

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales · Charity number 511288

Details

Other names	ROYAL MIDLAND INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01535327
Registered	1980-10-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	My Sight Nottinghamshire 10 - 12 Carlton Street Nottingham NG1 1NN
Phone	01159706806
Email	info@mysightnotts.org.uk
Website	www.mysightnotts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: RELIEVE AND CARE FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND WHETHER OR NOT REGISTERED AS BLIND OR PARTIALLY SIGHTED UNDER THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 OR WHO SUFFER SUBSTANTIALLY FROM DEFECTIVE VISION OR VISUAL HANDICAP (FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE CLAUSE 3 OF MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION).

Activities: My Sight Nottinghamshire (working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind) is dedicated to improving the lives of visually impaired people in Nottinghamshire. Services including; information, support, equipment, advice, befriending, peer support, arts and sport, are designed to promote confidence and independence and reduce isolation and loneliness for people living with sight loss.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE,CITY AND COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM
- Nottingham City
- Nottinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£639,924	£634,961	£307,555	13
2024-03-31	£639,487	£598,737	£302,592	12
2023-03-31	£380,577	£651,633	-	-
2022-03-31	£463,748	£561,083	-	-
2021-03-31	£698,951	£537,926	£630,233	18

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JACKY FISHER	Chair	
Faye Dale		2019-10-01
Gemma Stapleton		2019-10-01
Kathryn Skill		2020-11-01
LISA JONES		2014-10-25
Linda Ellis		2020-11-01
Malcolm Evans		2017-12-11
Shamaila Kauser		2021-10-01

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales - Charity number 511288

Accounts

Charity Number: 511288
Company Registration Number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 511288

Company Registration Number 01535327

Trustees

F Dale	
M Evans	(Treasurer)
J Fisher	(Chair)
K Skill	
S Payne	
G Stapleton	(Vice Chair)
S Kauser	
B Fitzpatrick	
D Cartwright	

Company secretary M J Conroy

President L Jackson OBE

Registered office 10 – 12 Carlton Street
Nottingham
NG1 1NN

Independent examiner UHY Hacker Young
14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Bankers National Westminster Bank plc
16 South Parade
Nottingham
NG1 2JX

Mansfield Building Society
Regent House, Regent Street
Nottingham
NG18 1SS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The directors, who are also trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts. They comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016, and Update Bulletin 2 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

D Cartwright (co-opted January 2024, elected November 2024)
F Dale
M Evans
B Fitzpatrick
J Fisher
S Kauser
S Payne (co-opted March 2024, elected November 2024)
K Skill
G Stapleton

Structure, governance and management

Legal status and governing documents

My Sight Nottinghamshire ("My Sight Notts") is the working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind.

It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and is a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

The charity has obtained, under section 30 of the Companies Act 1985, license to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

Anyone over the age of 16 who is visually impaired (or the parent or guardian of a visually impaired child under the age of 16) can become a member of the Company. At all times the number of members shall not be less than ten.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Appointment of trustees

The Chair of the trustees is nominated by the Board of trustees. The full capacity of the board is twelve trustees. One quarter of the trustees are subject to retire by rotation annually. If one quarter of the number of trustees is not a whole number, the number will be rounded.

If there is only one trustee who is subject to retirement by rotation, they shall retire. The trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been the longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but between persons who became or were last re-appointed trustees on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.

No person other than a trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or re-appointed as a trustee at any general meeting unless:

1. They are recommended by the trustees; or
2. Not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date for the meeting, notice has been executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment; and
3. Receives a majority vote from members eligible to vote.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The Trustees' skills base is reviewed by a Governance Working Group (which includes the Chair and the CEO) and the Board's skills need, gender balance and percentage of visually impaired trustees is assessed. New trustees are sought based on the needs identified by the Governance Working Group (and later discussed at the trustees' board meeting). The charity then advertises, sends mailings to appropriate sectors and petitions existing contacts for candidates to apply to join the board. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to stand for election onto the board by the membership at the next AGM. A candidate may be co-opted onto the board in advance of the vote if there is a need for their skills to be utilised in the interim.

New trustees have access to information intended to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the development of the company's strategy and recent financial performance of the charity. They are given the opportunity to meet employees and other trustees prior to appointment.

Once elected to the board, all trustees receive training on their roles and responsibilities as a trustee, including safeguarding training. There will always be one appointed safeguarding trustee on the board. Trustees are encouraged to attend an internal vision impairment awareness training day to familiarise themselves with some of the issues facing our client group and to attend other external training events, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role or enhance their understanding of the voluntary / sight loss sectors.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which shall not be less than six in number (unless determined otherwise by ordinary resolution) and shall not exceed twelve in number, administers the charity. The board meets bi-monthly and there are sub-committees and working groups covering Services, Finance & Fundraising and Governance which meet regularly.

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A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and service-related activity.

Regular Subcommittees, comprising of a number of trustees, CEO and a manager, meet regularly to identify and recommend changes to strategy around finance, fundraising, development of services and policies. Recommendations are made to the full Board for approval. Recommendations are implemented by the CEO and his management team.

Management team

During 2024/2025 the management team consists of: M Spouge (Finance); L Fenton (Fundraising); E Lucas (Services).

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration policy for key management personnel is decided between the trustees and CEO when a new employee is appointed. For the CEO remuneration, the board of trustees will decide this on an as and when basis. No bonuses are paid to any key management personnel. The criteria for setting the remuneration level relates to the previous experience of the new employee.

Umbrella body

My Sight Notts is a member of Visionary – Linking Local Sight Loss Charities, providing valuable resource and support to local vision impairment charities. My Sight Nottinghamshire's CEO stood down as trustee and Vice Chair of Visionary last year and took up the role of Member Representative for Visionary's Midlands region.

Related parties

The charity has several areas of activity that involve joint working initiatives with other parties which share their aims in respect of the development of accessible services for people with visual impairments. This includes other local and national charities and community associations in addition to local authorities and health bodies.

Some of the related parties we have worked with this year include: Sight Support Derbyshire, The Macular Society, Thomas Pocklington Trust, RNIB, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board, Nottingham University Hospitals, Kingsmill Hospital, Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham Trent University (NTU), Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham Playhouse, New Medica, Inspire at Mansfield Library and MHR.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

1. Quarterly reviews of the charity's risk register at: managers' meetings, various subcommittees and at trustee board meetings;
 2. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and
 3. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should such risks materialise.
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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

All organisational risks are collated in a Risk Register which serves as a comprehensive tool for identifying, assessing and managing risks that may impact the operations and objectives of the charity. It is essential for us to proactively anticipate and mitigate potential threats, ensuring the continuity of our services and the fulfilment of our commitments to our beneficiaries.

The risk register provides a structured framework for systematically evaluating risks, assigning ownership and accountability, implementing mitigation strategies, and monitoring risk status over time.

Risks are reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team on a quarterly basis (March, June, September & December) to reflect changes in our operating environment, emerging threats and evolving priorities. The scores given reflect impact, likelihood and any steps taken in mitigation at the current time.

Through collaborative efforts and diligent risk management practices, we aim to safeguard the resilience, sustainability and impact of our charity in the face of uncertainty and adversity.

Due to financial concerns in recent years, the Finance Subcommittee has Risk Review as a regular agenda and meets bi-monthly to review our position. A key element in the management of financial risk is the development and monitoring by the Finance Department, of a rolling eighteen-month forecast (in addition to the existing fixed forecast and management accounts) and the setting and regular review of our reserves policy by the trustees. The potential for a drop in legacy income has long been identified as a significant risk, which we tried to mitigate against last year with a designated fund for legacy shortfall.

Fundraising events and activities are also risk assessed both financially and with regard to the health and safety of participants and the general public. My Sight Nottinghamshire have now adopted the same risk assessment criteria for the implementation of its social events, activities and day trips.

In recent years we have identified risks which have resulted in better emergency procedures and contingency plans and have given the impetus for better planning. Particular attention has been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of service users, visitors, volunteers, staff and event participants.

We have identified that there are some risks in matters relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults. To mitigate this, all service delivery staff receive updated safeguarding training, our Services Manager is Safeguarding Lead for the charity (trained to Level 3) and we have appointed a Safeguarding Trustee. All trustees have accessed safeguarding training.

In recent years we developed a Cyber Security Policy and Procedures, which all staff are required to sign and acknowledge and we have delivered training on Cyber Security to all staff.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- That people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire who are living with a visual impairment have the same life opportunities as everyone else;
- To provide opportunities for people with sight loss in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to achieve their own unique goals and enjoy a full and independent life beyond sight loss;
- To improve the lives of people living with sight loss locally by providing support services, training, information, advice, social and leisure opportunities with the aim of enhancing their quality of life and increasing their independence.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the commissioning and continuation of services and activities.

Vision:
Independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with sight loss in Nottinghamshire.

Statement of purpose

To enable independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with visual impairments by providing access to a person centered program of support.

Strategy

My Sight Nottinghamshire's Strategy is based on outcomes from ongoing consultation with local people with visual impairments and the strategic outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

The five key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy:

1. To develop services which enable people to adapt to a life with visual impairments, through ongoing consultation with people who have lived experience of sight loss.
2. To deliver services and activities aligned with the eight areas of the Sight Loss MOT:
 - Understanding your eye condition
 - Making the best use of your sight
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Managing at home
 - Getting out and about
 - Your finances and planning for the future
 - Work, learning and having your say
 - Having someone to talk to
3. To identify gaps in service provision, provide services where need is greatest and use our influence to improve the provision of public services for people with visual impairments in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
4. To work in partnership with organisations providing services for our client group, including local authorities, charities providing services for people with sight loss as well as organisations serving a wider demographic, who are likely to include people with

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

visual impairments amongst their recipients such as Disability Support, Nottinghamshire Deaf Society, Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and Diabetes UK.

5. To commit to a Finance and Fundraising Strategy with diverse income streams, which can deliver essential services for people with visual impairments, whilst maintaining the stability of the organisation.

My Sight Notts' Services

Supporting Independence

- Providing early intervention whilst people are awaiting rehabilitation and mobility training
- Teaching daily living and independent living skills
- Providing low vision assessments
- Providing sight loss advice on assistive equipment and technology solutions
- Smart Rooms – where people with sight loss can come and try out various smart solutions and other technologies and equipment
- Support with skills and confidence building to move nearer to, and into, employment

Emotional support

Shared Vision: is an intensive course, providing a space to look at practical solutions as well as space to talk and share experiences with others going through the same thing. Shared Vision will support people going through the stages of grieving, depression and anxiety associated with sight loss.

Peer Support: we provide a range of activities for peer support including social groups, coffee mornings, walking groups and shared emotional support.

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO): based in the Macular Clinic in Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham University Hospitals. Our ECLO supports people immediately after their diagnosis, reassuring them and ensuring they are referred internally to our services and signposted for additional support elsewhere. Our ECLO liaises with consultants to ensure patients are given Certificates of Visual Impairment and referrals to Low Vision where appropriate.

One to one Counselling: Our Level 4 Advanced Counselling students support people with poor mental health through talking therapy either face to face, on the phone or via video conferencing apps.

Creating Social Connections

Socials: Our social groups and coffee mornings meet in five locations across the county and provide a range of peer support and activities

Talking News Service: provides audio service for local news, stories of interest and What's On guides, delivered across the county every two weeks.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Physical Activities: enable people to engage or re-engage with swimming, gym, walking and rambling as well as having the opportunity to try elite Paralympic sports such as Boccia and Goalball.

Our choir: provides an uplifting opportunity to sing in a variety of community spaces. There is also an exchange programme with a visually impaired choir in Liverpool.

Audio Description: Partnerships with NTU, Nottingham Contemporary, Soundscribe, It's In Nottingham, Nottingham City Council and other parties enable people to access arts and cultural activities through innovative audio description.

Support for Professionals

Accessibility audits, training, transcriptions and Digital Accessibility Group.

Accessibility Audits

We work with businesses to ensure that they can be as accessible as possible for people with sight loss. We work with managers to ensure people with sight loss can stay in work through reasonable adjustments and advice on Access to Work assessments. We also carry out full audits on organisations' buildings, websites, apps and literature. We produce full audit reports and offer to train staff in sight loss awareness.

Sight Loss Awareness Training

We offer our Sight Loss Awareness training to professionals ensuring that any of their staff or visitors with sight loss are safe in the knowledge that people are trained to support them. The training is a mixture of practical and classroom activities and includes looking at the emotional consequences of being diagnosed with sight loss, barriers to independence, tech solutions and practical sighted guiding. We can deliver this training in house at our premises on Heathcoat Street in Nottingham or on site at the client's premises.

Transcription

Our transcriptions service converts a wide variety of documents into Braille, large print or audio file.

Digital Accessibility Group

Our Digital Accessibility group is made up of staff, volunteers and members with different eye conditions, different levels of sight and levels of tech knowledge. The group supports businesses to ensure that any software, websites or apps are accessible for people with sight loss. These are tested using a variety of different magnification and speech over software.

Volunteering

Volunteers are invaluable assets to My Sight Notts, offering time, skills and empathy to help improve the lives of individuals with sight loss. 113 volunteers added significant value to the work we do throughout 2024/2025.

Our excellent Lead Volunteers in our Rambling Group, Walkie Talkie Wednesdays walking group and our five social groups across the county deserve a special mention, going above and

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

beyond for the service users they support, planning a variety of activities, ensuring they are fun, informative and interactive.

The trustees and management acknowledge that without this volunteer help many activities, services and events, which are currently undertaken, would not be possible.

Service Development and Impact

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen our resources while delivering vital services to people living with sight loss across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Despite our efforts, people with sight loss still face significant barriers in their everyday lives. Sight loss affects nearly every aspect of a person's well-being - from independence and mobility to mental health, social interaction, education, employment and financial stability. Many of our clients continue to experience deep-rooted inequalities and discrimination, particularly in accessing healthcare, education, job opportunities, housing and transport.

According to the RNIB's Sight Loss Data Tool, just under 6,000 people in Nottinghamshire are officially registered as having a visual impairment. However, it is estimated that 38,000 people are actually living with some degree of sight loss - a figure expected to double by 2050.

The Continuing financial pressures facing local authorities are also having a serious impact. Nottingham City Council's Section 114 notice, issued in November 2023, continues to severely limit the capacity of their sensory team, who are only able to provide minimal support due to restrictions imposed by government auditors. Changes within national sight loss and other charities have further affected support available in our communities. Loneliness and isolation are massive barriers for people with sight loss but services to address this have reduced significantly across the charity sector over the last two years. Further reduction in community support is expected throughout 2025/2026.

In response to these external pressures (and following our own internal reorganisation), My Sight Nottinghamshire has seen a dramatic 138% increase in referrals, demonstrating the growing need for our services.

The Year in Numbers

1170 people supported by our ECLO

183 people supported with sight loss advice

344 people accessed social activities

156 people accessed emotional support and counselling

607 sight loss advice appointments

48 people supported to gain, or stay in, employment

108 people trained in sight loss awareness

123 amazing volunteers supported our work

1040 approximate cups of coffee served at our coffee mornings

2928 approximate miles walked by our rambling and Walkie talkie Wednesday groups

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1260 number of bump-ons sold
750 songs sung by our choir

Our Achievements

Partnership with Local Hospitals

We have been working in partnership with two local hospital eye clinics - Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham and King's Mill Hospital in Mansfield - to deliver sight loss awareness training and carry out accessibility audits.

A key outcome of this collaboration was a significant improvement in signage at King's Mill Hospital. Previously, the signs were small, difficult to read and visually blended into their surroundings, creating challenges for patients trying to navigate around. Following our input and recommendations, the hospital implemented new signage that is significantly larger, features high-contrast colours (black text on a yellow background) and provides much clearer directions to the eye clinics.

Sight Loss Awareness and AR Headsets

One of our short-term objectives is to offer accredited sight loss awareness training. In 2024/2025, we made significant progress toward this goal through the acquisition of augmented reality (AR) headsets, funded by the BNA. These headsets simulate a range of eye conditions, also allowing us to layer different conditions so that users can gain a deeper, more immersive understanding of what it is like to live with sight loss.

Advice Guides

Staff have been instrumental in developing a series of advice guides to support people living with sight loss. The guides offer practical information across a range of topics:

Assistive Technology Guide: exploring tech solutions that can support daily living including virtual assistants, navigation apps and accessibility features on devices.

Adjusting & Adapting the Workplace: offering guidance on Access to Work support, occupational therapy and health assessments; incorporating assistive technology and equipment to create an inclusive work environment.

Shared Vision Resource Pack: A comprehensive guide covering all aspects of living with sight loss.

These guides provide the information needed to lead independent and fulfilling lives. You can find them on our website.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Nottingham Light Night

My Sight Notts partnered with It's in Nottingham, Nottingham Meanderers and the Nottingham Deaf Society to deliver accessible guided tours of Nottingham Light Night. This annual city-wide celebration showcases a variety of light-based art installations. We recognise that many individuals with sight loss find it particularly challenging to navigate safely at night, so we wanted to make this event more inclusive and accessible.

We planned and facilitated two guided tours featuring four of the main installations. The tours were co-produced with Maggie Anguish, one of our dedicated members, ensuring that the experience was shaped by lived experience. Starting from My Sight Notts, participants were guided through the city centre to key installations and at each stop, where they were provided with props that captured the essence of the artwork, offering a multisensory experience that brought the event to life.

My VisAbility Employment Service

In 2023, we were awarded funding by the Thomas Pocklington Trust to pilot an employment programme (called Works for Me) aimed at helping individuals with sight loss build the skills and confidence needed to move closer to employment. Although this initial funding concluded in September 2024, the positive feedback we received highlighted the value and impact of the service.

We successfully secured additional funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, which has enabled us to continue delivering employment support (along with other services). Now rebranded as My VisAbility, the programme remains focused on empowering individuals to progress towards, or into, meaningful employment opportunities.

Outcomes

Outcomes are the changes and differences our services make to the lives of people with sight loss. In 2024 - 2025 we supported:

- 64% of people with sight loss to feel more independent
- 78% to have a better understanding of their eye condition
- 96% to make the best use of their sight
- 61% to feel better physically and mentally
- 69% to feel less isolated and lonely

How We Measure Outcomes

The Sight Loss MOT is an outcome measurement and assessment tool looking at eight areas of a person's life including understanding your eye condition; making the best use of your sight; health and wellbeing; managing at home; getting out and about; finances and planning for the future; work, learning and having your say and having someone to talk to.

Consulting with our service users plays a central role in shaping and improving the services we offer at My Sight Notts. We believe that by actively involving the people who use our services,

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

we can better understand their needs and create solutions that truly make a difference in their lives. This ensures the people we support are at the heart of our decision making and ensures that our services are relevant, effective and responsive to the needs of those we support.

What We have Learned

My Sight Notts has experienced a significant increase in new referrals, with a 138% rise compared to 2023–2024 and a 300% increase compared to 2022–2023. This growth is attributed to several factors, including the restructuring of our services department in 2023 and the reduction in support available from local authority teams and other charitable organisations.

This surge in demand has raised important questions about our capacity to respond effectively, particularly given that My Sight Notts is not designed to operate as a crisis service. Recognising these challenges and acknowledging that despite limited external resources, there are still other organisations capable of providing meaningful support - enables us to better coordinate a comprehensive package of care. This ensures that individuals with sight loss receive appropriate assistance both prior to and during their engagement with My Sight Notts.

This incredible support from our community strengthens our programs, builds our resilience, and empowers us to continue making a difference. We thank every one of our supporters, knowing that together, we are creating lasting, positive change.

Charity Shops – £81,210 income (2023/2024: £87,717)

Our two charity shops in Mapperley and the City Centre continue to generate valuable unrestricted funds for the organisation. While mindful of the rising operational costs, both shops remained profitable, contributing a combined income total of £81,210.

Legacy income £172,854 (2023/2024: £116,551)

Legacy income remains one of the charity's most meaningful sources of support, with Gifts in Wills totalling £172,854 this year. We are deeply grateful to those who have chosen to support the charity in this lasting way, ensuring their legacy lives on through our work.

Financial Review

2024/2025 saw continued stability for the charity as we built on the multi-year trust income from the previous two years. We also secured some NHS funding from Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) for partial funding of our ECLO role. The addition of another multi-year grant adds to our operational funding; however, we recognise the continued need to build back our depleted reserves to improve the long-term financial stability of the charity.

Total incoming resources increased slightly this year to £639,924 (2024: £639,487) and total resources expended increased by 6% to £634,961 (2024: £598,737) which resulted in a year end surplus of £4,963 (2024: £40,750).

The year saw an increase in income from trust and grant applications to £305,185 (2024: £280,079) but a decrease in income from donations and gifts to £32,974 (2024: £92,746),

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

however legacy income increased to £172,854 (2024: £116,551). Income from our charity shops decreased slightly to £81,210 (2024: £87,717) and our training and accessibility services brought in £13,801 (2024: £10,688).

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £184,213 (2024: £132,232) an increase of £28,658. This increase is largely net off with the decrease in restricted funds, as outlined below.

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £123,343 (2024: £170,360) this reduction is due to the progression of the multiyear grants received from the National Lottery and Henry Smith.

Looking ahead we continue to seek out multiyear grant funding for existing and new projects, with a priority of securing replacement funding for our 3-year grant from Henry Smith, which will come to an end in September 2026. We recognise the need to diversify our income and will explore opportunities for collaborative working and consortium funding. We will continue to pursue opportunities to fund our services through NHS and private healthcare providers and we will explore new opportunities to bring in unrestricted funding from corporate and community fundraising activities and individual giving appeals. Our Finance Subcommittee will continue close financial monitoring to ensure we capitalise on the success of recent years; enhancing our sustainable income model, diversifying our income streams and building back our charitable reserves.

Plans for Future Periods

Children and Young People

Over the coming year, we are embarking on the development of targeted services for children, young people and their families.

One of our key projects currently in development is an accessible gaming initiative. This innovative programme is designed to provide children and young people with sight loss, the opportunity to engage in inclusive, adaptive gaming experiences. Through this project, we aim to create a safe and supportive environment where participants can explore technology, build confidence and connect with peers through the medium of gaming.

In addition, we are in the process of establishing a dedicated support group for parents and carers. Recognising the vital role that families play in the lives of children and young people, this group will serve as a space for connection, shared learning and mutual support. We are exploring opportunities of working with organisations across Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire, to reach a wider network of families who may benefit from additional guidance, resources and peer engagement.

Enhancing Collaboration with NHS Partners

2025 - 2026 will see us working to enhance partnerships with local NHS trusts and private health providers, delivering NHS eye services in the community. A key priority will be identifying

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

better ways of delivering Eye Care Pathways, to ensure people diagnosed with permanent sight loss conditions are directed to support at the earliest opportunity.

This includes working with the Local Eye Health Professional Network, who are producing a new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). This will involve individuals living with sight loss, ensuring their voices help shape the planning and delivery of eye health services. Feedback from our members consistently shows that many feel inadequately informed about the full range of support, rehabilitation and benefits available after diagnosis.

Over the coming year, we will continue working with the ICB through upcoming changes to ensure the support for people with sight loss remains a priority. We will develop relationships with community providers as we aim to ensure support is consistent as more services are rolled out into the community. We will work with all of our NHS and community partners to build a more informed system of care that puts people with sight loss at the centre of planning and improvement.

Pension liabilities

The charity participates in The Pensions Trust's Growth Plan. Until 30 September 2013, all contributions to the scheme were on a defined benefit basis. From 1 October 2013, contributions are made on a defined contribution basis. The scheme has been in deficit for a number of years and all participating employers are making yearly repayments as part of the recovery plan in place.

At the year end the charity's estimated additional contributions to the recovery plan amount to £5,929 (2024: £2,743), including inflationary increases, over the remaining six years to 31 January 2025. A liability of £5,929 (2024: £2,743) has been recognised in this year's financial statements. More information on this is included in note 19.

From 1 February 2017 the charity joined National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Workplace Pension Scheme as part of the Government workplace pension reform. NEST is a trust-based defined contribution scheme and all eligible employees are auto enrolled.

Reserves policy

The committee has considered the reserves held by My Sight Nottinghamshire as at 31 March 2025 and continues to monitor this closely. The charity needs reserves to enable it to develop its long term aims as well as to ensure the continuation of its current activities. In order to meet their responsibilities and to ensure that the charity continues to operate on a going concern basis, the committee has reviewed the requirements and risks faced by the charity in both the short and medium term.

The trustees have agreed that the charity should endeavor to maintain a level of free reserves which is no less than 4 months and no more than 12 months running costs.

The free reserves of the charity at the balance sheet date stood at £133,213 (2024: £86,233). Total funds at the year-end were £307,555 (2024: £302,592). Unrestricted funds at the year-end

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

were £184,213 (2024: £132,232) while restricted funds were £123,343 (2024: £170,360). Included within the unrestricted funds are designated funds totalling £51,000 (2024: £46,000).

The board believes the charity's free reserves and known forecast income are adequate to meet the obligations of the organisation in the medium term. The majority of its services are now funded through restricted funds, secured from a number of new multiyear funding streams. However, the charity's free reserves remain low and the organisation is committed to building back reserves over the next few years. A designated fund to safeguard against future shortfalls in legacy income has been written into the charity's accounts; an amount will be deposited into this fund every year that we receive more than our forecasted legacy income. Should other unrestricted funds be available, these may also be considered to bolster this fund.

Whilst the charity's finances are more stable, with significant sources of known income available for a number of years, the board recognises the continued need for regular scrutiny of income and expenditure and to this end the management and trustees have agreed that the Finance and Fundraising Sub Committee meetings shall meet bi-monthly to monitor cash flow with our rolling forecast and identify income opportunities and cost savings where necessary.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following funders and supporters for their generosity over the last year:

BNA
Boots Charitable Trust
CL Hill Trust
The Forman Hardy Charitable Trust
Global Charities
Henry Smith Charity
Jessie Spencer Trust
JN Derbyshire Trust
The Jones 1986 Charitable Trust
Masonic Charitable Foundation
Masonic Clifton Lodge
Masonic Grand Lodge Nottingham
MHR Ltd
The National Lottery Community Fund
Nottingham University Hospitals NHS
Nottinghamshire County Council
NPC
Sir John Eastwood Foundation
Sport England
The Thomas Farr Charity
Thomas Pocklington Trust
The Village Ladies of Papplewick

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

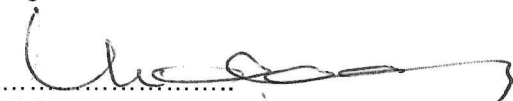
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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 we are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiners are unaware; and
- We have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's Independent Examiners are aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



M Conroy
Company Secretary

Date: 20.03.25

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 23 to 43.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



UHY Hacker Young LLP
14 Park Row
Nottingham NG1 6GR

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

.....
David Allum FCCA
UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants

14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Date: 7/11/25

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

		2025			2024		
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	273,849	236,984	510,833	232,369	257,007	489,376
Charitable activities	3	21,868	-	21,868	34,774	-	34,774
Other trading activities	4	95,286	6,399	101,685	111,187	66	111,253
Investments	5	5,538	-	5,538	4,084	-	4,084
Total income		396,541	243,383	639,924	382,414	257,073	639,487
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	153,322	-	153,322	147,329	-	147,329
Charitable activities	7	225,688	255,951	481,639	298,868	152,540	451,408
Total expenditure		379,010	255,951	634,961	446,197	152,540	598,737
Net income/ (expenditure)		17,531	(12,568)	4,963	(63,783)	104,533	40,750
Transfers between funds	26	34,450	(34,450)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		51,981	(47,018)	4,963	(63,783)	104,533	40,750
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	26	132,232	170,360	302,592	196,016	65,826	261,842
Total funds carried forward	26	184,213	123,342	307,555	132,233	170,359	302,592

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The charity has not recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

The notes on pages 23 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Note	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		54,331		39,371
Current assets					
Stock		8,000		8,020	
Debtors	17	85,749		24,447	
Cash at bank and in hand		184,780		258,887	
			<u>278,529</u>	<u>291,354</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(19,376)		(25,390)	
Net current assets			<u>259,153</u>		<u>265,964</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			313,484		305,335
Provisions for liabilities	19	(5,929)		(2,743)	
Net assets			<u>307,555</u>		<u>302,592</u>
Charity funds:					
Unrestricted funds	26		184,213		132,232
Restricted income funds	26		123,342		170,360
Total charity funds			<u>307,555</u>		<u>302,592</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

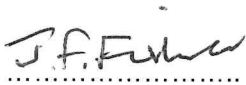
For the year ended 31 March 2025, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on7/11/25.....

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:



.....
J Fisher
Chair

Date: 7/11/25.....

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

The notes on page 23 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Note	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Cash flow from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22	(52,302)		47,431	
Net cash flow from operating activities			<u>(52,302)</u>		<u>47,431</u>
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(27,343)		(8,197)	
Interest received		<u>5,538</u>		<u>4,084</u>	
Net cash flow from investing activities			<u>(21,805)</u>		<u>(4,113)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			(74,107)		43,318
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			258,887		215,569
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>184,780</u>		<u>258,887</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:					
Cash at bank and in hand			184,780		258,887
Total cash and cash equivalents			<u>184,780</u>		<u>258,887</u>

The notes on page 23 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind (My Sight Nottinghamshire) is a registered charity in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are promoting greater independence for visually impaired people of all ages throughout the county by providing emotional support, practical advice, information and training together with a huge range of adapted leisure activities.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds

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

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

(b) Funds (continued)

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes of those costs which are incurred while carrying out activities to generate monies for the charity and its activities; and
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes those costs which are incurred while carrying out the charity activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the category above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Short term leasehold property improvements	10% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line basis or 10% reducing balance basis or 15% reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Land and buildings were valued using the life of the leasehold agreement.

(g) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the average cost formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(j) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

(k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

Until 30 September 2013, pension contributions were to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

From 1 October 2013, the company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised when they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(m) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2025			2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Donations and gifts	32,745	49	-	32,794	92,068	678	-	92,746
Legacies	172,854	-	-	172,854	116,551	-	-	116,551
Grants	68,250	236,935	-	305,185	23,750	256,329	-	280,079
	273,849	236,984	-	510,833	232,369	257,007	-	489,376

3 Income from charitable activities

	2025			2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Sale of visual aids and equipment	18,958	-	-	18,958	23,226	-	-	23,226
Sale of transcription services	138	-	-	138	143	-	-	143
Sale of training services	1,772	-	-	1,772	10,905	-	-	10,905
Sale of accessibility services	1,000	-	-	1,000	500	-	-	500
	21,868	-	-	21,868	34,774	-	-	34,774

4 Income from other trading activities

	2025			2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fundraising events	6,674	-	-	6,674	12,848	-	-	12,848
Shop income	81,210	-	-	81,210	87,717	-	-	87,717
Other	7,402	6,399	-	13,801	10,622	66	-	10,688
	95,286	6,399	-	101,685	111,187	66	-	111,253

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

5 Income from investments

	2025			2024			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Bank interest received	5,538	-	-	4,084	-	-	4,084
	<u>5,538</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,084</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

Note	2025			2024			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Staff training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor and travel	610	-	-	907	-	-	907
Sundry expenses	6,511	-	-	4,734	-	-	4,734
Computer costs	459	-	-	505	-	-	505
Insurance	2,151	-	-	2,033	-	-	2,033
Light, heat and power	3,843	-	-	3,229	-	-	3,229
Rates	720	-	-	700	-	-	700
Rent	27,959	-	-	27,541	-	-	27,541
Water rates	561	-	-	594	-	-	594
Repairs and maintenance	1,178	-	-	73	-	-	73
Telephone and fax	619	-	-	769	-	-	769
Advertising and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wages and salaries	12 96,767	-	-	94,779	-	-	94,779
Social security costs	12 7,949	-	-	7,253	-	-	7,253
Staff pensions	12 3,957	-	-	3,738	-	-	3,738
Printing, postage and stationery	38	-	-	453	-	-	453
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	22	-	-	22
	<u>153,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,329</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025				2024			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Staff training	696	19	-	715	1,235	-	-	1,235
Motor and travel	9,421	10,851	-	20,272	10,869	5,773	-	16,642
Sundry expenses	8,558	10,672	-	19,230	7,131	5,819	-	12,950
Computer costs	3,948	3,033	-	6,981	1,332	5,928	-	7,260
Insurance	10,476	5,347	-	15,823	12,911	1,647	-	14,558
Light, heat and power	6,978	2,328	-	9,306	6,682	1,102	-	7,784
Rent	17,543	12,954	-	30,497	27,127	5,516	-	32,643
Water rates	535	316	-	851	657	110	-	767
Repairs and maintenance	2,065	1,366	-	3,431	2,814	1,394	-	4,208
Telephone and fax	6,900	5,214	-	12,114	9,130	3,100	-	12,230
Advertising and publicity	2,685	149	-	2,834	3,978	-	-	3,978
Purchases	15,144	-	-	15,144	20,436	-	-	20,436
Wages and salaries	12 96,293	178,984	-	275,277	163,309	101,944	-	265,253
Social security costs	12 5,428	14,208	-	19,636	10,278	7,485	-	17,763
Staff pensions	12 9,016	8,568	-	17,584	8,245	4,937	-	13,182
Pension provision	10,231	-	-	10,231	4,081	-	-	4,081
Printing, postage and stationery	2,596	1,631	-	4,227	(3,959)	7,715	-	3,756
Bank charges	645	311	-	956	963	70	-	1,033
Depreciation	16 12,383	-	-	12,383	7,676	-	-	7,676
(Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	11 4,147	-	-	4,147	3,973	-	-	3,973
	225,688	255,951	-	481,639	298,868	152,540	-	451,408

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

8 Analysis of expenditure

	Note	2025			2024		
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Raising funds	6	153,322	-	-	147,329	-	-
Charitable activities	7	225,688	255,951	-	298,868	152,540	-
		379,010	255,951	-	446,197	152,540	-
				634,961			598,737

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2025			2024		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	44,611	137,200	181,811	41,107	134,691	175,798
Support costs	10	108,711	344,439	453,150	106,222	316,638	422,860
		153,322	481,639	634,961	147,329	451,329	598,658

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

9 Direct costs

	2025			2024		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	-	715	715	-	1,235	1,235
Motor and travel	610	20,272	20,882	907	16,642	17,549
Sundry expenses	6,511	19,230	25,741	4,734	12,950	17,684
Computer costs	459	6,981	7,440	505	7,260	7,765
Insurance	2,151	15,823	17,974	2,033	14,558	16,591
Light, heat and power	3,843	9,307	13,150	3,229	7,784	11,013
Rates	720	-	720	700	-	700
Rent	27,959	30,498	58,457	27,541	32,643	60,184
Water rates	561	851	1,412	594	767	1,361
Repairs and maintenance	1,178	3,431	4,609	73	4,208	4,281
Telephone and fax	619	12,114	12,733	769	12,230	12,999
Advertising and publicity	-	2,834	2,834	-	3,978	3,978
Purchases	-	15,144	15,144	-	20,436	20,436
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	22	-	22
	44,611	137,200	181,811	41,107	134,691	175,798

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

10 Support costs

	Note	2025			2024		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Wages & salaries	12	96,767	275,277	372,044	94,779	265,253	360,032
Social security costs	12	7,949	19,636	27,585	7,253	17,763	25,016
Staff pensions	12	3,957	17,583	21,540	3,758	13,182	16,940
Pension provision		-	10,231	10,231	-	4,081	4,081
Printing, postage & stationery		38	4,226	4,264	453	3,756	4,209
Legal & professional		-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges		-	956	956	-	1,033	1,033
Depreciation		-	12,383	12,383	-	7,597	7,597
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	11	-	4,147	4,147	-	3,973	3,973
		108,711	344,439	453,150	106,243	316,638	422,881

11 Governance costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees	4,147	3,973
	4,147	3,973

12 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average number of persons employed by the charity (including trustees) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	Number	2025 FTE	Number	2024 FTE
Administration	2	2	2	2
Services	11	8	11	8
Fundraising	4	3	3	2
	17	13	16	12

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	372,044	360,031
Social security	27,585	25,016
Defined contribution pension costs	21,540	16,920
	421,169	401,967

One employee (2024 – one) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) between £60,000 - £70,000. No employees received employee benefits greater than £70,000.

