



DeafblindUK

Your support, your impact
Annual report 2022-23

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1

Welcome from Mohammed, Deafblind UK member

I remember it well, the day in 2011 that changed my life forever. Everyone with a visual impairment, remembers the day when they were diagnosed with an eye condition that will eventually leave them with no sight. You feel stunned, shocked, and unable to take in what you are being told.

Being registered blind wasn't the biggest hurdle I faced. I was just too overwhelmed with all that was going on in my life. I was left alone and isolated, feeling worthless. My greatest challenge was people assuming disability means inability, employers for example.

To tell you the truth, after contacting many organisations, I wasn't expecting anyone to give me a call. But I remember the day well. As usual, I had not slept, then the telephone rang. The voice on the other end of the line said they were from Deafblind UK and asked what they could do to help. That kind soul was Amanda who reassured me that she would listen and not leave me until it was fine to do so. Amanda showed me that people do care and showed the kindness that I hadn't been shown for such a long time. Kindness does exist. I was not alone anymore.

It's been a difficult journey, a journey that has tested me emotionally and physically. But in the midst of all these challenges, there's been one organisation that has stood by me, when no one else would – Deafblind UK. I can't even begin to describe the impact that Deafblind UK has had on my life. They've supported me through thick and thin, offering guidance, support, and compassion when I needed it most. Without their help, I don't know where I would be today.

We have many charities and organisations, but what I believe makes Deafblind UK stand out, is the people who work there. For these people, it's more than a job, and they all do genuinely care, show compassion and empathy. Deafblind UK means everything to me. They're more than just a charity, they're a family.

Thank you

Mohammed



Welcome from our CEO and Chair

It has been a year of change for Deafblind UK as we bid farewell to Steve Conway and welcomed Nikki Morris as our new CEO.

People living with deafblindness have always been at the heart of what we do. Our passionate team have worked hard to make the recent change in leadership as seamless as possible for the people we support. We continue to meet the unique needs of a growing population of people who are deafblind, amidst rising inflation and the consequent cost-of-living increase.

Our expert team are proud to have delivered outstanding core services in response to this increased need, whilst also creating innovative solutions to unmet needs. As the only national charity that solely specialises in supporting people who are deafblind, we are always mindful of providing support which is both effective and provides value for money.

Raising income, to enable us to continue to provide the services that people want and need, remains imperative to what we do. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported our work over the past year, as well as to our dedicated team of fundraisers, grant application writers and shop staff who work tirelessly to generate these vital funds. We simply couldn't do what we do without you!

And of course, we have worked hard to raise awareness of deafblindness and of the charity. We aim to ensure that we are there for everyone who needs us, when they need us and in a way that makes it most accessible to them.

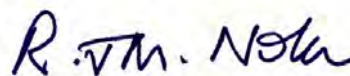
Our journey of growth will continue next year with development work at our supported living complex, Rainbow Court in Peterborough. This will provide two homes for people who have complex care needs but who are able, with our help, to live in their own home within our supported housing complex.

We would like to thank Mohammed for introducing this annual report. The charity belongs to the membership past, present and future.

This annual report gives a snapshot into our world and that of our members. It shows how we are making the difference for which people with dual sensory loss are asking. We are very proud to stand alongside our colleagues in presenting this to you.



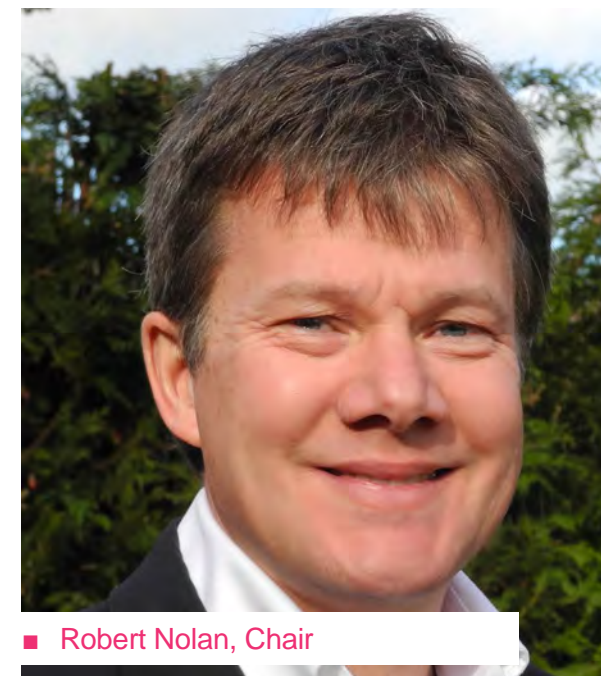
Nikki Morris, CEO



Robert Nolan, Chair



■ Nikki Morris, CEO



■ Robert Nolan, Chair

We are Deafblind UK, the only charity that specialises in supporting people who are deafblind in the UK.

We are a small team, each an expert in our own field, be this care, support, counselling, research, education or finance. We are united by a desire and dedication to make the world a better place for people living with sight and hearing loss.

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Who are we?

“

I still have the odd day where it gets to me, when I think about things like never being able to drive and have my own car, or when I just wonder ‘why me?’ **Asia**

”

What do we do?

For over 90 years, we have supported anyone who is affected by deafblindness.

