a long standing supporter, and has announced that all carrier bag sales will now be donated to CHECT.

**Phoenix Bespoke Solutions**

This company very generously donated £2,500 to help fund our development of a 'therapeutic' soft toy for children who undergo an enucleation.

**Sackers and Partners LLP**

Whilst this year's circumstances meant that we did not have an opportunity to use them, we remain very grateful to law firm Sackers and Partners LLP, who generously make their fantastic meeting spaces available to us.

**Essilor**

We were delighted that the staff at Essilor decided to continue our partnership, during a year when many staff were working from home. We look forward to working with the team during 2022 and beyond.

**TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS**

**Income**

Income from charitable trusts and foundations in 2021/22 totalled just over £102,000. The past year has been a particularly challenging one due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however we are extremely grateful to every trust and foundation that has supported CHECT's work during this difficult period. Over the past year we have worked hard to continue to strengthen our relationships with existing supporters whilst forging new charitable connections with other trusts. We express our gratitude to the National Lottery Community Fund's Awards for All programme; Contact/Pears/DCMS; the Greendale Foundation; the James Tudor Foundation; the David Family Foundation; the Schuh Trust; the Schroder Charity Trust; the Eveson Charitable Trust; and the February Foundation for their much-appreciated support.

We send our most grateful thanks to all of the trusts and foundations that have supported CHECT over the past year.

**In Memoriam**

Trustees and staff would like to thank and offer sincere condolences to families and friends who have given in memory of a loved one during the year, and are grateful to those who have kindly remembered us in their will.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Reserves Policy**

CHECT maintains its reserves under two categories: (a) unrestricted (general) reserves, which are available for general use in pursuance of the charity's objectives, and (b) restricted reserves, which are for specifically earmarked purposes such as medical research or support to families belonging to a particular area. The unrestricted funds of the Charity as at 31 March 2022 totalled £400,652. The Trustees have determined that the Charity should hold at least six months of running expenses in reserve. This figure represents the amount required to run the charity for six months excluding winding up costs and any special projects. Based on this calculation, the required value of reserves for the year 2022-23 is £245,586. The reserves held as on 31 March 2022 represent 9.8 months of budgeted expenditure reducing to 8.1 months at the end of the coming financial year.

The Trustees review the Charity's reserves policy on a regular basis and no less than annually. The reserves position is reported at every board meeting.

**Investment Policy**

Funds surplus to immediate requirements are to be invested in interest bearing accounts without risk to the capital. Such accounts are to be those offered by institutions covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). No more than the amount covered by the FSCS is to be invested in any one institution.

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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

The charity planned its budgets knowing that 2021-22 was going to be a very challenging financial climate. The total incoming resources of the Charity were £439,515, which was a decrease of £185,795 on 2020-21's total income of £625,310. Total resources expended during the year decreased accordingly to £481,748 (2020-21: £589,273).

Overall the Charity has recorded a deficit for the year of £42,233 compared to a surplus of £37,841 in 2020-21. As at 31 March 2022, this has resulted in net assets decreasing from £445,426 at the preceding year end to £403,193. This comprises of restricted funds of £2,541 (2020-21: £342) and unrestricted funds of £400,652 (2020-21: £445,084).

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**FUTURE PLANS**

**2018-2021 Strategy**

We are very excited to have successfully delivered our 2018-2021 strategy. We are currently reviewing our strategic goals for the coming period and whilst our core objectives of support, research and awareness remain the same, we have a number of exciting new plans under consideration.

Our 2022/23 plans include:

**Support:**

Our new Head of Support has been appointed and started in May 2022. He is currently building his understanding of our internal team, the specialist clinical teams and building a picture of our service and how to develop it moving forward.

We are remobilising clinical services to almost pre-COVID functioning, and in line with this, we are making plans to continue to build on our work in RLH, and BCH as well as CHECT's national events and ongoing support for our members affected by Rb. In order to assess need, we will plan and issue a new support survey to members in early summer 2022, to allow us to gauge what we do well, where we can improve, and how we will respond to this.

We will increase the value of our support grants to £12,000 annually to provide a more significant level of financial support to individual families. We continue to grow our engagement with teenagers and young people, working together with the Teen Focus Council to achieve this. We will continue to grow our collaboration with third parties such as the Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust, Barratstown, Over the Wall Camps and VICTA allowing more children and young people to experience events that can increase confidence and resilience. We will commence members days from Summer 2022, and hope to build our whole annual schedule and utilise face to face events, throughout our national geography to try our best to reach all members who want to access us. Alongside this, we plan to increase our digital service provision in between these events to help maintain momentum and relationships. We will step up our face to face and online support services for families, our teenagers through the TFC, and our Beyond Rb members.

**Research:**

Research continues to be a vital focus for us and our members. We were delighted this year to be able to make an award to Professor Shin-Ichi Ohnuma for his project "Evaluation of PRELP function using retinoblastoma samples" which commences in April 2022.

We will continue to manage and support the existing projects referenced earlier in this report and hope to continue our commitment to research via another call for projects and a further investment during 2022-23 and beyond.

**Awareness**

We continue to raise awareness through traditional media and increasingly through our digital channels. We are investing more in our social media advertising, as well as working with social media influencers to create engaging and inspiring social media material.

In addition to our core focus on support, research and awareness we will continue to liaise with the different organisations involved in a child and family's journey to make sure the voice of our membership is heard and helps influence all, to deliver the best and most effective experience to all families.

**Revisiting our awareness survey**

We have run our awareness survey in 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 with the wonderful pro-bono support of MMR Research Group. In 2021 we also re-visited some of the questions in our survey which benefited from being updated and making more user-friendly. We have put together changes to include in the 2022 survey.

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

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**CHECT Influencers and Ambassadors**

We aim to build a bank of ambassadors for CHECT who will represent us in various settings, and work with influencers who have had Rb in order to help us to create content on newer social media sites such as TikTok. We hope they can work with the teenagers, in order to create some awareness-raising and inspiring content - as well as partake in members days and meetings if appropriate.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) ('the Charity') is a charitable company limited by guarantee ('the Company'), incorporated on 1 July 1987 and a registered charity. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and are known as the board of trustees ('the Board'). Under the Company's Articles, the members of the Board are elected to serve for a maximum term of three years. In September 2008, the Articles were amended such that trustees may offer themselves for re-election for one further term (in total six years) and thereafter, under special circumstances, a third term at the discretion of the Board. The maximum number of trustees is 15.

**Organisational structure**

The Board meets six times a year and at the beginning of each meeting, the trustees are requested to declare any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared during this financial year. The Board's performance and trustee's skills are reviewed periodically and where possible new trustees are recruited to meet any needs or gaps identified. The Charity is a signatory to the NCVO's Good Governance Code for the voluntary and community sector.

To assist in the effectiveness and smooth running of the Charity the Board continues to resource two sub-committees to help oversee certain aspects of the Charity's work. Sub-committees are currently set up for: finance and risk and for research (Scientific Advisory Committee).

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to the CEO, supported by the staff team. At the close of the year, staffing consisted of ten staff (8 full time equivalent): a full time chief executive; two full time fundraisers; two support & information workers - one in London (part time) and one in Birmingham (three days per week); a head of support (full time), an information & research manager (three days per week); an office & finance manager(three days per week); a part time communications manager (three days per week) and a full time office & finance administrator.

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is not affiliated with any other charitable organisation and has no related parties except as shown in the notes to the accounts. The Charity is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, the National Institute of Health Research and other charities with similar aims to CHECT working within the field of eye health, childhood cancers, genetic disorders and rare diseases.

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

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities as recommended by the Charity Commission and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). This includes: the trustee role description and person specification relevant to the role, the Charity's confidentiality policy and the eligibility requirements for becoming a trustee. They are also supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the strategic development plan and the chief executive's report and minutes from three previous board meetings.

Trustee roles are advertised on the CHECT web site and on occasion, using external recruitment organisations. Enquiries are also occasionally received from members. A selection panel made up of the CEO, the Chair and another trustee or a member of the charity considers the application and the suitability of the applicant using agreed criteria identified on the person specification and the role description. The prospective trustee is then invited to observe a board meeting prior to appointment and standing for election.

Induction meetings covering the background to current matters take place with the chief executive and key members of the staff team. Training on matters relevant to the role and responsibilities of trustees is encouraged and the Board subscribes to literature pertinent to good governance. All trustees are required to sign: a contract setting out their responsibilities; a confidentiality agreement; the conflict of interest policy; and confirmation of their eligibility to serve as a director. They are also asked to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The majority of trustees have personal experience of retinoblastoma and its impact but individuals with other key skills are also recruited to the Board to ensure an appropriate balance to meet the needs of the Charity.

**Risk management**

The trustees regularly assess the risks to the Charity and maintain a comprehensive risk register which includes plans to mitigate or manage the risks identified. In past years, a significant proportion of the Charity's income came from one corporate relationship which was highlighted as a risk and the trustees have worked to mitigate this risk by:

- continued diversification of income streams
- a particular focus to increase trusts and foundations income
- maintenance of close and productive relationships with key corporate partners
- adoption of digital fundraising initiatives
- tight cost management
- setting income targets at a slight premium to operational budgets
- awarding additional research grants only when incremental funds allow
- regular income and expenditure reviews.