13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2024 – £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £149,726 (2024 – £143,484). The highest paid employee received remuneration of £71,135 (excluding employer pension costs).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the Chief Executive, the Finance and Administrative Manager and the Fundraising Manager.

14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £4,147 (2024 – £3,973).

15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	12,383	9,760
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		-	-
Operating lease rentals	20	42,295	42,457
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	4,147	3,973

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation:					
At 1 April 2024	56,740	71,643	14,916	28,552	171,851
Additions	4,770	700	23,238	-	28,708
Disposals	-	-	(1,366)	-	(1,366)
At 31 March 2025	61,510	72,343	36,788	28,552	199,193
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2024	33,217	63,845	6,866	28,552	132,480
Charge for the year	5,992	1,252	5,138	-	12,382
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	39,209	65,097	12,004	28,552	144,862
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2025	22,301	7,246	24,784	-	54,331
At 31 March 2024	23,523	7,798	8,050	-	39,371

17 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	19,033	10,955
Prepayments and accrued income	66,716	13,492
	85,749	24,447

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	6,100	6,843
Taxation and social security	6,319	6,027
Other creditors	2,803	2,741
Accruals and deferred income	4,154	9,779
	19,376	25,390

19 Provisions for liabilities

	Defined benefit pension £	2025 Total £	Defined benefit pension £	2024 Total £
Provision brought forward	2,743	2,743	5,871	5,871
Interest expense	72	72	225	225
Deficit contributions paid	(2,796)	(2,796)	(3,355)	(3,355)
Re-measurement adjustment	5,910	5,910	2	2
Provision carried forward	5,929	5,929	2,743	2,743

The charity participates in a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore, it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the charity is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2023. This valuation showed assets of £515m, liabilities of £531 and a deficit of £16m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme of £2,100,000 per annum from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028. The contributions are payable monthly and are non increasing.

20 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year	25,000	25,000
Due within two to five years	66,667	91,667
Due after five years	-	-
	91,667	116,667

21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £21,540 (2024: £16,920).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,789 (2024: £2,729).

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	4,963	40,750
Interest receivable	(5,538)	(4,084)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	12,383	9,760
(Increase)/decrease in stock	20	(590)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(61,302)	2,203
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(6,014)	2,520
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	3,186	(3,128)
Net cash flow from operating activities	(52,302)	47,431

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

23 Change in net debt

The charity had no material debt during the year.

24 Related party transactions

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £12,853 (2024: £12,251) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2024: £nil).

25 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

26 Movement in funds

Designated funds – Heathcoat Street reinstatement

The trustees have designated £5,000 per annum starting from 2018/19 for the potential costs of reinstating the Heathcoat Street premises to its former condition. A further £5,000 will continue to be designated annually until the estimated £50,000 has been designated. The transfers between the designated and unrestricted funds are in order to reflect this.

Designated funds – Legacy Shortfall

To safeguard against future shortfalls in legacy income, the trustees have agreed to designate any legacy funds that exceed the forecasted legacy figure. We designated £16,000 from legacy income in 2023/24; as we did not exceed legacy forecast, we will not be adding to the fund this year.

Restricted funds – Thursday Group

Thursday Group includes grants, donations and service user contributions toward the cost of running Thursday social groups including day trips and other communal outings.

Restricted funds – Talking Newspaper

Talking Newspaper represents funds received for the provision of upgrading equipment.

Restricted funds – Sight Matters

The Sight Matters fund consists of grant and service user contributions towards the cost of running this group.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities

The Big Lotteries Reaching Communities fund consists of grants that are used towards the cost of serving the community.

Restricted funds – Befriending My Guide

Befriending My Guide represents grant income contribution towards the home visit and mobile support services which are part of the charity's outreach work.

Restricted funds – Building Accessibility / Smart Room

Funding from Counsellor Wallace at Nottinghamshire County Council to spend on Heathcoat Street accessibility alterations, including accessible signage, audible signage, sound baffling etc.

Restricted funds - ECLO

Provision of an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) based at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham. The role of the ECLO is to offer practical advice, emotional support and can refer to other My Sight Notts services or external services to support with sight loss.

Restricted funds - Global Make Some Noise Tech Project

A tech befriending project for one and a half years, including 2 part time Sight Loss Advisor roles. The project will engage volunteers to support people who are blind or visually impaired to improve their technology skillset and digital access, reducing isolation and increasing independence.

Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Works for Me

An employment service called Works for Me, funded by and working in partnership with the Thomas Pocklington Trust. The service offers confidence and skills support, events and advice for people with sight loss to get into work, stay in work or become work ready.

Restricted funds - Support Centre

Funded by Sir John Eastwood, Charles Littlewood Hill, Awards for All and JN Derbyshire. The Equipment and Advice centre provides advice and practical hands-on equipment demonstrations and training at our Heathcoat Street centre with one of our Sight Loss Advisors. We also have a Smart Room which is designed to be a real living room and kitchen environment and showcases a range of useful tech and equipment to support independence at home.

Restricted funds - Tandem Project

Providing group tandem rides in partnership with Ridewise.

Restricted funds – BNA Fund VR Headsets

Funding for virtual reality sight loss simulator headsets and training package to enhance the charity's professional sight loss awareness training programme and accessibility service

Restricted funds – Boots Charity Log Database

Contribution towards building a database to support the Sight Loss MOT tool, implementation and overseeing and training staff on the new processes

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Restricted funds – Sport England and Healthy Lifestyles

Providing a programme of healthy activities and exercise classes to people suffering with sight loss

Restricted funds – Will Trust Referrals Role

Funding towards a Central Access Point (Triage) 12-month pilot project which will help reshape the way that referrals to the organisation are processed and ultimately lead to a more efficient, person- centred and holistic provision for those living with sight loss across Nottinghamshire.

Restricted funds – National Lottery Enabling Independence

Five-year funding for a project providing peer-informed comprehensive support through a more streamlined, efficient delivery model. Fostering independence and building a strong sense of community among visually impaired individuals.

The project will benefit approx. 500 visually impaired individuals in the first year, along with 40 volunteers. Over the lifetime of the project, a minimum of 2,500 individuals will benefit.

Restricted funds – Henry Smith Mental Health & Wellbeing

Improving Lives grant towards three years' running costs of a project providing mental health and wellbeing support for older people living with visual impairments in Nottinghamshire.

Restricted funds – Masonic Foundation Hubs/Social Groups

Creating Connections – Three-year funding towards the running costs of social hubs for elderly visually impaired people.

Restricted funds – Notts CC Mental Wellbeing

The project will provide specialised counselling services for individuals living with sight loss in Nottinghamshire, addressing a critical gap in mental health support.

Restricted funds – Thomas Pocklington Measuring Wellbeing

A 12-month pilot project which sets out to improve emotional support for individuals with sight loss. The pilot aims to measure the impact that current interventions/ projects and services provided My Sight Notts, have on emotional well-being in areas related to Sight Loss MOT.

Restricted fixed asset transfer

This balance relates to capital items which have been purchased using the restricted funds provided as part of the 'BNA Fund VR Headsets' and 'Building Accessibility / Smart Room' grants. The total additions of £28,708 have been depreciated by £2,962 in the year, this amount has been transferred from the restricted to unrestricted funds.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	86,232	396,541	(379,010)	29,450	133,213
Designated funds					
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	30,000	-	-	5,000	35,000
<i>Legacy shortfall fund</i>	16,000	-	-	-	16,000
Total unrestricted funds 2025	132,232	396,541	(379,010)	34,450	184,213
Restricted income funds:					
Thursday Group	1,394	48	(248)	-	1,194
Talking Newspaper	1,147	-	(36)	-	1,111
Sight Matters	1,356	-	(300)	-	1,056
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	7,404	-	-	-	7,404
Befriending My Guide	3,726	5,000	(3,765)	-	4,961
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	9,482	-	(495)	(6,564)	2,423
ECLO	-	26,400	(20,940)	-	5,460
Thomas Pocklington Works for Me	8,966	6,563	(15,529)	-	-
Support Centre	4,992	9,000	(6,992)	-	7,000
Tandem Project	504	-	-	-	504
BNA Fund VR Headsets	31,004	-	(3,118)	(27,886)	-
Boots Charity Log Database	4,377	-	(4,377)	-	-
Sport England Healthy Lifestyles	5,410	-	(5,410)	-	-
Will Trust Referrals Role	6,571	-	(6,571)	-	-
National Lottery Enabling Independence	58,929	120,172	(117,536)	-	61,565
Henry Smith Mental Health & Wellbeing	25,098	51,200	(52,524)	-	23,774
Masonic Foundation Hubs/Social Groups	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Notts CC Mental Wellbeing	-	5,000	(902)	-	4,098
Thomas Pocklington Measuring Wellbeing	-	8,000	(5,208)	-	2,792
Total restricted funds 2025	170,360	243,383	(255,951)	(34,450)	123,342
Total funds 2025	302,592	639,924	(634,961)	-	307,555

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Comparative year	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	171,016	382,413	(446,197)	(21,000)	86,232
Designated funds					
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	25,000	-	-	5,000	30,000
<i>Legacy shortfall fund</i>	-	-	-	16,000	16,000
Total unrestricted funds 2024	196,016	382,413	(446,197)	-	132,232
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,149	315	(70)	-	1,394
Talking Newspaper	1,215	-	(68)	-	1,147
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	7,404	-	-	-	7,404
Befriending My Guide	1,570	5,000	(2,843)	-	3,727
HEEM ECLLO and Peer Support	14,956	-	(14,956)	-	-
Newark Group	1,614	-	(1,614)	-	-
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	2,977	7,500	(995)	-	9,482
ECLLO	3,011	-	(3,011)	-	-
Global Make Some Noise Tech Project	99	12,500	(12,599)	-	-
Thomas Pocklington Works for Me	17,972	26,250	(35,256)	-	8,966
Thomas Pocklington Internship	-	-	-	-	-
Support Centre	12,000	11,000	(18,008)	-	4,992
Shared Vison	-	-	-	-	-
Tandem Project	504	-	-	-	504
BNA Fund VR Headsets	-	31,004	-	-	31,004
Boots Charity Log Database	-	9,635	(5,258)	-	4,377
Sport England Healthy Lifestyles	-	5,500	(90)	-	5,410
Will Trust Referrals Role	-	20,000	(13,429)	-	6,571
Clothworkers IT Equipment	-	8,400	(8,400)	-	-
National Lottery Enabling Independence	-	58,929	-	-	58,929
Henry Smith Mental Health & Wellbeing	-	48,600	(23,502)	-	25,098
Masonic Foundation Hubs/Social Groups	-	12,440	(12,440)	-	-
Total restricted funds 2024	65,827	257,073	(152,540)	-	170,360
Total funds 2024	261,844	639,487	(598,737)	-	302,592

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2025 £
Fixed assets	54,330	-	-	54,330
Cash and current investments	155,188	123,342	-	278,530
Other current liabilities	(19,376)	-	-	(19,376)
Provisions	(5,929)	-	-	(5,929)
	184,213	123,342	-	307,555

Comparative year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets	39,788	(417)	-	39,371
Cash and current investments	119,836	170,360	-	290,196
Other current liabilities	(24,649)	417	-	(24,232)
Provisions	(2,743)	-	-	(2,743)
	132,232	170,360	-	302,592

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales - Charity number 511288

Accounts

Charity Number: 511288
Company Registration Number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 511288

Company Registration Number 01535327

Trustees

F Dale	
L Ellis	
M Evans	(Treasurer)
J Fisher	(Chair)
L Jones	
K Skill	
G Stapleton	(Vice Chair)

Company secretary M J Conroy

President L Jackson OBE

Registered office 10 – 12 Carlton Street
Nottingham
NG1 1NN

Independent examiner UHY Hacker Young
14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
plc
16 South Parade
Nottingham
NG1 2JX

HSBC Bank plc
26 Clumber Street
Nottingham
NG1 3GA

Mansfield Building Society
Regent House, Regent Street
Nottingham
NG18 1SS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The directors, who are also trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts. They comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016, and Update Bulletin 2 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

D Cartwright (co-opted January 2024)
F Dale
L Ellis (resigned March 2024).
M Evans
B Fitzpatrick (appointed November 2023)
J Fisher
L Jones (resigned November 2023)
S Kauser
Stephen Payne (co-opted March 2024)
K Skill
G Stapleton

Structure, governance and management

Legal status and governing documents

My Sight Nottinghamshire ("My Sight Notts") is the working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind.

It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and is a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

The charity has obtained, under section 30 of the Companies Act 1985, license to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

Anyone over the age of 16 who is visually impaired (or the parent or guardian of a visually impaired child under the age of 16) can become a member of the Company. At all times the number of members shall not be less than ten.

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Appointment of trustees

The Chair of the trustees is nominated by the Board of trustees. The full capacity of the board is twelve trustees. One quarter of the trustees are subject to retire by rotation annually. If one quarter of the number of trustees is not a whole number, the number will be rounded.

If there is only one trustee who is subject to retirement by rotation, they shall retire. The trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been the longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but between persons who became or were last re-appointed trustees on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.

No person other than a trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or re-appointed as a trustee at any general meeting unless:

1. They are recommended by the trustees; or
2. Not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date for the meeting, notice has been executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment; and
3. Receives a majority vote from members eligible to vote.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The Trustees' skills base is reviewed by a Governance Working Group (which includes the Chair and the CEO) and the Board's skills need, gender balance and percentage of visually impaired trustees is assessed. New trustees are sought based on the needs identified by the Governance Working Group (and later discussed at the trustees' board meeting). The charity then advertises, sends mailings to appropriate sectors and petitions existing contacts for candidates to apply to join the board. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to stand for election onto the board by the membership at the next AGM. A candidate may be co-opted onto the board in advance of the vote if there is a need for their skills to be utilised in the interim.

New trustees have access to information intended to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the development of the company's strategy and recent financial performance of the charity. They are given the opportunity to meet employees and other trustees prior to appointment.

Once elected to the board, all trustees receive training on their roles and responsibilities as a trustee, including safeguarding training. There will always be one appointed safeguarding trustee on the board. Trustees are encouraged to attend an internal vision impairment awareness training day to familiarise themselves with some of the issues facing our client group and to attend other external training events, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role or enhance their understanding of the voluntary / sight loss sectors.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which shall not be less than six in number (unless determined otherwise by ordinary resolution) and shall not exceed twelve in number, administers the charity. The board meets bi-monthly and there are sub-committees and working groups covering Services, Finance & Fundraising and Governance which meet regularly.

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A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and service related activity.

Regular Subcommittees, comprising of a number of trustees, CEO and a manager, meet regularly to identify and recommend changes to strategy around finance, fundraising, development of services and policies. Recommendations are made to the full Board for approval. Recommendations are implemented by the CEO and his management team.

Management team

During 2023/2024 the management team consists of: M Spouge (Finance); L Fenton (Fundraising); E Lucas (Services).

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration policy for key management personnel is decided between the trustees and CEO when a new employee is appointed. For the CEO remuneration, the board of trustees will decide this on an as and when basis. No bonuses are paid to any key management personnel. The criteria for setting the remuneration level relates to the previous experience of the new employee.

Umbrella body

My Sight Notts is a member of Visionary – Linking Local Sight Loss Charities, providing valuable resource and support to local vision impairment charities. My Sight Nottinghamshire's CEO stood down as trustee and Vice Chair of Visionary this year and took up the role of Member Representative for Visionary's Midlands region.

Related parties

The charity has several areas of activity that involve joint working initiatives with other parties which share their aims in respect of the development of accessible services for people with visual impairments. This includes other local and national charities and community associations in addition to local authorities and health bodies.

Some of the related parties we have worked with this year include: Sight Support Derbyshire, The Macular Society, Thomas Pocklington Trust, RNIB, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board, Nottingham University Hospitals, Kingsmill Hospital, Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham Trent University (NTU), Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham Playhouse, New Medica, Inspire at Mansfield Library and MHR.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

1. Quarterly reviews of the charity's risk register at: managers' meetings, various subcommittees and at trustee board meetings;
2. An annual review of all the risks the charity may face;
3. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and

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4. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should such risks materialise.

Due to financial concerns in recent years, the Finance Subcommittee has Risk Review as a standing agenda item and continued to meet monthly, to address ongoing financial difficulties. A key element in the management of financial risk is the development and monitoring by the Finance Department, of a rolling eighteen-month forecast (in addition to the existing fixed forecast and management accounts) and the setting and regular review of our reserves policy by the trustees.

The potential for a drop in legacy income has long been identified as a significant risk and one that we encountered last year, with a substantial legacy having an unprecedented delay to completion. With other areas of income also generating fewer overall funds in the previous year, we redoubled our efforts in diversifying our income from the NHS and the private sector. This has long been part of our income strategy but has been slow to yield dividends due to changes brought about by the after effects of the Covid Pandemic. However this is beginning to change and has resulted in an NHS training contract, other NHS training opportunities and discussions around subcontracting Community Low Vision Services from a private healthcare provider going forward.

Fundraising events and activities are also risk assessed both financially and with regard to the health and safety of participants and the general public. My Sight Nottinghamshire have now adopted the same risk assessment criteria for the implementation of its social events, activities and day trips.

In recent years we have identified risks which have resulted in better emergency procedures and contingency plans and have given the impetus for better planning. Particular attention has been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of service users, visitors, volunteers, staff and event participants.

We have identified that there are some risks in matters relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults. To mitigate this, all service delivery staff receive updated safeguarding training, our Services Manager is trained as Safeguarding Lead for the charity and we have appointed a Safeguarding Trustee. All trustees have accessed safeguarding training.

We recently developed a Cyber Security Policy and Procedures, which all staff are required to sign and acknowledge and we have delivered training on Cyber Security to all staff.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- That people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire who are living with a visual impairment have the same life opportunities as everyone else;
- To provide opportunities for people with sight loss in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to achieve their own unique goals and enjoy a full and independent life beyond sight loss;

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- To improve the lives of people living with sight loss locally by providing support services, training, information, advice, social and leisure opportunities with the aim of enhancing their quality of life and increasing their independence.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the commissioning and continuation of services and activities.

Vision

Independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with sight loss in Nottinghamshire.

Statement of purpose

To enable independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with visual impairments by providing access to a person centered program of support.

Strategy

My Sight Nottinghamshire's Strategy is based on outcomes from ongoing consultation with local people with visual impairments and the strategic outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

The key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy:

1. To develop and deliver services in consultation with local people with sight loss.
2. To deliver services and activities that reflect the eight areas of the Sight Loss MOT:
 - Understanding your eye condition
 - Making the best use of your sight
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Managing at home
 - Getting out and about
 - Your finances and planning for the future
 - Work, learning and having your say
 - Having someone to talk to
3. To identify gaps in service provision, provide services where need is greatest and use our influence to improve the provision of public services for people with visual impairments in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
4. To work in partnership with other organisations providing services for our client group, including local authorities, those charities providing services for people with sight loss as well as organisations serving a wider demographic, who are likely to include people with visual impairments amongst their recipients such as Nottinghamshire Deaf Society, Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and Diabetes UK.
5. To commit to a Finance and Fundraising Strategy with diverse income streams, which can deliver essential services for people with visual impairments, whilst maintaining the stability of the organisation.

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My Sight Notts' Services

Supporting Independence

- Providing early intervention whilst people are awaiting rehabilitation and mobility training
- Teaching daily living and independent living skills
- Providing low vision assessments
- Providing sight loss advice on assistive equipment and technology solutions
- Smart Rooms – where people with sight loss can come and try out various smart solutions and other technologies and equipment
- Support with skills and confidence building to move nearer to, and into, employment

Emotional support

Shared Vision: is an intensive course, providing a space to look at practical solutions as well as space to talk and share experiences with others going through the same thing. Shared Vision will support people going through the stages of grieving, depression and anxiety associated with sight loss.

Peer Support: we provide a range of activities for peer support including social groups, coffee mornings, walking groups and shared emotional support.

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO): based in the Macular Clinic in Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham University Hospitals. Our ECLO supports people immediately after their diagnosis, reassuring them and ensuring they are referred internally to our services and signposted for additional support elsewhere. Our ECLO liaises with consultants to ensure patients are given Certificates of Visual Impairment and referrals to Low Vision where appropriate.

Our Level 4 Advanced Counselling students support people with poor mental health through talking therapy either face to face, on the phone or via video conferencing apps.

Creating social connections

Our social groups and coffee mornings meet in five locations across the county and provide a range of peer support and activities

Talking News service provides audio service for local news, stories of interest and What's On guides, delivered across the county every two weeks.

Our physical activities enable people to engage or re-engage with swimming, gym, walking and rambling as well as having the opportunity to try elite Paralympic sports such as Boccia and Goalball.

Our choir provides an uplifting opportunity to sing in a variety of community spaces. There is also an exchange programme with a visually impaired choir in Liverpool.

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A partnership with NTU and the Nottingham Contemporary enabling people to access arts and cultural activities through innovative audio description.

For Professionals

Accessibility audits, training, transcriptions and Digital Accessibility Group.

Accessibility Audits

We work with businesses to ensure that they can be as accessible as possible for people with sight loss. In 2023/2024 this has included working with managers to ensure that an individual can stay in work through reasonable adjustments and advice on Access to Work assessments; as well as carrying out full audits on buildings, websites, apps and literature. We produce a full audit report as well as an offer to train staff in sight loss awareness.

Sight Loss Awareness Training

We offer our Sight Loss Awareness training to professionals ensuring that any of their staff or visitors with sight loss are safe in the knowledge that people are trained to support them. The training is a mixture of practical and classroom activities and includes looking at the emotional consequences of being diagnosed with sight loss, barriers to independence, tech solutions and practical sighted guiding. We can deliver this training in house at our premises on Heathcoat Street in Nottingham or on site at the client's premises.

Transcription

Our transcriptions service converts a wide variety of documents into Braille, large print or audio file.

Digital Accessibility Group

Our Digital Accessibility group is made up of staff, volunteers and members with different eye conditions, different levels of sight and levels of tech knowledge. The group supports businesses to ensure that any software, websites or apps are accessible for people with sight loss. These are tested using a variety of different magnification and speech over software.

Volunteering

Volunteers are invaluable assets to My Sight Notts, offering time, skills and empathy to help improve the lives of individuals with sight loss. 133 volunteers added significant value to the work we do throughout 2023/2024.

Our excellent Lead Volunteers in our social groups, Walkie Talkie Wednesdays walking group and our rambling group deserve a special mention, going above and beyond for the service users they support, planning a variety of activities ensuring they are fun, informative and interactive. **The trustees and management acknowledge that without this volunteer help many activities, services and events, which are currently undertaken, would not be possible.**

Service Development and Impact

All of the services at My Sight are impacting positively on the lives of people living with sight loss. There are however, three newly developed areas that had a significant impact in 2023/2024, worth noting:

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A New Services Structure

At the beginning of the year, we looked at a change of structure in the way that we deliver services for people with sight loss. This meant not only some different staff roles but a completely new internal referral process and new way of supporting people through our services.

Previously the referral process had been piecemeal and we were not supporting people as well as we could have, we discovered that people were falling through the net. Feedback informed us that people trying to access our services were confused as different staff members would call them about different things - it was apparent that staff hadn't spoken to each other. Something urgently needed to change.

After consultation with service users, we decided on a model based on a single point of access. We felt that this was something that we could adopt and started to use this model for our services. As a result, all referrals now go to our Referrals Coordinator who will carry out a robust assessment based on the eight areas of the Sight Loss MOT.

Once this has been completed, the person is triaged and referred to the most relevant member of staff who will hold that 'case'.

Whilst piloting this system, we quickly discovered that the process was organic and needed to work with the service users. As a result, the new structure is evaluated regularly through case review meetings and changed as needed. Overall, the model has proved successful and we have seen a significant increase in the number of people we have supported as well as ensuring they receive a quality service.

Healthcare Professionals and Sight Loss Awareness Training

We have been delivering sight loss awareness training to healthcare professionals across Nottinghamshire. The training was designed to enable them to think about the barriers to independence faced by people with sight loss (particularly in their workplaces), along with the emotional consequences of sight loss. We also talked about communication – written and verbal – and how the lack of knowledge and unwillingness to change, could impact on a person's life.

The training included information on common eye conditions and the opportunity to learn how to safely guide someone with a visual impairment should they need it.

From June 2023 to March 2024, we trained 180 health care professionals over 18 sessions. This included those from:

Nottingham University Hospitals and Sherwood Forest Hospitals nursing, administration staff and volunteers; optometrists; local authority rehab and housing workers; occupational therapists; community health and wellbeing staff; stroke teams; psychotherapy and counselling students; physiotherapists; student wellbeing teams and personal assistants.

100% of the people that attended the training agreed or strongly agreed that they had increased their skills and knowledge and that they intended to apply the learning in their roles.

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The impact of the above, reaching more professionals with a more efficient referral process, along with a reduction in rehabilitation workers has resulted in a significant increase in the demand for our services. This is demonstrated below:

In 2021 – 2022 we supported 120 new people
In 2022 – 2023 we supported 117 new people
In 2023 – 2024 we supported 240 new people

In the first quarter of 2024 we supported just under 100 new people, suggesting a possible figure of 400 new people requiring support for 2024 – 2025. This is a phenomenal rise of referrals and one that we now need to plan for.

Works for me

Funded by the Thomas Pocklington Trust (TPT), Works for Me is an employment service that supports people with sight loss to gain the skills and confidence to move nearer to, or into, work.

My Sight Notts and Yorkshire based sight loss charity, Mysight York, were chosen by TPT to pilot the service in different areas of the country – they already run this service from their base in London.

Offering a range of interventions, with the focus on skills and confidence rather than actual job outcomes, Works for Me has proved to be an essential service for people with sight loss.

From April 2023 to March 24 Works for Me supported 45 people to increase their skills and confidence. This resulted in:

- 3 people gaining employment
- 20 people accessing training
- 6 people accessed volunteering opportunities
- 8 people having the confidence to challenge their employer and staying in work as a result
- 11 people supported with reasonable adjustments and Access to Work
- 19 people supported to write an effective CV and to access job sites

75% of working age people with sight loss are unemployed. There is a lack of understanding among employers about the support available to them to employ people with disabilities into work. Works for Me has impacted not only on the people we support, but also the employers we work with. It has helped to raise awareness of the talent employers are missing out on by not employing people with disabilities. It also raises awareness of government support that's available to help employers take on people with disabilities.

Achievements and Performance

Works for Me

With funding from the Thomas Pocklington Trust, we were able to set up Works for Me – an employment service supporting people to gain skills and confidence to move into or nearer to employment.

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The Macular Society Partnership

We worked in partnership with the Macular Society to restart their social and information group for Nottingham city – something that had stopped over the pandemic. The group started in October of 2023 with 3 participants and by April it had over 25 people regularly attending.

A New Services Structure

The implementation of a new structure in our services department, the adoption of a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system and a change in some staff roles has enabled an increase in referrals and a pathway through My Sight Notts that puts people at the heart of their support.

Training Healthcare Professionals

With funding from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board's (ICB) training budget we were able to train 180 healthcare professionals, increasing their skills and knowledge of sight loss and the impact this has on individuals. This training will ensure a much better patient experience.

Innovative Audio Description

In collaboration with Nottingham Trent University's School of Art and Design and the Nottingham Contemporary, we embarked on an Information Knowledge Exchange project that focused on innovative approaches to audio description. This collaboration to make arts and cultural experiences more accessible to people with sight loss, ensures inclusivity and enriching engagement for all.

Other My Sight Notts Achievements

My Sight Notts is committed to providing activities for people with visual impairments of all ages. As such, in August, we facilitated a family trip to Stonebridge City Farm in Nottingham. There were a total of 22 participants enjoying a range of activities.

In September, Nottingham Playhouse put on the play of 'The Real and Imagined Life of the Elephant Man'. The cast was a mix of people with physical and sensory disabilities and neurodiversity. To celebrate the launch of the play, we were invited to contribute to a display on the history of disability in Nottinghamshire. Our display showcased our own 180-year history as well as the history of tactile writing and magnification. We were also invited to watch the play.

Also in September, we launched the Mansfield Tech Support Hub at Mansfield Library. Working in partnership with Inspire, we were able to deliver a monthly drop-in IT session for people with sight loss.

In October, we were visited by a delegation of people with disabilities from Cuba who had come to England on a cultural visit through De Montford University. They had asked to hear our choir and we spent most of the afternoon talking to them and how our countries support people with disabilities. We are hoping that we can continue to engage with them and are looking at ways we can facilitate joint choir events online.

In 2023 – 2024:

- Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) supported 1294 people
- Our Sight Loss Advisors specialising in tech supported 76 individuals
- Our sight loss advisors specialising in equipment supported 199 individuals

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- Our employment service, Works for Me, supported 45 people
- Our activities (including social groups, swim, gym, walking and rambling) supported 166 individuals
- Our choir had 11 members
- Shared Vision supported 70 individuals
- Our Anything's possible tech sessions supported 33 individuals
- We trained 180 healthcare professionals in sight loss awareness

Outcomes

Our outcomes are based on the eight areas of the Sight Loss MOT – an assessment and impact tool that measures a person's journey through our services. Using our new CRM system and the Sight Loss MOT assessment tool, we found that:

60% of the people we have worked with have increased their independence

80% of people that did not understand their eye condition, have a better understanding and are able to make informed decisions on treatment plans and registration

100% of people have better skills and knowledge in making the best use of their sight

58% of people reporting poor mental and physical health and wellbeing feel better

65% of people have reduced isolation and loneliness

65% of people have increased their employment skills and confidence

For Professionals

Transcriptions

Our transcriptions service converts a variety of documents into Braille, large print or audio file. In 2023/2024 this has included transcribing council tax and housing benefit letters for Bolsover District Council, open day flyers for VisionAid, patient leaflets for Nottingham University Hospitals, Braille and large print menus for various restaurants and cafes as well as a whole range of personal cards and letters for individuals.

Digital Accessibility Group

Our Digital Accessibility group is made up of staff, volunteers and members with different eye conditions, different levels of sight and levels of tech knowledge.

The group supports businesses to ensure that any software or apps are accessible for people with sight loss. These are tested using a variety of different magnification and speech over software. In 2023/2024 this has included working with the RNIB on an accessibility app, MHR Ltd on their HR software and Healthwatch Nottingham and Nottinghamshire on the NHS app.

Training

We offer our Sight Loss Awareness training to professionals ensuring that any of their staff or visitors with sight loss are safe in the knowledge that people are trained to support them.

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The training is a mixture of practical and classroom activities and includes looking at the emotional consequences of being diagnosed with sight loss, barriers to independence, tech solutions and practical sighted guiding. We can deliver this training in house at our premises on Heathcoat Street in Nottingham or on site at the client's premises.

In 2023/2024 we delivered training to a variety of different businesses including the Theatre Royal and Concert Hall, Nottingham Trent University and various health care professionals.

Accessibility Audits

We work with businesses to ensure that they are as accessible as possible for people with sight loss. In 2023/2024 this has included a full access audit of Nottingham Contemporary. We continue working with organisations to ensure employees can stay in work through reasonable adjustments and advice on Access to Work assessments; as well as carrying out full audits on buildings, websites and literature. We produce full audit reports as well as an offer to train staff in sight loss awareness.

Fundraising

2023/2024 has marked a significant improvement in our fundraising income compared to recent years. We are incredibly grateful for the continued generosity of our supporters, whose funding enables us to drive positive impact across our projects and services.