We listen, advise, care, support, coach, mentor and connect people.

We give people hope, we build confidence and we enable independence. Most importantly, we change lives.

Why do we do it?

Because too many people are touched by deafblindness. Too many lives are impacted, too many minds are struggling and too many people are isolated.

Deafblindness affects over 400,000 people in the UK. Not only does it present challenges to everyday living but it brings with it wider and far more serious issues. People who are deafblind often feel incredibly lonely, isolated and unable to cope. It can lead to mental health problems and mobility and communication issues.

The impact of deafblindness is vast, yet our support reaches just a small proportion of the people affected. We need to be there for everyone who is touched by deafblindness.

Your support

You help us to support anyone who is deafblind, their family, friends, carers, as well as professionals working with people who are deafblind. We provide:

- A friendly, accessible helpline to answer questions and offer support
- Help with technology to stay connected
- Opportunities to socialise and make new friends
- One-to-one help in accessing services and finding appropriate help
- Heavily subsidised seaside holidays to relax and unwind
- Wellbeing and mental health support for difficult times
- Care and support at home
- Supported living accommodation
- Support to develop employability skills and find work.

“

There are still challenges that I have to face on a day-to-day basis. Things like understanding that I will always have a harder time than my friends on nights out or in loud, busy environments, tripping over my black cat because he blends into the darkness, or being covered in bruises from walking into stuff all the time.

”

3

■ Your impact

Thanks to generous support, we have sought opportunities for growth, introduced our services to new markets and supported many more people in a more efficient way.

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We can achieve, and we can inspire. **Annette**

”

Strategic objectives

At the start of the year, we set out to develop the six areas of our strategy:

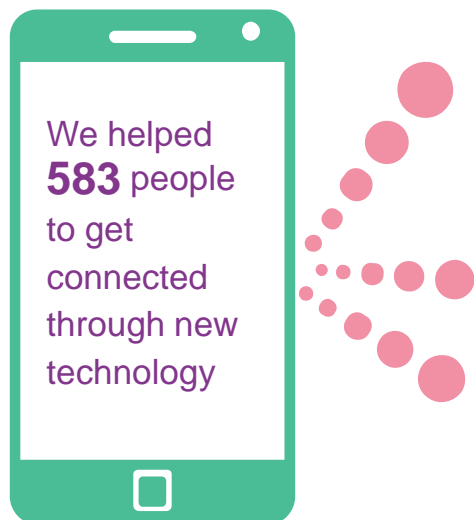
1. Develop our offering to people who are deafblind
2. Support more people who are deafblind
3. Develop knowledge and understanding of deafblindness
4. Raise the profile of Deafblind UK
5. Further develop and engage our people
6. Secure Deafblind UK as a sustainable organisation for the future





DeafblindUK

Our year in numbers



4

■ Key achievements

We hosted the UK's largest event on deafblindness

For the second year running, we hosted a hugely successful Deafblind Convention. The event connected us to over 900 professionals, academics and individuals which, it is believed, makes it the largest event about deafblindness ever held in the UK. Speakers discussed the impact that the changing world has on deafblindness, and how deafblindness forces change.

The expert panel of speakers included representatives from the BBC accessibility research team, Birmingham City University and Jadavpur University, among others. They explored all aspects of the constant change that deafblindness brings, offering insights into the emotional, practical and linguistic impact and helping us to normalise the conversation around deafblindness.

We are extremely proud to be leading the conversation around deafblindness in the UK. The event significantly developed knowledge and understanding of deafblindness, whilst raising the profile of Deafblind UK. Plans are now underway for the 2023 event.



I was on @DeafblindUK #DeafblindConvention today for the very first time. Wow. The topics are so variable and interesting. I used the mirroring from my laptop to my 65" TV, easy for me to see a BSL Interpreter!



#deafblindconvention Deafblind UKConvention 2022. Such an informative and inspiring day, talking about including Deafblind people and meeting their needs. Excellent Guest Speakers, Interpreters and Lipspeaker.



We launched an award-winning education project

Throughout the year, we proudly embarked on our education project which is motivated by the desire to give every child a meaningful education.

Throughout the year we have produced a report, 'Standing out and fitting in', which highlights feedback from teachers and parents about the provision of education for young people who are deafblind. In response to this feedback, we produced a range of resources for teachers to help young people to understand deafblindness and to help them to create a more inclusive environment.

By evolving this project over the next year, we aim to not only create more opportunities for deafblind children but to also teach hundreds of young people about deafblindness and raise awareness amongst the next generation.

This project is in partnership with representatives from the Vision & Hearing Research Centre at Anglian Ruskin University. It recently won the Education Award at the ScottishPower Foundation awards – a hugely proud moment for everyone involved.

“

Huge congratulations to Deafblind UK for its success at this year's ScottishPower Foundation Awards, which were a great opportunity to showcase the legacy and positive impact of the work we do.

Deafblind UK's work to tackle the stigma associated with being deafblind and to ensure the people it supports have equal access to things many of us take for granted is truly inspiring. Their Education Project has the potential to be life enhancing for deafblind children. I'm looking forward to seeing Deafblind UK build on its legacy – and ours – for many years to come.

Melanie Hill, Executive Officer and Trustee at the ScottishPower Foundation.