The risk register is reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee and then the Board on an annual basis and six-monthly by the chief executive. More frequent reviews are carried out if necessary in response to changes or events. The trustees are satisfied that there are systems and arrangements in place to manage the risks identified as far as possible.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**

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

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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at a forthcoming Board Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 03/01/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ian Ellington - Trustee

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### **Other information**

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

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

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

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the trustees' Report.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (Registered number: 02143917)**

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

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

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

- The Charitable Company is required to comply with both company law and charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Billinghamurst FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

Date: 09/01/2023

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

### Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	381,438	55,461	436,899	619,997
Other trading activities	3	841	-	841	1,311
Investment income	4	1,775	-	1,775	4,002
<b>Total</b>		<b>384,054</b>	<b>55,461</b>	<b>439,515</b>	<b>625,310</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	5	135,198	-	135,198	154,809
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Medical Research and Grant Making	6	69,256	-	69,256	186,598
Awareness Raising		85,895	-	85,895	101,315
Family Support and Information		117,836	53,262	171,098	132,163
Influencing		20,301	-	20,301	14,388
<b>Total</b>		<b>428,486</b>	<b>53,262</b>	<b>481,748</b>	<b>589,273</b>
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	1,804
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>(44,432)</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>(42,233)</b>	<b>37,841</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		445,084	342	445,426	407,585
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>400,652</b>	<b>2,541</b>	<b>403,193</b>	<b>445,426</b>

#### CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	14	937	1,410
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	15	10,513	11,502
Cash at bank		<u>626,088</u>	<u>683,196</u>
		<b>636,601</b>	694,698
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(180,655)</u>	<u>(152,652)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u><b>455,946</b></u>	<u><b>542,046</b></u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>456,883</b>	543,456
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	17	<u>(53,690)</u>	<u>(98,030)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>403,193</b></u>	<u><b>445,426</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	20		
Unrestricted funds		400,652	445,084
Restricted funds		<u>2,541</u>	<u>342</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><b>403,193</b></u>	<u><b>445,426</b></u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 03/01/2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ian Ellington - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST****Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

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	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	22	<b>(58,410)</b>	180,840
Finance costs paid		<b>(391)</b>	(261)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<b><u>(58,801)</u></b>	<b><u>180,579</u></b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Sale of fixed asset investments		-	19,031
Interest received		<b><u>1,693</u></b>	<b><u>3,406</u></b>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<b><u>1,693</u></b>	<b><u>22,437</u></b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			
		<b>(57,108)</b>	203,016
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<b><u>683,196</u></b>	<b><u>480,180</u></b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<b><u>626,088</u></b>	<b><u>683,196</u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The presentational currency of the financial statements is Pound Sterling (£).

### **Going Concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. As detailed in note 24, in forming this opinion, they have considered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on both its income and expenditure for at least a period of twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The following are the significant management judgements and estimates made in applying the accounting policies of the Charity that have a significant impact on the financial statements:

### **Financial instrument classification**

The classification of financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, as 'basic' or 'other' requires judgement as to whether all applicable conditions as basic are met. This includes the type of investment or loan and its return. The Charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. These are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently valued at their settlement value.

### **Useful lives of property, plant and equipment (PPE)**

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date. Depreciation is calculated based on the useful lives of each item.

### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

### **Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **Charitable activities**

Costs of charitable activities include all expenditure for providing support and information to families; for raising awareness amongst health professionals and the general public; grants awarded and other expenditure for medical research; and influencing costs to bring about improvements in the way services are delivered to all persons affected by retinoblastoma in the UK and overseas. Influencing activities include, but are not limited to, working with the Department of Health, NHS Commissioning Group - Childhood Cancer and Leukaemia Group, treatment centres in the UK and other charities and umbrella bodies.

##### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Costs are allocated dependent on the activity categories of the resources expended. The support costs of overall direction and administration, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. staff time as set out in the notes.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are included in the accounts at cost. The Charity's policy is to capitalise all fixed assets of a value greater than £500.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant & machinery	25% straight line basis
Equipment, fixture and fittings	25% straight line basis

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

##### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

##### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The Charity contributes to two workplace pension schemes for its employees. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

##### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Balance Sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants				
Grants from Trusts & Foundations	46,875	55,461	102,336	254,290
Government grants	<u>33,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,425</u>	<u>7,500</u>
	<u>80,300</u>	<u>55,461</u>	<u>135,761</u>	<u>261,790</u>
Donations:				
General donations	42,309	-	42,309	59,048
Standing orders	20,497	-	20,497	17,176
In memoriam	7,587	-	7,587	12,621
GAYE	6,607	-	6,607	3,650
Collecting tins	451	-	451	692
Community Donations	2,819	-	2,819	21,527
Other corporate donations	55,193	-	55,193	43,568
London Marathon	48,172	-	48,172	13,637
Great North Run	5,686	-	5,686	438
Digital Fundraising Campaign	14,627	-	14,627	106,304
Other running events and walks	2,626	-	2,626	8,241
In House Events	-	-	-	-
Other events	<u>84,552</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,552</u>	<u>70,873</u>
	<u>291,126</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>291,126</u>	<u>357,775</u>
Legacies	<u>10,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,012</u>	<u>432</u>
Total income from donations and legacies	<u>381,438</u>	<u>55,461</u>	<u>436,899</u>	<u>619,997</u>

The Trustees would like to thank all the members and supporters who have contributed their time and effort to raising money for the Trust.

#### 3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
Christmas cards	376	1,311
Merchandise sales	<u>465</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>841</u>	<u>1,311</u>

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Dividend income	82	596
Bank Interest	<u>1,693</u>	<u>3,406</u>
	<u>1,775</u>	<u>4,002</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	79,638	90,997
Fundraising costs	9,474	34,933
Support costs	<u>46,086</u>	<u>28,879</u>
	<u>135,198</u>	<u>154,809</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct Costs (see note 7)	Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Medical Research and Grant Making	5,712	50,000	13,544	69,256
Awareness Raising	38,935	-	46,960	85,895
Family Support and Information	99,005	9,797	62,296	171,098
Influencing	<u>2,414</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,887</u>	<u>20,301</u>
	<u>146,066</u>	<u>59,797</u>	<u>140,687</u>	<u>346,550</u>

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	133,867	111,337
Newsletter costs	4,134	387
Awareness Campaign	90	1,240
Other Direct Costs	7,875	2,157
Leaflets and printing	<u>100</u>	<u>84</u>
	<u>146,066</u>	<u>115,205</u>

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

#### 8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2022 £	2021 £
Medical Research and Grant Making	50,000	173,225
Family Support and Information	<u>9,797</u>	<u>9,043</u>
	<u>59,797</u>	<u>182,268</u>

Research continues to be a vital focus of the charity and the charity continues to provide a small number of Family Support Grants to help those in financial hardship with the additional costs associated with the diagnosis and treatment of retinoblastoma such as, for example, their travel costs.

#### 9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Raising donations and legacies	45,286	800	46,086
Medical Research and Grant Making	13,426	118	13,544
Awareness Raising	46,112	848	46,960
Family Support and Information	61,429	867	62,296
Influencing	<u>17,760</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>17,887</u>
	<u>184,013</u>	<u>2,760</u>	<u>186,773</u>

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time.

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

	Raising donations and legacies £	Medical Research and Grant Making £	Awareness Raising £
Wages	22,071	9,126	28,308
Social security	2,089	901	2,722
Pensions	985	475	1,341
Premises rent	5,088	741	3,476
Premises costs	1,096	157	804
Insurance	208	30	142
Repairs & Maintenance	3,306	489	2,262
Communications and stationery	2,251	326	1,510
Meetings, seminars and staff training	1,511	219	1,034
Travel and subsistence	100	15	65
Recruitment	2,125	301	1,397
Accountancy fees	3,907	566	2,682
Sundries	277	40	184
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	149	22	101
Bank charges	123	18	84
Auditors' remuneration	<u>800</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>848</u>
	<u>46,086</u>	<u>13,544</u>	<u>46,960</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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

**9. SUPPORT COSTS - continued**

			2022	2021
	Family Support and Information £	Influencing £	Total activities £	Total activities £
Wages	32,589	12,625	104,719	104,067
Social security	3,157	1,256	10,125	9,913
Pensions	1,585	675	5,061	4,968
Premises rent	5,843	810	15,958	13,694
Premises costs	1,205	173	3,435	-
Insurance	248	34	662	662
Repairs & Maintenance	4,123	534	10,714	9,329
Communications and stationery	2,707	357	7,151	6,976
Meetings, seminars and staff training	1,882	241	4,887	4,610
Travel and subsistence	118	16	314	666
Recruitment	2,609	330	6,762	-
Accountancy fees	4,656	622	12,433	7,366
Sundries	384	43	928	303
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	177	24	473	474
Bank charges	146	20	391	261
Auditors' remuneration	867	127	2,760	2,581
	<u>62,296</u>	<u>17,887</u>	<u>186,773</u>	<u>165,870</u>

**10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	2,760	2,581
Depreciation - owned assets	473	473
Other operating leases	15,958	13,694
Auditors' remuneration - non audit services	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>

**11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

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

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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#### 11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS - continued

##### Trustees' expenses

During the current and preceding periods no expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees.

#### 12. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	297,615	286,671
Social security costs	26,360	25,326
Other pension costs	<u>9,435</u>	<u>9,285</u>
	<u>333,410</u>	<u>321,282</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Average Number of Employees	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022	2021
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel of the Charity are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Charity, directly or indirectly, including any trustee of the Charity. In addition to the trustees, key management personnel includes the Chief Executive. Total employee benefits, including employer pension contributions and employer social security costs for key management personnel in the period amounted to £82,611 (2021: £82,618).

##### Pension costs

Amounts are paid in to two defined contribution stakeholder pension schemes. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity.