Trusts and Grants – income: £280,079 (£104,944 2022/2023)

Donations from trusts, foundations, and grant-giving bodies remain a cornerstone of our income, generating £280,079 this year. We have been successful in securing multi-year funding, providing greater stability for our projects and the organisation overall. These grants include:

The National Lottery Community Fund: An award of £496,852 over five years to help 'Enable Independence for Visually Impaired People'; with the first installment received at the close of this financial year.

The Henry Smith Foundation: A three-year commitment of £153,400 to support mental health and wellbeing initiatives for older adults living with visual impairments in Nottinghamshire.

The Masonic Charitable Foundation: A pledge of £36,000 over the next three years to support our social hubs, aimed at reducing social isolation.

We also received the final installment of the Global Radio's 'Makes Some Noise' grant to support our Tech Befrienders program.

We extend our sincere thanks to the following funders for their generous contributions:

BNA Charitable Incorporated Organisations
Boots Charitable Trust
Charles Littlewood Hill Trust

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Foreman Hardy
JN Derbyshire Trust
Nottinghamshire Masonic Grand Lodge
Sir John Eastwood Foundation
Sport England
The Clothworkers Foundation
The Jesse Spencer Trust
The Jones 1986 Charitable Trust
The Skerrit Trust
The Thomas Farr Charity
Thomas Pocklington Trust

Other donations, fundraising and gifts: £92,746 (2022/2023: £28,340)

In addition to grants, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the community groups and individuals who have rallied to support our mission this year. These fundraising efforts are instrumental in helping us expand our reach and make a greater impact. Special thanks to:

- The Park Garden Trail - raising an impressive £3,880
- Juliette Bacon, who raised nearly £5,000 by running the London Marathon
- Amar Alwitary, who raised over £1,800 through his JustGiving appeal
- Our President Len Jackson and his wife Di, whose dedicated efforts including annual quiz and bridge events, raised £2,500
- John Godber Dance Group, contributing £570
- Wollaton Rotary, donating £500
- Our Visually Impaired Choir, whose carol singing at Victoria Centre raised £1,395
- Bassetlaw Social Group, raising £924 through a Christmas raffle
- Councilor's Appeal, contributing £50
- Other donors, supporters and regular givers

This incredible support from our community strengthens our programs, builds our resilience, and empowers us to continue making a difference. We thank every one of our supporters, knowing that together, we are creating lasting, positive change.

Charity Shops – £87,717 income (2022/2023: £84,107)

Our two charity shops in Mapperley and the City Centre continue to generate valuable unrestricted funds for the organisation. While mindful of the rising operational costs, both shops remained profitable, contributing a combined income total of £87,717—a slight increase from the previous year.

Legacy income £116,551 (2022/2023: £93,264)

Legacy income remains one of the charity's most meaningful sources of support, with Gifts in Wills totaling £116,551 this year. We are deeply grateful to those who have chosen to support the charity in this lasting way, ensuring their legacy lives on through our work.

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Financial review

2023/24 was a year of financial improvement for the charity with an impressive increase in income compared with the previous year. Cost cutting measures and salary savings implemented at the end of last year released more funds to streamline and improve our service delivery. We achieved our aim to secure more multiyear grant funding so most of our existing services will be fully funded for the next few years. We ended the year with a comfortable surplus enabling us to make a start on building back our depleted reserves and improving future financial stability for the charity.

Total incoming resources increased this year by 68% to £639,487 (2023: £380,577) and total resources expended decreased by 8% to £598,737 (2023: £651,633) which resulted in a year end surplus of £40,750 (£271,056 deficit in 2023).

The year saw an increase in income from trust and grant applications to £280,079 (2023: £104,944) and an increase in income from donations and gifts to £92,746 (2023: £28,340), however legacy income increased only slightly to £116,551 (2023: £93,264) which is lower than our historical averages for the second year. Income from our charity shops increased slightly to £87,717 (2023: £84,107) and our training and accessibility services brought in £10,688.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £132,232 (2023: £196,016) a decrease of £63,784. There is an amount of £46,000 included as designated funds.

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £170,360 (2023: £65,826) significantly higher than last year, multiyear funding instalments from the Lottery and Henry Smith were received in March for spending during 2024/2025.

Looking ahead, many of our services will have significantly greater financial stability, with full and partial funding for most over 3 and 5 year periods. However, we will continue to focus on securing further multiyear funding from trust and grant giving bodies and securing new income from NHS, the public sector and the private sector, as we aim to have all existing services fully funded. This will ultimately enable us to meet the increasing demand for our services, ensuring more individuals with visual impairments receive the support they deserve. Our Finance Subcommittee will continue close financial monitoring to ensure we capitalize on this year's success, enhancing our sustainable income model and building back our charitable reserves.

Plans for future periods

Due to the significant increase in referrals to our services, we have implemented regular case review meetings in order to ensure that we are not overwhelmed with referrals or a lack of resources to be able to cope with this increase in demand. These review meetings will enable us to keep track of resources and capacity to ensure we can meet this increased demand without overextending ourselves.

Over 2023/2024 we recognised the importance of having an employment service supporting people with visual impairments and so, thanks to funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, we are in a position to be able to continue delivering an employment support service in Nottinghamshire into 2024/2025. The service will have a new name but will continue to offer tailored support to empower individuals to build the necessary skills and confidence to move

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

nearer to, or into, work. Part of the new project will be around collaborating with employers to create more inclusive workplaces for people with sight loss.

We are committed to increasing the range of support dealing with the emotional impact of sight loss, with particular emphasis on increasing our provision of counselling sessions and Shared Vision groups. We will also explore ways in which we can support the wellbeing of our staff including the introduction of reflective practice sessions with a clinical supervisor.

We will consider options for joint working with our two local authorities and explore ways in which local sight loss charities can develop partnerships and share resources from fellow Visionary members from around the region.

We will implement a new CRM database system, Charity Log, which will enable us to record details and outcomes from the Sight Loss MOT. It will also record details of individuals' interactions with My Sight Notts. We will be able to monitor ladder outcomes, track which services people are using and collate and report on a variety of information including numbers of people accessing our services, number of sessions and various demographics.

2024/2025 will also see us exploring partnerships with accredited training providers to continue to offer sight loss awareness training to healthcare professionals. This will ensure that the training is recognised as a valuable resource for continuous professional development. This will not only support healthcare workers as individuals but support them to provide better care for patients with sight loss, ultimately leading to improved patient outcomes. We also aim to enhance our training sessions with VR technology and CPD accreditation.

In response to the growing demand for audio description and online digital support, we have committed to continuing involvement in projects like the Information and Knowledge Exchange Programme with NTU and the Nottingham Contemporary throughout 2024/2025. We will also work with health partners to ensure their apps and websites are accessible.

We will continue consulting with service users, volunteers, staff and trustees, developing our strategy to strengthen our current services and identify new services where needed. Any new services would have to be fully funded.

Pension liabilities

The charity participates in The Pensions Trust's Growth Plan. Until 30 September 2013, all contributions to the scheme were on a defined benefit basis. From 1 October 2013, contributions are made on a defined contribution basis. The scheme has been in deficit for a number of years and all participating employers are making yearly repayments as part of the recovery plan in place.

At the year end the charity's estimated additional contributions to the recovery plan amount to £2,743, including inflationary increases, over the remaining six years to 31 January 2025. A liability of £2,743 has been recognised in this year's financial statements. More information on this is included in note 19.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

From 1 February 2017 the charity joined National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Workplace Pension Scheme as part of the Government workplace pension reform. NEST is a trust-based defined contribution scheme and all eligible employees are auto enrolled.

Reserves policy

The committee has considered the reserves held by My Sight Nottinghamshire as at 31 March 2024 and continues to monitor this closely. The charity needs reserves to enable it to develop its long term aims as well as to ensure the continuation of its current activities. In order to meet their responsibilities and to ensure that the charity continues to operate on a going concern basis, the committee has reviewed the requirements and risks faced by the charity in both the short and medium term.

The trustees have agreed that the charity should endeavor to maintain a level of free reserves which is no less than 4 months and no more than 12 months running costs.

The charity defines its free reserves as the sum of its cash reserves plus the value of its investments. The free reserves of the charity at the balance sheet date stood at £132,232 (2023 £196,016). Total funds at the year-end were £302,592 (2023 £261,842). Unrestricted funds at the year-end were £132,232 (2023 £196,016) while restricted funds were £170,360 (2023 £65,826). Included within the unrestricted funds are designated funds totaling £46,000 (2023 £25,000).

The board believes the charity's free reserves and known forecast income are adequate to meet the obligations of the organisation in the medium term. The majority of its services are now funded through restricted funds, secured from a number of new multiyear funding streams. However, the charity's free reserves remain low and the organisation is committed to building back reserves over the next few years. A designated fund to safeguard against future shortfalls in legacy income has been written into the charity's accounts; an amount will be deposited into this fund every year that we receive more than our forecasted legacy income. Should other unrestricted funds be available, these may also be considered to bolster this fund.

Whilst the charity's finances are more stable, with significant sources of known income available for a number of years, the board recognises the continued need for regular scrutiny of income and expenditure and to this end the management and trustees have agreed that the Finance and Fundraising Sub Committee meetings shall meet bi-monthly to monitor cash flow with our rolling forecast and identify income opportunities and cost savings where necessary.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Financial review

The charity has a surplus of £40,750 this year compared to a deficit of £271,056 in 2023. The total incoming resources have increased by £258,910 to £639,487 and total resources expended have increased by £52,896 to £598,737.

Income from grant applications amounts to £280,079 (2023 – £104,944) this year and income from donations and gifts has increased from the prior year to £92,746 (2023 – £28,340). Legacy income has increased to £116,551 (2023 – £93,264) with legacy income coming from a range of individuals this year as last year. Charity shop income has increased by 4% this year to £87,717 (2023 – £84,107).

Total resources expended have decreased by 8% to £598,737 (2023 – £651,633). Management and trustees work together to regularly review the expenditure that the charity incurs and work at implementing policies to help reduce overall costs.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £132,232 (2023 – £196,016) an increase of £63,784. There is an amount of £46,000 included in designated funds (2023 - £25,000).

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £170,360 (2023 – £65,826), an increase of £104,534.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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 we are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiners are unaware; and
- We have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's Independent Examiners are aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Michael Conroy

.....
M Conroy
Company Secretary

Date: 11/25/2024 10:34 UTC

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 22 to 47.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



UHY Hacker Young LLP
14 Park Row
Nottingham NG1 6GR

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

David allum

.....
David Allum FCCA
UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants

14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

12/18/2024 08:50 UTC
Date:

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		2024			2023				
Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	
Income and endowments from:									
Donations and legacies	2	232,369	257,007	-	489,376	121,121	105,427	-	226,548
Charitable activities	3	34,774	-	-	34,774	50,833	-	-	50,833
Other trading activities	4	111,187	66	-	111,253	99,425	-	-	99,425
Investments	5	4,084	-	-	4,084	3,771	-	-	3,771
Total income and endowments		382,414	257,073	-	639,487	275,150	105,427	-	380,577
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	147,329	-	-	147,329	155,094	-	-	155,094
Charitable activities	7	298,868	152,540	-	451,408	413,535	83,004	-	496,539
Total expenditure		446,197	152,540	-	598,737	568,629	83,004	-	651,633
Net income/ (expenditure)		(63,783)	104,533	-	40,750	(293,479)	22,423	-	(271,056)
Transfers between funds	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(63,783)	104,533	-	40,750	(293,479)	22,423	-	(271,056)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward	26	196,016	65,826	-	261,842	489,495	43,403	-	532,898
Total funds carried forward	26	132,233	170,359	-	302,592	196,016	65,826	-	261,842

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The charity has not recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

The notes on pages 26 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		39,371		40,934
Current assets					
Stock		8,020		7,430	
Debtors	17	24,447		26,650	
Cash at bank and in hand		258,887		215,569	
		<u>291,354</u>		<u>249,649</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(25,390)		(22,870)	
Net current assets			<u>265,964</u>		<u>226,779</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			305,335		267,713
Provisions for liabilities	19		(2,743)		(5,871)
Net assets			<u>302,592</u>		<u>261,842</u>
Charity funds:					
Unrestricted funds	26		132,232		196,016
Restricted funds	26		170,360		65,826
Total charity funds			<u>302,592</u>		<u>261,842</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

For the year ended 31 March 2024, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on ...12/16/2024 11:50 UTC

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

J. Fisher

.....
J Fisher
Chair

12/16/2024 11:50 UTC

Date:

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

The notes on page 26 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Cash flow from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22	47,431		(286,116)	
Net cash flow from operating activities			<u>47,431</u>		<u>(286,116)</u>
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(8,197)		(413)	
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		-		2,956	
Interest received		<u>4,084</u>		<u>3,771</u>	
Net cash flow from investing activities			<u>(4,113)</u>		<u>6,314</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			43,318		(279,802)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			215,569		495,371
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>258,887</u>		<u>215,569</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:					
Cash at bank and in hand			258,887		215,569
Total cash and cash equivalents			<u>258,887</u>		<u>215,569</u>

The notes on page 26 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind (My Sight Nottinghamshire) is a registered charity in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are promoting greater independence for visually impaired people of all ages throughout the county by providing emotional support, practical advice, information and training together with a huge range of adapted leisure activities.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds

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

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(b) Funds (continued)

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes of those costs which are incurred while carrying out activities to generate monies for the charity and its activities; and
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes those costs which are incurred while carrying out the charity activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the category above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Short term leasehold property improvements	10% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line basis or 10% reducing balance basis or 15% reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Land and buildings were valued using the life of the leasehold agreement.

(g) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the average cost formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(j) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

Until 30 September 2013, pension contributions were to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

From 1 October 2013, the company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised when they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(m) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2024			2023	2024			2023
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
				Total £				Total £
Donations and gifts	92,068	678	-	92,746	27,107	1,233	-	28,340
Legacies	116,551	-	-	116,551	93,264	-	-	93,264
Grants	23,750	256,329	-	280,079	750	104,194	-	104,944
	232,369	257,007	-	489,376	121,121	105,427	-	226,548

3 Income from charitable activities

	2024			2023	2024			2023
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
				Total £				Total £
Sale of visual aids and equipment	23,226	-	-	23,226	32,259	-	-	32,259
Sale of transcription services	143	-	-	143	249	-	-	249
Sale of training services	10,095	-	-	10,905	17,500	-	-	17,500
Sale of accessibility services	500	-	-	500	825	-	-	825
	34,774	-	-	34,774	50,833	-	-	50,833

4 Income from other trading activities

	2024			2023	2024			2023
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
				Total £				Total £
Fundraising events	12,848	-	-	12,848	5,959	-	-	5,959
Shop income	87,717	-	-	87,717	84,107	-	-	84,107
Other	10,622	66	-	10,688	9,359	-	-	9,359
	111,187	66	-	111,253	99,425	-	-	99,425

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

5 Income from investments

	2024			Total £	2023			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Bank interest received	4,084	-	-	4,084	3,771	-	-	3,771
	<u>4,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,084</u>	<u>3,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,771</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

Note	2024			Total £	2023			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Staff training	-	-	-	-	106	-	-	106
Motor and travel	907	-	-	907	551	-	-	551
Sundry expenses	4,734	-	-	4,734	4,285	-	-	4,285
Computer costs	505	-	-	505	455	-	-	455
Insurance	2,033	-	-	2,033	1,843	-	-	1,843
Light, heat and power	3,229	-	-	3,229	2,160	-	-	2,160
Rates	700	-	-	700	1,408	-	-	1,408
Rent	27,541	-	-	27,541	27,131	-	-	27,131
Water rates	594	-	-	594	505	-	-	505
Repairs and maintenance	73	-	-	73	101	-	-	101
Telephone and fax	769	-	-	769	750	-	-	750
Advertising and publicity	-	-	-	-	459	-	-	459
Wages and salaries	12 94,779	-	-	94,779	102,134	-	-	102,134
Social security costs	12 7,253	-	-	7,253	9,215	-	-	9,215
Staff pensions	12 3,738	-	-	3,738	3,934	-	-	3,934
Printing, postage and stationery	453	-	-	453	58	-	-	58
Bad and doubtful debts	22	-	-	22	-	-	-	-
	<u>147,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,329</u>	<u>155,094</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,094</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	2024			2023			Total £	
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
Staff training		1,235	-	-	1,235	3,959	36	-	3,395
Motor and travel		10,869	5,773	-	16,642	14,000	3,042	-	17,042
Sundry expenses		7,131	5,819	-	12,950	12,524	1,543	-	14,067
Computer costs		1,332	5,928	-	7,260	2,291	509	-	2,800
Insurance		12,911	1,647	-	14,558	15,274	-	-	15,274
Light, heat and power		6,682	1,102	-	7,784	5,806	-	-	5,806
Rent		27,127	5,516	-	32,643	27,346	470	-	27,816
Water rates		657	110	-	767	726	-	-	726
Repairs and maintenance		2,814	1,394	-	4,208	5,372	-	-	5,372
Telephone and fax		9,130	3,100	-	12,230	9,977	1,018	-	10,995
Advertising and publicity		3,978	-	-	3,978	5,399	964	-	6,363
Purchases		20,436	-	-	20,436	28,370	-	-	28,370
Wages and salaries	12	163,309	101,944	-	265,253	237,886	67,565	-	305,451
Social security costs	12	10,278	7,485	-	17,763	15,476	4,610	-	20,086
Staff pensions	12	8,245	4,937	-	13,182	11,388	3,247	-	14,635
Pension provision		4,081	-	-	4,081	4,031	-	-	4,031
Printing, postage and stationery		(3,959)	7,715	-	3,756	4,126	-	-	4,126
Bank charges		963	70	-	1,033	1,139	-	-	1,139
Depreciation	16	7,676	-	-	7,676	7,906	-	-	7,906
(Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	(2,956)	-	-	(2,956)
Governance costs	11	3,973	-	-	3,973	4,096	-	-	4,096
		298,868	152,540	-	451,408	413,535	83,004	-	496,539

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

8 Analysis of expenditure

	Note	2024			2023		
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Raising funds	6	147,329	-	-	155,094	-	-
Charitable activities	7	298,868	152,540	-	413,535	83,004	-
		446,197	152,540	-	568,629	83,004	-
				598,737			651,633

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2024			2023		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	41,107	134,691	175,798	39,753	138,025	177,779
Support costs	10	106,222	316,638	422,860	115,341	358,513	473,854
		147,329	451,329	598,658	155,094	496,539	651,633

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

9 Direct costs

	2024			2023		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	-	1,235	1,235	106	3,395	3,501
Motor and travel	907	16,642	17,549	551	17,042	17,594
Sundry expenses	4,734	12,950	17,684	4,285	14,067	18,352
Computer costs	505	7,260	7,765	455	2,800	3,255
Insurance	2,033	14,558	16,591	1,843	15,274	17,116
Light, heat and power	3,229	7,784	11,013	2,160	5,806	7,967
Rates	700	-	700	1,408	-	1,408
Rent	27,541	32,643	60,184	27,131	27,816	54,946
Water rates	594	767	1,361	505	726	1,230
Repairs and maintenance	73	4,208	4,281	101	5,372	5,473
Telephone and fax	769	12,230	12,999	750	10,995	11,745
Advertising and publicity	-	3,978	3,978	459	6,363	6,821
Purchases	-	20,436	20,436	-	28,370	28,370
Bad and doubtful debts	22	-	22	-	-	-
	41,107	134,691	175,798	39,753	138,025	177,779

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

10 Support costs

	Note	2024			2023		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Wages & salaries	12	94,779	265,253	360,031	102,134	305,451	407,585
Social security costs	12	7,253	17,763	25,016	9,215	20,086	29,301
Staff pensions	12	3,758	13,182	16,920	3,934	14,635	18,569
Pension provision		-	4,081	4,081	-	4,031	4,031
Printing, postage & stationery		453	3,756	4,209	58	4,126	4,184
Legal & professional		-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges		-	1,033	1,033	-	1,139	1,139
Depreciation		-	7,597	7,597	-	7,906	7,906
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	(2,956)	(2,956)
Governance costs	11	-	3,973	3,973	-	4,096	4,096
		106,222	316,638	422,860	115,341	358,513	473,854

11 Governance costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examiner's fees	3,973	4,096
	3,973	4,096

12 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average number of persons employed by the charity (including trustees) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	Number	2024 FTE	Number	2023 FTE
Administration	2	2	4	3
Services	11	8	13	9
Fundraising	3	2	3	3
	16	12	20	15

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	360,031	407,574
Social security	25,016	29,301
Defined contribution pension costs	16,920	18,569
	<u>401,967</u>	<u>455,444</u>

One employee (2023 – one) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) between £60,000 - £70,000. No employees received employee benefits greater than £70,000.

13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2023 – £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £143,484 (2023 – £138,694). The highest paid employee received remuneration of £68,285 (excluding employer pension costs).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the Chief Executive, the Finance and Administrative Manager and the Fundraising Manager.

14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £3,973 (2023 – £4,096).

15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	9,760	10,406
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		-	(2,956)
Operating lease rentals	20	42,457	41,501
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	3,973	4,096
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation:					
At 1 April 2023	56,740	71,643	6,720	28,552	163,655
Additions	-	-	8,196	-	8,196
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	56,740	71,643	14,916	28,552	171,851
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2023	27,543	62,475	6,233	26,470	122,721
Charge for the year	5,674	1,370	633	2,082	9,760
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	33,217	63,845	6,866	28,552	132,481
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2024	23,523	7,798	8,050	-	39,370
At 31 March 2023	29,197	9,168	486	2,082	40,933

17 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	10,955	13,093
Prepayments and accrued income	13,492	13,557
	24,447	26,650

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,843	5,272
Taxation and social security	6,027	9,316
Other creditors	2,741	2,704
Accruals and deferred income	9,779	5,578
	25,390	22,870

19 Provisions for liabilities

	2024		2023	
	Defined benefit pension £	Total £	Defined benefit pension £	Total £
Provision brought forward	5,871	5,871	9,210	9,210
Interest expense	225	225	173	173
Deficit contributions paid	(3,355)	(3,355)	(3,345)	(3,345)
Re-measurement adjustment	2	2	(157)	(157)
Provision carried forward	2,743	2,743	5,871	5,871

The charity participates in a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the charity is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme of £3,312,000 per annum from 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025. The contributions are payable monthly and increase by 3% each 1 April.

20 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year	25,000	25,160
Due within two to five years	91,667	100,000
Due after five years	-	16,667
	116,667	141,827

21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £16,920 (2023 – £18,569).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,729 (2023 – £2,690).

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	40,750	(271,056)
Interest receivable	(4,084)	(3,771)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	9,760	10,406
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(2,956)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(590)	(24)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	2,203	(7,384)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	2,520	(7,992)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(3,128)	(3,339)
Net cash flow from operating activities	47,431	(286,116)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

23 Change in net debt

Current year

	1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2024 £
Cash	215,569	43,318	-	258,887
	215,569	43,318	-	258,887
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	215,569	43,318	-	258,887

Comparative year

	1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2023 £
Cash	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569

24 Related party transactions

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £12,251 (2023 – £12,668) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2023 – £nil).

25 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

26 Movement in funds

Designated funds – Heathcoat Street reinstatement

The trustees have designated £5,000 per annum starting from 2018/19 for the potential costs of reinstating the Heathcoat Street premises to its former condition. A further £5,000 will continue to be designated annually until the estimated £50,000 has been designated. The transfers between the designated and unrestricted funds are in order to reflect this.

Designated funds – Legacy Shortfall

To safeguard against future shortfalls in legacy income, the trustees have agreed to designate any legacy funds that exceed the forecasted legacy figure. In 2023/24 this resulted in £16,000 being designated.

Restricted funds – Thursday Group

Thursday Group includes grants, donations and service user contributions toward the cost of running Thursday social groups including day trips and other communal outings.

Restricted funds – Talking Newspaper

Talking Newspaper represents funds received for the provision of upgrading equipment.

Restricted funds – Sight Matters

The Sight Matters fund consists of grant and service user contributions towards the cost of running this group.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities

The Big Lotteries Reaching Communities fund consists of grants that are used towards the cost of serving the community.

Restricted funds – Befriending My Guide

Befriending My Guide represents grant income contribution towards the home visit and mobile support services which are part of the charity's outreach work.

Restricted funds – HEEM ELCO and Peer Support

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer provision for mid-Notts hospitals offering advice and support to visually impaired people during eye clinic visits and to deliver a sight loss educational project.

Restricted funds – Newark Group

Funding from Active Partners Trust Tackling Inequalities awarded to our Newark Social Group to provide technology to enable visually impaired members to keep in touch during the Covid lockdown and to provide individual chair-based exercise equipment to be used in the home to help members stay active.

Restricted funds – Building Accessibility / Smart Room

Funding from Counsellor Wallace at Nottinghamshire County Council to spend on Heathcoat Street accessibility alterations, including accessible signage, audible signage, sound baffling etc.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Restricted funds - ECLO

Provision of an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) based at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham. The role of the ECLO is to offer practical advice, emotional support and can refer to other My Sight Notts services or external services to support with sight loss.

Restricted funds - Global Make Some Noise Tech Project

A tech befriending project for one and a half years, including 2 part time Sight Loss Advisor roles. The project will engage volunteers to support people who are blind or visually impaired to improve their technology skillset and digital access, reducing isolation and increasing independence.

Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Works for Me

An employment service called Works for Me, funded by and working in partnership with the Thomas Pocklington Trust. The service offers confidence and skills support, events and advice for people with sight loss to get into work, stay in work or become work ready.

Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Internship

A nine-month paid internship to work as a Sight Loss Advisor, funded by and working in partnership with Thomas Pocklington Trust as part of their Get Set Progress internships programme for people with sight loss to secure that first rung on the career ladder or who are returning to work following a career break.

Restricted funds - Support Centre

Funded by Sir John Eastwood, Charles Littlewood Hill, Awards for All and JN Derbyshire. The Equipment and Advice centre provides advice and practical hands-on equipment demonstrations and training at our Heathcoat Street centre with one of our Sight Loss Advisors. We also have a Smart Room which is designed to be a real living room and kitchen environment and showcases a range of useful tech and equipment to support independence at home.

Restricted funds - Shared Vision

A series of group workshops that help to come to terms with sight loss. Focusing on the practical and emotional effects, Shared Vision gives the opportunity to express feelings, share experiences with others and to learn from each other. Promotes continued connections and friendships and covers support sessions for family, carers and friends to help them understand and support with sight loss.

Restricted funds - Tandem Project

Providing group tandem rides in partnership with Ridewise.

Restricted funds – BNA Fund VR Headsets

Funding for virtual reality sight loss simulator headsets and training package to enhance the charity's professional sight loss awareness training programme and accessibility service

Restricted funds – Boots Charity Log Database

Contribution towards building a database to support the Sight Loss MOT tool, implementation and overseeing and training staff on the new processes

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Restricted funds – Sport England and Healthy Lifestyles

Providing a programme of healthy activities and exercise classes to people suffering with sight loss

Restricted funds – Will Trust Referrals Role

Funding towards a Central Access Point (Triage) 12 month pilot project which will help reshape the way that referrals to the organisation are processed and ultimately lead to a more efficient, person- centred and holistic provision for those living with sight loss across Nottinghamshire.

Restricted funds – Clothworkers IT Equipment

For the purchase of IT equipment for the charity and to support the Tech Befrienders project

Restricted funds – National Lottery Enabling Independence

Five year funding for a project providing peer-informed comprehensive support through a more streamlined, efficient delivery model. Fostering independence and building a strong sense of community among visually impaired individuals.

The project will benefit approx. 500 visually impaired individuals in the first year, along with 40 volunteers. Over the lifetime of the project, a minimum of 2,500 individuals will benefit.

Restricted funds – Henry Smith Mental Health & Wellbeing

Improving Lives grant towards three years' running costs of a project providing mental health and wellbeing support for older people living with visual impairments in Nottinghamshire.

Restricted funds – Masonic Foundation Hubs/Social Groups

Creating Connections – Three year funding towards the running costs of social hubs for elderly visually impaired people.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	171,016	382,413	(446,197)	(21,000)	86,232
Designated funds					
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	25,000	-	-	5,000	30,000
<i>Legacy shortfall fund</i>	-			16,000	16,000
Total unrestricted funds 2024	196,016	382,413	(446,197)	-	132,232
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,149	315	(70)	-	1,394
Talking Newspaper	1,215	-	(68)	-	1,147
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	7,404	-	-	-	7,404
Befriending My Guide	1,570	5,000	(2,843)	-	3,727
HEEM ECLO and Peer Support	14,956	-	(14,956)	-	-
Newark Group	1,614	-	(1,614)	-	-
Building Accessibility / Smart Room ECLO	2,977	7,500	(995)	-	9,482
Global Make Some Noise Tech Project	99	12,500	(12,599)	-	-
Thomas Pocklington Works for Me	17,972	26,250	(35,256)	-	8,966
Thomas Pocklington Internship	-	-	-	-	-
Support Centre	12,000	11,000	(18,008)	-	4,992
Shared Vison	-	-	-	-	-
Tandem Project	504	-	-	-	504
BNA Fund VR Headsets	-	31,004	-	-	31,004
Boots Charity Log Database	-	9,635	(5,258)	-	4,376
Sport England Healthy Lifestyles	-	5,500	(90)	-	5,410
Will Trust Referrals Role	-	20,000	(13,429)	-	6,571
Clothworkers IT Equipment	-	8,400	(8,400)	-	-
National Lottery Enabling Independence	-	58,929	-	-	58,929
Henry Smith Mental Health & Wellbeing	-	48,600	(23,502)	-	25,098
Masonic Foundation Hubs/Social Groups	-	12,440	(12,440)	-	-
Total restricted funds 2024	65,827	257,073	(152,540)	-	170,360
Total funds 2024	261,844	639,487	(598,737)	-	302,592

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Comparative year	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	201,271	275,150	(560,404)	255,000	171,017
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	(250,000)	-
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	20,000	-	-	5,000	25,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	(8,224)	-	-
<i>Counselling service</i>	10,000	-	-	(10,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds 2023	489,495	275,150	(568,628)	-	196,016
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,521	97	(470)	-	1,148
Talking Newspaper	1,742	-	(527)	-	1,215
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	7,404	-	-	-	7,404
Befriending My Guide	1,237	7,000	(6,667)	-	1,570
HEEM ECLO and Peer Support	24,589	-	(9,633)	-	14,956
Newark Group	1,614	-	-	-	1,614
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	3,941	-	(964)	-	2,977
ECLO	-	15,000	(11,989)	-	3,011
Global Make Some Noise Tech Project	-	25,000	(24,900)	-	100
Thomas Pocklington Works for Me	-	19,688	(1,716)	-	17,972
Thomas Pocklington Internship	-	12,507	(12,507)	-	-
Support Centre	-	20,000	(8,000)	-	12,000
Shared Vison	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Tandem Project	-	1,135	(631)	-	504
Total restricted funds 2023	43,403	105,427	(83,004)	-	65,826
Total funds 2023	532,898	380,577	(651,633)	-	261,842

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets	39,788	(417)	-	39,371
Cash and current investments	119,836	170,360	-	290,196
Other current liabilities	(24,649)	417	-	(24,232)
Provisions	(2,743)	-	-	(2,743)
	132,232	170,360	-	302,592

Comparative year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets	38,850	2,083	-	40,933
Cash and current investments	183,824	65,826	-	249,650
Other current liabilities	(20,787)	-	-	(22,870)
Provisions	(5,871)	-	-	(5,871)
	196,016	65,826	-	261,842

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales - Charity number 511288

Accounts

Charity Number: 511288
Company Registration Number: 01535327

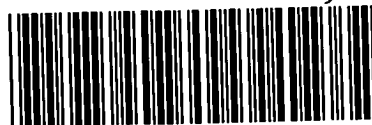
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 511288

Company Registration Number 01535327

Trustees

F Dale	
K Dear	(resigned 31/05/2022)
L Ellis	
M Evans	(Treasurer)
J Fisher	(Chair)
L Jones	
S Kauser	
K Skill	
G Stapleton	(Vice Chair)
A Youatt	(resigned 04/11/2022)

Company secretary M J Conroy

President L Jackson OBE

Registered office 10 – 12 Carlton Street
Nottingham
NG1 1NN

Independent examiner UHY Hacker Young
14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Bankers National Westminster Bank
plc
16 South Parade
Nottingham
NG1 2JX

HSBC Bank plc
26 Clumber Street
Nottingham
NG1 3GA

Mansfield Building Society
Regent House, Regent Street
Nottingham
NG18 1SS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The directors, who are also trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016, and Update Bulletin 2 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

F Dale
K Dear (Resigned May 2022)
L Ellis
M Evans
J Fisher
L Jones
S Kauser
K Skill
G Stapleton
A Youatt (Retired 4th November 2022)

Structure, governance and management

Legal status and governing documents

My Sight Nottinghamshire ("My Sight Notts") is the working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind, and is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Anyone over the age of 16 who is visually impaired (or the parent or guardian of a visually impaired child under the age of 16) can become a member of the Company. At all times the number of members shall not be less than ten. In July 2017 the charity abolished the subscription fee for membership and all service users on our database who wished to become members did so.

My Sight Notts is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

The charity has obtained, under section 30 of the Companies Act 1985, license to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Appointment of trustees

The Chair of the trustees is nominated by the Board of trustees. The full capacity of the board is twelve trustees. One quarter of the trustees are subject to retire by rotation annually. If one quarter of the number of trustees is not a whole number, the number will be rounded.

If there is only one trustee who is subject to retirement by rotation, they shall retire. The trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been the longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but between persons who became or were last re-appointed trustees on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.