”





We supported better mental health

It's a sad reality that deafblindness and mental health concerns go hand in hand. This year, we have stepped up our mental health support and now offer our members a clear pathway to emotional wellbeing, to help them cope better with the challenges of living with sight and hearing loss.

We now employ two counsellors to offer all members the support they need. We are here for everyone when they need us.

We made 7,172 calls to support people with their emotional wellbeing



“

Stuart mourned the sight that he had lost and cannot be recovered. As Macular Degeneration claimed more and more of his useful vision, he feared what the future would hold. Stuart knew that he was now on a scary, unplanned journey to an unknown destination.

Counselling helped Stuart to come to terms with his situation, to accept his fears and to express himself in a way that he couldn't do with other people.

Stuart's volunteer befriender has told us that Stuart is noticeably brighter, happier and more positive. Life is now much happier for Stuart.

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We reconnected Wales

Thanks to generous support from the National Lottery Community Fund, we launched a three year project to empower people who are deafblind in South Wales to overcome personal challenges in confidence, motivation and mobility. It also addresses a lack of inclusivity within local social opportunities.

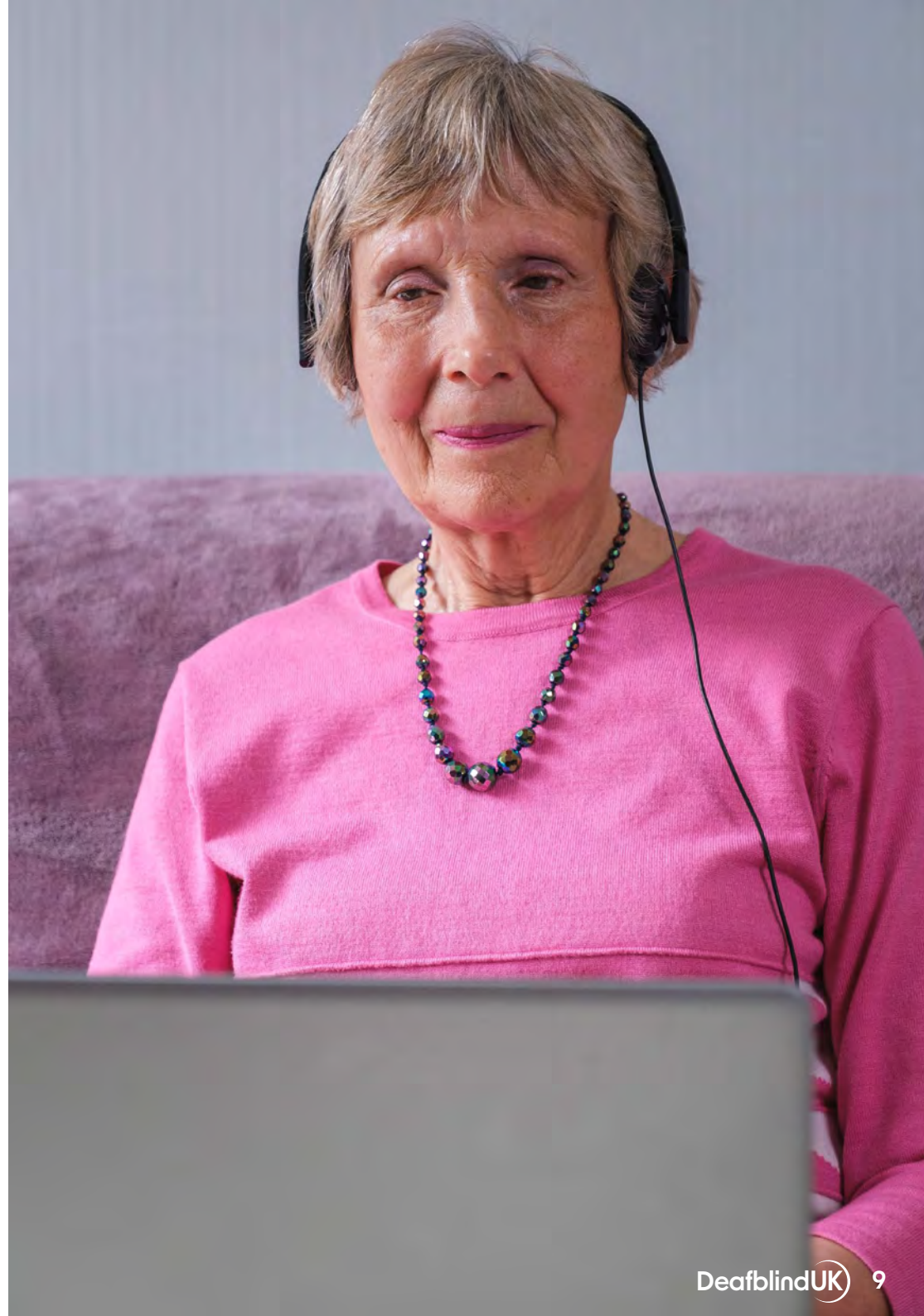
Through our 'Reconnections Wales' project, we give people bespoke support to help them achieve their personal goals – whether this is to return to a local social group, to start using their favourite café once again or to try something exciting they've never done before. We help people to feel confident enough to engage in social activities, and to have the mobility to access these activities independently.

This project is in its infancy and will develop throughout the next financial year.