##### Volunteers

21 volunteers generously gave their time to support us throughout the year. Although there were limited opportunities for volunteering due to lockdown, we are grateful for the help given with administrative tasks (performed remotely) researching potential avenues of financial support, and the collection of donation cheques. Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

We'd also like to thank our dedicated ambassadors for their ongoing commitment to raising awareness of Rb and the work of CHECT.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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

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

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	498,558	121,439	619,997
Other trading activities	1,311	-	1,311
Investment income	<u>4,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,002</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>503,871</u>	<u>121,439</u>	<u>625,310</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	154,809	-	154,809
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Medical Research and Grant Making	181,598	5,000	186,598
Awareness Raising	101,315	-	101,315
Family Support and Information	15,469	116,694	132,163
Influencing	<u>14,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,388</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>467,579</u>	<u>121,694</u>	<u>589,273</u>
Net gains on investments	<u>1,804</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,804</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	38,096	(255)	37,841
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	<u>406,988</u>	<u>597</u>	<u>407,585</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>445,084</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>445,426</u>

**14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computer equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>28,428</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2021	27,018
Charge for year	<u>473</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>27,491</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2022	<u>937</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,410</u>

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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<b>15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	<b>526</b>	26
Other debtors	<b>2,792</b>	2,792
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>7,195</b>	8,684
	<b><u>10,513</u></b>	<b><u>11,502</u></b>

<b>16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	<b>56,879</b>	463
Pension creditor	<b>1,726</b>	1,610
Deferred income	<b>8,006</b>	15,483
Accruals	<b>114,044</b>	135,096
	<b><u>180,655</u></b>	<b><u>152,652</u></b>

Included within Accruals is £107,048 for research grants awarded but expected to be drawn down within 12 months of the year end (2021: £128,089).

Deferred income relates to donations received in respect of future events, all of which is released in the following financial year.

<b>17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals and deferred income	<b>53,690</b>	98,030

Accruals reflect grants awarded but not expected to be drawn down until more than 12 months after the current year end.

### **18. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Within one year	<b>10,080</b>	9,630

In August 2021, a two year lease was signed for office space and this lease includes a 6 month notice period for either party to end the agreement.

CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	937	-	937	1,410
Current assets	634,060	2,541	636,601	694,698
Current liabilities	(180,655)	-	(180,655)	(152,652)
Long term liabilities	(53,690)	-	(53,690)	(98,030)
	<u>400,652</u>	<u>2,541</u>	<u>403,193</u>	<u>445,426</u>

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	445,084	(44,432)	400,652
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Family Support	342	2,199	2,541
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>445,426</u>	<u>(42,233)</u>	<u>403,193</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	384,054	(428,486)	(44,432)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Family Support	55,461	(53,262)	2,199
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>439,515</u>	<u>(481,748)</u>	<u>(42,233)</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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

**20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	406,988	38,096	445,084
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Family Support	397	(55)	342
Kent Travel	<u>200</u>	<u>(200)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>597</u>	<u>(255)</u>	<u>342</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>407,585</u>	<u>37,841</u>	<u>445,426</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	503,871	(467,579)	1,804	38,096
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Medical Research	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Family Support	116,439	(116,494)	-	(55)
Kent Travel	<u>-</u>	<u>(200)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(200)</u>
	<u>121,439</u>	<u>(121,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(255)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>625,310</u>	<u>(589,273)</u>	<u>1,804</u>	<u>37,841</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Medical Research	Available for research into various projects that promote the objects of the Charity.
Support	To provide support and information to families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma.
Kent Travel	A fund to provide eligible families living in Kent with one-off travel grants for financial assistance with travel to UK clinics.

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

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

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#### 21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

#### 22. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>(42,233)</b>	<b>37,841</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	473	473
Losses on investments	-	(1,804)
Interest received	(1,693)	(3,406)
Finance costs	391	261
Decrease in debtors	989	4,132
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(16,337)</u>	<u>143,343</u>
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operations</b>	<b><u>(58,410)</u></b>	<b><u>180,840</u></b>

#### 23. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	<u>683,196</u>	<u>(57,108)</u>	<u>626,088</u>
	<u>683,196</u>	<u>(57,108)</u>	<u>626,088</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>683,196</u></b>	<b><u>(57,108)</u></b>	<b><u>626,088</u></b>

#### 24. IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The trustees recognise that the COVID-19 outbreak has continued to have an impact on the charities incoming and expended resources. They have considered the likely impact on its incoming resource is and how the charity can react to that impact and are confident that it has sufficient reserves and enough flexibility to ensure it can continue to exist for the foreseeable future.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

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	2022 £	2021 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	136,564	157,797
Marathons, runs and other sponsorship	154,562	207,978
Legacies	10,012	432
Grants	<u>135,761</u>	<u>253,790</u>
	436,899	619,997
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Christmas cards	376	1,311
Merchandise sales	<u>465</u>	<u>-</u>
	841	1,311
<b>Investment income</b>		
Dividend income	82	596
Bank Interest	<u>1,693</u>	<u>3,406</u>
	<u>1,775</u>	<u>4,002</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>439,515</b>	<b>625,310</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Wages	71,231	81,365
Social security	6,607	7,604
Pensions	1,800	2,028
Fundraising costs	<u>9,474</u>	<u>34,933</u>
	89,112	125,930
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	121,665	101,239
Social security	9,628	7,809
Pensions	2,574	2,289
Newsletter costs	4,134	387
Awareness Campaign	90	1,240
Other Direct Costs	7,875	2,157
Leaflets and printing	100	84
Grants awarded to institutions	50,000	173,225
Travel bursaries awarded	<u>9,797</u>	<u>9,043</u>
	<b>205,863</b>	<b>297,473</b>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

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	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
Wages	<b>104,719</b>	104,067
Social security	<b>10,125</b>	9,913
Pensions	<b>5,061</b>	4,968
Premises rent	<b>15,958</b>	13,694
Premises costs	<b>3,435</b>	-
Insurance	<b>662</b>	662
Repairs & Maintenance	<b>10,714</b>	9,329
Communications and stationery	<b>7,151</b>	6,976
Meetings, seminars and staff training	<b>4,887</b>	4,610
Travel and subsistence	<b>314</b>	666
Recruitment	<b>6,762</b>	-
Accountancy fees	<b>12,433</b>	7,366
Sundries	<b>928</b>	303
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>473</b>	474
Bank charges	<b>391</b>	261
	<b>184,013</b>	163,289
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Auditors' remuneration	<b>2,760</b>	2,581
Total resources expended	<b>481,748</b>	589,273
<b>Net (expenditure)/income before gains and losses</b>	<b>(42,233)</b>	36,037
<b>Realised recognised gains and losses</b>		
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	<b>-</b>	1,804
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	<b>(42,233)</b>	37,841

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 327493

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02143917 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 327493**

**Trustees' Report and**  
**Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**  
**for**  
**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**Knox Cropper LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors**  
**65 Leadenhall Street**  
**London**  
**EC3A 2AD**

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

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

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**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

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**TRUSTEES**

Ian Ellington Chairman  
Ms Lisa Brown  
Amanda Moore  
Elizabeth Coleman  
Alex Brebbia  
Andrea Bonzano  
Matthew Holt  
Rob Downes  
Gemma Boggs Treasurer

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Rose-Marie Sexton

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Royal London Hospital  
Whitechapel Road  
London  
E1 1BB

**REGISTERED COMPANY  
NUMBER**

02143917 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY  
NUMBER**

327493

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

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

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

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

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objects of the Charity**

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is a charity dedicated to helping anyone affected by retinoblastoma (Rb), a type of eye cancer that affects babies and young children, mainly under the age of six. We have been supporting families since 1987.

Around one child a week is diagnosed with Rb in the UK or 50 a year. It accounts for 3% of childhood cancers in the UK and 10% of cancers in babies under one. Around 45% of cases are heritable and this carries with it an increased risk of developing tumours in other parts of the body in later life.

The Charity was originally founded to provide support and information to those affected by Rb. In 1994 we merged with another charity that was funding research projects specifically related to Rb, and in 2004 we changed our name to the Childhood Eye Cancer Trust. As we grew, so did our aims and objectives and we began to run campaigns aimed at raising awareness among health professionals and the public in order to achieve the earliest possible diagnosis for children affected.

Our aims are to:

- Provide support and information to families and individuals affected by Rb
- Raise funds to support research into issues concerned directly with Rb
- Raise awareness of Rb among health professionals and others
- Influence policy to improve service delivery for those affected by Rb

**Objectives, Strategies for Achievement and Public Benefit**

We are in the final year of our three-year strategic plan which covers the period from 2018 to 2021 and our progress against this plan is reviewed annually. Within this strategy period we have continued to successfully deliver on our three core goals of support, research and awareness.

The Trustees are aware of the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have considered the objectives of the Charity and have given regard to how these objectives and the associated activities meet the public benefit criteria of advancing health, saving lives and the relief of those in need by reason of ill health.

We are the only UK-wide charity providing support to people affected by Rb and we believe that they benefit from our services in the following ways:

**Main Objectives**

**Support:** To ensure that everyone affected by Rb in the UK has access to support and information according to their need.

- Our two support workers offer support to all families and individuals affected by Rb. This is provided on the wards and in clinics at the two specialist centres for Rb in the UK: Birmingham Children's Hospital and The Royal London Hospital.
- Support is provided in other ways including telephone, email and Facebook.
- Support for teenagers and young people through specific events and opportunities for information sharing and peer support.
- Regional events, meetings and other support opportunities.
- A newsletter, blog, information factsheets and leaflets, website and annual members' events.
- Grants for those in financial difficulties to help with the costs related to an Rb diagnosis and subsequent treatment.

**Awareness - healthcare professionals:** To save lives and minimise the impact of visual impairment by ensuring that healthcare professionals know about Rb and its symptoms, listen to concerned parents and make quick referrals where necessary.

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

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- Targeted activities to healthcare professionals associated with children aged six and under.
- Distribution of information and awareness leaflets at relevant healthcare events.
- Targeted distribution of diagnostic information, tools and advice on referring.
- Education programmes for GPs, health visitors, opticians, optometrists and other healthcare professionals.
- Media campaigns and articles for specialist healthcare professional journals and magazines.
- Working with healthcare professionals to develop and implement standard referral protocols for those with suspected Rb.

**Awareness - public:** To encourage parents to seek medical advice more quickly by making them aware of Rb and its symptoms.