No person other than a trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or re-appointed as a trustee at any general meeting unless:

1. They are recommended by the trustees; or
2. Not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date for the meeting, notice has been executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment; and
3. Receives a majority vote from members eligible to vote.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The Trustees' skills base is reviewed by a Governance Working Group (which includes the Chair and the CEO) and the Board's skills need, gender balance and percentage of visually impaired trustees is assessed. New trustees are sought based on the needs identified by the Governance Working Group (and later discussed at the trustees' board meeting). The charity then advertises, sends mailings to appropriate sectors and petitions existing contacts for candidates to apply to join the board. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to stand for election onto the board by the membership at the next AGM. A candidate may be co-opted onto the board in advance of the vote if there is a need for their skills to be utilised in the interim.

New trustees have access to information intended to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. They are given the opportunity to meet employees and other trustees prior to appointment. Once elected to the board, all trustees receive training on their roles and responsibilities as a trustee and trustees are encouraged to attend an internal vision impairment awareness training day to familiarise themselves with some of the issues facing our client group and to attend other external training events, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which shall not be less than six in number (unless determined otherwise by ordinary resolution) and shall not exceed twelve in number, administers the charity. The board meets bi-monthly and there are sub-committees and working groups covering Services, Finance & Fundraising and Governance which meet regularly.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and service related activity.

Regular Subcommittees, comprising of a number of trustees, CEO and a manager, meet regularly to identify and recommend changes to strategy around finance, fundraising, development of services and policies. Recommendations are made to the full Board for approval. Recommendations are implemented by the CEO and his management team.

Management team

During 2022/ 2023 the management team consists of: M Spouge (Finance); L Fenton (Fundraising); E Lucas (Services); J Scarle (Marketing).

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration policy for key management personnel is decided between the trustees and CEO when a new employee is appointed. For the CEO remuneration, the board of trustees will decide this on an as and when basis. No bonuses are paid to any key management personnel. The criteria for setting the remuneration level relates to the previous experience of the new employee.

Umbrella body

My Sight Notts is a member of Visionary – Linking Local Sight Loss Charities, providing valuable resource and support to local vision impairment charities. My Sight Nottinghamshire's CEO is currently Vice Chair of Visionary.

Related parties

The charity has several areas of activity that involve joint working initiatives with other parties which share their aims in respect of the development of accessible support services for people with visual impairments. This includes other local and national charities and community associations in addition to local authorities and health bodies.

My Sight Notts currently has an ongoing partnership with The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association to deliver the My Guide Service; a service which was developed by Guide Dogs in partnership with local vision impairment charities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

1. Bi monthly risk reviews in the trustee board meetings;
2. Bi monthly risk reviews in the charity's various subcommittees;
3. An annual review of all the risks the charity may face;
4. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and
5. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should such risks materialise.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Due to financial concerns in recent years, the Finance Subcommittee has Risk Review as a standing agenda item and this year increased the frequency of its meetings to monthly, in an attempt to address ongoing financial difficulties. A key element in the management of financial risk is the development, and monitoring by the Finance Department, of a rolling eighteen month forecast (in addition to the existing fixed forecast and managed accounts) and the setting and regular review of the reserves policy by the trustees.

The potential for a drop in legacy income has long been identified as a significant risk and one that was realised this year, with a substantial legacy having a considerable (ongoing) delay to completion. With other areas of income also generating fewer overall funds we have redoubled our efforts on diversifying our income from the NHS and the private sector. This has long been part of our income strategy but has been slow to yield dividends due to changes brought about by the after effects of the Covid Pandemic. However this is beginning to change and has resulted in an NHS training contract, other NHS training opportunities and discussions around subcontracting Community Low Vision Services from a private healthcare provider going forward.

Fundraising events and activities are also risk assessed both financially and with regard to the health and safety of participants and the general public. My Sight Nottinghamshire have now adopted the same risk assessment criteria for the implementation of its social events, activities and day trips.

In recent years we have identified risks which have resulted in better emergency procedures and contingency plans and have given the impetus for better planning. Particular attention has been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of service users, visitors, volunteers, staff and event participants.

We have identified that there are some risks in matters relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults. To mitigate this, all service delivery staff receive updated safeguarding training, our Services Manager is trained as Safeguarding Lead for the charity and we have appointed a Safeguarding Trustee. All trustees will have accessed safeguarding training by February 2024.

We have recently developed a Cyber Security Policy and Procedures, which all staff are required to sign and acknowledge and we are developing training on Cyber Security for all staff.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- That people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire who are living with a visual impairment have the same life opportunities as everyone else;
- To provide opportunities for people with sight loss in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to achieve their own unique goals and enjoy a full and independent life beyond sight loss;
- To improve the lives of people living with sight loss locally by providing support services, training, information, advice, social and leisure opportunities with the aim of enhancing their quality of life and increasing their independence.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the commissioning and continuation of services and activities.

Vision:

Independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with sight loss in Nottinghamshire.

Statement of purpose

To enable independence, inclusion and empowerment for people with visual impairments by providing access to a person centered program of support.

Strategy

My Sight Nottinghamshire's Strategy is based on outcomes from ongoing consultation with local people with visual impairments and the strategic outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

The key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy:

1. To develop and deliver services in consultation with local people with sight loss monitored via My Sight Nottinghamshire's Lived experience Subcommittee and through the development of a number of increased opportunities for service user feedback.
2. To deliver services and activities that reflect the eight areas of the Sight Loss MOT:
 - Understanding your eye condition
 - Making the best use of your sight
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Managing at home
 - Getting out and about
 - Your finances and planning for the future
 - Work, learning and having your say
 - Having someone to talk to
3. To identify gaps in service provision, provide services where need is greatest and use our influence to improve the provision of public services for people with visual impairments in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
4. To work in partnership with other organisations providing services for our client group, including local authorities, those charities providing services for people with sight loss as well as organisations serving a wider demographic, who are likely to include people with visual impairments amongst their recipients such as Nottinghamshire Deaf Society, Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and Diabetes UK.
5. To commit to a Finance and Fundraising Strategy with diverse income streams, which can deliver essential services for people with visual impairments, whilst maintaining the stability of the organisation. Our priorities for 2023/24 will be securing multi-year grant funding and NHS contracts to reduce our dependence on legacy income.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

My Sight Notts' Services

Practical Support: Sight Loss Advice, including equipment, tech solutions, daily living skills and employment support:

Low Vision Advice:

Magnification and appropriate lighting are vital to clients living with Low Vision. We run specialist days to support people in using their magnifiers and assessing whether their magnification strength needs to change. We also discuss Eccentric Viewing Technique, where appropriate and provide teaching sessions on this skill for reading and activities. For many people, good lighting is key to maximising their remaining vision; we have a variety of task lights that we demonstrate as well as daylight bulbs which can be effective in enhancing vision. This service enables people with vision impairments to make the best use of the sight they have, retain and often regain a level of independence in their communications and daily living.

Support Centre and Mobile Equipment Advice and Support Service:

Alongside our magnifiers we have a range of high and low-tech accessibility products; our Sight Loss Advisors offer a 'hands on' experience, providing advice and information and demonstrations of equipment to assist people with visual impairments in their day-to-day activities. Products include talking clocks, magnifiers, liquid level indicators, canes, diaries, calendars and games.

Additionally the service provides information about other My Sight Nottinghamshire services as well as a wide range of leaflets and information about eye conditions, product catalogues, social services and other organisations providing support for people with visual impairments. We also stage exhibitions of equipment, advice and information at our hubs in Worksop, Newark, Mansfield and Nottingham.

This service is essential in giving people with visual impairments the opportunity to discover and try the wide range of products available to help them to be independent and safe at home and whilst they are out and about, as well as enabling independence and confidence with communications.

Technology classes and home tuition

Our IT Service enables people with visual impairments (regardless of their level of sight loss) to achieve far greater independence. Using accessible software in computers, tablets, smart phones and apps, service users are enabled to achieve greater independence in personal communication, shopping, managing personal finances and employment prospects, as well as activities which the majority of people with sight loss would otherwise require assistance to undertake. As new apps are developed, technology is increasingly becoming an essential daily living aid, providing a wide range of support to enable people with visual impairments to live more independently. Our Sight Loss Advisors also offer this service in the community via home visits.

Technology can transform the lives of people living with sight loss; accessibility is built into nearly all new devices and additional apps can supplement this in a variety of increasingly creative ways. As technology solutions become ever more inventive and artificial intelligence comes into the mix; understanding technology becomes an essential aid to people living with sight loss and the demand for this service increases.

Alongside our Sight Loss Advisors we have a number of "Tech Befriending" volunteers who are trained and paired with people with sight loss who feel they need someone they can turn to

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

when they need tech support, enabling access to this increasingly vital service by a greater number of people.

Emotional Support: Shared Vision, Hospital based ECLO Service, My Guide Befriending

Shared Vision

Shared Vision is our emotional and practical support service that focuses on a peer support model. A series of workshops enables people to share their sight loss experience, adapt to living with sight loss and understand that they are not alone. The sessions also offer practical daily living solutions to remain as independent as possible.

This peer support based group activity offers practical advice and emotional support so that people do not have to go through the challenges of sight loss on their own. It's a great way to meet other local people going through a similar experience, to share ideas and develop coping strategies that will help them face the future with greater confidence.

The programme covers the following areas in detail: Making the best of your sight; Getting out and about and managing at home; Finance, benefits and concessions; Self-help, self-care, your health and wellbeing. By addressing the emotional and practical impact of sight loss together, Shared Vision delivers transformative results enabling people to adapt to a life with sight loss.

The peer relationships built in Shared Vision ensure that people with sight loss can connect with others who have successfully navigated similar journeys. Over the past year, this peer support has provided people with guidance, support and encouragement, helping individuals with sight loss to build confidence and overcome challenges.

Hospital Based Support

Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) and volunteers, based in the Ophthalmology Department at Queens Medical Centre Campus of Nottingham University Hospitals, enable us to advise and give support to patients at the point of most need for people recently diagnosed with sight loss.

Our ECLO and volunteers are available to visit within the waiting areas and wards of the hospital to provide information, guidance, emotional support, referrals and sign posting, but most importantly, a listening ear to newly diagnosed and recently treated patients.

When patients are first diagnosed with a permanent sight loss condition, they are often devastated by this news and don't know which way to turn, the ECLO Service is often a lifeline to helping people come to terms with the emotional impact of their sight loss. It also helps eye patients understand what is happening to them, what happens next, the range of support available to them and how they can access this support.

Befriending, Tele-befriending and My Guide Services

For those people with visual impairments who are unable to get out and about, we provide home visits to reduce social isolation and improve mental well-being. Volunteers help with simple tasks such as regular visits to the service users' homes for a cup of tea and a chat, reading mail and newspapers. We match a suitable volunteer with a service user for weekly visits. Priority is given to those most in need, for example those who have little or no contact with family, neighbours or friends.

We developed a telephone based befriending service, to help meet the challenges brought about by various lockdowns in 2020 and 2021; a lot of these partnerships continue to flourish.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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Also working alongside our partners at Guide Dogs, My Sight Nottinghamshire delivers the My Guide Service which aims to reduce the isolation that many people with sight loss experience, helping people rebuild their confidence and regain their independence. As part of the scheme, people with visual impairments are matched with a My Guide volunteer who has received My Guide training endorsed by VISION 2020. Volunteers are able to: guide their partner to social, retail and leisure activities; help people establish lasting relationships with community members who can, in turn, help them get out more; working with their My Guide partners, they can work with visually impaired individuals setting clear goals to help them become more independent by providing a bridge to the community in which they live.

Volunteers are essential for the delivery of our My Guide and Befriending Services. 22 volunteers helped deliver this service throughout the year, reducing the loneliness and isolation often experienced by people with visual impairments and helping people to regain their confidence and enabling them to go out into the world again.

Social Activities: Peer and social groups, sports and physical activities, arts and choir

Social groups and activities

Social, activity-based services for people with visual impairments are provided at our hubs in the city and county. Hubs in Nottingham, Mansfield, Newark and Bassetlaw provide an opportunity for people with visual impairments to get together, reduce isolation and loneliness, enjoy accessible leisure activities and share valuable support amongst peers going through similar experiences.

Peer support gives people with visual impairments knowledge, solutions, ideas and most of all confidence that they can cope, live their life with sight loss and the knowledge that they are not going through their journey alone. The social groups are supported by 20 volunteers who help with driving, guiding, planning and running activities.

Sports and healthy lifestyle services

Through this service, we offer sporting opportunities, which bring people together, facilitate peer support and build confidence through sport and exercise. This service also raises awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, with particular emphasis on the benefits to sight.

Specifically, we deliver facilitated swimming and gym sessions; we have a fortnightly rambling group and a walking talking group for mental health; we also have team sports, including Nottingham Sheriffs Goalball Teams in association with Nottingham University. We also hold regular Ten Pin Bowling sessions and have started Boccia taster sessions. All of our sports and healthy lifestyle services are supported by eleven volunteers.

Arts and Choir

We delivered a variety of arts activities in the city centre and from our hubs in the county via our Arts Officer. These sessions are equally suitable to people with visual impairments who wish to become more creative and may wish to develop their artistic skills as well as those who just wish to try a new activity and enjoy the social aspect of the groups. Attendees also have the opportunity to attend a number of arts related trips and talks.

The My Sight Notts Choir meets fortnightly in the city centre. We provide audio CDs and large print song sheets to make the choir accessible for people with visual impairments. They frequently attend a range of venues where they perform to a variety of audiences.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Our arts groups gain confidence by creating and exhibiting their work, through peer support in the groups and from working together in the choir. Creating and singing help to engender a positive outlook and improve the mental health of people who are living with sight loss. We are able to deliver the arts and choir activities thanks to the additional assistance of five arts volunteers.

Talking News

Talking News is an audio service for local news and interest stories. We have a group of amazing, dedicated volunteers that record local county news every two weeks, along with stories of interest and 'What's On' guides. These are then sent out to be listened to by people across the county.

For Professionals

Accessibility audits, training, transcriptions, Digital Accessibility Group.

Accessibility Audits

We work with businesses to ensure that they can be as accessible as possible for people with sight loss. In 2022/2023 this has included working with managers to ensure that an individual can stay in work through reasonable adjustments and advice on Access to Work assessments; as well as carrying out full audits on buildings, websites and literature. We produce a full audit report as well as an offer to train staff in sight loss awareness.

Sight Loss Awareness Training

We offer our Sight Loss Awareness training to professionals ensuring that any of their staff or visitors with sight loss are safe in the knowledge that people are trained to support them. The training is a mixture of practical and classroom activities and includes looking at the emotional consequences of being diagnosed with sight loss, barriers to independence, tech solutions and practical sighted guiding. We can deliver this training in house at our premises on Heathcoat Street in Nottingham or on site at the clients premises.

Transcription

Our transcriptions service converts a wide variety of documents into Braille, large print or audio file.

Digital Accessibility Group

Our Digital Accessibility group is made up of staff, volunteers and members with different eye conditions, different levels of sight and levels of tech knowledge. The group supports businesses to ensure that any software, websites or apps are accessible for people with sight loss. These are tested using a variety of different magnification and speech over software.

Volunteering

Volunteers are invaluable assets to My Sight Notts, offering time, skills and empathy to help improve the lives of individuals with sight loss. In 2022/2023 120 volunteers added significant value to the work we do.

Our excellent Lead Volunteers in our social groups, Walkie Talkie Wednesdays walking group and our rambling group deserve a special mention. They go above and beyond for the service

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

users they support, planning a variety of activities ensuring they are fun, informative and interactive.

In 2022/2023 we celebrated all of our valued volunteers through a number of celebrations (usually involving cake!). This included celebrating National Receptionists Day in May, Volunteers Week in June and a variety of other celebrations throughout the year.

In early 2023 we worked with Nottingham Trent University on their Community Engaged Learning programme. We submitted some briefs for projects including a podcast project, volunteer matching database and research project into hard to reach communities. We will be attending a showcase in June 2023 to look at these projects.

The trustees and management acknowledge that without this volunteer help many activities, services and events, which are currently undertaken, would not be possible.

Service development

During 2022/2023 we explored different ways of working to ensure that the people we support are at the heart of what we do. In order to fully implement some changes, it became apparent that we would need to restructure our staff team. This, coupled with the financial difficulties we faced during the year, meant that in January 2023, we had to make the difficult decision to put a number of roles at risk of redundancy.

As a result of our redundancy consultation both our Services and Management Team were reduced. Our Arts Development Officer role was made redundant with Jeanne Roberts leaving that position in late February. Jeanne's legacy will live on in our choir which we are committed to keep going as well as our partnership with Nottingham Trent University School of Art and Design. Also during this process Julie Scarle, our Marketing and Communications Manager, offered to take voluntary redundancy and left us at the end of March. Matt Harrison, our Services Supervisor, also left us during this period to take up a position with Thomas Pocklington Trust setting up Sight Loss Councils in the East Midlands; we hope we will be working closely with the Sight Loss Council's going forward.

We have continued building on the life-changing digital and tech support we embedded as part of our offer throughout the pandemic, enabling people to stay connected and independent. In May 2022 the Thomas Pocklington Trust trialed a funded internship programme at My Sight Notts which enabled us to appoint a nine month, visually impaired, paid intern placement supporting our Sight Loss Advisors as a technology specialist providing additional support for our members.

In 2022 we were able to repurpose restricted money we had from the National Lottery's People's Projects (originally for a Community Café, which had to close prematurely due to the pandemic) to develop a new Smart Room to demonstrate home technology. In the Smart Room we have been able to demonstrate technology supporting people to implement smart lighting, heating, security and entertainment systems, with talking and voice activated solutions. The Smart Room also allowed us to deliver a number of 'try before you buy' sessions, demonstrating a range of tech and equipment; including talking TVs, microwaves, induction hobs and scales.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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A level 4 counselling student joined us as a volunteer counsellor in 2022, supporting individuals with a range of coping strategies and talking therapies. This provision has added immense value to the emotional support work we already do. Our counsellor, Jeremy, supports people either face to face, via video call or telephone. Jeremy has undertaken additional RNIB training to ensure he is able to specifically support people with sight loss.

Thomas Pocklington also helped us to develop a project that seeks to address the alarming statistics of unemployment amongst people with sight loss: 75% of people with sight loss who are able to work are unemployed. We want to change that. "Works for Me" is a brand-new project which started in March 2023. Funded by the Thomas Pocklington Trust, "Works for Me" will support people with sight loss to gain the skills and confidence to move nearer to, or into work.

We have continued to work with external organisations to ensure people with visual impairments have been considered in the design of their digital and physical services, environments and facilities; ensuring they are as accessible to as they can be. This led to the establishment of the Digital Accessibility Group (DAG) a group of service users and visually impaired staff who have worked with companies and organisations to test if their websites and other digital engagement systems are accessible to people with sight loss.

We have continued working with NHS bodies and the local authority in an attempt to improve the accessibility of their services and to improve the pathways for sight loss support services. This has resulted in an NHS training contract, through which we are training Healthcare Professionals on Sight Loss Awareness and a review of Low Vision Services.

Our restructure at the end of the year enabled us to develop new ways of working for our sight loss advisor staff, which will create a caseload based working model providing a smoother experience for people joining our services. Our new structure includes a single entry point for new service users, where their needs are assessed, before they are allocated to a caseworker who becomes their contact point throughout their journey with us.

Spotlight on The Bigger Picture:

Due to the severity of their sight loss, many people may feel that there is little to be gained by going to the theatre, visiting an art gallery or attending a football match or concert. Fortunately, technological developments have seen a sudden surge in the production of headsets and smart glasses; head-worn gadgets that allow the wearer to zoom in and out on their surroundings, changing contrast and colours and enabling printed text to be read aloud. Having access to one of these headsets prompted us to start the Bigger Picture project.

Our initial thoughts were of a project where venues had their own headsets that could be loaned free of charge to those who would benefit from using them. In addition, we want to support our members in accessing arts and culture and them gaining an increased sense of enjoyment and fulfillment from doing so. To date we have trailed the headset at music venues, theatres and sport events, all with tremendous success.

One of these venues was the Nottingham Playhouse. Following a meeting with their staff we were invited to bring one of our members, Joan, to a performance of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Joan has macular degeneration with no central vision and extremely limited

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

remaining sight. At the end, Joan said "I wouldn't have missed this experience for the world!" She was able to see characters and props at the very back of the stage and was able to follow the play and identify which actor was talking – all things she would not have been able to do without the technology.

Achievements and Performance

Practical support

Practical support is at the heart of My Sight Notts' offer. Over the past year we have increased our focus on digital accessibility and tech solutions to support people's independence.

Technology and Equipment:

Assistive Technology and accessible equipment play a crucial role in supporting people with sight loss by providing them with tools that enhance independence, mobility, communication and access to information.

In 2022/2023:

- We provided comprehensive tech sessions to almost 300 people on a variety of digital solutions including apps, smart technology, wearable technology, software and digital magnifiers.
- 720 people attended an appointment to look at our range of equipment.
- Incorporated demonstrations in our Smart Room, supporting people to be more independent at home.
- We held two focus days with Optelec and VisionAid, demonstrating a range of their products including digital magnifiers and wearable technology, giving people with sight loss the opportunity to engage directly with the supplier, try equipment out and ask questions before they commit to buying a piece of equipment.

Outcomes for Practical Support

- 300 people increased their skills in tech
- 720 people increased their understanding and awareness of equipment to increase independence

Emotional Support

Emotional and peer support underpin everything we do. Supporting someone through the range of emotions that come with a diagnosis of sight loss is more important than ever.

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO)

ECLO plays a vital role in supporting patients with understanding eye conditions, emotional support, signposting and providing information and advocacy.

In 2022/2023:

- Our ECLO provided support to almost 1500 eye clinic patients.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Shared Vision

Our Shared Vision courses provide support to help people come to terms with their sight loss and face the future with confidence.

In 2022/2023:

- Over 70 people were supported in adapting to their life with sight loss through Shared Vision courses.

Counselling

Our student counsellor provides talking therapy for people with sight loss via video, telephone and face to face sessions.

In 2022/2023:

- 36 hours of counselling sessions were delivered either via face to face or telephone based talking therapy sessions.

My Guide Befriending Service

Sight loss can often lead to feelings of isolation and loneliness. Our My Guide befriending service provides invaluable support, promoting social connection, independence and well-being, contributing to a more inclusive and fulfilling life for people with sight loss

In 2022/2023:

- We supported 26 My Guide partnerships

Outcomes for Emotional Support

- 1500 people increased awareness of local support and how to adapt to living with sight loss
- 73 people increased their circles of support and increased their positive mental and emotional wellbeing

Social Activities, Arts and Sports

Social activities enable people with sight loss to learn new skills, make friends and build peer support networks.

In 2022 we worked with a range of partners to deliver creative activities including:

- Welcoming our choir back in April; the final activity to return following the pandemic
- Our collaboration work with Nottingham Trent University in a series of workshops
- Sessions with our social group in Newark by local artist Elaine Winter
- A new drumming project in partnership with Mendi Singh using everyday items to beat out rhythms

Our social groups provide a supportive environment where individuals can connect with others who share similar experiences and challenges. Our amazing Lead Volunteers in Nottingham, Newark, Mansfield and Worksop ensured a full programme of activities for those attending. Due to an overwhelming demand for our social groups in Nottingham, we re-introduced our Tuesday coffee mornings in April 2022.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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Our Nottingham Sheriffs Goalball team have had an excellent year with the novice team winning gold and bronze at two tournaments and the intermediate team finishing second in the league – congratulations to all involved!

We continued supporting people on a one-to-one basis to access physical activity helping people to increase their confidence and regain independence. Our Swim and Gym Sessions at Victoria Leisure Centre enabled people to become familiar with gym equipment until they are ready to attend independently.

Our two walking groups clocked up an impressive 250 miles (approximately) over the last year! Our excellent walk leaders took people all over Nottinghamshire and beyond, from local walks by the Trent to long rambles over the Derbyshire Peaks.

We continued our Boccia sessions and delivered additional sessions to our social groups and Shared Vision participants and we were very pleased to be able to run four tandem rides with support from local charity Ridewise and other funders.

Outcomes

- Over 150 opportunities for people to increase positive physical and mental health
- 250 people increased their social connections

For Professionals

Transcriptions

Our transcriptions service converts a wide variety of documents into Braille, large print or audio file. In 2022/2023 this has included transcribing council tax and housing benefit letters for Bolsover District Council, open day flyers for VisionAid, patient leaflets for Nottingham University Hospitals, Braille and large print menus for various restaurants and cafes as well as a whole range of personal cards and letters for individuals.

Digital Accessibility Group

Our Digital Accessibility group is made up of staff, volunteers and members with different eye conditions, different levels of sight and levels of tech knowledge.

The group supports businesses to ensure that any software or apps are accessible for people with sight loss. These are tested using a variety of different magnification and speech over software. In 2022/2023 this has included working with the RNIB on an accessibility app, MHR Ltd on their HR software and Healthwatch Nottingham and Nottinghamshire on the NHS app.

Training

We offer our Sight Loss Awareness training to professionals ensuring that any of their staff or visitors with sight loss are safe in the knowledge that people are trained to support them.

The training is a mixture of practical and classroom activities and includes looking at the emotional consequences of being diagnosed with sight loss, barriers to independence, tech solutions and practical sighted guiding. We can deliver this training in house at our premises on Heathcoat Street in Nottingham or on site at the clients premises.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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In 2022/2023 we delivered training to a variety of different businesses including the Theatre Royal and Concert Hall, Nottingham Trent University and various health care professionals.

Accessibility Audits

We work with businesses to ensure that they can be as accessible as possible for people with sight loss. In 2022/2023 this has included working with managers to ensure that an individual can stay in work through reasonable adjustments and advice on Access to Work assessments; as well as carrying out full audits on buildings, websites and literature. We produce a full audit report as well as an offer to train staff in sight loss awareness.

Fundraising

2022/2023 has proved to be another difficult year for fundraising as we have seen another drop in our overall income. We have attributed this to greater demand on funders coupled with of the cost-of-living crisis. However the greatest contributing factor to our overall drop in fundraising performance is a 38% decrease to our legacy income this year. We finished the year with an 18% decrease on the previous year's income for the second year in a row. This is in stark contrast to the previous two years which showed significant surpluses.

However, we do need to acknowledge our fundraising successes and the ways in which we have adapted our strategy to try and help mitigate circumstances as we move forward.

Trusts and Grants – income £104,944 (£80,137 in 2021/222)

Despite the overall income picture, we are enormously grateful to our funders, without whom we would be unable to deliver many of our services. In particular we would like to thank:

Foreman Hardy Trust
Global Radio
The Jones 1986 Trust
Inman Trust
J N Derbyshire,
The Charlies Littlewood Hill Trust,
The Jessie Spencer Trust,
The National Lottery – Awards for All
The Thomas Pocklington Trust
Thomas Farr Charity
Thoresby Trust
Sir John Eastwood Foundation

Our Fundraising department will continue to concentrate its efforts on securing multiyear funding from trust and grant income and we will continue to pursue opportunities for funding our services through NHS, local authorities and private healthcare providers to ensure a robust and sustainable income model.

Legacy income remains an important income stream for us. Local Will writer Amanda Harris continues to provide a free Will writing service for anyone referred to her via My Sight Notts and we continue to raise awareness of our dependency on legacies with our supporters and local community groups, urging people to consider leaving a gift in their Will to My Sight Notts.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Other donations and gifts – income £28,340

We are particularly grateful to our individual supporters who make a regular gift to the charity as well as community groups who fundraise on our behalf. We would like to give special note of thanks to:

- President Len Jackson and his wife Di for organizing yet another successful quiz evening and Bridge Event
- Park Vision Optician for hosting a fundraising raffle
- Hollinwell Golf Club, for nominating My Sight Notts as beneficiaries of their Charity Golf Day
- Amanda Harris for donating the proceeds of the raffle held at her book launch
- Suzuki Children's Violin Group for 'busking' on behalf of the charity at Christmas
- Wollaton Rotary for their generosity following their 'Steps 4 Santa' Christmas Fundraising appeal

Charity Shops – income £84,107 (increase of 10% on 2021/2022)

Our charity shops in Mapperley and the city centre, Hockley continue to provide a valuable high street presence, helping to raise the profile of My Sight Notts. We provide a personalised approach that competes with larger charity retailers and commercial vintage shops, cultivating a loyal customer base.

Shop income 2022-2023 saw an increase of almost £8,000 on the previous year as trading restrictions continued to slowly improve following the trading difficulties we experienced during the pandemic.

Engagement

In December 2022 we launched our Lived Experience Subcommittee, taking service user engagement to the next level by establishing a sub-committee with strategic responsibility for delivering our growing service user engagement agenda. The subcommittee comprises of trustees and staff with lived experience of visual impairment, alongside representatives of our members; providing feedback and recommendations to the trustee board regarding opportunities for improving engagement with and by people with visual impairments.

Financial review

During 2022/23 we faced an exceptionally challenging financial period. Over the course of the year, we found ourselves in the unfortunate position of having to implement cost-cutting measures, including redundancies, which were made at the end of the year. These decisions were not taken lightly as we understand the direct impact they have on our staff and the community we serve, especially at a time when we are seeing an increased demand for our services. However, the impact of the cost of living crisis, increased demand on funders and a drop in legacy income all had a significant impact on our already depleted reserves. In order to continue as a going concern and sustain our operations, providing vital support for people with visual impairments, difficult choices had to be made. During this period our staff remained steadfast in their commitment to supporting individuals with visual impairments.

Total incoming resources decreased this year by £83,171 to £380,577 (2022: £463,748) and total resources expended increased by £90,550 to £651,633 (2022: £561,083) which resulted in a year end deficit of £271,056 (£97,335 deficit in 2022).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The year saw an increase in income from trust and grant applications to £104,944 (2022: £80,137) and a slight increase in income from donations and gifts to £28,340 (2022: £25,194), however legacy income decreased significantly to £93,264 (2022: £242,622) which is much lower than our historical averages.

Income from our charity shops increased to £84,107 (2022: £76,281) and we have also developed our training and accessibility services to bring in new income of £18,325. At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £196,016 (2022: £489,495) a decrease of £293,479. There is an amount of £25,000 included as designated funds.

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £65,826 (2022: £43,403) which is mostly made up from Health Education East Midlands, Thomas Pocklington Trust and Awards for All funding which will be spent during 2023/2024.

Looking ahead, our focus remains firmly on securing more multiyear grant funding and regular income from new sources, including the NHS and the private sector. We believe this increased financial support will enable us not only to sustain our existing programs, but ultimately to expand our reach, ensuring more individuals with visual impairments receive the support they deserve. Progress will be closely monitored in Finance Subcommittees, which now take place monthly, whilst we strive to keep costs under control; achieve a sustainable income model; and begin to build back our reserves.

Plans for future periods

We will not be embarking on additional services over the next year unless they are fully funded. Whilst this may mean that financial constraints restrict our plans for future periods, we will continue to develop existing services to improve the experiences of people with sight loss in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and we will continue to work with partners in the NHS, local authorities and other charities to ensure services for people with visual impairments are improved and general services are made more accessible.

We will continue to develop our service delivery model to provide a clearer and individualised pathway of support to those adjusting to a life with sight loss. All referrals to My Sight Notts will enter via a new Referrals Coordinator role, which will triage and assess new service users with the Sight Loss MOT assessment tool. This will enable us to provide the most appropriate support package available; allowing us to develop person-centred plans to support positive outcomes for people with sight loss.

This new way of working will help us better understand key outputs and outcomes to ensure we are fully meeting the needs of the local visually impaired community. This assessment, action planning and outcome framework will ensure people with sight loss can access the information and support they need to maximise their independence, wellbeing and choice.

Not all referrals to our services will require a caseworker; some may simply need a one-off intervention (such as a specific piece of equipment). This is why the triage role forms such a vital aspect of our service delivery model; it will help us gather important information about an individual's circumstances and sight condition and therefore begin to build an appropriate support package.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

This project will benefit those living with a visual impairment of any age, in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (regardless of whether they are registered as Sight Impaired or not). It will also benefit and strengthen our organisation by developing an improved, more efficient way of working, enabling us to understand and respond to key outcomes by putting our clients individual needs at the heart of what we do.

We will develop our Sight Loss Awareness training for healthcare professionals (HCPs) to improve the accessibility of their practices and their interactions with people with sight loss. This training will also help HCPs to understand and refer into the support that is available through low vision equipment, assistive technology and the range of support services that people with sight loss are able to access. We will also increase the number of access audits we deliver for practices and other public spaces. Both training and access audits will also provide a valuable new income stream for us.

Pension liabilities

The charity participates in The Pensions Trust's Growth Plan. Until 30 September 2013, all contributions to the scheme were on a defined benefit basis. From 1 October 2013, contributions are made on a defined contribution basis. The scheme has been in deficit for a number of years and all participating employers are making yearly repayments as part of the recovery plan in place.

At the year end the charity's estimated additional contributions to the recovery plan amount to £5,871, including inflationary increases, over the remaining six years to 31 January 2025. A liability of £5,871 has been recognised in this year's financial statements. More information on this is included in note 19.

From 1 February 2017 the charity joined National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Workplace Pension Scheme as part of the Government workplace pension reform. NEST is a trust-based defined contribution scheme and all eligible employees are auto enrolled.

Reserves policy

The committee has considered the reserves held by My Sight Nottinghamshire as at 31 March 2023 and continues to monitor this closely. The charity needs reserves to enable it to develop its long term aims as well as to ensure the continuation of its current activities. In order to meet their responsibilities and to ensure that the charity continues to operate on a going concern basis, the committee has reviewed the requirements and risks faced by the charity in both the short and medium term. The trustees have agreed that the charity should endeavor to maintain a level of free reserves which is no less than 4 months and no more than 12 months running costs.