“

When Jane became a member of Deafblind UK, she told us: “There have been a few times when I’ve just sat at my kitchen table all day long, from morning to evening, alone with my thoughts. Not much of a life, is it?” We connected Jane to a local social group and arranged for her to have a volunteer befriender. She recently told us: “I’m getting out and about now, the group’s been really good – there are a few old eccentrics like me turning up!”

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We helped people to access employment

Knowing that only 20% of people who are deafblind and of working age are in employment, we developed a project to give people the skills and confidence to enter the world of work.

The 'Access Employment' programme addresses the barriers to employment for people who are deafblind. Sight and hearing loss presents many different challenges to daily life and as a result, people often find their confidence, social skills, resilience and energy levels take a hit – all skills that you need to find and hold down a job.

“

I was given a mentor through the Access Employment Project and they are absolutely wonderful. We were talking weekly, now fortnightly. I never actually met her – it was always on the phone. They gave me lots of useful information that I didn't know about whereas the hospital consultant just said – "I'm going to have to register you as blind and you'll lose your sight completely. Goodbye". There's not enough information from the NHS about help that is available if you lose your sight. I was very surprised that they don't have someone to explain that there is help when you are told that you're going to go blind – they don't give you anything. I felt alone for months and months. Now, if I need some info all I need to do is contact my Access Employment mentor.

”

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■ What next?

Our dream is to provide care for everyone for every stage of their journey. This starts by developing our work with children and young people, ensuring that everyone who is touched by deafblindness has the very best start in life.

As experts in assistive digital technology, we will also continue to provide help and advice to connect those who need it. But that's not all, we will work with leading technology partners to ensure that inclusivity is at the heart of new developments and innovations, so that people who are deafblind grow up feeling familiar with and supported by technology.

We will make sure that people who are deafblind can continue to live as independently as possible, by influencing key decision makers to promote the need for deafblind assessments, and the agreement of care packages.

And of course, we will be there for people who need more support. Plans are underway to create comfortable supported housing for people with complex medical issues, and those requiring care home provision. This will give them a home where they can be part of a community whilst receiving the care they need.

Finally we will increase our knowledge of deafblindness and its impact, as well as nurturing future researchers by investing in our research infrastructure. This will increase our knowledge of deafblindness and its impact, as well as nurturing future researchers in this area.

We are excited about the next chapter of our journey and this is possible due to the following reasons. Back in 2020 we took the difficult but prudent decision to sell the building which was home to our headquarters and Conference Centre. The Board has undertaken due diligence to ensure that the reserves generated through the sale have seen us through the difficulties of the Covid pandemic and, more recently, the cost-of-living crisis. However, the time has now come to reduce these reserves by creating more opportunities for people who are deafblind.

On Page 44 of our Annual Report, we list 'Designated Funds' which will be spent in the forthcoming financial year, 2023 – 2024, and beyond. These funds have been held in reserve while we recruited a new CEO and agreed a new five-year strategy. With both in place we now feel that it is appropriate and timely to commit a substantial proportion of these funds to the developments itemised on Page 44. In doing so we aim to return our reserves to the 3 – 6 months operating level, as outlined in our Reserves Policy on Page 16.

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Public benefit

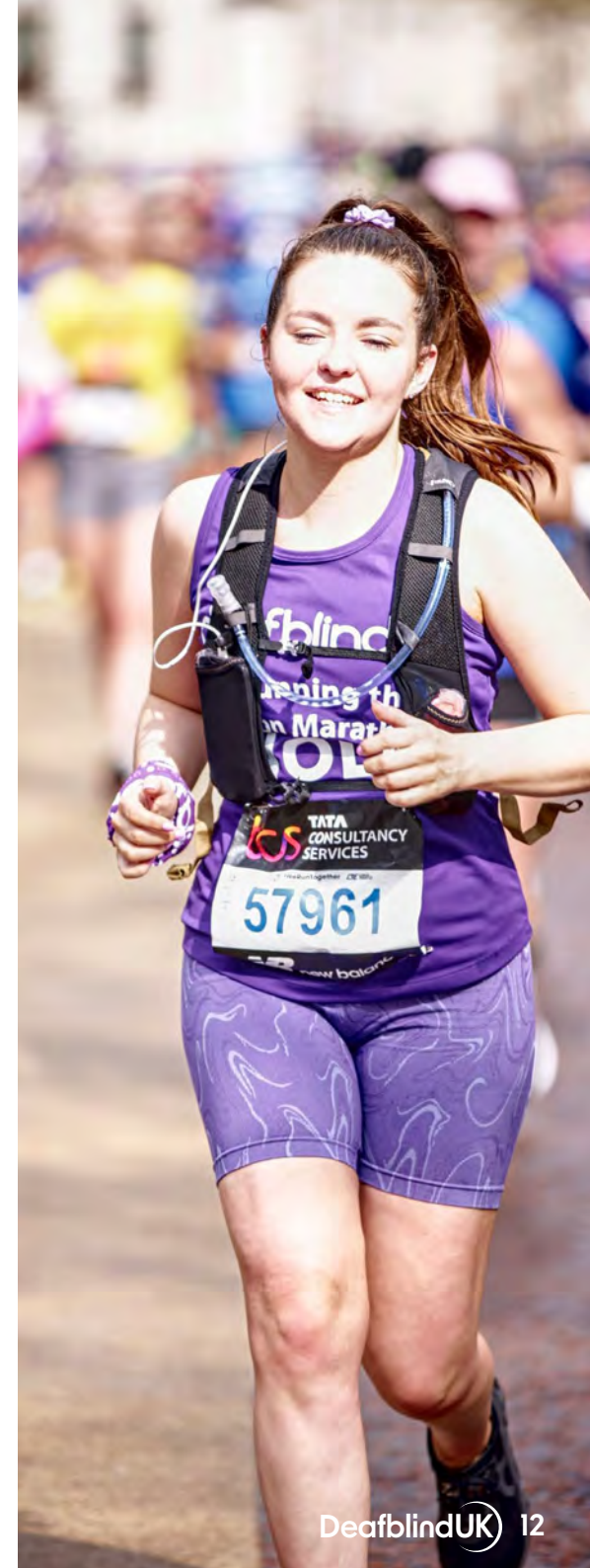
In setting activities and objectives each year, the Directors refer to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Directors always ensure that the activities, services or programmes undertaken are in line with the charitable objects and aims of the organisation.