- Ensuring information for parents about the symptoms of Rb is available in all relevant NHS publications and on all NHS information websites.
- Media activity regarding the condition including how and where to seek help.
- Developing relationships with organisations able to reach large sections of the public with a view to raising awareness.
- Regular and sustained social media activity.
- Promoting knowledge of the possible longer-term impact of having had Rb as a child with regard to genetics and other cancers.
- Information campaigns targeted towards people affected by Rb as a child.
- Specific information and guidance accessible on our website.

**Research:** Proactively engaging in the advancement of knowledge of Rb, its treatment and its impact.

- Supporting and funding clinical, psychosocial and scientific research relating to Rb.
- Working through the Scientific Advisory Committee to identify and support suitable projects from a wide range of sources for funding.
- Encouraging applications from the international research community.
- Supporting multi-centre and international collaboration and sharing of experience, knowledge and data.

**Influencing:** Working with other organisations to bring about improvements in the way in which services are delivered both in the UK and internationally.

- Working with the treatment centres in the UK, the NHS National Commissioning Group, National Artificial Eye Service and other umbrella bodies who provide services to people affected by Rb.

**Research Grant Making Policy**

We award grants to groups or individuals who wish to pursue research projects or audits in order to advance the knowledge of Rb and related issues.

Applications go before the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) which is made up of CHECT Trustee(s) plus experts from the research and Rb field. We also have three lay members representing families and the adult Rb community within the SAC. This committee evaluates the validity and appropriateness of the proposal using an agreed scoring matrix, seeking peer review for large projects and where necessary for other reasons, before making recommendations to the Board for funding.

Grant recipients are required to provide six-monthly progress reports and present a final report to the Board on the conclusion of the project before disseminating the findings and learning through presentations and publication.

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

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Volunteers**

48 volunteers generously gave their time to support us throughout the year. Although there were limited opportunities for volunteering due to lockdown, we are grateful for the help given with administrative tasks (performed remotely) researching potential avenues of financial support, and the collection of donation cheques. Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

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

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities  
SUPPORT.**

We were originally created to offer support to the parents of children affected by Rb and this continues to be one of our core priorities. This support has now been extended to anyone affected, including teenagers whose unique needs are very different to those of a very young child or baby, and adults, many of who are living with the late effects of the treatment they received for Rb as a child. Membership of CHECT is open to anyone affected by retinoblastoma (as well as their friends and family), supporters of CHECT and health professionals and we do not charge a fee.

In 2020, 100% of families were offered support following a diagnosis of Rb in the UK. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this was a mixture of face-to-face at the two specialist Rb centres, as well as virtually (Zoom, email, social media, text and telephone call) because of hospital restrictions, whereby our support team spent prolonged periods of time working from home.

Almost 500 face-to-face sessions were carried out across both hospital sites in 2020, despite much of the year spent working from home because of COVID-19. In total CHECT support workers carried out 480 face to face support sessions across the two hospitals and 3039 support contacts whilst working from home (telephone, email, Zoom). In addition to these numbers, our support workers offered weekly - then twice weekly - 'Storytime' sessions on Zoom throughout the summer to families with children aged eight and under. Between April and July there were 25 sessions with 259 children attending individual stories.

We took a further 59 calls and emails from non-members who contacted the charity for support - for example, because they had seen a white glow in their child's eye and were concerned that they might have Rb. In total, we provided around 2,500 hours of support.

"Thank you, it is so lovely hearing from you. I do appreciate your condolences and support during this difficult time. It is such a sad time for me at the moment, it seems so surreal, but I feel less alone speaking with you. I am ever so grateful of how extremely supportive you are to us."

"I just wanted to message you, we have received the book you sent to us. It is so useful and brilliant for school. Many thanks for thinking of \*\*\* and for all of your care and support."

As ever, Facebook remains an important source of support and information. As well as our main public-facing page, we have a number of specific support groups on Facebook - which are closed to the public - giving members a chance to talk freely and in confidence. They are for parents of children with Rb (390 members) and adults who have had Rb (137 members).

The main reasons for people seeking support from the charity during 2020 were:

- COVID-19 related information - shielding, hospital changes, practical support etc
- Help and support with emotional issues
- Information about genetics, screening and late effects of Rb
- Financial information and support
- Signposting to other specialist organisations
- Peer Support - networking with other members, finding out about each other, building a community

We gave 45 support grants to families, to help them with the costs associated with an Rb diagnosis and ongoing treatment - for example travel to and from hospital (particularly as public transport was not recommended during lockdown) as well as occasionally helping to buy some specialist equipment for those with a visual impairment.

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

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**Events**

Due to social restrictions and lockdown throughout 2020 we have been unable to meet face to face with our members at social events. As restrictions ease we are assessing the risks and researching possible venues, with the hope that we may be able to offer Members' Days by summer 2021.

Both support workers have started to offer activities to children and young people during the summer holidays, hosted by other activity providers which have proved popular.

**Teenagers**

We know that teenagers who had Rb as children can face specific challenges around self-esteem, self-confidence and bullying, and we are increasingly looking at ways to support them and ensure that we are meeting their needs.

As part of this focus, 2018 saw the formation of our youth council - the CHECT Teen Focus Council (TFC). There are currently 11 members of the TFC. Three meetings and one social were held online in this financial year, with more planned for next year. We have seen great friendships forming and highly valued, ongoing support provided to each other especially with the added difficulties of this year.

The young people have been able to give feedback about how CHECT can support their needs and what they would like CHECT to do in order to encourage more teenagers to get involved. They are also working on increasing their presence on social media, particularly Instagram, and building on the content and revamp of the Teen Focus website.

**Beyond Rb**

For some people, the effects of Rb are lifelong and we are constantly looking for ways to ensure that adults who had the condition as children have the support and information that they need.

As well as an active Facebook group, our Beyond Rb group organises 'meet ups' in different parts of the UK. Unfortunately lockdown restrictions have meant that we have been unable to have 'meet ups' this financial year.

In the fourth quarter of this year we ran two focus groups via Zoom with 5/6 Beyond Rb adults to review our information provision for this group. The two sessions were incredibly helpful in identifying information priorities, gaps in the information CHECT currently provides, and a wish list for future information provision. We hope to continue working with this group to improve the content currently on offer and develop new formats for presenting the information to help address some of the issues this group is experiencing, in particular around late effects, second cancers, family planning and emotional impact of living as an adult after Rb.

**Ongoing communication**

Due to the pandemic, we produced two digital editions of our InFocus magazine in 2020 instead of our usual printed copies. These were each emailed to over 2400 members and supporters.

In addition to InFocus, we also sent a monthly email update to approximately 2500 subscribers and have a blog on our website which is regularly updated with content, including news, events, real life stories, research and support articles. Some of this content, along with posts about fundraising activities our members have undertaken, has also been shared on social media, typically attracting strong engagement from our followers.

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

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE  
AWARENESS**

Retinoblastoma is a rare disease which means that most people are not aware of it. Sadly, this frequently leads to a delay in a diagnosis being made and, because Rb is a fast-growing cancer, quick access to treatment can be vital in order to save a child's eyes, sight and life. Raising awareness of Rb among both healthcare professionals and the public is therefore important in helping to drive early diagnosis and as such remains a key part of our work.

We are incredibly grateful to the healthcare professionals who volunteer their time on our Health Care Professionals Focus Group, bringing their expertise and experience to enrich this awareness programme. Quite simply, much of this work wouldn't be possible without their generous input.

**Healthcare Professionals**

As Rb is rare, most healthcare professionals will not encounter a case of it during their career. This means that when they are presented with the symptoms, which are often very subtle, many GPs and health visitors do not recognise it.

**Pathways to Diagnosis**

Since 2012 we have run our annual Pathways to Diagnosis survey. Data gathered is qualitative, based on discussions we have with families following a diagnosis of Rb. We have now collected 297 Pathways, which gives us a unique insight into what happens during this difficult time for families.

In total there were 43 new diagnoses in the UK in 2020. Information was collected from 29 children and a further four children were diagnosed as a result of genetic screening. It was not possible to collect information for the remaining 10 children.

This year saw the worst referral rates since CHECT began Pathways in 2012, with almost a quarter (24%) of children taking over six months to be diagnosed. In the previous eight years, the average has been 9%. Just 35% of children fell within the recommended two-week referral period, the lowest figure since 2012. Without doubt the global pandemic was behind these delays, with the lack of face to face consultation and longer referral times than usual being important factors.

White eye continues to be the most common symptom reported by parents (71%), but the data has also highlighted the importance of squint as a symptom. Between 2012 and 2020 just over one third of children diagnosed with Rb had a squint.

69% of families consulted their GP in the first instance, and 10% saw a health visitor. Just 3% saw an optician - the lowest figure since starting the survey - reflecting confusion over the status of optical practices during the pandemic. The remainder of parents went to A&E.

As referred to previously, a key factor in delays seems to have been the number of children who were given a remote consultations rather than face-to-face. Overall, just 27% of GPs who had a remote consultation with a child with retinoblastoma made the appropriate urgent referral, compared to 43% who had a face-to-face consultation. Overall just 37% of GPs made an urgent referral. 78% of opticians and 100% of A&E staff made an urgent referral. 22% of health visitors made an urgent referral, which is an improvement on recent years, but shows this is still not an effective route to diagnosis.

2020 saw good awareness amongst families, with 26% saying they were already aware of the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma before observing them in their child.

**Public awareness**

It's often mums, dads or other family members who will first spot the signs of Rb - whether that's a white eye seen in a family photo, a squint or another symptom - so public awareness is an important area of our work to help ensure a swift diagnosis. We use traditional and digital media to reach parents and other members of the public and raise awareness of Rb.

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

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Media**

Previous research carried out by, or on behalf of, CHECT has shown that many people first hear about Rb after reading an article about it, so traditional media coverage continues to play an important part in our communications strategy. During the 2020/21 year we received at least 41 mentions in the media, including 11 national pieces, reaching a potential audience of over 5.6 million people across online, printed and televised press.