The charity defines its free reserves as the sum of its cash reserves plus the value of its investments. The free reserves of the charity at the balance sheet date stood at £196,016 (2022 £489,495). Total funds at the year-end were £261,842 (2022 £532,898) Unrestricted funds at the year-end were £196,016 (2022 £489,495) while restricted funds were £65,826 (2022 £43,403). Included within the unrestricted funds are designated funds totaling £25,000 (2022 £288,224).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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 we are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiners are unaware; and
- We have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's Independent Examiners are aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



M Conroy
Company Secretary

Date: 3.11.23

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 23 to 49.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

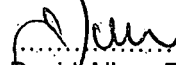
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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


.....
David Allum FCCA
UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants

14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Date: 3/1/23.....

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	2023			2022				
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowm ent funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
Income and endowments from:				Total £			Total £		
Donations and legacies	2	121,121	105,427	-	226,548	342,903	5,050	-	347,953
Charitable activities	3	50,833	-	-	50,833	27,632	-	-	27,632
Other trading activities	4	99,425	-	-	99,425	85,211	-	-	85,211
Investments	5	3,771	-	-	3,771	2,952	-	-	2,952
Total income and endowments		275,150	105,427	-	380,577	458,698	5,050	-	463,748
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	155,094	-	-	155,094	150,945	-	-	150,945
Charitable activities	7	413,535	83,004	-	496,539	350,271	59,867	-	410,138
Total expenditure		568,629	83,004	-	651,633	501,216	59,867	-	561,083
Net income/ (expenditure)		(293,479)	22,423	-	(271,056)	(42,518)	(54,817)	-	(97,335)
Transfers between funds	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(293,479)	22,423	-	(271,056)	(42,518)	(54,817)	-	(97,335)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward	26	489,495	43,403	-	532,898	532,013	98,220	-	630,233
Total funds carried forward	26	196,016	65,826	-	261,842	489,495	43,403	-	532,898

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The charity has not recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		40,934		50,927
Current assets					
Stock		7,430		7,406	
Debtors	17	26,650		19,266	
Cash at bank and in hand		215,569		495,371	
		<u>249,649</u>		<u>522,043</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(22,870)</u>		<u>(30,862)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>226,779</u>		<u>491,181</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			267,713		542,108
Provisions for liabilities	19		(5,871)		(9,210)
Net assets			<u>261,842</u>		<u>532,898</u>
Charity funds:					
Unrestricted funds	26		196,016		489,495
Restricted funds	26		65,826		43,403
Endowment funds	26		-		-
Total charity funds			<u>261,842</u>		<u>532,898</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

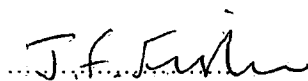
For the year ended 31 March 2023, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on 3.11.23.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:


J Fisher
Chair

Date: 3 | 11 | 23

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

The notes on page 27 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Cash flow from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22	(286,116)		(115,554)	
Net cash flow from operating activities			<u>(286,116)</u>		<u>(115,554)</u>
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(413)		(582)	
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		2,956		96	
Interest received		<u>3,771</u>		<u>2,952</u>	
Net cash flow from investing activities			<u>6,314</u>		<u>2,466</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			<u>(279,802)</u>		<u>(113,088)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			495,371		608,459
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>215,569</u>		<u>495,371</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:					
Cash at bank and in hand			215,569		495,371
Total cash and cash equivalents			<u>215,569</u>		<u>495,371</u>

The notes on page 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind (My Sight Nottinghamshire) is a registered charity in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are promoting greater independence for visually impaired people of all ages throughout the county by providing emotional support, practical advice, information and training together with a huge range of adapted leisure activities.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds

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

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(b) Funds (continued)

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes of those costs which are incurred while carrying out activities to generate monies for the charity and its activities; and
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes those costs which are incurred while carrying out the charity activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the category above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Short term leasehold property improvements	10% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line basis or 10% reducing balance basis or 15% reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Land and buildings were valued using the life of the leasehold agreement.

(g) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the average cost formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(j) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

Until 30 September 2013, pension contributions were to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

From 1 October 2013, the company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised when they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(m) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are actively working with staff to manage and mitigate the impact to COVID-19 on the company's operations. On review currently the trustees do not consider there to be a significant impact on their ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future. The company is continually reviewing and monitoring the expected impact of COVID-19 and should it have any impact on the value of their assets and liabilities this will be recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Donations and gifts	27,107	1,233	-	28,340	25,144	50	-	25,194
Legacies	93,264	-	-	93,264	242,622	-	-	242,622
Grants	750	104,194	-	104,944	75,137	5,000	-	80,137
	121,121	105,427	-	226,548	342,903	5,050	-	347,953

3 Income from charitable activities

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Sale of visual aids and equipment	32,259	-	-	32,259	27,192	-	-	27,192
Sale of transcription services	249	-	-	249	440	-	-	440
Sale of training services	17,500	-	-	17,500	-	-	-	-
Sale of accessibility services	825	-	-	825	-	-	-	-
	50,833	-	-	50,833	27,632	-	-	27,632

4 Income from other trading activities

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fundraising events	5,959	-	-	5,959	7,649	-	-	7,649
Shop income	84,107	-	-	84,107	76,281	-	-	76,281
Other	9,359	-	-	9,359	1,281	-	-	1,281
	99,425	-	-	99,425	85,211	-	-	85,211

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

5 Income from investments

	2023				2022			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	funds	funds	funds		funds	funds	funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest received	3,771	-	-	3,771	2,952	-	-	2,952
	<u>3,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,771</u>	<u>2,952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,952</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Note	2023				2022			
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total
		funds	funds	funds		funds	funds	funds	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff training		106	-	-	106	-	-	-	-
Motor and travel		551	-	-	551	496	-	-	496
Sundry expenses		4,285	-	-	4,285	6,724	-	-	6,724
Computer costs		455	-	-	455	446	-	-	446
Insurance		1,843	-	-	1,843	1,791	-	-	1,791
Light, heat and power		2,160	-	-	2,160	4,001	-	-	4,001
Rates		1,408	-	-	1,408	719	-	-	719
Rent		27,131	-	-	27,131	26,536	-	-	26,536
Water rates		505	-	-	505	457	-	-	457
Repairs and maintenance		101	-	-	101	77	-	-	77
Telephone and fax		750	-	-	750	717	-	-	717
Advertising and publicity		459	-	-	459	-	-	-	-
Wages and salaries	12	102,134	-	-	102,134	96,959	-	-	96,959
Social security costs	12	9,215	-	-	9,215	8,204	-	-	8,204
Staff pensions	12	3,934	-	-	3,934	3,687	-	-	3,687
Printing, postage and stationery		58	-	-	58	131	-	-	131
		<u>155,094</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,094</u>	<u>150,945</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,945</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	2023			2022			Total £	
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
Staff training		3,959	36	-	3,395	-	1,350	-	1,350
Motor and travel		14,000	3,042	-	17,042	12,912	1,363	-	14,275
Sundry expenses		12,524	1,543	-	14,067	6,586	3,179	-	9,765
Computer costs		2,291	509	-	2,800	4,065	-	-	4,065
Insurance		15,274	-	-	15,274	15,186	-	-	15,186
Light, heat and power		5,806	-	-	5,806	6,539	153	-	6,692
Rent		27,346	470	-	27,816	25,216	3,658	-	28,874
Water rates		726	-	-	726	613	20	-	633
Repairs and maintenance		5,372	-	-	5,372	3,946	-	-	3,946
Telephone and fax		9,977	1,018	-	10,995	10,204	568	-	10,772
Advertising and publicity		5,399	964	-	6,363	4,750	-	-	4,750
Purchases		28,370	-	-	28,370	22,388	-	-	22,388
Wages and salaries	12	237,886	67,565	-	305,451	216,213	45,795	-	262,008
Social security costs	12	15,476	4,610	-	20,086	13,752	2,025	-	15,777
Staff pensions	12	11,388	3,247	-	14,635	11,063	1,756	-	12,819
Pension provision		4,031	-	-	4,031	(21,159)	-	-	(21,159)
Printing, postage and stationery		4,126	-	-	4,126	-	-	-	5,076
Bank charges		1,139	-	-	1,139	1,187	-	-	1,187
Depreciation	16	7,906	-	-	7,906	8,539	-	-	8,539
(Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets		(2,956)	-	-	(2,956)	45	-	-	45
Governance costs	11	4,096	-	-	4,096	2,999	-	-	2,999
Bad and doubtful debts		-	-	-	-	151	-	-	151
		413,535	83,004	-	496,539	350,271	59,867	-	410,138

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

8 Analysis of expenditure

	Note	2023			2022			Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Raising funds	6	155,094	-	-	150,945	-	-	150,945
Charitable activities	7	413,535	83,004	-	350,271	59,867	-	410,138
		<u>568,629</u>	<u>83,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>501,216</u>	<u>59,867</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>561,083</u>

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2023			2022		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	39,753	138,025	177,779	41,964	122,847	164,811
Support costs	10	115,341	358,513	473,854	108,981	287,291	396,272
		<u>155,094</u>	<u>496,539</u>	<u>651,633</u>	<u>150,945</u>	<u>410,138</u>	<u>561,083</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

9 Direct costs

	2023			2022		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	106	3,395	3,501	-	1,350	1,350
Motor and travel	551	17,042	17,594	496	14,275	14,771
Sundry expenses	4,285	14,067	18,352	6,724	9,765	16,489
Computer costs	455	2,800	3,255	446	4,065	4,511
Insurance	1,843	15,274	17,116	1,791	15,186	16,977
Light, heat and power	2,160	5,806	7,967	4,001	6,692	10,693
Rates	1,408	-	1,408	719	-	719
Rent	27,131	27,816	54,946	26,536	28,874	55,410
Water rates	505	726	1,230	457	633	1,090
Repairs and maintenance	101	5,372	5,473	77	3,946	4,023
Telephone and fax	750	10,995	11,745	717	10,772	11,489
Advertising and publicity	459	6,363	6,821	-	4,750	4,750
Purchases	-	28,370	28,370	-	22,388	22,388
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	151	151
	39,753	138,025	177,779	41,964	122,847	164,811

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

10 Support costs

	Note	2023			2022		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Wages & salaries	12	102,134	305,451	407,585	96,959	262,008	358,967
Social security costs	12	9,215	20,086	29,301	8,204	15,777	23,981
Staff pensions	12	3,934	14,635	18,569	3,687	12,819	16,506
Pension provision			4,031	4,031	-	(21,159)	(21,159)
Printing, postage & stationery		58	4,126	4,184	131	5,022	5,153
Legal & professional		-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges		-	1,139	1,139	-	1,187	1,187
Depreciation		-	7,906	7,906	-	8,593	8,593
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	(2,956)	(2,956)	-	45	45
Governance costs	11	-	4,096	4,096	-	2,999	2,999
		<u>115,341</u>	<u>358,513</u>	<u>473,854</u>	<u>108,981</u>	<u>287,291</u>	<u>396,272</u>

11 Governance costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fees	4,096	2,999
	<u>4,096</u>	<u>2,999</u>

12 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average number of persons employed by the charity (including trustees) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	Number	2023 FTE	Number	2022 FTE
Administration	4	3	4	4
Services	13	9	10	7
Fundraising	3	3	4	3
	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	407,574	358,967
Social security	29,301	23,981
Defined contribution pension costs	18,569	16,506
	<u>455,444</u>	<u>399,454</u>

One employee (2022 – none) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) between £60,000 - £70,000. No employees received employee benefits greater than £70,000.

13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2022 – £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £138,694 (2022 – £128,712). The highest paid employee received remuneration of £65,915 (excluding employer pension costs).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the Chief Executive, the Finance and Administrative Manager and the Fundraising Manager.

14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £4,096 (2022 – £2,999).

15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	10,406	11,092
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		(2,956)	45
Operating lease rentals	20	41,501	40,957
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	4,096	2,999
		<u>455,444</u>	<u>399,454</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation:					
At 1 April 2022	56,740	71,643	6,306	32,802	167,491
Additions	-	-	413	-	413
Disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
At 31 March 2023	56,740	71,643	6,719	28,552	163,654
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2022	21,869	60,864	5,611	28,220	116,564
Charge for the year	5,674	1,611	622	2,500	10,407
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
At 31 March 2023	27,543	62,475	6,233	26,470	122,721
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2023	29,197	9,168	486	2,082	40,933
At 31 March 2022	34,871	10,779	695	4,582	50,927

17 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	13,093	5,648
Prepayments and accrued income	13,557	13,618
	26,650	19,266

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	5,272	13,828
Taxation and social security	9,316	6,923
Other creditors	2,704	2,628
Accruals and deferred income	5,578	7,483
	22,870	30,862

19 Provisions for liabilities

	2023		2022	
	Defined benefit pension £	Total £	Defined benefit pension £	Total £
Provision brought forward	9,210	9,210	40,624	40,624
Interest expense	173	173	234	234
Deficit contributions paid	(3,345)	(3,345)	(10,280)	(10,280)
Re-measurement adjustment	(157)	(157)	(21,368)	(21,368)
Provision carried forward	5,871	5,871	9,210	9,210

The charity participates in a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the charity is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme of £3,312,000 per annum from 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025. The contributions are payable monthly and increase by 3% each 1 April.

20 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year	25,160	38,458
Due within two to five years	100,000	100,160
Due after five years	16,667	41,667
	141,827	180,285

21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £18,569 (2022 – £16,506).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,690 (2022 – £2,615).

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	(271,056)	(97,335)
Interest receivable	(3,771)	(2,952)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	10,406	11,092
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(2,956)	45
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(24)	(257)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(7,384)	187
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(7,992)	5,080
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(3,339)	(31,414)
Net cash flow from operating activities	(286,116)	(115,554)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

23 Change in net debt

Current year

	1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2023 £
Cash	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569

Comparative year

	1 April 2021 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2022 £
Cash	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371
	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371

24 Related party transactions

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £12,668 (2022 – £12,756) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2022 – £nil).

25 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Restricted funds – Befriending My Guide

Befriending My Guide represents grant income contribution towards the home visit and mobile support services which are part of the charity's outreach work.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Building Connections

Project will tackle loneliness and isolation experienced by many of the local VI community by creating opportunities for groups of individuals to share experiences. My Sight will provide a wide range of accessible activities, workshops, support and social opportunities that bring together groups of VI people over a positive experience. Activities will focus on building self-confidence and well-being and facilitating people to do things they enjoy. We need to be able to offer a range of social activities in order to have broad spectrum appeal. Most of the things we hope to deliver have been 'tried and tested' either by us or other groups and organisations we have learnt from.

This project will:

- Offer twice monthly drop in coffee mornings for visually impaired people, their friends and carers at our Nottingham City Hub.
- Develop our group and team focused sporting activities.
- Develop our choir and singing sessions.
- Deliver more arts workshops in different areas of the county.
- Offer peer support sessions in different areas of the county for VI people, their families and carers.
- We will develop peer support sessions that are specific to individual sight loss conditions. Sight loss conditions are quite diverse and affect people in different ways.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Peoples Project

A Community Cafe at our Support Centre in Nottingham offering work experience and training to visually impaired visually impaired people, to work in and run the cafe as well as creating a friendly social space for visually impaired people to be able to get together, meet people and build connections.

The purpose of the cafe is therefore two-fold:

- It will offer a safe accessible training environment where visually impaired people can gain work experience in catering, customer service, cash handling, stock control and administration as well as learning important skills such as teamwork and communication. It will aim to build people's confidence and independence and provide a stepping stone in to employment.
 - The cafe will also provide a space for visually impaired people to get together, socialise and share experiences. A destination where people with sight loss feel safe, understood and part of a community. Many of the visually impaired people we work with feel lonely and socially isolated by their disability. We want to create a welcoming and accessible space where there is always someone to chat to.
-

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Restricted funds – HEEM ELCO and Peer Support

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer provision for mid-Notts hospitals offering advice and support to visually impaired people during eye clinic visits and to deliver a sight loss educational project.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project

Funding from Big Lotteries for a 6-month project to provide equipment and technical support to enable isolated visually impaired people to access platforms such as Zoom to keep in touch with family and friends during Covid lockdowns and to use online shopping, banking etc.

Restricted funds – Newark Group

Funding from Active Partners Trust Tackling Inequalities awarded to our Newark Social Group to provide technology to enable visually impaired members to keep in touch during the Covid lockdown and to provide individual chair-based exercise equipment to be used in the home to help members stay active.

Restricted funds – Building Accessibility / Smart Room

Funding from Counsellor Wallace at Nottinghamshire County Council to spend on Heathcoat Street accessibility alterations, including accessible signage, audible signage, sound baffling etc.

Restricted funds - ECLO

Provision of an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) based at the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham. The role of the ECLO is to offer practical advice, emotional support and can refer to other My Sight Notts services or external services to support with sight loss.

Restricted funds - Global Make Some Noise Tech Project

A tech befriending project for one and a half years, including 2 part time Sight Loss Advisor roles. The project will engage volunteers to support people who are blind or visually impaired to improve their technology skillset and digital access, reducing isolation and increasing independence.

Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Works for Me

An employment service called Works for Me, funded by and working in partnership with the Thomas Pocklington Trust. The service offers confidence and skills support, events and advice for people with sight loss to get into work, stay in work or become work ready.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Internship

A nine-month paid internship to work as a Sight Loss Advisor, funded by and working in partnership with Thomas Pocklington Trust as part of their Get Set Progress internships programme for people with sight loss to secure that first rung on the career ladder or who are returning to work following a career break.

Restricted funds - Support Centre

Funded by Sir John Eastwood, Charles Littlewood Hill, Awards for All and JN Derbyshire. The Equipment and Advice centre provides advice and practical hands-on equipment demonstrations and training at our Heathcoat Street centre with one of our Sight Loss Advisors. We also have a Smart Room which is designed to be a real living room and kitchen environment and showcases a range of useful tech and equipment to support independence at home.

Restricted funds - Shared Vision

A series of group workshops that help to come to terms with sight loss. Focusing on the practical and emotional effects, Shared Vision gives the opportunity to express feelings, share experiences with others and to learn from each other. Promotes continued connections and friendships and covers support sessions for family, carers and friends to help them understand and support with sight loss.

Restricted funds - Tandem Project

Providing group tandem rides in partnership with Ridewise.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	201,271	275,150	(560,404)	255,000	171,017
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	(250,000)	-
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	20,000	-	-	5,000	25,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	(8,224)	-	-
<i>Counselling service</i>	10,000	-	-	(10,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds 2023	489,495	275,150	(568,628)	-	196,016
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,521	97	(470)	-	1,148
Talking Newspaper	1,742	-	(527)	-	1,215
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	7,404	-	-	-	7,404
Befriending My Guide	1,237	7,000	(6,667)	-	1,570
HEEM ECLO and Peer Support	24,589	-	(9,633)	-	14,956
Newark Group	1,614	-	-	-	1,614
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	3,941	-	(964)	-	2,977
ECLO	-	15,000	(11,989)	-	3,011
Global Make Some Noise Tech Project	-	25,000	(24,900)	-	100
Thomas Pocklington Works for Me	-	19,688	(1,716)	-	17,972
Thomas Pocklington Internship	-	12,507	(12,507)	-	-
Support Centre	-	20,000	(8,000)	-	12,000
Shared Vision	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Tandem Project	-	1,135	(631)	-	504
Total restricted funds 2023	43,403	105,427	(83,004)	-	65,826
Endowment funds:					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total endowment funds 2023	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds 2023	532,898	380,577	(651,633)	-	261,842

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Comparative year	At 1 April 2021	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	resources	resources	£	£
		£	£		
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	248,789	458,698	(501,216)	(5,000)	201,271
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	15,000	-	-	5,000	20,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	-	-	8,224
<i>Counselling service</i>	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total unrestricted funds 2022	532,013	458,698	(501,216)	-	489,495
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,528	50	(57)	-	1,521
Talking Newspaper	1,808	-	(66)	-	1,742
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	11,588	-	(4,184)	-	7,404
Emotional and Peer Support	7,014	-	(7,014)	-	-
Befriending My Guide	8,533	5,000	(12,296)	-	1,237
Big Lotteries – Building Connections	8,015	-	(8,015)	-	-
Big Lotteries – Peoples Project	19,563	-	(19,563)	-	-
HEEM ECLO and Peer Support	32,000	-	(7,411)	-	24,589
Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project	1,181	-	(1,181)	-	-
Newark Group	1,694	-	(80)	-	1,614
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	3,941	-	-	-	3,941
Total restricted funds 2022	98,220	5,050	(59,867)	-	43,403
Endowment funds:					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total endowment funds 2022	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds 2022	630,233	463,748	(561,083)	-	532,898

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets	38,850	2,083	-	40,933
Cash and current investments	183,824	65,826	-	249,650
Other current liabilities	(20,787)	-	-	(22,870)
Provisions	(5,871)	-	-	(5,871)
	196,016	65,826	-	261,842

Comparative year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	46,344	4,583	-	50,927
Cash and current investments	478,640	43,403	-	522,043
Other current liabilities	(26,279)	(4,583)	-	(30,862)
Provisions	(9,210)	-	-	(9,210)
	489,495	43,403	-	532,898

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets	38,850	2,083	-	40,933
Cash and current investments	183,824	65,826	-	249,650
Other current liabilities	(20,787)	-	-	(22,870)
Provisions	(5,871)	-	-	(5,871)
	196,016	65,826	-	261,842

Comparative year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	46,344	4,583	-	50,927
Cash and current investments	478,640	43,403	-	522,043
Other current liabilities	(26,279)	(4,583)	-	(30,862)
Provisions	(9,210)	-	-	(9,210)
	489,495	43,403	-	532,898

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales - Charity number 511288

Accounts

Charity Number: 511288
Company Registration Number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 511288

Company Registration Number 01535327

Trustees

F Dale
K Dear
L Ellis
M Evans (Treasurer)
J Fisher (Chair)
L Jones
S Kauser
K Skill
G Stapleton (Vice Chair)
A Youatt

Company secretary M J Conroy

President L Jackson OBE

Registered office 10 - 12 Carlton Street
Nottingham
NG1 1NN

Independent examiner UHY Hacker Young
14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Bankers National Westminster
Bank plc
16 South Parade
Nottingham
NG1 2JX

HSBC Bank plc
26 Clumber Street
Nottingham
NG1 3GA

Mansfield Building Society
Regent House, Regent
Street
Nottingham
NG18 1SS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The directors, who are also trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016, and Update Bulletin 2 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Trustees of the charity

THE DIRECTORS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY ARE ITS TRUSTEES FOR THE PURPOSES OF CHARITY LAW. THE TRUSTEES WHO HAVE SERVED DURING THE YEAR AND SINCE THE YEAR END WERE AS FOLLOWS:

F Dale
K Dear
L Ellis
M Evans
J Fisher
L Jones
S Kauser
K Skill
G Stapleton
A Youatt

Structure, governance and management

Legal status and governing documents

My Sight Nottinghamshire ("My Sight Notts") is the working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind, and is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Anyone over the age of 16 who is visually impaired (or the parent or guardian of a visually impaired child under the age of 16) can become a member of the Company. At all times the number of members shall not be less than ten. In July 2017 the charity abolished the subscription fee for membership and all service users on our database who wished to become members did so.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

My Sight Notts is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

The charity has obtained, under section 30 of the Companies Act 1985, license to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

Appointment of trustees

The Chair of the trustees is nominated by the Board of trustees. The full capacity of the board is twelve trustees. One quarter of the trustees are subject to retire by rotation annually. If one quarter of the number of trustees is not a whole number, the number will be rounded.

If there is only one trustee who is subject to retirement by rotation, they shall retire. The trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been the longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but between persons who became or were last re-appointed trustees on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.

No person other than a trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or re-appointed as a trustee at any general meeting unless:

1. They are recommended by the trustees; or
2. Not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date for the meeting, notice has been executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment; and
3. Receives a majority vote from members eligible to vote.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The Trustees' skills base is reviewed by a Governance Working Group (which includes the Chair and the CEO) and the Board's skills need, gender balance and percentage of visually impaired trustees is assessed. New trustees are sought based on the needs identified by the Governance Working Group (and later discussed at the trustees Board meeting). The charity then advertises, sends mailings to appropriate sectors and petitions existing contacts for candidates to apply to join the Board. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to stand for election onto the Board by the membership at the next AGM. A candidate may be co-opted onto the Board in advance of the vote if there is a need for their skills to be utilised in the interim.

New trustees have access to information intended to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

recent financial performance of the charity. They are given the opportunity to meet employees and other trustees prior to appointment. Once elected to the board, all trustees receive training on their roles and responsibilities as a trustee and trustees are encouraged to attend an internal vision impairment awareness training day to familiarise themselves with some of the issues facing our client group and to attend other external training events, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which shall not be less than six in number (unless determined otherwise by ordinary resolution) and shall not exceed twelve in number, administers the charity. The Board meets bi-monthly and there are sub-committees and working groups covering Services, Finance & Fundraising and Governance which meet regularly.

A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and service related activity.

Regular Subcommittees, comprising of a number of trustees, CEO and a manager, meet regularly to identify and recommend changes to strategy around finance, fundraising, development of services and policies. Recommendations are made to the full Board for approval. Recommendations are implemented by the CEO and his management team.

Management team

The management team consists of: M Spouge (Finance); L Fenton (Fundraising); E Lucas (Services); J Scarle (Marketing).

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration policy for key management personnel is decided between the trustees and CEO when a new employee is appointed. For the CEO remuneration, the board of trustees will decide this on an as and when basis. No bonuses are paid to any key management personnel. The criteria for setting the remuneration level relates to the previous experience of the new employee.

Umbrella body

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

My Sight Notts is a member of Visionary - Linking Local Sight Loss Charities, providing valuable resource and support to local vision impairment charities. My Sight Nottinghamshire's CEO is currently Vice Chair of Visionary.

Related parties

The charity has several areas of activity that involve joint working initiatives with other parties which share their aims in respect of the development of accessible support services for people with visual impairments. This includes other local and national charities and community associations in addition to local authorities and health bodies.

My Sight Notts currently has an ongoing partnership with The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association to deliver the My Guide Service; a service which was developed by Guide Dogs in partnership with local vision impairment charities.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

1. An annual review of all the risks the charity may face;
2. Bi Monthly risk reviews in the charity's various subcommittees
3. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and
4. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified risks which have resulted in better emergency procedures and contingency plans and have given the impetus for better planning. Particular attention has been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of service users, visitors, volunteers, staff and event participants.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the development, and monitoring by the Finance Department, of a rolling eighteen month forecast (in addition to the existing fixed forecast and managed accounts) and the setting and regular review of the reserves policy by the trustees. Due to financial concerns in recent years, the Finance Subcommittee has risk review as a standing agenda item and continues to meet bi-monthly, until such time as our finances are on a more stable footing.

The potential for a drop in legacy income has been identified as a significant risk and to mitigate this, the charity is applying for more trust and grant income, looking at new ways of developing community and corporate fundraising activities and monitoring the profitability of its charity shops.

Fundraising events are also risk assessed both financially and with regard to the health and safety of participants and the general public. My Sight Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

have now adopted the same risk assessment criteria for the implementation of its social events, activities and day trips.

We have identified that there are some risks in matters relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults. To mitigate this, all service delivery staff receive updated safeguarding training and our Services Manager is trained as Safeguarding Lead for the charity.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- For blind and partially sighted people of all ages in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to have the same life opportunities as everyone else;
- To provide opportunities for blind and partially sighted people living in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to achieve their own unique goals and enjoy a full and independent life beyond sight loss;
- To improve the lives of people living with sight loss locally by providing support services, training, information, advice, social and leisure opportunities for people with visual impairments with the aim of enhancing their quality of life and increasing their independence.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the commissioning and continuation of services and activities.

My Sight Nottinghamshire updated its Vision, Statement of Purpose and Strategy in June 2010 to reflect the priorities of its service users as indicated through the charity's IMPACT Consultation Project as well as incorporating initiatives such as the Outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy and its ten Seeing It My Way objectives which help to highlight the issues that matter most to people with visual impairments today.

Vision

Our Vision is for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to become fully accessible to people with sight loss and to be recognised as an area where they have the same life opportunities as everyone else.

Statement of purpose

To enable people with visual impairments to have equal opportunities by providing access to the support needed to enable them to lead full and independent lives; and to give a voice to the people living with sight loss of Nottinghamshire, enabling

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

them to affect change and help develop a city and county that is completely accessible.

Strategy

My Sight Nottinghamshire's Strategy is based around the aims and outcomes arising from our ongoing consultation with local people with visual impairments and the strategic outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

The key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy are as follows:

1. To deliver services and activities that help to implement the strategic objectives of the refreshed UK Vision Strategy in Nottinghamshire, which are:
 - a. Everyone looks after their eyes and their sight
 - b. Everyone with an eye condition receives timely treatment and, if permanent sight loss occurs, early and appropriate services and support are available and accessible to all
 - c. A society in which people with sight loss can fully participate
2. To develop and deliver services in consultation with local people with visual impairments through My Sight Nottinghamshire's Service User Member Involvement Team and through the development of a number of increased opportunities for service user feedback.
3. To identify gaps in service provision, provide services where need is greatest and use our influence to improve the provision of public services for people with visual impairments in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
4. To work in partnership with other organisations providing services for our client group, including local authorities, those charities providing services for people with sight loss as well as organisations serving a wider demographic, who are likely to include people with visual impairments amongst their recipients such as Nottinghamshire Deaf Society, Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and Diabetes UK.
5. To commit to a Finance and Fundraising Strategy that provides the best services for people with visual impairments, whilst maintaining the stability of the organisation.

My Sight Notts' Services

Our services include: Sight Loss Advisers; Equipment Advice and Guidance; Befriending Service, Tele-befriending; My Guide Service, Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO), Shared Vision Facilitated Peer Support sessions, IT and Assistive Technology Training in group and home based one to one settings and a team of voluntary Tech' Befriending volunteers. We provide a range of leisure services including Events and Activities (for Children and Adults), Sports and Healthy Lifestyles Activities (including team sports), Social and Activity Groups, Trips and Outings, Arts and Crafts and our VI Choir. We also raise awareness of avoidable sight loss and eye

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

health matters; raising awareness of the prevalence of sight loss conditions in a number of communities.

My Sight Nottinghamshire provides a range of information and support services aimed at people with a visual impairment, their support networks and external agencies. Our Service Team's aims are to limit social exclusion and empower people through providing information, knowledge and support. The team works closely to motivate clients and their networks and strive to break down barriers and raise awareness of the challenges often faced by people living with a visual impairment.

Information and Support Services include:

Support Centre and Mobile Equipment Advice and Support Service

We are equipped with high and low-tech accessibility products and a range of magnifiers. This enables a 'hands on' experience where a Sight Loss Adviser can offer advice, information and demonstrations of equipment to assist people with visual impairments in their day-to-day activities. Products include talking clocks, magnifiers, liquid level indicators, canes, diaries, calendars and games. Additionally the service provides information about other My Sight Nottinghamshire services as well as a wide range of leaflets and information about eye conditions, product catalogues, social services and other organisations providing support for people with visual impairments. We also stage exhibitions of equipment, advice and information at our hubs in Worksop, Newark, Mansfield and Nottingham. This service is essential in giving people with visual impairments the opportunity to discover and try the wide range of products available to help them to be independent and safe at home and whilst they are out and about, as well as enabling independence and confidence with communications.

This service is delivered by a full time member of staff, with support from other Sight Loss Advisors and volunteers. We would like to recruit more volunteers to help increase capacity and develop this service further.

Low Vision Advice

Magnification and appropriate lighting are vital to clients living with Low Vision. We are often aware that people struggle to use their magnifiers effectively, so have decided to run specialist days to support people with visual impairments in using their magnifiers and assess whether their magnification strength needs to change. We also discuss Eccentric Viewing Technique, where appropriate and provide teaching sessions on this skill for reading and seeing. For many people, good lighting is another way of maximising their remaining vision; we have a variety of task lights that we can demonstrate and we also stock daylight bulbs which can be effective in enhancing vision. This service enables people with vision impairments to make the best use of the sight they have, retain and often regain a level of independence in their communications and daily living.

Befriending, Tele-befriending and My Guide Services

For those people with visual impairments who are unable to get out and about, we provide home visits to reduce social isolation and improve mental well-being.

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Volunteers help with simple tasks such as regular visits to the service users' homes for a cup of tea and a chat, reading mail and newspapers. We match a suitable volunteer with a service user for weekly visits. Priority is given to those most in need, for example those who have little or no contact with family, neighbours or friends.

We recently launched telephone based befriending service, to help meet the challenges brought about by various lockdowns. A lot of these partnerships have continued following the easing of Covid restrictions.

Also working alongside our partners at Guide Dogs, My Sight Nottinghamshire delivers the My Guide Service which aims to reduce the isolation that many people with sight loss experience, helping people rebuild their confidence and regain their independence. As part of the scheme, people with visual impairments are matched with a My Guide volunteer who has received My Guide training endorsed by VISION 2020. Volunteers are able to: guide their partner to social, retail and leisure activities; help people establish lasting relationships with community members who can, in turn, help them get out more; working with their My Guide partners, they can work with visually impaired individuals setting clear goals to help them become more independent by providing a bridge to the community in which they live.

Volunteers are essential for the delivery of our My Guide and Befriending Services. 22 volunteers helped deliver this service throughout the year, reducing the loneliness and isolation often experienced by people with visual impairments and helping people to regain their confidence and enabling them to go out into the world again.

The My Guide Service also helps to raise awareness of the needs of people with visual impairments in the local community by engaging with local shop keepers and providers of other amenities, regarding the needs of their service user.

Hospital Based Support

Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) and volunteers, based in the Ophthalmology Department at Queens Medical Centre Campus of Nottingham University Hospitals, enable us to advise and give support to patients at the point of most need for people recently diagnosed with sight loss.

Our ECLO and volunteers are available to visit within the waiting areas and wards of the hospital to provide information, guidance, emotional support, referrals and sign posting, but most importantly, a listening ear to newly diagnosed and treated patients.