Fundraising

Deafblind UK complies with the Code of Fundraising Practice and we are registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We have also volunteered to be part of the Fundraising Preference Service, through which when requested, we removed one individual's details in this reporting period. The vast majority of our activity to reach new donors and supporters is undertaken by our fundraising team who have significant understanding of our service delivery.

Where we have worked with an external organisation, we ensure they are registered with the relevant bodies and we conduct appropriate due diligence prior to contract commencement. In addition to a new fundraising strategy, our focus is to develop procedures to enable our staff, volunteers and suppliers to carry out fundraising activity aligned with our policy and current UK regulation and legislation.

Deafblind UK did not receive any complaints in relation to fundraising activities in 2022 – 23. As a charity that works directly with people in vulnerable circumstances, it is a fundamental value that no donation is sought from someone who may not have the capacity to make an informed and considered decision. We are fully compliant with the latest General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) ensuring that all communications are only sent to the right people.



Legal status and Group

Deafblind UK is a registered charity (Registration No. 802976) and company limited by guarantee (Registration No. 2426281) and is governed by its Articles of Association. It was founded in 1928 by deafblind people and their carers.

Deafblind UK's Board of Trustees (herein called Directors) have established a group of organisations to support the work of Deafblind UK.

These comprise Deafblind UK Trading Limited (Company No. 5082057), About Me Care and Support Limited (Company No. 7945990) and I Decide Limited (Company No. 8045589).

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Structure, Governance and Management

Registered Office

National Centre for Deafblindness, Paston Ridings, Peterborough, PE4 7UP.

Auditor

Saffery Champness, Peterborough Business Park, Westpoint, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FZ.

Bankers

Barclays Bank, Peterborough Business Centre, Peterborough, PE1 1XE.

The Board of Trustees

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purpose of the Companies Act, take pleasure in presenting the report and the financial statements of the charity and subsidiary companies for the year ended 31 March 2023.

- R Nolan (Chair)
- J Churcher
- A Hussain
- R Wilson-Hinds
- G Foy
- M Nagra
- S Critoph
- E Beukes
- Company Secretary | R Cullen
- Chief Executive | N Morris

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity and the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102)

- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and applicable accounting regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of disclosure to auditor

1. So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware, and
2. They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditors are aware of that information.

How we are managed

The governing body of the Charity is the Board of Trustees. The Board meets quarterly and is supported by the finance sub-committee who regularly report back to the Board. Decisions are taken within our quarterly Board meetings and finance committee, our AGM and through other regular contact with other directors where required.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee was removed from the formal governance structure but the Chairman, Treasurer, CEO and Director of Finance continued to meet to review significant financial proposals such as the sale of the building and the budget before seeking full Board approval.

Management team

The day to day management of Deafblind UK is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and executive management team comprising: Director of Finance and Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Operations. The CEO meets regularly with the Chair and the full Board to review progress and address any specific operational issues.

Director recruitment, induction and training

We are committed to ensuring the Board comprises a mix of Directors who are deafblind and those who are sighted hearing.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the organisation and are elected by voting members. The Board is kept up to date with any major changes in the Charities Act and Charity Commission guidance and best practice. Directors do not receive a salary but may claim out of pocket expenses for attending meetings.

All new Directors follow an agreed robust and detailed Trustee induction programme to ensure they fully understand their responsibilities as Trustees.

Risk Management

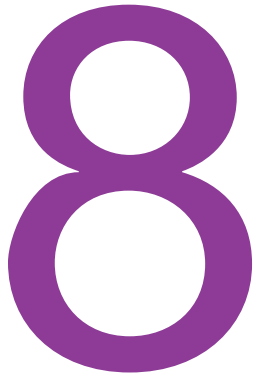
The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties the charity faces
- The establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise
- Quarterly risk register reports to the Board

The primary risk facing the charity is the on-going increases to the cost of living. Despite recent falls in inflation, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) remains significantly above the Bank of England's target of 2%. This has placed substantial pressure on the cost base of the charity. Increased monitoring and monthly review meetings of all budgeted expenditure continue to mitigate the risk.