The largest amount of media activity centred on the story of Dela-Rose in May 2020, shared for World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week. Dela-Rose's diagnosis path began when she was five months old after her mum took a photo which captured a white glow in one of her eyes. This story aimed to raise awareness of the signs of retinoblastoma, as well as to urge parents to not delay in getting these symptoms investigated - even at a time when they may feel anxious about seeking medical advice due to the pressures of COVID-19. Her story was covered by 14 media outlets (six of which were nationals) with a reach of approximately 3 million people.

**Digital**

We had almost 85,000 visits to our website in the 2020/21 year, a decrease of 16% on last year. We continue to monitor and adapt the CHECT website to ensure that it's easy to navigate and contains relevant and useful information to visitors.

Our article about 'what to do if you see a white glow in a photograph' remains our most frequently visited page each month and is the most popular landing page.

**Social Media**

Our social media presence continues to grow, 7,238 Facebook likes - an 9.8% increase on the previous year. Our Twitter following continues to plateau at 2855 followers and our Tweets reached 183,965 people. Our Instagram channel is growing rapidly since it was first established in 2019 - achieving a total of 715 followers in 2020/21 - a 52% increase on last year - with a post reach of 41,749.

**World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week 2020**

To mark Retinoblastoma Awareness Week in May 2020, as well as the press release about Dela-Rose, we shared social media posts about the signs and symptoms of retinoblastoma, as well as infographics based on the outcome of the information presented in our 'Pathways to Diagnosis' results.

**Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

To mark Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September 2020, we shared a press release about four-year-old Nancy whose occasional squint was first spotted in a selfie photo taken by a family member. Her mother then spotted the squint and accompanying white glow and quickly snapped a photo. Nancy's mum rushed her to A&E and was able to show doctors the photo she had taken which led to a swift diagnosis. The piece reached approximately 1.7 million people and was published in some 10 media outlets including on the Metro and The Sun websites. The story was then re-told later on in November by the women's magazine Real People.

Throughout September we also made a CHECT 'temporary profile' Facebook picture frame available so that people could promote the charity and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month along with our campaign hashtag #CHECTgold.

**RESEARCH**

In May 2020 we paused the four research awards made in 2019/20 (Berry, Lako and Phillips, and Gerrish-jointly with Fight for Sight) due to uncertainty about the impact of the pandemic on charity finances. However, we were delighted to be able to write to all four researchers in February 2021 to confirm that we would be able to restart these project.

**Trustees' Report  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

This year saw the completion of projects by Hung (Modelling retinoblastoma using human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC)) and McGuirk (Autonomic reflexes and cardio-respiratory instability during super-selective intra-arterial chemotherapy in the management of children with retinoblastoma).

The Hung team successfully developed a stem cell disease model for retinoblastoma in the laboratory. The development of this stem cell model creates the possibility for studying retinoblastoma on a lab dish, and provides an important tool for future studies to test and develop drugs to treat retinoblastoma.

The McGuirk project investigated changes in the cardiovascular system during intra-arterial chemotherapy. Due to ongoing delays in recruitment, the team were asked to submit their final report.

CHECT continued to support a further three ongoing projects, a summary of which follows:

**Laboratory / Basic science**

**Dr Carmel McConville, University of Birmingham: Investigation of the mutational landscape of retinoblastoma**

This project was originally joint funded by CHECT and Fight for Sight as part of the Small Grants award scheme, with additional funding from CHECT. In October 2018 CHECT awarded a further £6,500 for a research extension.

The original aim of this project was to identify the genes which are most frequently mutated and to survey how the overall cellular genetic activity is influenced by these mutated genes.

Results obtained from the in vitro phase provided strong evidence for a significant role for the BCOR gene in normal retinal development and indicated that its loss of function is likely to be a key factor driving the formation of tumours. These findings were consolidated by the extension and in vivo work. Due to pandemic-related delays, the final report is due in 2021.

**Professor Shin-Ichi Ohnuma, University College London: Next generation sequencing analysis of retinoblastoma samples**

Despite knowing the RB1 mutation it is difficult to predict the outcome of treatment. This project proposes to study the genetic changes that occur in retinoblastoma, using whole genome sequencing (the process of determining the complete DNA sequence) to detect those variants associated with good and bad prognosis or with a favourable treatment outcome. This new level of diagnosis could potentially make a significant contribution to the selection of treatment, and avoid the loss of one or both eyes. Also, identification of new cancer modifying genes may provide new targets for treatment. Furthermore, this study aims to establish a new system to diagnose Rb in the clinical setting, which includes detailed examination of patient genome sequencing/analysis.

**Clinical**

**Dr Zerrin Onadim, Barts Health NHS Trust, Eloise Patterson Project: Study of records held at The Royal London Hospital and Childhood Cancer Research Group on retinoblastoma patients.**

This project was funded by CHECT via a donation from the Greendale Foundation, inspired by Eloise Patterson. Phase I (collection of clinical and mutation data and linking to Public Health England records) is now complete. This will provide complete information on type of Rb, type of mutation, treatment, follow-up data on second primary tumours and causes of any deaths. We are delighted that a further donation has been made by the Greendale Foundation for Phase II (statistical analysis to estimate risks, which it is hoped could potentially lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of these second cancers in current - and future - Rb populations) which is now underway.

**Trustees' Report  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

As always, our thanks go to all the members of the SAC, both lay and professional, who volunteer their time to make CHECT's research programme possible, and thus support our hope to improve the lives of everyone affected by retinoblastoma in the future.

Trustees' Report  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### FUNDRAISING

#### Fundraising Policy

CHECT does not use fundraising services or external professional fundraisers to undertake its fundraising activities. Additionally, no data is shared with or sold to any external agencies. The charity does not purchase external lists of potential individual donors or undertake direct mail appeals to such lists. The charity issues a biannual newsletter and a monthly e-newsletter / blog (both of which can be easily unsubscribed from) that share information about the charitable work and fundraising activities undertaken.

The charity occasionally invites individuals to attend events but does not exert undue pressure to attend or to donate. It does not approach or pressure vulnerable people to support its work. A complaints policy is in place and is accessible on the charity's web site ([www.chect.org.uk](http://www.chect.org.uk)). The charity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Any fundraising events carried out on behalf of the charity that we are aware of are supported and monitored by the Fundraising Manager. Any marketing materials and approaches are checked that they comply with the Fundraising Code of Practice and details of income and expenditure are recorded by the Fundraising Manager. Income is acknowledged and grateful thanks are sent, typically with a letter and certificate.

#### Community and Events

We are always overwhelmed by the passion and dedication of our supporters, who go to such lengths to raise vital funds for us through the events and sponsored challenges they organise. The last year has proved difficult in this respect as, due to lockdown, many of these fundraisers had to be cancelled or postponed. However, our supporters rose to the occasion and improvised superbly to raise funds in the limiting circumstances. Here are just some of the highlights:

- Shaun Heelbeck ran 13 miles for 13 weeks from July to October, after his one year old daughter was diagnosed with Rb. He attracted phenomenal support from friends, family and colleagues, raising £11,844.
- Two year old Frankie was diagnosed on 5 March 2020, at the very beginning of the pandemic. This meant that he and his family had to shield for many weeks. When Frankie was finally allowed out of the home for a walk he completed 2.4 miles (for the two months and four days it took for him to be diagnosed). He raised £1,185 in sponsorship, split between CHECT and a local community fundraising initiative.
- Darren West and four work friends cycled the Coast 2 Coast from Whitehaven to Sunderland in September 2020. Darren's daughter was diagnosed in 2019. Together they raised £2,194.
- Having completed the Barleylands Farm Fun Walk in 2019, loyal supporters the Branch Family were undaunted when it went virtual in 2020. Daughter Amber and her friends had lots of fun raising £1,411.
- For the 25th year, Roisin and George Lynch, with their son David and a group of brave friends, held their annual Christmas Day swim. They all enjoyed a wonderful socially distanced Christmas morning - and raised £5,070 for CHECT at the same time. Since 1995, the Lynch family have raised a total of over £40,000 from this much anticipated event.
- In response to her granddaughter Immy's diagnosis of bilateral Rb and her need to "do something", Sarah Fuller set out to walk 11km a day, seven days a week for 15 weeks - a total of 1,155km. This equates to the distance between Cardiff Children's Hospital and Birmingham Children's Hospital, a journey taken between every round of Immy's six rounds of chemotherapy. Sarah walked through rain, snow, sunshine and ten days of self-isolation, raising £3,190.
- When Katie Sandell's friends' daughter Isla was diagnosed with Rb she was unable to travel to see her, due to COVID-19 restrictions. So Katie ran 180km - the distance from Grantham to Great Ormond Street Hospital, where Isla was being treated. Katie raised £3,140.

**Trustees' Report  
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As always, our amazing supporters pushed themselves to the limit in aid of CHECT. Although the London Marathon was cancelled, nine supporters took it on virtually in October, raising £11,846. The London Marathon organisers had also staged the 2.6 Challenge in April 2020, the month the original 2020 London Marathon had been scheduled to take place. The 'Challenge' was very simple, and by devising events around the numbers '2' and '6', our supporters raised £15,607.

The very popular RunThrough Regent's Park event in July also went virtual and 27 supporters throughout the country raised £6,796 on the day.

**2021 Squats**

3,500 people joined the CHECT Squats Facebook Group and pledged to perform 2,021 Squats throughout January. Over 1,000 people, many of them new supporters of our charity, set up a fundraising page and the event raised £120,000, as well as being an excellent awareness raising exercise.