When patients are first diagnosed with a permanent sight loss condition, they are often devastated by this news and don't know which way to turn. The ECLO Service is often a lifeline to helping people come to terms with the emotional impact of their sight loss. It also helps eye patients understand what is happening to them; what

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happens next; the range of support available to them and how they can access this support.

Technology classes and home tuition

Our IT Service enables people with visual impairments (regardless of their level of sight loss) to achieve far greater independence. Using accessible software in computers, tablets, smart phones and apps, service users are enabled to achieve greater independence in personal communication, shopping, managing personal finances and employment prospects, and activities which the majority of people with sight loss would otherwise require assistance to undertake. As new apps are developed technology is increasingly becoming an essential daily living aid, providing all sorts of support to enable people with visual impairments to live more independently. We also offer this service in the community via home visits.

There is so much that technology can do to improve the lives of people living with sight loss. Accessibility is built into nearly all devices now and additional apps can supplement that accessibility in a variety of increasingly creative ways. As technology solutions become ever more inventive and artificial intelligence comes into the mix, understanding technology becomes an essential aid to people living with sight loss and the demand for this service increases.

We now have a team of "Tech Befriending" volunteers who are trained up and paired with people with visual impairments who feel they need someone they can turn to when they need tech support, which enables access to this increasingly vital service by far greater numbers.

Leisure services

My Sight Nottinghamshire recognises that many leisure activities are not accessible to people with visual impairments in Nottinghamshire; we aim to ensure that they have the same leisure opportunities as sighted people by providing a wide range of adapted events and activities suitable for all ages. The team also strives to work with other providers to ensure that more public services are accessible to our client group. We find that through taking part in activities such as sports or arts and crafts, people with visual impairments are often given the confidence boost they need to get out and about and integrate with society. Our Leisure Services include:

Social groups and activities

Social, activity-based services for people with visual impairments are provided at our hubs in city and county. Hubs in Nottingham, Mansfield, Newark and Bassetlaw provide an opportunity for people with visual impairments to get together, reduce isolation and loneliness, enjoy accessible leisure activities and share valuable support amongst peers going through similar experiences. Peer support gives people with visual impairments knowledge, solutions, ideas and most of all confidence that they can cope, live their life with sight loss and the knowledge that

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they are not going through their journey alone. The social groups are supported by 20 volunteers who help with driving, guiding, planning and running activities.

Sports and healthy lifestyle services

Through this service, we offer sporting opportunities, which bring people together, facilitate peer support and build confidence through sport and exercise. This service also raises awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, with particular emphasis on the benefits to sight.

Specifically, we deliver facilitated swimming and gym sessions; we have a fortnightly rambling group and a walking talking group for mental health; we also have team sports, including Nottingham Sheriffs Goalball Teams in association with Nottingham University. We also hold regular Ten Pin Bowling sessions and have started Boccia taster sessions. All of our sports and healthy lifestyle services are supported by eleven volunteers.

Arts and Choir

We deliver a variety of arts activities in the city centre and from our hubs in the county by our Arts Officer. These sessions are equally suitable to people with visual impairments who wish to become more creative and may wish to develop their artistic skills as well as those who just wish to try a new activity and enjoy the social aspect of the groups. Attendees also have the opportunity to attend a number of arts related trips and talks.

The My Sight Notts Choir meets fortnightly in the city centre. We provide audio CDs and large print song sheets to make the choir accessible for people with visual impairments. They frequently attend a range of venues where they perform to a variety of audiences.

Our arts groups gain confidence by creating and exhibiting their work; through peer support in the groups and from working together in the choir. Creating and singing help to engender a positive outlook and improve the mental health of people who are living with sight loss. We are able to deliver the arts and choir activities thanks to the additional assistance of five arts volunteers.

Communication services

Communication is a key to the quality of life of blind and partially sighted people. At My Sight Nottinghamshire, we aim to ensure that people have access to the same information as their sighted peers through our newsletters, accessible website and the following services:

Talking newspapers

The Nottingham and District Talking Newspaper record stories of interest, news and information onto CD and USB formats. A dedicated team of nine volunteers undertake various tasks from recording to mailing the completed material. People with visual impairments who access the Talking Newspaper service rely heavily on

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this service to remain in touch with current affairs and place great value on the efficiency and quality by which the service is constantly delivered.

Touch transcriptions

This project offers transcription of text to Braille, audio and large print. The service also offers volunteering opportunities for people with visual impairments with the aim of teaching transferable skills that will benefit their long term employment prospects.

Volunteering

Our charity is heavily dependent on voluntary help to deliver our services. In addition to those directly delivering services outlined above, we have an additional 24 volunteers who help to run our charity shops, with a further 10 volunteers serving as trustees; 13 working on our Service User and Member Involvement Team (SUMIT); and 26 supporting in admin and fundraising.

We currently have 35 volunteers who are blind and partially sighted serving in a range of capacities, including as Trustees, Reception, Admin and SUMIT volunteers, as well as a number volunteering in service delivery. In total we have 185 volunteers who donate their time and knowledge to assisting with the delivery of our charitable objectives.

The trustees and management acknowledge that without this volunteer help many activities, services and events, which are currently undertaken, would not be possible.

Service development

The 2021 - 2022 financial year has been a year of recovery and change. We began offering services for people with visual impairments in a Covid-secure way, but as the year progressed it's been a real joy for all our staff and volunteers to see people with visual impairments return with enthusiasm to face-to-face services while continuing to take advantage of our virtual services.

After two years of restrictions, our Heathcoat Street centre is once more full of people with visual impairments enjoying our social groups, IT groups, choir and peer support group and we have celebrated as people return to art, sports and healthy lifestyle activities at various venues across the county.

Technology and equipment services continue to expand as we invest in life-changing tech support for people with visual impairments; helping them reduce isolation, stay connected and enjoy greater independence.

Our Eye Clinic Liaison Service at the Queen's Medical Centre (QMC) and our Shared Vision peer support services have supported an increasing number of people with visual impairments, many with complex needs due to the devastating impact of the pandemic on access to support for people living with sight loss.

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We remain committed to the vision of a Nottinghamshire in which people with visual impairments can live without barriers and where they can take full advantage of all that our county has to offer. As we continue to emerge from the pandemic we have strengthened the support offered to local business and service providers, helping them become more inclusive and accessible for people with sight loss.

Achievements and Performance

The suspension and slow return of many support services has had a devastating impact on local people with visual impairments, many of whom have been forced to face the life-changing impact of sight loss without access to a full range of support.

Data suggests that during the pandemic referrals for Ophthalmology dropped by 36% in 2020-21, and referrals were still down by 14% during 2021-22 when compared with 2019-20.

Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer, Chris White, worked alongside medical professionals in the eye clinic at QMC offering emotional support, practical advice and signposting for patients.

What we achieved.

During 2021-22 we saw 1,534 patients up from 943 the previous year. We undertook 400 certifications of visual impairment (CVI) compared with 260 during the last financial year, helping more patients to access vital support. We also delivered a number of presentations to hospital staff on Sighted Guiding, the importance of certification and mental health and the impact of sight loss.

Shared Vision - Changing Lives through Peer Support

We are passionate about the power of peer support because it creates networks of support that deliver mutual learning, which significantly improves outcomes for people with sight loss.

During the pandemic our Shared Vision support groups met remotely using technology to access telephone and video conferencing. As our services reopened we now offer face-to-face and virtual sessions to meet the increasingly complex needs for those who struggled without support for so long during the pandemic.

During 2021-22 we delivered 7 Shared Vision groups, offering a total of 58 sessions. 44 people with visual impairments attended our Shared Vision sessions benefitting enormously.

We hosted 6 informal peer support coffee mornings, which were attended by 100 people with visual impairments. 2 support groups for carers and friends of people with visual impairments were attended by 10 people. Our first targeted support session for people with visual hallucinations after sight loss known as Charles Bonnet Syndrome was attended by 6 people.

"It's been incredible going to Shared Vision and meeting other people who understood my anxiety and everyday frustrations. It's easy to think you're on your

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own trying to deal with this scary thing that's happening. So when you meet other people in a similar boat, you learn from each other and you support each other, it's really life-changing." Dale

The Power of Technology

The pandemic has changed the way we live our lives and one legacy from it is the growing importance of technology. As our reliance on the digital world grows, it's vital that people with visual impairments are not excluded from this tech revolution and are empowered to embrace its life-changing benefits.

Having supported many people with visual impairments to get online and access our services during the pandemic, our team of Sight Loss Advisors and Tech Befriending volunteers continue to support people through home visits, technology workshops and a twice-weekly IT group.

With the support of our funders at the People's Projects, we were able to repurpose our community café, which was forced to close during the pandemic to create a new Smart Space, packed full of the latest apps, smart devices and daily living equipment. Our Smart Space is an important resource, enabling us to demystify tech and demonstrate a range of solutions in a non-threatening home-style environment.

We supported 332 people with visual impairments to access technology through face-to-face and remote appointments. We delivered 84 IT group sessions, which were attended by 10 different participants. We held 8 training sessions, which were attended by 98 people. We recruited and trained 18 Tech Befriending volunteers. We supported 87 people to access our groups in arts, peer support and other services remotely.

Equipment Advice and Support

Our Equipment Advice and Support Service moved from offering remote appointments to once again seeing people face-to-face. We provided advice and hands-on support to help people select a broad range of daily living aids from magnifiers and white canes to lighting solutions and smart devices. The advice and equipment provided helped hundreds of local people with visual impairments retain their independence.

We provided 239 appointments for aids and equipment, which is an increase on the 128 offered the previous year. We sold 693 daily living aids up from 170 the previous year.

42 people with visual impairments enjoyed listening to our Talking News Service.

Sports for all

Over the course of 2021-22 we kick started our inclusive sports and healthy lifestyles programme, offering a broad range of both team and individual activities to enable people with sight loss to benefit from all the mental and physical health benefits of an active lifestyle.

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14 people participated in 19 goalball sessions with our Nottingham Sheriffs Goalball teams at both novice and intermediate levels.

10 people took part in 38 supported swimming sessions.

We organised 38 supported gym sessions, which were attended by 10 people.

12 people with visual impairments enjoyed 14 Walkie Talkie gentle walks.

We hosted 22 rambles, which were enjoyed by 12 people with visual impairments.

14 people with visual impairments participated in 4 tenpin bowling sessions.

40 people were supported to attend 10 Boccia sessions.

Social Groups, Reduced Isolation Across Notts

We deliver social groups throughout the county. During the pandemic some of our social groups got together using our telephone conference call facility, helping us reach even more people across the county. We host five social groups in Newark, Nottingham, Worksop and two in Mansfield. They help reduce isolation and provide social activities including day trips, arts and crafts, guest speakers and a good old chat over a cuppa.

58 people with visual impairments accessed our social groups across the county: Bassetlaw 6, Mansfield 6, Newark 21 Nottingham 25. Activities enjoyed included Boccia, quizzes, arts and crafts, talks on varied topics from guest speakers plus visits from our staff for technology and equipment advice.

Arts

Delivering arts for people with visual impairments during the pandemic proved challenging, but as we emerged from the restrictions our arts groups have enjoyed collaborations on a number of exciting projects.

In December we took part in an audio tour of two exhibitions delivered by the curators at the New Art Exchange in Nottingham. The tours were followed by a virtual arts session in February, which will culminate in a practical workshop in May 2022.

We also collaborated with Textile students at Nottingham Trent University, who worked alongside our blind and partially sighted artists through three workshops to explore sensory materials.

One of the highlights of our artistic year was a highly innovative Tactile Universe Project, which helped bring astronomy to people with sight loss. We worked with Dr Nic Bonne, a visually impaired Astronomer to create a number of 3D tactile models of stars and galaxies so that people with visual impairments had the universe quite literally at their finger tips! Nic put us in touch with Dr Chris Harrison, who is using sound to represent the universe for a truly immersive sensory experience!

It has been challenging holding virtual arts and choir sessions for people with visual impairments, which is why numbers of participants have been lower than in previous years. We are working hard post-pandemic to rebuild participation in these valued services.

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8 visually impaired participants took part in online arts. 6 people with visual impairments took part in our collaboration with New Art Exchange. 6 people with visual impairments took part in the collaboration with Nottingham Trent University. We held 6 choir sessions, which were attended by 6 visually impaired singers.

Valuing our volunteers

Volunteers are the beating heart of My Sight Notts, without their support and commitment our charity would simply be unable to deliver the variety of services that we do.

We work hard to recruit, train, retain and support our volunteers in more than 20 different roles including admin, reception and mail room; arts, choir and Talking News; car/minibus drivers, IT/tech befrienders, fundraising and charity shops; My Guide befriending, Shared Vision and Eye Clinic Liaison; rambling, walking and other sports; social groups, telephone befriending and not forgetting our service user engagement volunteers and our trustees.

We were supported by 136 volunteers this year, 30% of whom are visually impaired. We created and supported 11 befriending partnerships and 13 tele-befriending partnerships
We delivered Level 1 Sighted Guide training to 20 people and Level 2 to 7 people.

Fundraising and marketing

2021-2022 proved to be a really challenging year for fundraising as we continued to feel the impact of the pandemic and the looming cost of living crisis. Very few events or community fundraising activities were able to be planned for with any degree of certainty and the availability of Covid emergency grants was greatly reduced.

We finished the year with an income of £463,748 a decrease of 33.7% on the previous year's income of £698,951.

Charity Shops

Our charity shops faced numerous challenges during 2021-22 beginning the financial year with greatly reduced footfall due to social distancing measures, placing limits to the number of customers allowed in shops at any given time. We also experienced a reduction in capacity to process and store donated stock because Covid restrictions mandated that we had to store our stock for 72 hours before we were able to sort it and get it out on the shop floor.

Shop income for 2021-2022 was £76,281, almost £65,000 less than in 2018-2019 prior to the pandemic. Thankfully we began to notice some 'green shoots' of recovery as we approached the end of the financial year, with an increase in trade and income that we hope will continue throughout 2022.

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Trusts and Grants

During the pandemic, we, like many other charities saw a significant uplift in income from grants due to government support including Furlough, Business Interruption schemes and other Covid related grants, during the financial year 2021-22 we saw income from grants drop to £80,137.

We would like to thank our community fundraisers for their continuing support. Thank you to visually impaired fundraiser, Paul Baskcomb who raised over £2,500 and to our President, Len Jackson whose summer raffle raised £4,000. Thank you also to the former Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council, Cllr Wallace whose appeal raised £3,464 for our charity.

Marketing and Engagement

Like most charities, My Sight Notts needs to communicate with its beneficiaries, volunteers and potential funders to tell the story of the work we do and to raise our profile within the local community. In January 2022 we launched our new accessible website, providing information for people with sight loss about the support available. The website included important new pages about common eye conditions together with advice on looking after your eye health and where to go to find support.

We also worked with our supporters, encouraging them to tell their stories to the local and national media. During 2021-22 one of our visually impaired artists, Rob, fundraiser Paul and Volunteer Co-ordinator, Rachel, all told their stories on BBC East Midlands Today. We provided four interviews for BBC Radio Nottingham, two for Notts TV and contributed to 5 articles in the Nottingham Post. We worked with our funders at Global Make Some Noise on a series of interviews broadcast on national Global radio stations including Smooth, Heart and Capital Radio and even contributed to a national advertising campaign for Vodafone encourage people to donate unwanted laptops, desktops and tablets.

As part of our engagement activities with local people with sight loss, we worked with members of our Service User Member Involvement Team (SUMIT) to draw up plans to take service user engagement to the next level by establishing a sub-committee of our trust board with strategic responsibility for delivering our growing service user engagement agenda. This exciting new project will be launched in 2022.

Financial review

Year ending March 31st 2022 has been another difficult year; the Covid-19 pandemic continues to have a direct impact on the charity's usual sources of income and the gradual reintroduction of services has led to an increase in expenditure, although this is still lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Fortunately, the charity was eligible for some small Government Covid support and restart grants and was also able to claim some salary contributions for furloughed employees through the Government Job Retention Scheme which ended in September 2021. It was another good year for legacy income but the reduced

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income from donations and grants resulted in the year ending with a deficit of £97,335 (£162,025 surplus in 2021).

Overall, total incoming resources decreased this year by £235,203 to £463,748 (2021: £698,951) and total resources expended increased by £23,157 to £561,083 (2021: £537,926)

Income from grant applications amounts to £39,350 this year (2021: £130,375). An additional £27,242 was received in Covid support and restart grants and £13,545 from Job Retention Scheme grants.

Income from donations and gifts decreased this year to £25,194 (2021: £53,726), legacy income also decreased to £242,622 (2021: £306,789) however this was another good year for legacies and is higher than our historical averages.

Our charity shops returned to full time trading, initially on reduced hours, which saw income increase to £76,281 (2021: £31,972). This is lower than pre-pandemic levels and we hope to see further increase in the next 12 months.

Total resources expended has increased to £561,083 (2021: £537,926) the return to more face-to-face services next year will see a further increase and a return to usual expenditure levels.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £489,495 (2021: £532,013) a decrease of £42,518. There is an amount of £288,224 included as designated funds.

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £43,403 (2021: £98,220). Repurposed Big Lotteries Building Connections and Peoples Project funding has been spent on developing our smart room and on sight loss advisor roles. The remaining £43,403 is mostly made up of Health Education East Midlands funding which will be spent during 2022/2023.

As we look to the future, achieving financial sustainability is likely to be one of the greatest difficulties we face; with rising inflation and the accompanying cost of living crisis, the cost of salaries, goods and utilities is set to increase; coupled with rising demand for services and declining donations and grants, we expect challenging times ahead.

Plans for future periods

The new world emerging from the shadow of the pandemic presents challenges to people living with sight loss, but it also brings opportunities. My Sight Notts is committed to ensuring that our services are accessible to as many people with sight loss as possible in a format that is accessible to them. We will build upon the success of our IT projects, which helped many more people with sight loss to embrace technology, continuing to develop opportunities for people with sight loss to increase their independence through technology. We will offer services in both face to face and remote formats, where appropriate; this will include extending our

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Tele-Befriending Service and offering our Shared Vision Group sessions with a choice of face to face and Zoom formats.

We will also work with external organisations to ensure people with visual impairments have been considered in the design of their digital and physical services, environments and facilities; ensuring they are as accessible to as they can be.

In recent years we have seen an increase in the number of people losing their jobs as a direct result of developing a visual impairment. We will work with Thomas Pocklington Trust to develop a number of employment initiatives that provide opportunities for people with visual impairments who are out of work; including taking part in an internship programme and developing an employment service, supporting blind and partially sighted people to develop skills, offering advice to transition to the workplace, navigate the job market or further their careers.

We plan to develop new ways of working for our sight loss advisor staff; creating a caseload based working model to provide a smoother experience for people joining our services. We aim to establish a single entry point for new service users, where their needs will be assessed before they are allocated to a caseworker, who will be their contact point throughout their journey with us.

We will continue to work with the NHS, local authorities and other local organisations to ensure their services are accessible for people with sight loss. Our CEO will continue working with hospital trusts, primary care, commissioners and local authorities through Nottinghamshire Ophthalmology Delivery Group to establish suitable support pathways for people whilst they are going through clinical treatment and diagnosis; ensuring people living with impaired sight have access to a range of practical and emotional support at the earliest opportunities.

Our Fundraising and Marketing department will continue to look for new and regular trust and grant income and explore opportunities for income generation to replace the community and event fundraising activity that has declined as a result of the pandemic and is forecast to reduce further with the cost of living crisis. We will concentrate our fundraising efforts on securing multiyear funding from trust and grant income and we will continue to pursue opportunities for funding our services through NHS, local authorities and other providers.

As legacy income remains a stream on which we rely heavily, we will be exploring a number of new approaches to promote our need for legacy income to continue delivering services; including providing a free Will writing service and working to raise our profile with local probate solicitors.

Pension liabilities

The charity participates in The Pensions Trust's Growth Plan. Until 30 September 2013, all contributions to the scheme were on a defined benefit basis. From 1

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October 2013, contributions are made on a defined contribution basis. The scheme has been in deficit for a number of years and all participating employers are making yearly repayments as part of the recovery plan in place.

At the year end the charity's estimated additional contributions to the recovery plan amount to £9,210, including inflationary increases, over the remaining six years to 31 January 2025. A liability of £9,210 has been recognised in this year's financial statements. More information on this is included in note 19.

From 1 February 2017 the charity joined National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Workplace Pension Scheme as part of the Government workplace pension reform. NEST is a trust-based defined contribution scheme and all eligible employees are auto enrolled.

Reserves policy

The committee has considered the reserves held by My Sight Nottinghamshire as at 31 March 2022 and continues to monitor this closely. The charity needs reserves to enable it to develop its long term aims as well as to ensure the continuation of its current activities. In order to meet their responsibilities and to ensure that the charity continues to operate on a going concern basis, the committee has reviewed the requirements and risks faced by the charity in both the short and medium term. The trustees have agreed that the charity should endeavour to maintain a level of free reserves which is no less than 6 months and no more than 12 months running costs.

The charity defines its free reserves as the sum of its cash reserves plus the value of its investments. The free reserves of the charity at the balance sheet date stood at £489,495 (2021 £532,013). Total funds at the year-end were £532,898 (2021 £630,233) Unrestricted funds at the year-end were £489,495 (2021 £532,013) while restricted funds were £43,403 (2021 £98,220). Included within the unrestricted funds are designated funds totalling £288,224 (2021 £283,224).

The committee assessed the needs and risks that the charity faces, and continues to closely monitor income and expenditure and explore new opportunities for income generation to help us achieve greater sustainability. The committee believes the charity's free reserves and known forecast income are adequate to meet the obligations of the organisation in the short term. It recognises the continued need for close monitoring of income and expenditure and to this end the management and trustees continue to convene Finance Sub Committee meetings on a bi-monthly basis and monitor cash flow with our rolling forecast.

Financial review

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The charity has a deficit of £(97,335) this year compared to a surplus of £161,025 in 2021. The total incoming resources have decreased by £235,203 to £463,748 and total resources expended have increased by £23,157 to £561,083.

Income from grant applications amounts to £80,137 (2021 - £292,544) this year and income from donations and gifts has decreased from the prior year to £25,194 (2021 - £53,726). Legacy income has decreased to £242,622 (2021 - £306,789) with legacy income coming from a range of individuals this year as last year. Charity shop income has increased by 138% this year to £76,281 (2021 - £31,972) due to shops now opening again post covid restrictions.

Total resources expended have increased by 4% to £561,083 (2021 - £537,926). Management and trustees work together to regularly review the expenditure that the charity incurs and work at implementing policies to help reduce overall costs.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £489,495 (2021 - £532,013 a decrease of £42,518). There is an amount of £288,224 included in designated funds (2021 - £283,224).

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £43,403 (2021 - £98,220), a decrease of £54,817. This is largely due to unspent grants relating to the Big Lotteries Reaching Communities and Health Education East Midlands and Peer Support.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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 we are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiners are unaware; and
- We have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's Independent Examiners are aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

.....
M Conroy
Company Secretary

Date:

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 28 to 50.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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

.....
David Allum FCCA
UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants

14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Date:

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		2022			2021				
	Unrestricte d funds	Restricted funds	Endowme nt funds £	Total	Unrestricte d funds	Restricted funds	Endowmen t funds	Total	
Not e	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:									
Donations and legacies	2	342,903	5,050	-	347,953	515,615	137,444	-	653,059
Charitable activities	3	27,632	-	-	27,632	8,082	-	-	8,082
Other trading activities	4	85,211	-	-	85,211	34,981	-	-	34,981
Investments	5	2,952	-	-	2,952	2,829	-	-	2,829
Total income and endowments		458,698	5,050	-	463,748	561,507	137,444	-	698,951
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	150,945	-	-	150,945	146,419	-	-	146,419
Charitable activities	7	350,271	59,867	-	410,138	257,660	133,847	-	391,507
Total expenditure		501,216	59,867	-	561,083	404,079	133,847	-	537,926
Net income/ (expenditure)		(42,518)	(54,817)	-	(97,335)	157,428	3,597	-	161,025
Transfers between funds	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(42,518)	(54,817)	-	(97,335)	157,428	3,597	-	161,025
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward	26	532,013	98,220	-	630,233	374,585	94,623	-	469,208
Total funds	26	489,495	43,403	-	532,898	532,013	98,220	-	630,233

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**carried
forward**

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The charity has not recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

The notes on pages 27 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		2022		2021	
	Not e	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		50,927		61,578
Current assets					
Stock		7,406		7,149	
Debtors	17	19,266		19,453	
Cash at bank and in hand		495,371		608,459	
		<u>522,043</u>		<u>635,061</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(30,862)		(25,782)	
Net current assets			<u>491,181</u>		<u>609,279</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			542,108		670,857
Provisions for liabilities	19		(9,210)		(40,624)
Net assets			<u>532,898</u>		<u>630,233</u>
Charity funds:					
Unrestricted funds	26	489,495		532,013	
Restricted funds	26	43,403		98,220	
Endowment funds	26	-		-	
Total charity funds			<u>532,898</u>		<u>630,233</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

For the year ended 31 March 2022, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

.....
J Fisher
Chair

Date:

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The notes on page 27 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Not e	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
Cash flow from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22	(115,554)		178,260	
Net cash flow from operating activities			(115,554)		178,260
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(582)		-	
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		96		350	
Interest received		2,952		2,829	
Net cash flow from investing activities			2,466		3,179
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			(113,088)		181,439
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			608,459		427,020
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			495,371		608,459
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:					
Cash at bank and in hand			495,371		608,459
Total cash and cash equivalents			495,371		608,459

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The notes on page 27 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind (My Sight Nottinghamshire) is a registered charity in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are promoting greater independence for visually impaired people of all ages throughout the county by providing emotional support, practical advice, information and training together with a huge range of adapted leisure activities.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds

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

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

(b) Funds (continued)

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes of those costs which are incurred while carrying out activities to generate monies for the charity and its activities; and
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes those costs which are incurred while carrying out the charity activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the category above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Short term leasehold property improvements	10% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line basis or 10% reducing balance basis or 15% reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Land and buildings were valued using the life of the leasehold agreement.

(g) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the average cost formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(j) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

(k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

Until 30 September 2013, pension contributions were to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

From 1 October 2013, the company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised when they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(m) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are actively working with staff to manage and mitigate the impact to COVID-19 on the company's operations. On review currently the trustees do not consider there to be a significant impact on their ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future. The company is continually reviewing and monitoring the expected impact of COVID-19 and should it have any impact on the value of their assets and liabilities this will be recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2022				2021			
	Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted funds	Endowmen t funds	Total	Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted funds	Endowmen t funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	25,144	50	-	25,194	49,735	3,991	-	53,726
Legacies	242,622	-	-	242,622	306,789	-	-	306,789
Grants	75,137	5,000	-	80,137	159,091	133,453	-	292,544
	<u>342,903</u>	<u>5,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>347,953</u>	<u>515,615</u>	<u>137,444</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>653,059</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	2022				2021			
	Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted funds	Endowmen t funds	Total	Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted funds	Endowmen t funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Sale of visual aids and equipment	27,192	-	-	27,192	7,915	-	-	7,915
Sale of transcription services	440	-	-	440	167	-	-	167
	<u>27,632</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,632</u>	<u>8,082</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,082</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	2022				2021			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fundraising events	7,649	-	-	7,649	3,009	-	-	3,009
Shop income	76,281	-	-	76,281	31,972	-	-	31,972
Other	1,281	-	-	1,281	-	-	-	-
	<u>85,211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,211</u>	<u>34,981</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,981</u>

5 Income from investments

	2022				2021			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Bank interest received	2,952	-	-	2,952	2,829	-	-	2,829
	<u>2,952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,952</u>	<u>2,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,829</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	2022				2021			
Not	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

e								
Motor and travel	496	-	-	496	184	-	-	184
Sundry expenses	6,724	-	-	6,724	2,990	-	-	2,990
Computer costs	446	-	-	446	1,000	-	-	1,000
Insurance	1,791	-	-	1,791	2,003	-	-	2,003
Light, heat and power	4,001	-	-	4,001	2,742	-	-	2,742
Rates	719	-	-	719	-	-	-	-
Rent	26,536	-	-	26,536	25,923	-	-	25,923
Water rates	457	-	-	457	527	-	-	527
Repairs and maintenance	77	-	-	77	115	-	-	115
Telephone and fax	717	-	-	717	735	-	-	735
Advertising and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wages and salaries	12 96,959	-	-	96,959	97,873	-	-	97,873
Social security costs	12 8,204	-	-	8,204	8,163	-	-	8,163
Staff pensions	12 3,687	-	-	3,687	3,569	-	-	3,569
Printing, postage and stationery	131	-	-	131	95	-	-	95
Legal and professional	-	-	-	-	500	-	-	500
	<u>150,945</u>	-	-	<u>150,945</u>	<u>146,419</u>	-	-	<u>146,419</u>

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2022				2021			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
Not e	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff training	-	1,350	-	1,350	983	1,029	-	2,012
Motor and travel	12,912	1,363	-	14,275	4,189	73	-	4,262
Sundry expenses	6,586	3,179	-	9,765	4,133	8,665	-	12,798
Computer costs	4,065	-	-	4,065	2,019	2,719	-	4,738
Insurance	15,186	-	-	15,186	15,458	-	-	15,458

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Light, heat and power	6,539	153	-	6,692	1,833	1,992	-	3,825
Rent	25,216	3,658	-	28,874	13,618	15,094	-	28,712
Water rates	613	20	-	633	344	292	-	636
Repairs and maintenance	3,946	-	-	3,946	3,289	-	-	3,289
Telephone and fax	10,204	568	-	10,772	9,734	298	-	10,032
Advertising and publicity	4,750	-	-	4,750	3,737	289	-	4,026
Purchases	22,388	-	-	22,388	7,746	-	-	7,746
Wages and salaries	12 216,213	45,795	-	262,008	150,086	98,286	-	248,372
Social security costs	12 13,752	2,025	-	15,777	12,682	1,600	-	14,282
Staff pensions	12 11,063	1,756	-	12,819	10,749	3,491	-	14,240
Pension provision	(21,159)	-	-	(21,159)	-	-	-	-
Printing, postage and stationery	5,076	-	-	5,076	3,735	19	-	3,754
Bank charges	1,187	-	-	1,187	934	-	-	934
Depreciation (Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets	16 8,539	-	-	8,539	9,257	-	-	9,257
Governance costs	11 2,999	-	-	2,999	3,234	-	-	3,234
Bad and doubtful debts	151	-	-	151	-	-	-	-
	<u>350,271</u>	<u>59,867</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>410,138</u>	<u>257,660</u>	<u>133,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>391,507</u>

8 Analysis of expenditure

Note	2022				2021			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	6 150,945	-	-	150,945	146,419	-	-	146,419

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Charitable activities	7	350,271	59,867	- 410,138	257,660	133,847	- 391,507
		<u>501,216</u>	<u>59,867</u>	<u>- 561,083</u>	<u>404,079</u>	<u>133,847</u>	<u>- 537,926</u>

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2022			2021		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	41,964	122,847	164,811	36,219	97,534	133,753
Support costs	10	108,981	287,291	396,272	110,200	293,973	404,173
		<u>150,945</u>	<u>410,138</u>	<u>561,083</u>	<u>146,419</u>	<u>391,507</u>	<u>537,926</u>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9 Direct costs

	2022			2021		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	-	1,350	1,350	-	2,012	2,012
Motor and travel	496	14,275	14,771	184	4,262	4,446
Sundry expenses	6,724	9,765	16,489	2,990	12,798	15,788
Computer costs	446	4,065	4,511	1,000	4,738	5,738
Insurance	1,791	15,186	16,977	2,003	15,458	17,461
Light, heat and power	4,001	6,692	10,693	2,742	3,825	6,567
Rates	719	-	719	-	-	-
Rent	26,536	28,874	55,410	25,923	28,712	54,635
Water rates	457	633	1,090	527	636	1,163
Repairs and maintenance	77	3,946	4,023	115	3,289	3,404
Telephone and fax	717	10,772	11,489	735	10,032	10,767
Advertising and publicity	-	4,750	4,750	-	4,026	4,026
Purchases	-	22,388	22,388	-	7,746	7,746
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bad and doubtful debts	-	151	151	-	-	-
	41,964	122,847	164,811	36,219	97,534	133,753

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10 SUPPORT COSTS

	Not e	2022		2021		2021 Total £	
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £		
Wages & salaries	12	96,959	262,008	358,967	97,873	248,372	346,245
Social security costs	12	8,204	15,777	23,981	8,163	14,282	22,445
Staff pensions	12	3,687	12,819	16,506	3,569	14,240	17,809
Pension provision			(21,159)	(21,159)	-	-	-
Printing, postage & stationery		131	5,022	5,153	95	3,754	3,849
Legal & professional		-	-	-	500	-	500
Bank charges		-	1,187	1,187	-	934	934
Depreciation		-	8,593	8,593	-	9,257	9,257
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	45	45	-	(100)	(100)
Governance costs	11	-	2,999	2,999	-	3,234	3,234
		108,981	287,291	396,272	110,200	293,973	404,173

11 Governance costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examiner's fees	2,999	3,234
	2,999	3,234

12 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average number of persons employed by the charity (including trustees) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2022 FTE	2021 FTE
Number		
Number		

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Administration	4	4	4	4
Services	10	7	10	7
Fundraising	4	3	4	3
	18	14	18	14

12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	358,967	346,245
Social security	23,981	22,445
Defined contribution pension costs	16,506	17,809
	399,454	386,499

No employees received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2021 - £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £128,712 (2021 - £120,671).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the Chief Executive, the Finance and Administrative Manager and the Fundraising Manager.

14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £2,999 (2021 - £3,234).