Attention remains focused on non-financial risks such as safeguarding, retention of key staff and recruitment of support workers for our care and support services. We have embedded a robust process of policies and procedures to successfully comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) however impact of legislative changes remain a risk to member and donor growth.

All of the above risks are managed by a risk register which is regularly updated and reviewed quarterly at Board meetings.



Financial review

The Deafblind UK accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023 show a loss of £191,982 (2022: surplus £144,251). Income increased to £2,933,151 (2022: £2,743,755) which is a increase of £189,396, or 7%.

Day-to-day activities of the charity showed a surplus of £53,448, which is a very strong performance in such a challenging economic environment. Conversely, the investment portfolio preformed poorly in the year. Factors such as the on-going war in Ukraine, energy price rises and the general global uncertainty had a significantly adverse impact with an unrealised portfolio loss of £245,430 to March 2023.

Deafblind UK received 51% (2022: 56%) of its income from voluntary sources, such as trusts and foundations, the Big Lottery Fund, and legacies. The surge in the cost of living has placed increased pressure on all areas of society, and we have seen a significant increase in demand for our incredibly valuable services. We are extremely appreciative of the fantastic support from all our donors.

Income from charitable activities rose by 13% to £1,185,581 (2022: £1,045,105). As we recovered from the pandemic, the service delivery to our customers was a key priority area and contracted hours delivered increased to over 95% from 90% the previous year.

Investment income rose 173% to £98,525 (2022: £36,152). These unrestricted funds are invaluable in supporting our work. The significant increase predominantly relates to income received from our investment portfolio which was first opened in April 2021.

Income from the trading company increased by 60% to £144,901 (2022: £90,430). This increase relates to a full year of income from two retail outlets, the second of which opened towards the end of the previous year.

Overall expenditure increased by 13% when compared to the previous year. This was principally due to the increase to the cost of living. Total expenditure in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) was £2,879,703 (2022: £2,541,560). There continues to be a concerted effort to minimise all expenditure, especially in organisational overheads.

Termination payments for redundancies were also paid during the year, these are detailed in Note 7.

A detailed analysis of income and expenditure is shown in the SOFA on Page 23 and in notes 1 to 8 of these accounts. The net assets of the group as shown in the consolidated balance sheet at year end amount to £4,797,071.

Reserves Policy

The policy for free reserves held by the charity is to have a minimum of three months with desire to hold no more than six months operating costs. This policy was reviewed at the Board in March 2023 as part of the annual review process. The charity free cash reserves at the year-end were £947,417 which represents 4 months' operating costs. Total funds at the end of the reporting period were, £4,797,071 of which £562,070 were fixed assets, and £114,134 were restricted funds.

Investment Policy

Deafblind UK employ a professional investment management firm to manage the assets (excluding the direct property) on a discretionary basis in line with the investment policy. The investment manager provides custody of assets. The manager is required to produce a valuation and performance report quarterly. The objective of these investments is to maintain the real value of the assets whilst aiming to generate additional funds to support the charitable objectives.

The Trustees have decided to pursue two strategies for the Charity's combined investments. One portfolio is invested at low risk, the other at medium risk. All investments are subject to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) parameters agreed with the Board of Trustees.

Cash reserves are maintained in a spread of interest-bearing deposits with reputable UK based financial institutions which meet our ethical standards.

Deposits are selected which provide the best return available under current market conditions, whilst ensuring sufficient liquidity to provide operating capital and to cover capital requirements. The policy and portfolio of deposits are regularly kept under review by the Board.



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Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deafblind UK (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated balance sheet, charity balance sheet, group cash flow statements and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the group and the parent charitable company as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group or the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on Page 13 the Trustees' (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees' determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the group and parent financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company by discussions with trustees and updating our understanding of the sector in which the group and parent charitable company operate.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company include The Companies Act 2006 and guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Audit response to risks identified:

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the parent charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the parent charitable company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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



Use of our report

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

Saffery Champness LLP

Gareth Norris
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants
Westpoint, Lynch Wood, Peterborough
Cambridgeshire, PE2 6FZ

Statutory Auditors

Date: 25 July 2023

Saffery Champness LLP is eligible to
act as an auditor in terms of section
1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Saffery Champness

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

10. Financial statements

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a. Consolidated statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
Income from:	Notes	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies					
Legacies		577,981	-	577,981	707,410
Grants and trusts	1	-	765,186	765,186	656,206
Other donations		105,354	-	105,354	128,764
		683,335	765,186	1,448,521	1,492,380
Other trading activities					
Commercial trading operations	4	144,901	-	144,901	90,430
Fundraising income		31,316	-	31,316	20,287
Non-charitable trading		24,307	-	24,307	59,401
		200,524	-	200,524	170,118
Charitable activities					
Contracted services	3	946,489	-	946,489	812,455
Income from property	3	239,092	-	239,092	232,650
	3	1,185,581	-	1,185,581	1,045,105
Investment income	2	98,525	-	98,525	36,152
Total income		<u>2,167,965</u>	<u>765,186</u>	<u>2,933,151</u>	<u>2,743,755</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds					
Fundraising costs	5	265,836	-	265,836	268,021
Commercial trading operations		163,774	-	163,774	128,190
Charitable activities	6	1,653,906	796,187	2,450,093	2,145,349
Total expenditure		<u>2,083,516</u>	<u>796,187</u>	<u>2,879,703</u>	<u>2,541,560</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(245,430)	-	(245,430)	(57,944)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		(160,981)	(31,001)	(191,982)	144,251
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		4,843,918	145,136	4,989,054	4,844,803
Total funds carried forward		<u>4,682,937</u>	<u>114,134</u>	<u>4,797,071</u>	<u>4,989,054</u>