**Charity of the Year Partnerships**

A huge thank you to all of the groups and organisations who chose us to be their Charity of the Year in 2020 or 2021. We are very grateful to the Shipowners' Club and Pay Check Ltd., whose staff took on virtual fundraising events while working from home. We are also grateful to the Co-op, and particularly the Aldbourne branch, who supported us. A special thank you goes to Barts & The London Students' Association Raising and Giving (RAG) Society for raising funds for us during what is a very difficult year for all university students.

**Individual Giving**

We are extremely grateful to all those who support us with a regular gift through a monthly pledge or through Give as you Earn, as well as to those who so generously make a one-off donation to our charity. We were very pleased and thankful that individual donations remained constant during what was a testing and uncertain year for everyone.

**Corporate Support**

**Vision Express**

CHECT has been a proud partner of Vision Express since 2010, and the company has played an invaluable role in helping us to raise awareness of Rb, as well as generating significant funds to support our work. Vision Express was also the first optician in the UK to roll out a protocol to ensure a quick and effective referral if Rb is suspected.

Vision Express stores, like other opticians, were closed for parts of the year but individual Vision Express staff and stores showed their support for CHECT during the 2.6 Challenge and 2021 Squats. Vision Express staff member Dean Alldis has gone the extra mile, keeping up his Squats Challenge for the whole of 2021.

We remain indebted to the wonderful help, support and commitment of all the staff at Vision Express and we look forward to working closely with them over the coming months and years.

**Birmingham Optical**

Now into the fifth year of our partnership with Birmingham Optical, we are enormously grateful for their generosity and continued support of CHECT during the pandemic and lockdown.

**Sackers and Partners LLP**

Whilst this year's unique circumstances meant that we did not use them, we remain very grateful to law firm Sackers and Partners LLP, who generously make their fantastic meeting spaces available to us.

**Essilor**

We were delighted that the staff at Essilor decided to continue our partnership, raising £4,570. We look forward to working with the team during 2021 and beyond.

**Trustees' Report  
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**TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS**

**Income**

Income from charitable trusts and foundations in 2020/21 totalled just over £250,000. The past year has been a challenging one due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however we are delighted to report that this is the largest sum ever raised by CHECT in this area of fundraising. This can be largely attributed to the £142,000 of COVID-19 emergency funds awarded to CHECT by the following organisations, to whom we are extremely grateful:

Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity  
Chartered Accountants' Livery Charity  
Contact/The Pears Foundation/DCMS  
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust  
Global's Make Some Noise/DCMS  
Greendale Foundation  
London Community Response Fund/City Bridge Trust  
Macquarie Foundation  
National Lottery Community Fund  
Thomas Pocklington Trust

Over the past year we have worked hard to continue to strengthen our relationships with existing supporters whilst forging new charitable connections with many other trusts. We express our gratitude to the David Family Foundation, the Eveson Charitable Trust and the February Foundation for their much-appreciated support.

We send our most grateful thanks to all of the trusts and foundations that have supported CHECT over the past year.

**In Memoriam**

Trustees and staff would like to thank and offer sincere condolences to families and friends who have given in memory of a loved one during the year, and are grateful to those who have kindly remembered us in their will.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Reserves Policy**

CHECT maintains its reserves under two categories: (a) unrestricted (general) reserves, which are available for general use in pursuance of the charity's objectives, and (b) restricted reserves, which are for specifically earmarked purposes such as medical research or support to families belonging to a particular area. The unrestricted funds of the Charity as at 31 March 2021 totalled £445,084. The Trustees have determined that the Charity should hold at least six months of running expenses in reserve. This figure represents the amount required to run the charity for six months excluding winding up costs and any special projects. Based on this calculation, the required value of reserves for the year 2021-22 is £245,586. The reserves held as on 31 March 2021 represent 10.8 months of budgeted expenditure reducing to 8.1 months at the end of the coming financial year.

The Trustees review the Charity's reserves policy on a regular basis and no less than annually. The reserves position is reported at every board meeting.

**Investment Policy**

Funds surplus to immediate requirements are to be invested in interest bearing accounts without risk to the capital. Such accounts are to be those offered by institutions covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). No more than the amount covered by the FSCS is to be invested in any one institution. In light of very low interest rates in such accounts, the board decided to make one investment of £25,000 in the relatively low risk Smith and Williamson Charity Value and Income Fund. This fund was closed by its managers at the end of December 2020.

**Trustees' Report  
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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

The total incoming resources of the Charity were £625,310, which was an increase of £66,739 on 2019-20's total income of £558,571.

Total resources expended during the year were £589,273 (2019-20: £478,748).

Overall the Charity has recorded a surplus for the year of £37,841 compared to a surplus of £72,934 in 2019-20. As at 31 March 2021, this has resulted in net assets increasing from £407,585 (2019-20) to £445,426 in 2020-21. This comprises of restricted funds of £342 (2019-20: £597) and unrestricted funds of £445,084 (2019-20: £406,988).

Trustees' Report  
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**FUTURE PLANS**  
**2018-2021 Strategy**

We are very excited to continue delivering our 2018-2021 strategy. While our core objectives of support, research and awareness remain the same, we have a number of exciting new plans that will help us to achieve them.

Our plans include:

**Support:**

We will increase the value of our support grants to provide a more significant level of financial support to individual families. We continue to grow our engagement with teenagers and young people, working together with the Teen Focus Council to achieve this.

We continue to grow our collaboration with the Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust, allowing more children and young people to experience sailing trips that can increase confidence and resilience.

We will continue to offer monthly storytime sessions for families as long as it is helpful.

We aim to develop the support service in different ways, including working with young adults and teenagers on the potential to offer support to parents with young children, by facilitating an online Q&A session.

**Research:**

Research continues to be a vital focus for us and our members. Whilst the risks associated with the coronavirus pandemic meant that unfortunately we had to put our four most recently commissioned projects on hold, as we entered our final quarter, we were delighted to be able to continue these important research projects:

**Developing an evidence-based psycho-educational intervention for teenagers and young adults who have had retinoblastoma**, a PhD lead by Dr Bob Phillips;

**Comparing blood to aqueous humour as a liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma: determining the superiority of the aqueous humour as a source of tumour DNA** led by Professor Jesse Berry;

**Assessing the feasibility of pluripotent stem cell derived retinal organoids as a model system to test the safety and efficacy of chemotherapeutic agents in retinoblastoma** led by Professor Majlinda Lako.

We are also excited to be partnering with Fight for Sight once more, in their Small Grant Award scheme to fund a project by Dr Amy Gerrish - "**Further investigation into intra-ocular fluid as a liquid biopsy in retinoblastoma**"

We are planning further investment in research during the coming new financial year.

**Awareness**

We continue to raise awareness through traditional media and increasingly through our digital channels.

We would also like to continue to introduce more visually engaging video content in our social media posts, thereby increasing engagement across all platforms for all audiences including Instagram, which is still a relatively new channel for CHECT.

In addition to our core focus on support, research and awareness we will continue to liaise with the different organisations involved in a child and family's journey to make sure the voice of our membership is heard and helps influence all, to deliver the best and most effective experience to all families.

**Trustees' Report  
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**2021/22 ACTIVITIES**

Here are some of the exciting activities we have planned in 2021/22:

**Revisiting our awareness survey**

We have run our awareness survey in 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 with the wonderful pro-bono support of MMR Research Group. In 2020 we also re-visited some of the questions in our survey which benefited from being updated and making more user-friendly. We plan to reevaluate the survey with the aim to revise it further in 2021 to even better inform our activities.

**RunThrough Regent's Park**

We are thrilled that the physical event is due to return in the summer, and hope to build upon the popularity of this wonderful CHECT fundraiser.

**Members' days**

We plan to continue to host members' days once COVID-19 pandemic restrictions ease and our families are once again safe to meet up. We will also have our CHECT Champions Awards ceremonies at some of these events, to recognise the bravery shown by children affected by Rb. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the Members' Weekend 2020 was postponed to 2021. It is uncertain at this point when, government guidelines, members' preferences and the charity's financial position will make this possible.

**Teenagers**

We will continue our work with teenagers via the Teenage Focus Council and hope to have a specific event for teenagers once pandemic restrictions ease.

**Website**

As part of our digital strategy, we plan to undergo a website audit where we will revisit and update relevant content and improve SEO. We will also review the information architecture behind our website structure and user journeys, enabling visitors to have an improved and more beneficial user experience. We will continue to improve and ensure our website is accessible, especially for those with a visual impairment.

**Trustees' Report  
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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) ('the Charity') is a charitable company limited by guarantee ('the Company'), incorporated on 1 July 1987 and a registered charity. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and are known as the board of trustees ('the Board'). Under the Company's Articles, the members of the Board are elected to serve for a maximum term of three years. In September 2008, the Articles were amended such that trustees may offer themselves for re-election for one further term (in total six years) and thereafter, under special circumstances, a third term at the discretion of the Board. The maximum number of trustees is 15.

**Organisational structure**

The Board meets six times a year and at the beginning of each meeting, the trustees are requested to declare any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared during this financial year. The Board's performance and trustee's skills are reviewed periodically and where possible new trustees are recruited to meet any needs or gaps identified. The Charity is a signatory to the NCVO's Good Governance Code for the voluntary and community sector.

To assist in the effectiveness and smooth running of the Charity the Board continues to resource two sub-committees to help oversee certain aspects of the Charity's work. Sub-committees are currently set up for: finance and risk and for research (Scientific Advisory Committee).

The day to day management of the Charity is delegated to the CEO, supported by the staff team. At the close of the year, staffing consisted of nine staff (7.4 full time equivalent): a full time chief executive; two full time fundraisers; two support & information workers - one in London (full time) and one in Birmingham (three days per week); an information & research manager (three days per week); an office & finance manager (three days per week); a part time communications manager (three days per week) and a full time office & finance administrator.