15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Not e	2022 £	2021 £
--	----------	-----------	-----------

Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	11,092	11,756
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		45	(100)
Operating lease rentals	20	40,957	57,624
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	2,999	3,234

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation:					
At 1 April 2021	56,740	71,884	5,724	32,802	167,150
Additions	-	-	582	-	582
Disposals	-	(241)	-	-	(241)
At 31 March 2022	56,740	71,643	6,306	32,802	167,491
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2021	16,195	59,045	4,612	25,720	105,572
Charge for the year	5,674	1,919	999	2,500	11,092
Eliminated on disposals	-	(100)	-	-	(100)
At 31 March 2022	21,869	60,864	5,611	28,220	116,564
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2022	34,871	10,779	695	4,582	50,927
At 31 March 2021	40,545	12,839	1,112	7,082	61,578

17 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	5,648	5,873
Prepayments and accrued income	13,618	13,580
	19,266	19,453

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	13,828	6,906
Taxation and social security	6,923	6,412
Other creditors	2,628	2,482
Accruals and deferred income	7,483	9,982
	<u>30,862</u>	<u>25,782</u>

19 Provisions for liabilities

	2022		2021	
	Defined benefit pension £	Total £	Defined benefit pension £	Total £
Provision brought forward	40,624	40,624	48,134	48,134
Interest expense	234	234	1,082	1,082
Deficit contributions paid	(10,280	(10,280	(9,981)	(9,981)
))		
Re-measurement adjustment	(21,368	(21,368	1,389	1,389
))		
Provision carried forward	<u>9,210</u>	<u>9,210</u>	<u>40,624</u>	<u>40,624</u>

The charity participates in a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the charity is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme of £3,312,000 per annum from 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025. The contributions are payable monthly and increase by 3% each 1 April.

20 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Due within one year	38,458	40,958
Due within two to five years	100,160	113,617
Due after five years	41,667	66,667
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	180,285	221,242
	<hr/>	<hr/>

21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £16,506 (2021 - £17,659).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,615 (2021 - £2,471).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	(97,335)	161,025
Interest receivable	(2,952)	(2,829)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	11,092	11,756
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	45	(100)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(257)	(857)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	187	20,343
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	5,080	(3,568)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(31,414)	(7,510)
Net cash flow from operating activities	<u>(115,554)</u>	<u>178,260</u>

23 Change in net debt

Current year

	1 April 2021 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	31 March 2022 £
Cash	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371
	<u>608,459</u>	<u>(113,088)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>495,371</u>
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	<u>608,459</u>	<u>(113,088)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>495,371</u>

Comparative year

	1 April 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	31 March 2021 £
Cash	427,020	181,439	-	608,459
	<u>427,020</u>	<u>181,439</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>608,459</u>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	427,020	181,439	-	608,459

24 Related party transactions

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £12,756 (2021 - £8,772) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2021 - £nil).

25 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

26 Movement in funds

Designated funds - Investments

The trustees have designated a value equal to the proceeds from the sale of Ortzen Street which have been invested in order to earn annual income for the charity.

Designated funds - Heathcoat Street reinstatement

The trustees have designated £5,000 per annum starting from 2018/19 for the potential costs of reinstating the Heathcoat Street premises to its former condition. A further £5,000 will continue to be designated annually until the estimated £50,000 has been designated. The transfers between the designated and unrestricted funds are in order to reflect this.

Designated funds - IT support for Nottinghamshire

The trustees have designated money for IT support for Nottinghamshire from an old restricted fund which had the purpose of providing equipment to Broxtowe, an area within Nottinghamshire.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Designated funds - Counselling service

The trustees have agreed to commit up to £10,000 from reserves to run a 12 month pilot project. £10,000 expenditure has been forecast from reserves to provide a basic service, but the charity will be looking to secure additional funding to expand this service.

Restricted funds - Thursday Group

Thursday Group includes grants, donations and service user contributions toward the cost of running Thursday social groups including day trips and other communal outings.

Restricted funds - Talking Newspaper

Talking Newspaper represents funds received for the provision of upgrading equipment.

Restricted funds - Sight Matters

The Sight Matters fund consists of grant and service user contributions towards the cost of running this group.

Restricted funds - Big Lotteries - Reaching Communities

The Big Lotteries Reaching Communities fund consists of grants that are used towards the cost of serving the community.

Restricted funds - Emotional and Peer Support

The Emotional and Peer Support fund consists of grant income contributing towards the equipment, transport and salary costs of employees.

Restricted funds - Befriending My Guide

Befriending My Guide represents grant income contribution towards the home visit and mobile support services which are part of the charity's outreach work.

Restricted funds - Big Lotteries - Building Connections

Project will tackle loneliness and isolation experienced by many of the local VI community by creating opportunities for groups of individuals to share experiences. My Sight will provide a wide range of accessible activities, workshops, support and social opportunities that bring together groups of VI people over a positive experience. Activities will focus on building self-confidence and well-being and facilitating people to do things they enjoy. We need to be able to offer a range of social activities in order to have broad spectrum appeal. Most of the things we hope

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

to deliver have been 'tried and tested' either by us or other groups and organisations we have learnt from.

This project will:

- Offer twice monthly drop in coffee mornings for visually impaired people, their friends and carers at our Nottingham City Hub.
- Develop our group and team focused sporting activities.
- Develop our choir and singing sessions.
- Deliver more arts workshops in different areas of the county.
- Offer peer support sessions in different areas of the county for VI people, their families and carers.
- We will develop peer support sessions that are specific to individual sight loss conditions. Sight loss conditions are quite diverse and affect people in different ways.

Restricted funds - Big Lotteries - Peoples Project

A Community Cafe at our Support Centre in Nottingham offering work experience and training to visually impaired visually impaired people, to work in and run the cafe as well as creating a friendly social space for visually impaired people to be able to get together, meet people and build connections.

The purpose of the cafe is therefore two-fold:

- It will offer a safe accessible training environment where visually impaired people can gain work experience in catering, customer service, cash handling, stock control and administration as well as learning important skills such as teamwork and communication. It will aim to build people's confidence and independence and provide a stepping stone in to employment.
- The cafe will also provide a space for visually impaired people to get together, socialise and share experiences. A destination where people with sight loss feel safe, understood and part of a community. Many of the visually impaired people we work with feel lonely and socially isolated by their disability. We want to create a welcoming and accessible space where there is always someone to chat to.

Restricted funds - HEEM ELCO and Peer Support

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer provision for mid-Notts hospitals offering advice and support to visually impaired people during eye clinic visits and to deliver a sight loss educational project.

Restricted funds - Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Funding from Big Lotteries for a 6 month project to provide equipment and technical support to enable isolated visually impaired people to access platforms such as Zoom to keep in touch with family and friends during Covid lockdowns and to use online shopping, banking etc.

Restricted funds - Newark Group

Funding from Active Partners Trust Tackling Inequalities awarded to our Newark Social Group to provide technology to enable visually impaired members to keep in touch during the Covid lockdown and to provide individual chair based exercise equipment to be used in the home to help members stay active.

Restricted funds - Building Accessibility / Smart Room

Funding from Counsellor Wallace at Nottinghamshire County Council to spend on Heathcoat Street accessibility alterations, including accessible signage, audible signage, sound baffling etc.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year	At 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	248,789	458,698	(501,216)	(5,000)	201,271
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	15,000	-	-	5,000	20,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	-	-	8,224
<i>Counselling service</i>	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total unrestricted funds 2022	532,013	458,698	(501,216)	-	489,495
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,528	50	(57)	-	1,521
Talking Newspaper	1,808	-	(66)	-	1,742
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries - Reaching Communities	11,588	-	(4,184)	-	7,404
Emotional and Peer Support	7,014	-	(7,014)	-	-
Befriending My Guide	8,533	5,000	(12,296)	-	1,237
Big Lotteries - Building Connections	8,015	-	(8,015)	-	-
Big Lotteries - Peoples Project	19,563	-	(19,563)	-	-
HEEM ELCO and Peer Support	32,000	-	(7,411)	-	24,589
Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project	1,181	-	(1,181)	-	-
Newark Group	1,694	-	(80)	-	1,614
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	3,941	-	-	-	3,941
Total restricted funds 2022	98,220	5,050	(59,867)	-	43,403
Endowment funds:					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total endowment funds 2022	-	-	-	-	-

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Total funds 2022

630,233	463,748	(561,083)	-	532,898
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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Comparative year	At 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	106,361	561,507	(404,079)	(15,000)	248,789
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	10,000	-	-	5,000	15,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	-	-	8,224
<i>Counselling service</i>	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total unrestricted funds 2021	374,585	561,507	(404,079)	-	532,013
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,478	50	-	-	1,528
Talking Newspaper	2,053	-	(245)	-	1,808
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries - Reaching Communities	11,588	-	-	-	11,588
Emotional and Peer Support	-	10,000	(2,986)	-	7,014
Befriending My Guide	5,979	8,000	(5,446)	-	8,533
Big Lotteries - Building Connections	12,388	39,579	(43,952)	-	8,015
Big Lotteries - Peoples Project	27,782	5,725	(13,944)	-	19,563
HEEM ELCO and Peer Support	32,000	-	-	-	32,000
Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project	-	61,500	(60,319)	-	1,181
Newark Group	-	3,649	(1,955)	-	1,694
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	-	3,941	-	-	3,941
IT and Equipment	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
ECLO	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds 2021	94,623	137,444	(133,847)	-	98,220

Endowment funds:

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	-	-	-	-	-
Total endowment funds 2021	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds 2021	469,208	698,951	(537,926)	-	630,233

27 Description of funds

Restricted funds - HLC Project

The HLC project represents funds for the provision of computer equipment in the Broxtowe area. The fund was transferred to unrestricted funds during the 2019/20 financial year.

Restricted funds - BAME Project

The BAME project consists of grants for a two year project on awareness of sight loss problems in black and minority ethnic groups.

Restricted funds - Choir

The Choir fund represents monies receive towards the cost trips for the My Sight visually impaired choir.

Endowment funds - S A Tomlinson

This fund represented funding for children's holidays. The fund was transferred to unrestricted funds during the financial year.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestrict ed funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowmen t funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	46,344	4,583	-	50,927
Cash and current investments	478,640	43,403	-	522,043
Other current liabilities	(26,279)	(4,583)	-	(30,862)
Provisions	(9,210)	-	-	(9,210)
	<hr/> 489,495	43,403	-	<hr/> 532,898 <hr/>

Comparative year

	Unrestrict ed funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowmen t funds £	Total 2021 £
Fixed assets	54,497	7,081	-	61,578
Cash and current investments	536,841	98,220	-	635,061
Other current liabilities	(18,701)	(7,081)	-	(25,782)
Provisions	(40,624)	-	-	(40,624)
	<hr/> 532,013	98,220	-	<hr/> 630,233 <hr/>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales - Charity number 511288

Accounts

Charity Number: 511288
Company Registration Number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 511288

Company Registration Number 01535327

Trustees

F Dale	
K Dear	(Appointed 4 November 2020)
L Ellis	(Appointed 4 November 2020)
M Evans	(Treasurer)
J Fisher	(Chair)
L Jones	
S Kauser	(Appointed 25 November 2020)
K Skill	(Appointed 4 November 2020)
G Stapleton	
A Youatt	
B Flanagan	(Resigned 4 November 2020)
M Sheppard	(Resigned 4 November 2020)

Company secretary M J Conroy

President L Jackson OBE

Registered office 10 – 12 Carlton Street
Nottingham
NG1 1NN

Independent examiner UHY Hacker Young
14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Bankers National Westminster Bank
plc
16 South Parade
Nottingham
NG1 2JX

HSBC Bank plc
26 Clumber Street
Nottingham
NG1 3GA

Mansfield Building Society
Regent House, Regent Street
Nottingham
NG18 1SS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The directors, who are also trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016, and Update Bulletin 2 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

F Dale
K Dear
L Ellis
M Evans
J Fisher
B Flanagan
L Jones
K Skill
G Stapleton
M Sheppard
A Youatt

Structure, governance and management

Legal status and governing documents

My Sight Nottinghamshire ("My Sight Notts") is the working name for Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind, and is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Anyone over the age of 16 who is visually impaired (or the parent or guardian of a visually impaired child under the age of 16) can become a member of the Company. At all times the number of members shall not be less than ten. In July 2017 the charity abolished the subscription fee for membership and all service users on our database who wished to become members did so.

My Sight Notts is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The charity has obtained, under section 30 of the Companies Act 1985, license to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

Appointment of trustees

The Chair of the trustees is nominated by the Board of trustees. The full capacity of the board is twelve trustees. One quarter of the trustees are subject to retire by rotation annually. If one quarter of the number of trustees is not a whole number, the number will be rounded.

If there is only one trustee who is subject to retirement by rotation, they shall retire. The trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been the longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but between persons who became or were last re-appointed trustees on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.

No person other than a trustee retiring by rotation shall be appointed or re-appointed as a trustee at any general meeting unless:

1. They are recommended by the trustees; or
2. Not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date for the meeting, notice has been executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment; and
3. Receives a majority vote from members eligible to vote.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The Trustees' skills base is reviewed by a Governance Working Group (which includes the Chair and the CEO) and the Board's skills need, gender balance and percentage of visually impaired trustees is assessed. New trustees are sought based on the needs identified by the Governance Working Group (and later discussed at the trustees Board meeting). The charity then advertises, sends mailings to appropriate sectors and petitions existing contacts for candidates to apply to join the Board. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to stand for election onto the Board by the membership at the next AGM. A candidate may be co-opted onto the Board in advance of the vote if there is a need for their skills to be utilised in the interim.

New trustees have access to information intended to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum of Association, the committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. They are given the opportunity to meet employees and other trustees prior to appointment. Once elected to the board, all trustees receive training on their roles and responsibilities as a trustee and trustees are encouraged to attend an internal vision impairment awareness training day to familiarise themselves with some of the issues facing our client group and to attend other external training events, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

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Organisation

The board of trustees, which shall not be less than six in number (unless determined otherwise by ordinary resolution) and shall not exceed twelve in number, administers the charity. The Board meets bi-monthly and there are sub-committees and working groups covering Services, Finance & Fundraising and Governance which meet regularly.

A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and service related activity.

Regular Subcommittees, comprising of a number of trustees, CEO and a manager, meet regularly to identify and recommend changes to strategy around finance, fundraising, development of services and policies. Recommendations are made to the full Board for approval. Recommendations are implemented by the CEO and his management team.

Management team

The management team consists of: M Spouge (Finance); L Fenton (Fundraising); E Lucas (Services); J Scarle (Marketing).

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration policy for key management personnel is decided between the trustees and CEO when a new employee is appointed. For the CEO remuneration, the board of trustees will decide this on an as and when basis. No bonuses are paid to any key management personnel. The criteria for setting the remuneration level relates to the previous experience of the new employee.

Umbrella body

My Sight Notts is a member of Visionary – Linking Local Sight Loss Charities, providing valuable resource and support to local vision impairment charities. My Sight Nottinghamshire's CEO is currently Vice Chair of Visionary.

Related parties

The charity has several areas of activity that involve joint working initiatives with other parties which share their aims in respect of the development of accessible support services for visually impaired people. This includes other local and national charities and community associations in addition to local authorities and health bodies.

My Sight Notts currently has an ongoing partnership with The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association to deliver the My Guide Service; a service which was developed by Guide Dogs in partnership with local vision impairment charities.

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Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

1. An annual review of all the risks the charity may face;
2. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and
3. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified risks which have resulted in better emergency procedures and contingency plans and have given the impetus for better planning. Particular attention has been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of service users, visitors, volunteers, staff and event participants.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the development, and monitoring by the Finance Department, of a rolling eighteen month forecast (in addition to the existing fixed forecast and managed accounts) and the setting and regular review of the reserves policy by the trustees. Due to financial concerns in recent years, the Finance Subcommittee has risk review as a standing agenda item and continues to meet bi-monthly, until such time as our finances are on a more stable footing.

The potential for a drop in legacy income has been identified as a significant risk and to mitigate this, the charity is applying for more trust and grant income, looking at new ways of developing community and corporate fundraising activities and monitoring the profitability of its charity shops.

Fundraising events are also risk assessed both financially and with regard to the health and safety of participants and the general public. My Sight Nottinghamshire have now adopted the same risk assessment criteria for the implementation of its social events, activities and day trips for visually impaired people.

We have identified that there are some risks in matters relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults. To mitigate this, all service delivery staff receive updated safeguarding training and our Services Manager is trained as Safeguarding Lead for the charity.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- For blind and partially sighted people of all ages in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to have the same life opportunities as everyone else;
- To provide opportunities for blind and partially sighted people living in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to achieve their own unique goals and enjoy a full and independent life beyond sight loss;

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- To improve the lives of people living with sight loss locally by providing support services, training, information, advice, social and leisure opportunities for visually impaired people with the aim of enhancing their quality of life and increasing their independence.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the commissioning and continuation of services and activities.

My Sight Nottinghamshire updated its Vision, Statement of Purpose and Strategy in June 2010 to reflect the priorities of its service users as indicated through the charity's IMPACT Consultation Project as well as incorporating initiatives such as the Outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy and its ten Seeing It My Way objectives which help to highlight the issues that matter most to visually impaired people today.

Vision

Our Vision is for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire to become fully accessible to visually impaired people and to be recognised as an area where visually impaired people have the same life opportunities as everyone else.

Statement of purpose

To enable visually impaired people to have equal opportunities by providing access to the support needed to enable them to lead full and independent lives.

To give the visually impaired people of Nottinghamshire a voice which will enable them to affect change and help develop a city and county that is completely accessible to visually impaired people.

Strategy

My Sight Nottinghamshire's Strategy is based around the aims and outcomes arising from our ongoing consultation with local visually impaired people and the strategic outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

The key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy are as follows:

1. To deliver services and activities that help to implement the strategic objectives of the refreshed UK Vision Strategy in Nottinghamshire, which are:
 - a. Everyone looks after their eyes and their sight
 - b. Everyone with an eye condition receives timely treatment and, if permanent sight loss occurs, early and appropriate services and support are available and accessible to all
 - c. A society in which people with sight loss can fully participate
2. To develop and deliver services in consultation with local visually impaired people through My Sight Nottinghamshire's Service User Member Involvement Team and through the development of a number of increased opportunities for service user feedback.

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3. To identify gaps in service provision, provide services where need is greatest and use our influence to improve the provision of public services for visually impaired people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
4. To work in partnership with other organisations providing services for our client group, including local authorities, those charities providing services for visually impaired people as well as organisations serving a wider demographic, who are likely to include visually impaired people amongst their recipients such as Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and Diabetes UK.
5. To commit to a Finance and Fundraising Strategy that provides the best services for visually impaired people, whilst maintaining the stability of the organisation.

My Sight Notts' Services

Our services include: Equipment Advice and Guidance; Befriending Service, My Guide Service, Hospital Information Services (Eye Clinic Liaison), Facilitated Peer Support sessions, and IT and Assistive Technology Training in group and home based one to one settings. We provide a range of leisure services including Events and Activities (for Children and Adults), Sports and Healthy Lifestyles Activities (including team sports), Social and Activity Groups, Trips and Outings, Arts and Crafts and our VI Choir. We also raise awareness of avoidable sight loss and eye health matters, raising awareness of the prevalence of sight loss conditions in a number of communities.

My Sight Nottinghamshire provides a range of information and support services aimed at people with a visual impairment, their support networks and external agencies. Our Service Team's aims are to limit social exclusion and empower people through providing information, knowledge and support. The team works closely to motivate clients and their networks and strive to break down barriers and raise awareness of the challenges often faced by people living with a visual impairment.

Information and Support Services include:

Support Centre and Mobile Equipment Advice and Support Service

We are equipped with high and low-tech accessibility products and a range of magnifiers. This enables a 'hands on' experience where a Support Officer can offer advice, information and demonstrations of equipment to assist visually impaired people in their day-to-day activities. Products include talking clocks, magnifiers, liquid level indicators, canes, diaries, calendars and games. Additionally the service provides information about other My Sight Nottinghamshire services as well as a wide range of leaflets and information about eye conditions, product catalogues, social services and other organisations providing support for visually impaired people. We also stage exhibitions of equipment, advice and information at our hubs in Worksop, Newark, Mansfield and Nottingham. This service is essential in giving visually impaired people the opportunity to discover and try the wide range of products available to help them to be independent and safe at home and whilst they are out and about, as well as enabling independence and confidence with communications.

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This service is delivered by a full time member of staff, with support from volunteers. We would like to recruit more volunteers to help increase capacity and develop this service.

Low Vision Advice

Magnification and appropriate lighting are vital to clients living with Low Vision. We are often aware that people struggle to use their magnifiers effectively, so have decided to run specialist days to support visually impaired people in using their magnifiers and assess whether their magnification strength needs to change. We also discuss Eccentric Viewing Technique where appropriate and provide teaching sessions on this skill for reading and seeing. For many people, good lighting is another way of maximising their remaining vision. We have a variety of task lights that we can demonstrate and we also stock daylight bulbs which can be effective in enhancing vision. This service enables people with vision impairments to make the best use of the sight they have, retain and often regain a level of independence in their communications and leisure activities.

Befriending and My Guide Services

For those visually impaired people who are unable to get out and about, we provide home visits to reduce social isolation and improve mental well-being. Volunteers help with simple tasks such as regular visits to the service users' homes for a cup of tea and a chat, reading mail and newspapers. We match a suitable volunteer with a service user for weekly visits. Priority is given to those most in need, for example those who have little or no contact with family, neighbours or friends.

Also working alongside our partners at Guide Dogs, My Sight Nottinghamshire delivers the My Guide Service which aims to reduce the isolation that many people with sight loss experience, helping people rebuild their confidence and regain their independence. As part of the scheme, visually impaired people are matched with a My Guide volunteer who has received My Guide training endorsed by VISION 2020. Volunteers are able to: guide their partner to social, retail and leisure activities; help people establish lasting relationships with community members who can, in turn, help them get out more; work with each visually impaired person to set clear goals to help them become more independent by providing a bridge to the community in which they live.

Volunteers are essential for the delivery of our My Guide and Befriending Services. 22 volunteers helped deliver this service throughout the year, reducing the loneliness and isolation often experienced by visually impaired people and helping people to regain their confidence and enabling them to go out into the world again. The My Guide Service also helps to raise awareness of the needs of visually impaired people in the local community by engaging with local shop keepers and providers of other amenities, regarding the needs of their service user.

Information and support at Queens Medical Centre Ophthalmology Dept

Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) and volunteers, based in the Eye Clinics at the Queens Medical Centre Campus of Nottingham University Hospital, enable us to be available at the point of most need for the majority of newly diagnosed visually impaired people.

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Our ECLO and his volunteers are available to visit within the waiting areas and wards of the hospital to provide information, guidance, emotional support, referrals and sign posting, but most importantly, a listening ear to newly diagnosed and treated patients.

When patients are first diagnosed with a permanent sight loss condition, they are often devastated by this news and don't know which way to turn. The ECLO Service is often a lifeline to helping people come to terms with the emotional impact of their sight loss. It also helps eye patients understand what is happening to them; what happens next; the range of support available to them and how they can access this support.

Technology classes and home tuition

Our Technology Classes enable visually impaired people (regardless of their level of sight loss) to achieve far greater independence. Using accessible software in computers, tablets and smart phones and apps, service users are enabled to achieve greater independence in personal communication, shopping, managing personal finances and employment prospects, and activities which the majority of visually impaired people would otherwise require assistance to undertake. As new apps are developed technology is increasingly becoming an essential daily living aid, providing all sorts of support to enable visually impaired people to live more independently. We also offer this service in the community via home visits.

There is so much that technology can do to improve the lives of people living with sight loss. Accessibility is built into nearly all devices now and additional apps can supplement that accessibility in a variety of increasingly creative ways. As technology solutions become ever more inventive and artificial intelligence comes into the mix, understanding technology becomes an essential aid to people living with sight loss and the demand for this service increases.

We now have a team of "Tech Befriending" volunteers who are trained up and paired with visually impaired people who feel they need someone they can turn to when they need tech support, which enables access to this increasingly vital service by far greater numbers of visually impaired people.

Leisure services

My Sight Nottinghamshire recognises that many leisure activities are not always accessible to visually impaired people in Nottinghamshire. We aim to ensure that visually impaired people have the same leisure opportunities as sighted people by providing a wide range of adapted events and activities suitable for all ages. The team also strives to work with other providers to ensure that more public services are accessible to our client group. We find that through taking part in activities such as sports or arts and crafts, visually impaired people are often given the confidence boost they need to get out and about and integrate with society. Our Leisure Services include:

Social groups and activities

Social, activity-based services for visually impaired people are provided at our hubs in city and county. Hubs in Nottingham, Mansfield, Newark and Bassetlaw provide an opportunity for

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visually impaired people to get together, reduce isolation and loneliness, enjoy accessible leisure activities and share valuable support amongst peers going through similar experiences. Peer support gives visually impaired people knowledge, solutions, ideas and most of all confidence that they can cope, live their life with sight loss and the knowledge that they are not going through their journey alone. The social groups are supported by 33 volunteers who help with driving, guiding, planning and running activities.

Sports and healthy lifestyle services

Social groups and counselling/emotional support are not suitable for everyone. Through this service, we offer sporting opportunities, which bring people together, facilitate peer support and build confidence through sport and exercise. This service also raises awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, with particular emphasis on the benefits to sight.

Specifically, we deliver swimming, rambling and gym classes as well as coordinating the Nottingham Sheriffs Goalball Teams in association with Nottingham University and Nottingham Knights, a Blind Cricket Team in partnership with Nottinghamshire Cricket Board. All of our sports and healthy lifestyle services are supported by eleven volunteers.

Arts and Choir

We deliver a variety of arts activities in the city centre and from our hubs in the county by our Arts Officer. These sessions are equally suitable to visually impaired people who wish to become more creative and may wish to develop their artistic skills as well as those who just wish to try a new activity and enjoy the social aspect of the groups. Attendees also have the opportunity to attend a number of arts related trips and talks.

The My Sight Notts Choir meets fortnightly in the city centre. We provide audio CDs and large print song sheets to make the choir accessible for visually impaired people. They frequently attend a range of venues where they perform to a variety of audiences.

Our arts groups gain confidence by creating and exhibiting their work; through peer support in the groups and from working together in the choir. Creating and singing help to engender a positive outlook and improve the mental health of people who are living with sight loss. We are able to deliver the arts and choir activities thanks to the additional assistance of fifteen arts volunteers.

Communication services

Communication is a key to the quality of life of blind and partially sighted people. At My Sight Nottinghamshire, we aim to ensure that people have access to the same information as their sighted peers through our quarterly newsletters, accessible website and the following services:

Talking newspapers

The Nottingham and District Talking Newspaper record stories of interest, news and information onto CD format. A dedicated team of nine volunteers undertake various tasks from recording

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CDs to mailing the completed material. Visually impaired people who access the Talking Newspaper service rely heavily on this service to remain in touch with current affairs and place great value on the efficiency and quality by which the service is constantly delivered.

Touch transcriptions

This project offers transcription of text to Braille, audio and large print. The service also offers volunteering opportunities for visually impaired people with the aim of teaching transferable skills that will benefit their long term employment prospects.

Volunteering

Our charity is heavily dependent on voluntary help to deliver our services. In addition to those directly delivering services outlined above, we have an additional 24 volunteers who help to run our charity shops, with a further 10 volunteers serving as trustees; 13 working on our Service User and Member Involvement Team (SUMIT); and 26 supporting in admin and fundraising.

We currently have 35 volunteers who are blind and partially sighted serving as Trustees, Reception, Admin and SUMIT volunteers, as well as a number volunteering in service delivery. In total we have 185 volunteers who donate their time and knowledge to assisting with the delivery of our charitable objectives.

The trustees and management acknowledge that without this volunteer help many activities, services and events, which are currently undertaken, would not be possible.

Service development

This was an unprecedented year as we fought against the challenges of lockdown isolation which affected visually impaired people disproportionately during the Covid 19 pandemic. All services have had to adapt and innovate to develop new ways of delivery.

The challenge began in March 2020, when a team of staff and 27 volunteers took on the not-insignificant task of calling every visually impaired person on our charity's database during two rounds of telephone calls. Our small team endeavored to speak to over 1,500 visually impaired people to find out how they were coping with lockdown and what support they needed from My Sight Notts. We also made 16 extra phone calls to support visually impaired people isolated at home alone on Christmas Day.

Our services team worked closely with marketing and fundraising colleagues, creating and editing around 45 videos, which enabled many of our services to be accessed online from people's homes. Throughout the first lockdown, we delivered exercise classes, eye health advice, IT support, equipment advice, peer support and social groups all online or by telephone.

Many visually impaired people had difficulty accessing our services online, as many did not have the skills or confidence to use technology like Zoom independently and were at serious risk of becoming even more marginalised by the pandemic. So we set about re-inventing our services, changing our fundraising strategy, seeking out new communication channels and creating new partnerships to shape our vision for the future.

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We invested in our technology services to make sure we were in a strong position to support local visually impaired people to master the skills that would help them stay connected, remain independent and enjoy life. We recruited new technology staff; Tech Befriending volunteers; and supported existing staff to broaden their roles, creating a team of Sight Loss Advisors able to deliver holistic support for people with sight loss.

Unable to deliver face-to-face services, 24 of our My Guide volunteers and other new and existing volunteers, adapted the role, with support from our Volunteer Coordinator to become telephone befrienders, offering phone-based support to blind and partially sighted people during lockdown.

During a pandemic people continue to be diagnosed with sight loss and the suspension and cutting back of support services has had a huge impact on what is already a devastating experience for people and their families. Our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO), based at QMC, continued to work throughout the pandemic, developing remote appointments during April and June 2020, a period in which eye clinics were primarily offering virtual appointments.

Our Equipment Advice and Support service adapted to the new challenges, offering telephone support and posting out equipment that enabled visually impaired people to maintain their independence during the pandemic.

As our team of Talking News volunteers were unable to attend recording sessions during lockdown, staff took on the task of reading and recording; we also took the opportunity to broaden our recordings to include not just local news but also news about My Sight Notts and features of local historical interest.

We adapted our provision of Sports and Healthy Lifestyles, creating video exercise classes for people who preferred gentle chair-based exercise and for those able to benefit from a more robust standing exercise. We took the opportunity presented by periods of lockdown to plan a safe return for our "Walkie Talkie Wednesday" gentle walks; our Goalball teams; and to work on a development plan for a range of new and exciting healthy lifestyle initiatives, including the re-launch of blind cricket in conjunction with our partners at Notts CCC.

Delivering arts for visually impaired people has proved challenging during the pandemic, nevertheless we have maintained arts activities for 32 local visually impaired people, ranging from posting out Christmas craft packs and kits for springtime herb growing and plant pot decorating. With support from our team of Sight Loss Advisors and Tech Befriending volunteers, we supported local visually impaired people to master Zoom and take part in online art sessions.

During the pandemic we supported our social groups and their volunteers to use telephone conferencing facilities to keep in touch. 15 members of our Newark Group and four volunteers have successfully used telephone conferencing to keep in touch and support each other throughout the pandemic. Volunteers from our Nottingham, Mansfield and Bassetlaw social groups were telephoned regularly by volunteers and some met in pubs and outdoor venues between periods of lockdown.

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Towards the end of the year we remodeled our peer support groups, which re-launched as Shared Vision, an extensive programme of support for people struggling with their emotional and mental health as a result of sight loss. Due to ongoing lockdowns and shielding we also developed a remote delivery model to ensure people could access this essential support at a time when they needed it more than ever.

Volunteering

Volunteers remain the life-blood of our charity and we are committed to attracting volunteers to support our new services, whilst supporting our existing volunteers to deliver current services with innovative new approaches. This year we moved our training programme for volunteers online and so, despite lockdowns, we were able to continue recruiting and training new volunteers throughout the year.

During the pandemic our amazing team of volunteers have stepped up for local visually impaired people, working with us to innovate the way they deliver services and going the extra mile for people living with sight loss.

Supporting our staff

Staff at My Sight Notts have demonstrated unprecedented levels of commitment and flexibility during the pandemic and we are very proud of what they have been able to deliver for local visually impaired people during the pandemic.

We furloughed four Sight Loss Advisors from March 2020 – three returned August 2020 (one subsequently went back on furlough in January, returning in March 2021).

We continued to keep in touch with our team through monthly staff meetings via Zoom, staff What's App groups, Zoom coffee breaks and a weekly online 'tea dance' to support staff who were isolated and working from home.

We took the opportunity presented during periods of lockdown to develop and improve our appraisal system with peer reviews and development plans, offering staff structure and direction during this time of change and upheaval. We also used the time to create our Values and Behaviors Policy.

Whilst our charity has been challenged by the corona virus pandemic, with a significant impact on our service delivery; due to the resilience of our trustees, staff and volunteers we have risen to the challenge and come through the crisis with confidence.

Achievements and performance

Over the year, our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) undertook 260 Certificates of Visual Impairment (CVI), developing a new and improved CVI monitoring system, which has been instrumental in taking QMC's CVI compliance from just 8% (one of the worst in the country) to a staggering 80%, one of the best in the country. This is hugely important as a registration of vision impairment (following a CVI) unlocks access to a range of support and concessions for people with sight loss.

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The ECLO was able to support 943 patients remotely during April to June when the majority of hospital appointments were virtual. He also produced a number of videos designed to explain a number of different eye conditions, which people could access online. He also helped develop the new OKKA Macular Monitoring smart phone app, for monitoring Macular Disease in older people; ensuring the app was accessible and suitable for use by visually impaired patients.

We produced 45 videos, which enabled many of our services to be accessed online from people's homes and created 68 telephone befriending partnerships.

Our Sight Loss Advisors delivered 150 remote IT and technology support appointments. We launched our Tech Befriending Project; recruiting and training 16 new Tech Befriending Volunteers who helped us support 86 visually impaired people to use accessible technology with confidence.