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

b. Consolidated balance sheet

			2023		2022
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	-	562,140	-	490,999
Investments	10	-	2,787,783	-	2,962,242
Current assets		-	-	-	-
Debtors	11	478,815	-	249,108	-
Cash at bank and in hand		1,322,856	-	1,728,078	-
		<u>1,801,671</u>	-	<u>1,977,186</u>	-
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(354,523)	-	(441,374)	-
Net current assets			1,447,148		1,535,812
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>4,797,071</u>		<u>4,989,054</u>
Net assets			<u>4,797,071</u>		<u>4,989,054</u>
Funds of the group					
Restricted funds	13		114,134		145,135
Unrestricted funds	14		<u>4,682,937</u>		<u>4,843,919</u>
Total funds			<u>4,797,071</u>		<u>4,989,054</u>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on the 24th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

R. V.M. Nolan

R Nolan (Chair) Trustee

Company Registration No. 02426281.
Charity No. 802976 The accounting policies and notes on Pages 28 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

c. Charity balance sheet

		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	539,857	459,217
Investments	10	2,787,793	2,962,252
		<u>3,327,650</u>	<u>3,421,469</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	11	655,867	404,467
Cash at bank and in hand		1,297,413	1,716,454
		<u>1,953,280</u>	<u>2,120,921</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(339,473)	(427,776)
Net current assets		<u>1,613,807</u>	<u>1,693,145</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>4,941,457</u>	<u>5,114,614</u>
Net assets		<u>4,941,457</u>	<u>5,114,614</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	13	114,134	145,135
Unrestricted funds	14	4,827,323	4,969,479
Total funds		<u>4,941,457</u>	<u>5,114,614</u>

As permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the parent Charity's Statement of financial activities has not been included in these financial statements. The unconsolidated figure for the net expenditure of the charity, including donations from its subsidiaries, would have been £173,158 (2022: £182,007)

Details concerning the subsidiary companies, along with their results and financial position are set out in note 4. These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on the 24th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

R. Nolan

R Nolan (Chair) Trustee

Company Registration No. 02426281.
Charity No. 802976 The accounting policies and notes on Pages 28 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

d. Group cash flow statement

	2023	2022
£	£	£
Net cash used in operating activities	(296,808)	329,449
Cashflows from investing activities	-	-
Interest received	9,604	3,619
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	7,680	-
Purchase of Investment Portfolio	-	(3,000,000)
Purchase of plant and equipment	(125,698)	(73,093)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(108,414)	(3,069,474)
Change in cash in the year	(405,222)	(2,740,025)
Cash at the beginning of the year	1,728,078	4,468,103
Cash at the end of the year	1,322,856	1,728,078
Reconciliation of net income/ expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(191,982)	144,251
Interest received	(9,604)	(3,619)
Profit on disposal	(7,680)	-
Change in value of Investment Portfolio	174,460	37,758
Depreciation	54,556	78,732
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(229,707)	103,993
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(86,851)	(31,666)
Net cash used in operating activities	(296,808)	329,449
Analysis of cash	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand	1,322,856	1,728,078

Analysis of changes in net debt

	31 Mar 2022	Cashflows	Acquisition/ Disposal of subsidiaries	New finance leases	Fair value movements	Foreign exchange movements	Other non-cash changes	31 Mar 2023
Cash	1,728,078	-405,222	-	-	-	-	-	1,322,856
Total	1,728,078	-405,222	-	-	-	-	-	1,322,856

e. Accounting policies

Charity information

Deafblind UK is a Charity domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales.

The registered office is: The National Centre for Deafblindness, Paston Ridings, Peterborough, PE4 7UP.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic 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) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102) Second Edition issued 1 October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Deafblind UK is a charitable company domiciled and registered in England. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the Financial Statement are set out below.

Deafblind UK meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 March 2023. The statement of financial activities (SOFA) and the balance sheet consolidate the financial statements on a line by line basis where appropriate.



Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. There remain some negative impacts of Covid-19, however the Trustees have placed significant scrutiny in this area and are confident that the charity has the necessary resources to continue to deliver services to our members. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Generally, expenditure over £1,000 of a capital nature is capitalised at cost as fixed assets within the relevant fund.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that as follows:

Freehold property 2%–10%
straight line

Equipment 10%–33% straight line &
reducing balance

Caravan 15–20% straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Charity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time, value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease. Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is

increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (or cash-generating unit) prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the statement of financial activities, unless the relevant asset is carried in at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

Investment Accounting Policy

Investments are stated at market value. Changes in the market value of fixed asset investments are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as unrealised gains and losses. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year end and the carrying value.

Realised gains and losses on the disposal of investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and the opening market value or the purchase cost if brought in this financial year.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slowmoving items.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity. The annual contributions payable are charged to the statement of financial activities.