The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust is not affiliated with any other charitable organisation and has no related parties except as shown in the notes to the accounts. The Charity is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, the National Institute of Health Research and other charities with similar aims to CHECT working within the field of eye health, childhood cancers, genetic disorders and rare diseases.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities as recommended by the Charity Commission and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). This includes: the trustee role description and person specification relevant to the role, the Charity's confidentiality policy and the eligibility requirements for becoming a trustee. They are also supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the strategic development plan and the chief executive's report and minutes from three previous board meetings.

Trustee roles are advertised on the CHECT web site and on occasion, using external recruitment organisations. Enquiries are also occasionally received from members. A selection panel made up of the CEO, the Chair and another trustee or a member of the charity considers the application and the suitability of the applicant using agreed criteria identified on the person specification and the role description. The prospective trustee is then invited to observe a board meeting prior to appointment and standing for election.

Induction meetings covering the background to current matters take place with the chief executive and key members of the staff team. Training on matters relevant to the role and responsibilities of trustees is encouraged and the Board subscribes to literature pertinent to good governance. All trustees are required to sign: a contract setting out their responsibilities; a confidentiality agreement; the conflict of interest policy; and confirmation of their eligibility to serve as a director. They are also asked to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The majority of trustees have personal experience of retinoblastoma and its impact but individuals with other key skills are also recruited to the Board to ensure an appropriate balance to meet the needs of the Charity.

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

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Risk management**

The trustees regularly assess the risks to the Charity and maintain a comprehensive risk register which includes plans to mitigate or manage the risks identified. In past years, a significant proportion of the Charity's income came from one corporate relationship which was highlighted as a risk and the trustees have worked to mitigate this risk by:

- continued diversification of income streams
- a particular focus to increase trusts and foundations income
- maintenance of close and productive relationships with key corporate partners
- tight cost management
- setting income targets at a slight premium to operational budgets
- awarding additional research grants only when incremental funds allow
- regular income and expenditure reviews.

The risk register is reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee and then the Board on an annual basis and six-monthly by the chief executive. More frequent reviews are carried out if necessary in response to changes or events. The trustees are satisfied that there are systems and arrangements in place to manage the risks identified as far as possible.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

**AUDITORS**

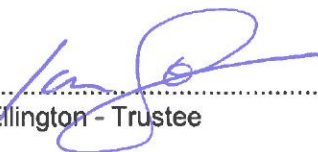
The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at a forthcoming Board Meeting.

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

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This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21st August 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ian Ellington - Trustee

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### **Other information**

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

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

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

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the trustees' Report.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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

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

- The Charitable Company is required to comply with both company law and charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Richard Billinghamurst FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
65 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 2AD

Date: 21/10/2021

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	498,558	121,439	619,997	552,086
Other trading activities	3	1,311	-	1,311	1,284
Investment income	4	4,002	-	4,002	5,201
<b>Total</b>		<b>503,871</b>	<b>121,439</b>	<b>625,310</b>	<b>558,571</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	5	154,809	-	154,809	150,443
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Medical Research and Grant Making	6	181,598	5,000	186,598	49,976
Awareness Raising		101,315	-	101,315	114,592
Family Support and Information		15,469	116,694	132,163	145,782
Influencing		14,388	-	14,388	17,955
<b>Total</b>		<b>467,579</b>	<b>121,694</b>	<b>589,273</b>	<b>478,748</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		1,804	-	1,804	(6,889)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>38,096</b>	<b>(255)</b>	<b>37,841</b>	<b>72,934</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>406,988</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>407,585</b>	<b>334,651</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>445,084</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>445,426</b>	<b>407,585</b>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02143917)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 March 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	14	1,410	1,883
Investments	15	-	17,227
		<u>1,410</u>	<u>19,110</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	16	11,502	15,634
Cash at bank		<u>683,196</u>	<u>480,180</u>
		<u>694,698</u>	<u>495,814</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(152,652)	(107,339)
		<u>542,046</u>	<u>388,475</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>542,046</u>	<u>388,475</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>543,456</u>	<u>407,585</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(98,030)	-
		<u>445,426</u>	<u>407,585</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>445,426</u>	<u>407,585</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	21		
Unrestricted funds		445,084	406,988
Restricted funds		<u>342</u>	<u>597</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>445,426</u>	<u>407,585</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21st August 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ian Ellington - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST****Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

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	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	23	180,840	75,375
Finance costs paid		<u>(261)</u>	<u>(205)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>180,579</u>	<u>75,170</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(1,887)
Sale of fixed asset investments		19,031	-
Interest received		<u>3,406</u>	<u>4,009</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>22,437</u>	<u>2,122</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>480,180</u>	<u>402,888</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>683,196</u>	<u>480,180</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The presentational currency of the financial statements is Pound Sterling (£).

**Going Concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. As detailed in note 25, in forming this opinion, they have considered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on both its income and expenditure for at least a period of twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

**Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the reporting date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The following are the significant management judgements and estimates made in applying the accounting policies of the Charity that have a significant impact on the financial statements:

**Financial instrument classification**

The classification of financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, as 'basic' or 'other' requires judgement as to whether all applicable conditions as basic are met. This includes the type of investment or loan and its return. The Charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. These are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently valued at their settlement value.

**Useful lives of property, plant and equipment (PPE)**

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date. Depreciation is calculated based on the useful lives of each item.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

**Raising funds**

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

**Charitable activities**

Costs of charitable activities include all expenditure for providing support and information to families; for raising awareness amongst health professionals and the general public; grants awarded and other expenditure for medical research; and influencing costs to bring about improvements in the way services are delivered to all persons affected by retinoblastoma in the UK and overseas. Influencing activities include, but are not limited to, working with the Department of Health, NHS Commissioning Group - Childhood Cancer and Leukaemia Group, treatment centres in the UK and other charities and umbrella bodies.

**Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Costs are allocated dependent on the activity categories of the resources expended. The support costs of overall direction and administration, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. staff time as set out in the notes.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are included in the accounts at cost. The Charity's policy is to capitalise all fixed assets of a value greater than £500.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant & machinery	25% straight line basis
Equipment, fixture and fittings	25% straight line basis

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The Charity contributes to two workplace pension schemes for its employees. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Balance Sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

### Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### Cash and cash equivalents

##### Fixed Asset Investments

The Charity's investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the Balance Sheet date using the bid price. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on the revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value of investments still held at the end of the financial year with their value at the beginning of the year or with their cost if purchased subsequently.

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grants				
Grants from Trusts & Foundations	133,351	120,939	254,290	226,168
Government grants	7,500	-	7,500	-
	<u>140,851</u>	<u>120,939</u>	<u>261,790</u>	<u>226,168</u>
Donations:				
General donations	58,548	500	59,048	59,587
Standing orders	17,176	-	17,176	17,406
In memoriam	12,621	-	12,621	9,170
GAYE	3,650	-	3,650	3,799
Collecting tins	692	-	692	2,598
Community Donations	21,527	-	21,527	15,552
Other corporate donations	43,568	-	43,568	52,809
London Marathon	13,637	-	13,637	41,512
Great North Run	438	-	438	7,290
Digital Fundraising Campaign	106,304	-	106,304	-
Other running events and walks	8,241	-	8,241	15,979
In House Events	-	-	-	1,075
Other events	70,873	-	70,873	81,641
	<u>357,275</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>357,775</u>	<u>308,418</u>
Legacies	432	-	432	17,500
Total income from donations and legacies	<u>498,558</u>	<u>121,439</u>	<u>619,997</u>	<u>552,086</u>

The Trustees would like to thank all the members and supporters who have contributed their time and effort to raising money for the Trust.

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Christmas cards	<u>1,311</u>	<u>1,284</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Dividend income	596	1,192
Bank Interest	<u>3,406</u>	<u>4,009</u>
	<u>4,002</u>	<u>5,201</u>

**5. RAISING FUNDS**

**Raising donations and legacies**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	90,997	87,377
Fundraising costs	34,933	27,409
Support costs	<u>28,879</u>	<u>35,657</u>
	<u>154,809</u>	<u>150,443</u>

**6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Direct Costs (see note 7) £	Grant funding of activities (see note 8) £	Support costs (see note 9) £	Totals £
Medical Research and Grant Making	392	173,225	12,981	186,598
Awareness Raising	49,242	-	52,073	101,315
Family Support and Information	65,571	9,043	57,549	132,163
Influencing	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,388</u>	<u>14,388</u>
	<u>115,205</u>	<u>182,268</u>	<u>136,991</u>	<u>434,464</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	111,337	110,222
Newsletter costs	387	3,859
Awareness Campaign	1,240	1,359
Other Direct Costs	2,157	18,606
Leaflets and printing	<u>84</u>	<u>986</u>
	<u><b>115,205</b></u>	<u><b>135,032</b></u>

**8. GRANTS PAYABLE**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Medical Research and Grant Making	173,225	33,000
Family Support and Information	<u>9,043</u>	<u>7,987</u>
	<u><b>182,268</b></u>	<u><b>40,987</b></u>

Research continues to be a vital focus of the charity. Whilst the risks associated with the coronavirus pandemic meant that, unfortunately, we had to put our four most recently commissioned projects on hold, as we entered our final quarter we were delighted to be able to continue these important research projects: Lako £50,000, Berry £46,831, Phillips £73,799 and Gerrish £7,500. The charity continues to provide a small number of Family Support Grants to help those in financial hardship with the additional costs associated with the diagnosis and treatment of retinoblastoma such as, for example, their travel costs.