In addition, we made 60 tech support calls, helping visually impaired people master video conferencing technology like Zoom to access our arts activities, social groups and peer support groups. Between periods of lockdown we were also able to hold 23 IT group sessions with 64 attendances.

We supplied 170 pieces of vital equipment, such as magnifiers, talking time pieces and daily living aids and between periods of lockdown hosted 128 one to one appointments, incorporating social distancing and other Covid secure procedures. With many re-enablement services unable to work at full capacity during 2020-2021, this was a real lifeline for many people.

24 My Guide volunteers adapted the support they offered to visually impaired people becoming telephone befrienders during periods of lockdown and we now have 68 telephone befriending partnerships offering a friendly listening ear to visually impaired people isolated at home. 27 volunteers helped us telephone our entire database twice during lockdown and we recruited and trained 16 volunteers to the new role of Tech Befrienders who now play a pivotal role in our mission.

One volunteer, phoned 30 plus members of our Nottingham Group every week during lockdown, doing shopping for some and even arranging the funeral for one group member who sadly died during the pandemic and had no family to take on the task.

We moved our volunteer training programme online and so, despite lockdowns, we were able to deliver 10 training sessions during 2020-2021, which attracted 41 participants. We also sent out over 180 tea bags to invite volunteers to enjoy a 'cup of tea with us' remotely.

Fundraising and marketing

Our small team of fundraising and marketing staff and volunteers work hard to raise the profile of our charity and generate the funds which pay for the services we deliver and support our services to grow. Fundraising and Marketing work together to ensure the long-term sustainability of our services and help to increase the profile of our charity.

The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions on social contact that have been in place throughout the year, created a unique set of challenges for our fundraising team. With enforced closure of our Charity shops, cancellation of events and little opportunity for

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community fundraising the financial picture looked fairly bleak at the start of the 2020/2021 year. However, thankfully funders were quick to respond and we were able to access some fairly substantial grants to support both our crisis response to the pandemic and to help mitigate loss of income from other sources.

Our ROI in terms of fundraising increased again this year meaning that for every pound spent we have raised £4.71.

We received £61,500 from the National Lottery Community Fund to launch a 'Tech Befriending' Project as part of our response to the Covid 19 crisis to help enable visually impaired people to access digital technology and get online in order to help them stay connected and remain independent.

We also received the following grants as a specific response to the pandemic:

£10,000 Thomas Pocklington Trust
£5,000 Tesco bags for life
£2,000 Nottinghamshire County Council
£1,000 Persimmons Homes

Other grants received this year included:

£10,000 Boots Charitable Trust
£5,000 Jesse Spencer Trust
£3,000 Charles Littlewood Hill
£3,000 Skerritt Trust
£2,000 JN Derbyshire
£1,000 Ecclesiastical insurance
£500 Forman Hardy
£500 Poyser Fund

We sincerely thank all of our funders for their valuable contributions.

Fundraising and Community Events

Sadly, all events, including our annual Firework event had to be cancelled this year.

Nottingham County Councils – Chairman's Charity

We were fortunate to be selected by Councillor Wallace as his charity of the year, during his tenure as County Council Chair. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic many of the planned events were unable to go ahead, however this did not deter his efforts, with council staff getting behind the campaign and raising £3,464 from a range of fundraising activities including a recycling pledge campaign that was match funded by Veolia.

We also were awarded £3,000 from the Councillor's divisional fund to help fund accessibility equipment for our new Smart kitchen and living area.

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Donations

We are extremely grateful for all of the donations and gifts received this year, totaling £44,840 and we would like to thank all of the individuals, organisations and companies who contributed to this.

Charity shops

The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic meant that, in line with government restrictions and national lockdown, our charity shops were closed at the start of the 2020-2021 financial year.

The lease at our Stapleford shop also expired during this period and given the uncertain retail climate that we were facing, coupled with declining sales over recent years, the decision was made not to renew the lease. The Stapleford Charity shop traded for 26 years and generated well over £1 million income; our sincerest thanks goes out to all the wonderful volunteers and customers who supported the shop over the years.

Our Mapperley shop re-opened for trade in June and our City Centre Shop reopened in August. Due to safety guidelines both shops have been operating on reduced trading hours, with limits on the number of people allowed in-store at any given time. Despite these limitations both shops adapted well to new regulations and have performed relatively well against the odds. We also saw an influx of stock donations following lockdown periods which helped bolster sales.

We managed to secure business grants in relation to both shops which helped mitigate the financial loss caused by closures.

Communicating through the pandemic

Marketing and services have worked closely during the pandemic to keep the lines of communications open and to adapt to the changing circumstances in which we operate. This has often required setting up new channels of communication, including the increased use of videos, blogs and social media to keep connected with our supporters, volunteers and the visually impaired community.

Maintaining our profile

Marketing helped develop videos for social media and created opportunities to appear in the local media with six BBC TV appearances and six stories in the local newspaper. We also worked on a new, more accessible website alongside our panel of visually impaired accessibility testers. We plan to launch the website in the next financial year.

Financial review

Year ending March 31st 2021 has been a difficult year for everyone; the Covid-19 pandemic has had a direct impact on the charity's usual sources of income. Government restrictions forced charity shop closures for a large part of the year, resulting in a 72% reduction in shop income. We also had to suspend face to face services, which led to reduced income from donations and

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contributions, however as a consequence; expenditure on delivering services was also reduced by a similar amount.

Fortunately, the charity was eligible for a number of Government Covid Relief Grants and was also able to claim up to 80% of salary contributions for furloughed employees through the Government Job Retention Scheme. These grants, together with legacy income, resulted in the charity finishing the year in a healthy financial position with a surplus of £161,025 (£163,216 in 2020).

Overall, total incoming resources decreased this year by £64,929 to £698,951 and total resources expended decreased by £62,738 to £537,926.

Income from grant applications amounts to £130,375 this year (2020: £146,251). An additional £88,919 was received in Covid Relief grants and £73,247 from Job Retention Scheme grants.

Income from donations and gifts decreased this year to £53,726 (2020: £72,418), legacy income also decreased to £306,789 (2020: £377,289) however this was another good year for legacies and is much higher than our historical averages.

Our charity shops were closed for 7 months therefore income decreased significantly this year to £31,972 (2020: £116,294). We also took the difficult decision to permanently close our Stapleford charity shop as it was no longer financially viable following the closures.

Total resources expended have decreased by 10.45% to £537,926 (2020: £600,664) however, the reinstatement of face-to-face services next year will see a return to usual expenditure levels.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £532,013 (2020: £374,585) an increase of £157,428. There is an amount of £283,224 included as designated funds.

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £98,220 (2020: £94,623), an increase of £3,597. This is largely made up of unspent grants relating to the Big Lotteries Building Connections and Peoples Projects and Health Education East Midlands, these funds were scheduled for spending in 2021 and 2022 but have been carried forward to 2022 and 2023 due to service closures and delays to new services during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Plans for future periods

We know that visually impaired people have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic as the world around them has shifted and become more visual. Increasing reliance on visual technologies such as video conferencing technologies like Zoom and Teams, new smart phone apps and the exponential increase in online services have forced us all to adapt how we live our lives.

For the blind and partially sighted people we support, the changes of the past year have been extremely difficult and threaten to marginalise people with sight loss. We are determined this will

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not happen to them and will continue to adapt our services to make sure that visually impaired people remain included and connected, so that they can thrive and lead fulfilled and independent lives.

In the coming year we will continue to find new ways of delivering services remotely as well as face to face, as we adapt to living with Covid 19. This will include launching our new Smart Space at our Heathcoat Street centre, showcasing independence through technology; and continuing to teach and support visually impaired people to access new accessible smart technologies.

2021/2022 will see the first of our Shared Vision groups begin to meet, providing practical and emotional support for people struggling with the impact of sight loss. Groups of 8 to 12 visually impaired people will meet in facilitated sessions over a period of 8 weeks to learn about support available to them and to develop techniques on adapting to a life with sight loss. Bringing people with sight loss together for shared learning adds an essential element of peer support which helps build confidence and self esteem.

We are developing opportunities to assist visually impaired people to speak out about the impact of the pandemic on their lives, through video and other media. We are also planning an exciting quilting project, which we hope will see people use a variety of art forms to articulate their experiences not only improving people's creative skills but also improving their mental health, whilst also raising awareness of the impact living through the Covid 19 pandemic has had on visually impaired people.

We will continue to work with the local authorities and health bodies such as the ICS and CCGs to develop better eye health pathways and ensure support is available and offered to everyone living with sight loss in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. We will also explore partnerships with other sight loss organisations to improve the opportunities available to visually impaired people locally.

Our Fundraising and Marketing department will continue look for new and regular trust and grant income and explore opportunities for income generation to replace the community and event fundraising activity that has declined as a result of the pandemic. They will also engage more with our fundraising supporters to learn more about what motivates them to support us.

Fundraising and Marketing will concentrate efforts on one of our most essential sources of income as they develop a Legacy Marketing pack, designed to make it easier for our supporters to leave money to My Sight Notts in their Wills; securing essential services for future generations of visually impaired people.

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Pension liabilities

The charity participates in The Pensions Trust's Growth Plan. Until 30 September 2013, all contributions to the scheme were on a defined benefit basis. From 1 October 2013, contributions are made on a defined contribution basis. The scheme has been in deficit for a number of years and all participating employers are making yearly repayments as part of the recovery plan in place.

At the year end the charity's estimated additional contributions to the recovery plan amount to £40,624, including inflationary increases, over the remaining six years to 31 January 2025. A liability of £40,624 has been recognised in this year's financial statements. More information on this is included in note 19.

From 1 February 2017 the charity joined National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Workplace Pension Scheme as part of the Government workplace pension reform. NEST is a trust-based defined contribution scheme and all eligible employees are auto enrolled.

Reserves policy

The committee has considered the reserves held by My Sight Nottinghamshire as at 31 March 2021 and continues to monitor this closely. The charity needs reserves to enable it to develop its long term aims as well as to ensure the continuation of its current activities. In order to meet their responsibilities and to ensure that the charity continues to operate on a going concern basis, the committee has reviewed the requirements and risks faced by the charity in both the short and medium term. The trustees have agreed that the charity should endeavour to maintain a level of free reserves which is no less than 6 months and no more than 12 months running costs.

The free reserves of the charity at the balance sheet date stood at £248,789 (2020 – £106,361). Total funds at the year-end were £630,233 (2020 – £469,208). Unrestricted funds at the year-end were £532,013 (2020 – £374,585) while restricted funds were £98,220 (2020 – £94,623). Included within the unrestricted funds are designated funds totalling £283,224 (2020 – £268,224).

The committee assessed the needs and risks that the charity faces, and continues to closely monitor income and expenditure and explore new opportunities for income generation to help us achieve greater sustainability. The committee believes the charity's free reserves and known forecast income are adequate to meet the obligations of the organisation in the short term. It recognises the continued need for close monitoring of income and expenditure and to this end the management and trustees continue to convene Finance Sub Committee meetings on a bi-monthly basis and monitor cash flow with our rolling forecast.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial review

The charity has been extremely fortunate with legacy income this year and has made use of the available Covid-19 grant funding, leading to a surplus of £161,025 this year compared to a surplus of £163,216 in 2020. Total incoming resources have decreased by £64,929 to £698,951 and total resources expended have decreased by £62,738 to £537,926.

Income from grant applications amounts to £292,544 (2020 – £146,251) this year and income from donations and gifts has decreased slightly from the prior year to £53,726 (2020 – £72,418), showing another strong performance by the fundraising team in a tough economic environment. Legacy income has decreased to £306,789 (2020 – £377,289) with legacy income coming from a range individuals this year compared to two large legacies received in 2020. Charity shop income has unfortunately decreased by 73% this year to £31,972 (2020 – £116,294) due to shop closures and Covid-19 restrictions.

Total resources expended have decreased by 10% to £537,926 (2020 – £600,664). Management and trustees work together to regularly review the expenditure that the charity incurs and work at implementing policies to help reduce overall costs.

At the year end the charity had unrestricted funds of £532,013 (2020 – £374,585) an increase of £157,428. There is an amount of £283,224 included in designated funds (2020 - £268,224).

At the year end, the charity had restricted funds of £98,220 (2020 – £94,623), an increase of £3,597. This is largely due to unspent grants relating to the Big Lotteries Reaching Communities, and Big Lotteries Peoples Project, and Health Education East Midlands and Peer Support.

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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 we are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiners are unaware; and
- We have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's Independent Examiners are aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

.....
M Conroy
Company Secretary

Date:

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 20 to 46.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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

.....
David Allum FCCA
UHY Hacker Young
Chartered Accountants

14 Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6GR

Date:

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		2021			2020				
Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	
Income and endowments from:									
Donations and legacies	2	515,615	137,444	-	653,059	470,048	125,910	-	595,958
Charitable activities	3	8,082	-	-	8,082	22,968	-	-	22,968
Other trading activities	4	34,981	-	-	34,981	138,466	3,120	-	141,586
Investments	5	2,829	-	-	2,829	3,368	-	-	3,368
Total income and endowments		561,507	137,444	-	698,951	634,850	129,030	-	763,880
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	146,419	-	-	146,419	182,375	-	-	182,375
Charitable activities	7	257,660	133,847	-	391,507	311,851	106,438	-	418,289
Total expenditure		404,079	133,847	-	537,926	494,226	106,438	-	600,664
Net income/ (expenditure)		157,428	3,597	-	161,025	140,624	22,592	-	163,216
Transfers between funds	26	-	-	-	-	9,520	(8,974)	(546)	-
Net movement in funds		157,428	3,597	-	161,025	150,144	13,618	(546)	163,216
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward	26	374,585	94,623	-	469,208	224,441	81,005	546	305,992
Total funds carried forward	26	532,013	98,220	-	630,233	374,585	94,623	-	469,208

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The charity has not recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		61,578		73,584
Current assets					
Stock		7,149		6,292	
Debtors	17	19,453		39,796	
Cash at bank and in hand		608,459		427,020	
		<u>635,061</u>		<u>473,108</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(25,782)		(29,350)	
Net current assets			<u>609,279</u>		<u>443,758</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			670,857		517,342
Provisions for liabilities	19	(40,624)		(48,134)	
Net assets			<u>630,233</u>		<u>469,208</u>
Charity funds:					
Unrestricted funds	26	532,013		374,585	
Restricted funds	26	98,220		94,623	
Endowment funds	26	-		-	
Total charity funds			<u>630,233</u>		<u>469,208</u>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

For the year ended 31 March 2021, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

.....
J Fisher
Chair

Date:

Charity registration number: 511288
Company registration number: 01535327

The notes on page 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
Cash flow from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22	178,260		152,134	
Net cash flow from operating activities			<u>178,260</u>		<u>152,134</u>
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		-		(13,965)	
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		350		500	
Interest received		<u>2,829</u>		<u>3,368</u>	
Net cash flow from investing activities			<u>3,179</u>		<u>(10,097)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			181,439		142,037
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			427,020		284,983
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>608,459</u>		<u>427,020</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:					
Cash at bank and in hand			608,459		427,020
Total cash and cash equivalents			<u>608,459</u>		<u>427,020</u>

The notes on page 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind (My Sight Nottinghamshire) is a registered charity in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are promoting greater independence for visually impaired people of all ages throughout the county by providing emotional support, practical advice, information and training together with a huge range of adapted leisure activities.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 affecting reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds

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

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

(b) Funds (continued)

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes of those costs which are incurred while carrying out activities to generate monies for the charity and its activities; and
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes those costs which are incurred while carrying out the charity activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the category above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Short term leasehold property improvements	10% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line basis or 10% reducing balance basis or 15% reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Land and buildings were valued using the life of the leasehold agreement.

(g) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the average cost formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(j) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

(k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

Until 30 September 2013, pension contributions were to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

From 1 October 2013, the company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised when they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(m) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

In December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus was reported in Wuhan, Hubei province, China. In the first several months of 2020, the virus, SARS-CoV-2, and resulting disease COVID-19, spread to the United Kingdom.

On 23 March 2020 the government introduced various restrictions and social distancing rules which resulted in the company's shops closing. However, due to the timing of the pandemic in the United Kingdom, the trustees do not believe it to have a direct impact on the 31 March 2020 reporting period.

The trustees are actively working with staff to manage and mitigate the impact to COVID-19 on the company's operations. On review currently the trustees do not consider there to be a significant impact on their ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future. The company is continually reviewing and monitoring the expected impact of COVID-19 and should it have any impact on the value of their assets and liabilities this will be recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2021			Total £	2020			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Donations and gifts	49,735	3,991	-	53,726	70,709	1,709	-	72,418
Legacies	306,789	-	-	306,789	377,289	-	-	377,289
Grants	159,091	133,453	-	292,544	22,050	124,201	-	146,251
	515,615	137,444	-	653,059	470,048	125,910	-	595,958

3 Income from charitable activities

	2021			Total £	2020			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Sale of visual aids and equipment	7,915	-	-	7,915	21,625	-	-	21,625
Sale of transcription services	167	-	-	167	1,343	-	-	1,343
	8,082	-	-	8,082	22,968	-	-	22,968

4 Income from other trading activities

	2021			Total £	2020			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Fundraising events	3,009	-	-	3,009	15,833	3,120	-	18,953
Shop income	31,972	-	-	31,972	116,294	-	-	116,294
Café income	-	-	-	-	1,725	-	-	1,725
Other	-	-	-	-	4,614	-	-	4,614
	34,981	-	-	34,981	138,466	3,120	-	141,586

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5 Income from investments

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Bank interest received	2,829	-	-	3,368	-	-
	<u>2,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,368</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	2,829	-	-	3,368	-	-

6 Expenditure on raising funds

Note	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Motor and travel	184	-	-	189	-	-
Sundry expenses	2,990	-	-	4,727	-	-
Computer costs	1,000	-	-	989	-	-
Insurance	2,003	-	-	2,060	-	-
Light, heat and power	2,742	-	-	6,593	-	-
Rates	-	-	-	6,235	-	-
Rent	25,923	-	-	36,011	-	-
Water rates	527	-	-	1,619	-	-
Repairs and maintenance	115	-	-	31	-	-
Telephone and fax	735	-	-	817	-	-
Advertising and publicity	-	-	-	1,418	-	-
Wages and salaries	97,873	-	-	107,651	-	-
Social security costs	8,163	-	-	9,751	-	-
Staff pensions	3,569	-	-	4,273	-	-
Printing, postage and stationery	95	-	-	11	-	-
Legal and professional	500	-	-	500	-	-
	<u>146,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,375</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	146,419	-	-	182,375	-	-

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

Note	2021			Total £	2020			Total £
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Staff training	983	1,029	-	2,012	110	340	-	450
Motor and travel	4,189	73	-	4,262	23,905	8,036	-	31,941
Sundry expenses	4,133	8,665	-	12,798	7,786	3,785	-	11,571
Computer costs	2,019	2,719	-	4,738	2,154	454	-	2,608
Insurance	15,458	-	-	15,458	14,713	-	-	14,713
Light, heat and power	1,833	1,992	-	3,825	4,807	1,540	-	6,347
Rates	-	-	-	-	786	-	-	786
Rent	13,618	15,094	-	28,712	20,717	6,045	-	26,762
Water rates	344	292	-	636	390	126	-	516
Repairs and maintenance	3,289	-	-	3,289	2,181	5,215	-	7,396
Telephone and fax	9,734	298	-	10,032	7,222	242	-	7,464
Advertising and publicity	3,737	289	-	4,026	446	859	-	1,305
Purchases	7,746	-	-	7,746	21,168	-	-	21,168
Wages and salaries	150,086	98,286	-	248,372	170,587	75,505	-	246,092
Social security costs	12,682	1,600	-	14,282	11,411	2,596	-	14,007
Staff pensions	10,749	3,491	-	14,240	4,953	1,278	-	6,231
Printing, postage and stationery	3,735	19	-	3,754	1,064	-	-	1,064
Bank charges	934	-	-	934	2,218	-	-	2,218
Depreciation (Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets	9,257 (100)	- -	- -	9,257 (100)	10,297 (500)	417 -	- -	10,714 (500)
Governance costs	3,234	-	-	3,234	1,550	-	-	1,550
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	3,468	-	-	3,468
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	418	-	-	418
	257,660	133,847	-	391,507	311,851	106,438	-	418,289

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

8 Analysis of expenditure

	Note	2021			2020				
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
				Total £			Total £		
Raising funds	6	146,419	-	-	146,419	182,375	-	-	182,375
Charitable activities	7	257,660	133,847	-	391,507	311,851	106,438	-	418,289
		<u>404,079</u>	<u>133,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>537,926</u>	<u>494,226</u>	<u>106,438</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>600,664</u>

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2021			2020		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	36,219	97,534	133,753	60,689	136,913	197,602
Support costs	10	110,200	293,973	404,173	121,686	281,376	403,062
		<u>146,419</u>	<u>391,507</u>	<u>537,926</u>	<u>182,375</u>	<u>418,289</u>	<u>600,664</u>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

9 Direct costs

	2021			2020		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	-	2,012	2,012	-	450	450
Motor and travel	184	4,262	4,446	189	31,941	32,130
Sundry expenses	2,990	12,798	15,788	4,727	11,571	16,298
Computer costs	1,000	4,738	5,738	989	2,608	3,597
Insurance	2,003	15,458	17,461	2,060	14,713	16,773
Light, heat and power	2,742	3,825	6,567	6,593	6,347	12,940
Rates	-	-	-	6,235	786	7,021
Rent	25,923	28,712	54,635	36,011	26,762	62,773
Water rates	527	636	1,163	1,619	516	2,135
Repairs and maintenance	115	3,289	3,404	31	7,396	7,427
Telephone and fax	735	10,032	10,767	817	7,464	8,281
Advertising and publicity	-	4,026	4,026	1,418	1,305	2,723
Purchases	-	7,746	7,746	-	21,168	21,168
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	3,468	3,468
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	418	418
	36,219	97,534	133,753	60,689	136,913	197,602

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Support costs

		2021			2020		
	Note	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Wages and salaries	12	97,873	248,372	346,245	107,651	246,092	353,743
Social security costs	12	8,163	14,282	22,445	9,751	14,007	23,758
Staff pensions	12	3,569	14,240	17,809	4,273	6,231	10,504
Printing, postage and stationery		95	3,754	3,849	11	1,064	1,075
Legal and professional		500	-	500	-	-	-
Bank charges		-	934	934	-	2,218	2,218
Depreciation		-	9,257	9,257	-	10,714	10,714
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	(100)	(100)	-	(500)	(500)
Governance costs	11	-	3,234	3,234	-	1,550	1,550
		110,200	293,973	404,173	121,686	281,376	403,062

11 Governance costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examiner's fees	3,234	1,550
	3,234	1,550

12 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average number of persons employed by the charity (including trustees) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2021		2020	
	Number	FTE	Number	FTE
Administration	4	4	5	5
Services	10	7	9	6
Fundraising	4	3	5	4
	18	14	19	15

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	346,245	353,743
Social security	22,445	23,758
Defined contribution pension costs	17,809	10,504
	386,499	388,005

No employees received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2020 – £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £120,671 (2020 – £119,861).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the Chief Executive, the Finance and Administrative Manager and the Fundraising Manager.

14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £3,234 (2020 – £1,550).

15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	11,756	10,714
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		(100)	(500)
Operating lease rentals	20	57,624	63,458
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	3,234	1,550
		72,814	75,122

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation:					
At 1 April 2020	56,740	72,231	5,724	32,802	167,497
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(347)	-	-	(347)
At 31 March 2021	56,740	71,884	5,724	32,802	167,150
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2020	10,521	56,841	3,330	23,221	93,913
Charge for the year	5,674	2,301	1,282	2,499	11,756
Eliminated on disposals	-	(97)	-	-	(97)
At 31 March 2021	16,195	59,045	4,612	25,720	105,572
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2021	40,545	12,839	1,112	7,082	61,578
At 31 March 2020	46,219	15,390	2,394	9,581	73,584

17 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	5,873	7,551
Prepayments and accrued income	13,580	32,245
	19,453	39,796

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	6,906	8,108
Taxation and social security	6,412	6,655
Other creditors	2,482	2,456
Accruals and deferred income	9,982	12,131
	25,782	29,350

19 Provisions for liabilities

	Defined benefit pension £	2021 Total £	Defined benefit pension £	2020 Total £
Provision brought forward	48,134	48,134	62,684	62,684
Interest expense	1,082	1,082	739	739
Deficit contributions paid	(9,981)	(9,981)	(9,690)	(9,690)
Re-measurement adjustment	1,389	1,389	(5,599)	(5,599)
Provision carried forward	40,624	40,624	48,134	48,134

The charity participates in a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the charity is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out in 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme of £11,243,000 per annum from 1 April 2019 to 31 January 2025. The contributions are payable monthly and increase by 3% each 1 April.

20 Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Due within one year	40,958	57,624
Due within two to five years	113,617	129,575
Due after five years	66,667	91,667
	221,242	278,866

21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £17,659 (2020 – £15,412).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,471 (2020 – £2,442).

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	169,648	163,216
Interest receivable	(2,829)	(3,368)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	12,146	10,714
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(100)	(500)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(857)	1,428
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	20,343	(11,376)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(3,568)	6,570
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(7,510)	(14,550)
Net cash flow from operating activities	187,273	152,134

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

23 Change in net debt

Current year

	1 April 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2021 £
Cash	427,020	181,439	-	608,459
	427,020	181,439	-	608,459
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	427,020	181,439	-	608,459

Comparative year

	1 April 2019 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	31 March 2020 £
Cash	284,983	142,037	-	427,020
	284,983	142,037	-	427,020
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	284,983	142,037	-	427,020

24 Related party transactions

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £8,772 (2020 – £12,244) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2020 – £nil).

25 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

26 Movement in funds

Designated funds – Investments

The trustees have designated a value equal to the proceeds from the sale of Ortzen Street which have been invested in order to earn annual income for the charity.

Designated funds – Heathcoat Street reinstatement

The trustees have designated £5,000 per annum starting from 2018/19 for the potential costs of reinstating the Heathcoat Street premises to its former condition. A further £5,000 will continue to be designated annually until the estimated £50,000 has been designated. The transfers between the designated and unrestricted funds are in order to reflect this.

Designated funds – IT support for Nottinghamshire

The trustees have designated money for IT support for Nottinghamshire from an old restricted fund which had the purpose of providing equipment to Broxtowe, an area within Nottinghamshire.

Designated funds – Counselling service

The trustees have agreed to commit up to £10,000 from reserves to run a 12 month pilot project. £10,000 expenditure has been forecast from reserves to provide a basic service but the charity will be looking to secure additional funding to expand this service.

Restricted funds – Thursday Group

Thursday Group includes grants, donations and service user contributions toward the cost of running Thursday social groups including day trips and other communal outings.

Restricted funds – Talking Newspaper

Talking Newspaper represents funds received for the provision of upgrading equipment.

Restricted funds – Sight Matters

The Sight Matters fund consists of grant and service user contributions towards the cost of running this group.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities

The Big Lotteries Reaching Communities fund consists of grants that are used towards the cost of serving the community.

Restricted funds – Emotional and Peer Support

The Emotional and Peer Support fund consists of grant income contributing towards the equipment, transport and salary costs of employees.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Restricted funds – Befriending My Guide

Befriending My Guide represents grant income contribution towards the home visit and mobile support services which are part of the charity's outreach work.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Building Connections

Project will tackle loneliness and isolation experienced by many of the local VI community by creating opportunities for groups of individuals to share experiences. My Sight will provide a wide range of accessible activities, workshops, support and social opportunities that bring together groups of VI people over a positive experience. Activities will focus on building self-confidence and well-being and facilitating people to do things they enjoy. We need to be able to offer a range of social activities in order to have broad spectrum appeal. Most of the things we hope to deliver have been 'tried and tested' either by us or other groups and organisations we have learnt from.

This project will:

- Offer twice monthly drop in coffee mornings for visually impaired people, their friends and carers at our Nottingham City Hub.
- Develop our group and team focused sporting activities.
- Develop our choir and singing sessions.
- Deliver more arts workshops in different areas of the county.
- Offer peer support sessions in different areas of the county for VI people, their families and carers.
- We will develop peer support sessions that are specific to individual sight loss conditions. Sight loss conditions are quite diverse and affect people in different ways.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Peoples Project

A Community Cafe at our Support Centre in Nottingham offering work experience and training to visually impaired visually impaired people, to work in and run the cafe as well as creating a friendly social space for visually impaired people to be able to get together, meet people and build connections.

The purpose of the cafe is therefore two-fold:

- It will offer a safe accessible training environment where visually impaired people can gain work experience in catering, customer service, cash handling, stock control and administration as well as learning important skills such as teamwork and communication. It will aim to build people's confidence and independence and provide a stepping stone in to employment.
- The cafe will also provide a space for visually impaired people to get together, socialise and share experiences. A destination where people with sight loss feel safe, understood and part of a community. Many of the visually impaired people we work with feel lonely and socially isolated by their disability. We want to create a welcoming and accessible space where there is always someone to chat to.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Restricted funds – HEEM ELCO and Peer Support

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer provision for mid-Notts hospitals offering advice and support to visually impaired people during eye clinic visits and to deliver a sight loss educational project.

Restricted funds – Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project

Funding from Big Lotteries for a 6 month project to provide equipment and technical support to enable isolated visually impaired people to access platforms such as Zoom to keep in touch with family and friends during Covid lockdowns and to use online shopping, banking etc.

Restricted funds – Newark Group

Funding from Active Partners Trust Tackling Inequalities awarded to our Newark Social Group to provide technology to enable visually impaired members to keep in touch during the Covid lockdown and to provide individual chair based exercise equipment to be used in the home to help members stay active.

Restricted funds – Building Accessibility / Smart Room

Funding from Counsellor Wallace at Nottinghamshire County Council to spend on Heathcoat Street accessibility alterations, including accessible signage, audible signage, sound baffling etc.

Restricted funds – IT and Equipment

The JN Derbyshire Trust provided £2,000 for IT and equipment.

Restricted funds – ECLO

The Charles Littlewood Hill Trust provided £3,000 for an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year

	At 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	106,361	561,507	(404,079)	(15,000)	248,789
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	10,000	-	-	5,000	15,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	-	-	8,224
<i>Counselling service</i>	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total unrestricted funds 2021	374,585	561,507	(404,079)	-	532,013
Restricted funds:					
Thursday Group	1,478	50	-	-	1,528
Talking Newspaper	2,053	-	(245)	-	1,808
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	11,588	-	-	-	11,588
Emotional and Peer Support	-	10,000	(2,986)	-	7,014
Befriending My Guide	5,979	8,000	(5,446)	-	8,533
Big Lotteries – Building Connections	12,388	39,579	(43,952)	-	8,015
Big Lotteries – Peoples Project	27,782	5,725	(13,944)	-	19,563
HEEM ELCO and Peer Support	32,000	-	-	-	32,000
Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project	-	61,500	(60,319)	-	1,181
Newark Group	-	3,649	(1,955)	-	1,694
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	-	3,941	-	-	3,941
IT and Equipment	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
ECLO	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds 2021	94,623	137,444	(133,847)	-	98,220
Endowment funds:					
	-	-	-	-	-
Total endowment funds 2021	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds 2021	469,208	698,951	(537,926)	-	630,233

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

26 Movement in funds (continued)

Current year	At 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund ("free reserves")	(25,559)	634,850	(494,226)	(8,704)	106,361
Designated funds					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	-	-	-	8,224	8,224
Total unrestricted funds 2020	224,441	634,850	(494,226)	9,520	374,585
Restricted funds:					
HLC Project	8,224	-	-	(8,224)	-
Thursday Group	1,375	498	(395)	-	1,478
Talking Newspaper	2,184	502	(633)	-	2,053
Sight Matters	1,902	-	(547)	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	26,748	-	(15,160)	-	11,588
BAME Project	25,459	-	(24,959)	(500)	-
Emotional and Peer Support Choir	6,658	-	(6,408)	(250)	-
Befriending My Guide	4,117	1,211	(5,328)	-	-
Big Lotteries – Building Connections	4,338	10,120	(8,479)	-	5,979
	-	39,999	(27,611)	-	12,388
Big Lotteries – Peoples Project	-	44,700	(16,918)	-	27,782
HEEM ELCO and Peer Support	-	32,000	-	-	32,000
Total restricted funds 2020	81,005	129,030	(106,438)	(8,974)	94,623
Endowment funds:					
S A Tomlinson	546	-	-	(546)	-
Total endowment funds 2020	546	-	-	-	-
Total funds 2020	305,992	763,880	(600,664)	(546)	469,208

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

27 Description of funds

Restricted funds – HLC Project

The HLC project represents funds for the provision of computer equipment in the Broxtowe area. The fund was transferred to unrestricted funds during the 2019/20 financial year.

Restricted funds – BAME Project

The BAME project consists of grants for a two year project on awareness of sight loss problems in black and minority ethnic groups.

Restricted funds – Choir

The Choir fund represents monies receive towards the cost trips for the My Sight visually impaired choir.

Endowment funds – S A Tomlinson

This fund represented funding for children's holidays. The fund was transferred to unrestricted funds during the financial year.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TRADING AS MY SIGHT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

28 Analysis of funds

Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2021 £
Fixed assets	54,497	7,081	-	61,578
Cash and current investments	536,841	98,220	-	635,061
Other current liabilities	(18,701)	(7,081)	-	(25,782)
Provisions	(40,624)	-	-	(40,624)
	532,013	98,220	-	630,233

Comparative year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2020 £
Fixed assets	64,003	9,581	-	73,584
Cash and current investments	378,485	94,623	-	473,108
Other current liabilities	(19,769)	(9,581)	-	(29,350)
Provisions	(48,134)	-	-	(48,134)
	374,585	94,623	-	469,208