**9. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Other	Governance	Totals
	£	costs	£
	£	£	£
Raising donations and legacies	28,028	851	28,879
Medical Research and Grant Making	12,850	131	12,981
Awareness Raising	51,486	587	52,073
Family Support and Information	56,682	867	57,549
Influencing	<u>14,243</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>14,388</u>
	<u><b>163,289</b></u>	<u><b>2,581</b></u>	<u><b>165,870</b></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

## 9. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time.

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

	Raising donations and legacies £	Medical Research and Grant Making £	Awareness Raising £	
Wages	11,731	9,275	36,218	
Social security	1,117	884	3,450	
Pensions	560	443	1,729	
Premises rent	4,516	694	3,115	
Premises costs	-	-	-	
Insurance	218	34	151	
Repairs & Maintenance	3,075	473	2,123	
Communications and stationery	2,300	354	1,587	
Meetings, seminars and staff training	1,520	234	1,049	
Travel and subsistence	220	34	152	
Recruitment	-	-	-	
Accountancy fees	2,429	373	1,676	
Sundries	100	15	69	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	156	24	108	
Bank charges	86	13	59	
Auditors' remuneration	851	131	587	
	<u>28,879</u>	<u>12,981</u>	<u>52,073</u>	
		2021	2020	
	Family Support and Information £	Influencing £	Total activities £	Total activities £
Wages	36,561	10,282	104,067	107,276
Social security	3,483	979	9,913	10,488
Pensions	1,745	491	4,968	4,868
Premises rent	4,599	770	13,694	25,017
Premises costs	-	-	-	471
Insurance	222	37	662	683
Repairs & Maintenance	3,134	524	9,329	8,182
Communications and stationery	2,343	392	6,976	9,212
Meetings, seminars and staff training	1,548	259	4,610	4,157
Travel and subsistence	224	36	666	2,006
Recruitment	-	-	-	1,599
Accountancy fees	2,474	414	7,366	10,209
Sundries	102	17	303	424
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	159	27	474	646
Bank charges	88	15	261	205
Auditors' remuneration	867	145	2,581	2,500
	<u>57,549</u>	<u>14,388</u>	<u>165,870</u>	<u>187,943</u>

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

### Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	2,581	2,500
Depreciation - owned assets	473	645
Other operating leases	13,694	25,017
Auditors' remuneration - non audit services	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>

#### 11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

##### Trustees' expenses

During the period travel expenses, amounting to £nil (2020: £436) were reimbursed to the Trustees (2020: 4 Trustees).

#### 12. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	286,671	285,213
Social security costs	25,326	26,104
Other pension costs	<u>9,285</u>	<u>8,914</u>
	<u>321,282</u>	<u>320,231</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Average Number of Employees	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021	2020
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel of the Charity are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Charity, directly or indirectly, including any trustee of the Charity. In addition to the trustees, key management personnel includes the Chief Executive. Total employee benefits, including employer pension contributions and employer social security costs for key management personnel in the period amounted to £82,618 (2020: £81,631).

##### Pension costs

Amounts are paid in to two defined contribution stakeholder pension schemes. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity.

**12. STAFF COSTS - continued****Volunteers**

48 volunteers generously gave their time to support us throughout the year. Although there were limited opportunities for volunteering due to lockdown, we are grateful for the help given with administrative tasks (performed remotely) researching potential avenues of financial support, and the collection of donation cheques. Whether it was one off or ongoing support, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our work.

We'd also like to thank our dedicated ambassadors for their ongoing commitment to raising awareness of Rb and the work of CHECT.

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

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	408,674	143,412	552,086
Other trading activities	1,284	-	1,284
Investment income	<u>5,201</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,201</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>415,159</b>	<b>143,412</b>	<b>558,571</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	150,443	-	150,443
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Medical Research and Grant Making	16,976	33,000	49,976
Awareness Raising	114,592	-	114,592
Family Support and Information	65,941	79,841	145,782
Influencing	17,955	-	17,955
<b>Total</b>	<b>365,907</b>	<b>112,841</b>	<b>478,748</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(6,889)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,889)</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>42,363</b>	<b>30,571</b>	<b>72,934</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>31,994</u>	<u>(31,994)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>74,357</b>	<b>(1,423)</b>	<b>72,934</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>332,631</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>334,651</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b><u>406,988</u></b>	<b><u>597</u></b>	<b><u>407,585</u></b>

## CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

### Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>28,428</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2020	26,545
Charge for year	<u>473</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>27,018</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,410</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,883</u>

#### 15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The Charity's investments consisted solely of units held in the Smith and Williamson Charity Value & Income Fund. These were disposed of during the current year.

	Listed investments	
	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>		
At 1 April	17,227	24,116
Disposal Proceeds	(19,031)	-
Revaluations	<u>1,804</u>	<u>(6,889)</u>
At 31 March	<u>-</u>	<u>17,227</u>

#### 16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	26	-
Other debtors	2,792	2,792
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>8,684</u>	<u>12,842</u>
	<u>11,502</u>	<u>15,634</u>

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	463	5,322
Pension creditor	1,610	1,537
Deferred income	15,483	16,066
Accruals	<u>135,096</u>	<u>84,414</u>
	<u>152,652</u>	<u>107,339</u>

Included within Accruals is £128,089 for research grants awarded but expected to be drawn down within 12 months of the year end (2020: £74,541).

Deferred income relates to donations received in respect of future events, all of which is released in the following financial year.

**18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>98,030</u>	<u>-</u>

Accruals reflect grants awarded but not expected to be drawn down until more than 12 months after the current year end. (2020: £nil).

**19. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	<u>9,630</u>	<u>9,308</u>

In March 2020, a two year lease was signed for office space and this lease includes a 6 month notice period for either party to end the agreement.

**20. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	2021 Total funds	2020 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,410	-	1,410	1,883
Investments	-	-	-	17,227
Current assets	694,356	342	694,698	495,814
Current liabilities	(152,652)	-	(152,652)	(107,339)
Long term liabilities	<u>(98,030)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(98,030)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>445,084</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>445,426</u>	<u>407,585</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	406,988	38,096	445,084
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Family Support	397	(55)	342
Kent Travel	200	(200)	-
	<u>597</u>	<u>(255)</u>	<u>342</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>407,585</u>	<u>37,841</u>	<u>445,426</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	503,871	(467,579)	1,804	38,096
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Medical Research	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Family Support	116,439	(116,494)	-	(55)
Kent Travel	-	(200)	-	(200)
	<u>121,439</u>	<u>(121,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(255)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>625,310</u>	<u>(589,273)</u>	<u>1,804</u>	<u>37,841</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	332,631	42,363	31,994	406,988
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Medical Research	-	31,994	(31,994)	-
Family Support	1,820	(1,423)	-	397
Kent Travel	200	-	-	200
	<u>2,020</u>	<u>30,571</u>	<u>(31,994)</u>	<u>597</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>334,651</u>	<u>72,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>407,585</u>

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	415,159	(365,907)	(6,889)	42,363
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Medical Research	64,994	(33,000)	-	31,994
Family Support	<u>78,418</u>	<u>(79,841)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,423)</u>
	<u>143,412</u>	<u>(112,841)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,571</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>558,571</u>	<u>(478,748)</u>	<u>(6,889)</u>	<u>72,934</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Medical Research	Available for research into various projects that promote the objects of the Charity.
Support	To provide support and information to families and individuals affected by retinoblastoma.
Kent Travel	A fund to provide eligible families living in Kent with one-off travel grants for financial assistance with travel to UK clinics.

**22. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**23. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	<b>37,841</b>	<b>72,934</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	473	645
(Gain)/losses on investments	(1,804)	6,889
Interest received	(3,406)	(4,009)
Finance costs	261	205
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	4,132	(904)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>143,343</u>	<u>(385)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<u><b>180,840</b></u>	<u><b>75,375</b></u>

**24.. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	480,180	203,016	683,196

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

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<b>24.. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS - continued</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	<u>480,180</u>	<u>203,016</u>	<u>683,196</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>480,180</u>	<u>203,016</u>	<u>683,196</u>

**25. IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The trustees recognise that the COVID-19 outbreak in February 2020 and the subsequent events have had an impact on the charities incoming and expended resources. They have considered the likely impact on its incoming resource is and how the charity can react to that impact and are confident that it has sufficient reserves and enough flexibility to ensure it can continue to exist for the foreseeable future.

# CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	157,797	162,377
Marathons, runs and other sponsorship	207,978	136,849
General events	-	921
Legacies	432	17,500
Grants	<u>253,790</u>	<u>234,439</u>
	619,997	552,086
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Christmas cards	1,311	1,284
<b>Investment income</b>		
Dividend income	596	1,192
Bank Interest	<u>3,406</u>	<u>4,009</u>
	<u>4,002</u>	<u>5,201</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>625,310</b>	<b>558,571</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Wages	81,365	77,881
Social security	7,604	7,528
Pensions	2,028	1,968
Fundraising costs	<u>34,933</u>	<u>27,409</u>
	125,930	114,786
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	101,239	100,056
Social security	7,809	8,088
Pensions	2,289	2,078
Newsletter costs	387	3,859
Awareness Campaign	1,240	1,359
Other Direct Costs	2,157	18,606
Leaflets and printing	84	986
Grants awarded to institutions	173,225	33,000
Travel bursaries awarded	<u>9,043</u>	<u>7,987</u>
	297,473	176,019
<b>Support costs</b>		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**CHILDHOOD EYE CANCER TRUST****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

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	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
Wages	104,067	107,276
Social security	9,913	10,488
Pensions	4,968	4,868
Premises rent	13,694	25,017
Premises costs	-	471
Insurance	662	683
Repairs & Maintenance	9,329	8,182
Communications and stationery	6,976	9,212
Meetings, seminars and staff training	4,610	4,157
Travel and subsistence	666	2,006
Recruitment	-	1,599
Accountancy fees	7,366	10,209
Sundries	303	424
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	474	646
Bank charges	261	205
	<u>163,289</u>	<u>185,443</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,581</u>	<u>2,500</u>
Total resources expended	<u>589,273</u>	<u>478,748</u>
<b>Net income before gains and losses</b>	<b>36,037</b>	<b>79,823</b>
<b>Realised recognised gains and losses</b>		
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	<u>1,804</u>	<u>(6,889)</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u><b>37,841</b></u>	<u><b>72,934</b></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