Funds

If monies are given for a specific purpose, this income and related expenditure is treated as restricted. Monies are also held as designated funds as per Note 13. If the income is for general use, it is included as unrestricted and may be expended at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the Charity.

Income

Income from donations and legacies are recognised in the appropriate fund as follows:

Legacies

Legacies are included in income when received, or if before receipt when the Charity is entitled to the income, it is probable that the legacy will be received and the value can be determined with reasonable accuracy.

Donations

Donations under gift aid together with the associated income tax recovery are recognised as income when the donation is received. Income from other trading activities includes:

Retail

Sales in the Charity Shop are recognised as income as soon as the transaction has taken place.

Contracted services

Fees and charges and support work income, exclusive of VAT, are included in the period which they relate to.

Investment income includes:

Rental income

Deafblind UK receives rental income from renting accommodation at 18 Rainbow Court, Paston Ridings, Peterborough, PE4 7UP, to deafblind people. It is recognised as income in the period to which the income relates.

Income from charitable activities includes:

Fees and charges and support work income, exclusive of VAT, are included in the period which they relate to.

Other income

All other income, exclusive of VAT, is recorded in the period that it relates to.

Branch income

The results of the branches of the Charity are consolidated in the accounts.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay. The costs of operating the Charity have been split between costs of raising funds, charitable expenditure and support costs.

Support costs include an apportionment to fundraising and direct charitable activities, and have been allocated based on staff numbers. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Financial instruments

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

Debtors

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

Cash

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial instruments and include cash in hand.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Taxation

The Charity is a registered Charity and is not liable to United Kingdom income tax or corporation tax on charitable activities.

Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There are no estimates and assumptions that are considered to have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Note 1: Income from grants and trusts

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
2022 – 2023	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations including				
Specific appeals	-	616,513	616,513	544,951
Big Lottery Fund	-	148,673	148,673	96,610
Furlough Scheme Income	-	-	-	14,645
	-	765,186	765,186	656,206
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
2021 – 2022	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations including				
Specific appeals	3,000	541,951	544,951	862,107
Big Lottery Fund	-	96,610	96,610	330,399
Furlough Scheme Income	-	14,645	14,645	111,822
	3,000	653,206	656,206	1,304,328

2022 – 2023: Received with thanks, donations from:

- ScottishPower Foundation
- Eveson Charitable Trust
- Boshier-Hinton Foundation
- Veterans' Foundation
- Barnwood Trust
- Warwickshire Masonic Charitable Association
- Vision Foundation
- National Lottery Community Fund Cymru
- National Lottery Community Fund – NI – (The) OO The Shadows
- Essex Cares Limited (ECL)
- Worshipful Company Of Vinters
- Cambridgeshire Community Foundation
- Thomas Pocklington Trust
- Royal Naval Benevolent Trust (RNBT)
- James Tudor Foundation
- Essex Community Foundation
- Constance Travis Charitable Trust
- Inman Charity
- Ronald Miller Foundation

Note 2. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income from Portfolio	88,921	-	88,921	32,533
Bank interest received	9,604	-	9,604	3,619
	<u>98,525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,525</u>	<u>36,152</u>

Note 3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Contracted services				
Fees, charges and support work	946,489	-	946,489	812,455
Income from property	239,092	-	239,092	232,650
	<u>1,185,581</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,185,581</u>	<u>1,045,105</u>

Note 4. Income from subsidiary's trading activities

	Deafblind UK Trading Limited	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	144,901	90,430
Cost of sales	-	-
	<u>144,901</u>	<u>90,430</u>
Administrative expenses	(171,844)	(135,578)
Other operating income	-	-
Operating (loss)/Profit before Taxation	<u>(26,943)</u>	<u>(45,048)</u>
Interest receivable	49	4
Corporation tax Payable	-	-
Retained profit	<u>(26,894)</u>	<u>(45,044)</u>
Paid up shares capital	2	2
Net liabilities/assets	<u>(26,892)</u>	<u>(45,042)</u>

The following companies are wholly owned trading subsidiaries of the Charity:

Deafblind UK Trading Limited (company number 05082057), providing transcription service and to sell merchandise on behalf of the charity.

About Me Care & Support Limited – dormant (company number 07945990), a company working with people who have a sensory impairment to provide personalised, community-inclusive care and support solutions. About Me Care & Support Limited re-merged with Deafblind UK on April 1st 2019, having separated the operations in July 2012.

Ultimately the activities are undertaken with a view to raising funds for Deafblind UK. Their results for the year, as extracted from the audited financial statements, are summarised on this page.

Their results for the year, as extracted from the audited financial statements, are summarised here.

£nil (2022: £nil) was gifted by the subsidiaries to the charity in the year.

Note 5. Fundraising costs

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising and publicity costs including salaries and consultancy	260,297	-	260,297	265,365
Postage and stationery	5,539	-	5,539	2,656
	<u>265,836</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>265,836</u>	<u>268,021</u>

Note 6. Charitable activities

	Direct charitable	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Care & Support Operations	891,574	245,546	1,137,120	1,090,992
Governance	52,718	26,013	78,731	162,860
Community services	409,123	14,519	423,642	45,990
National Services	375,258	112,676	487,934	318,746
Rainbow Court	94,451	103,349	197,800	378,692
Information and Communications Technology	97,903	26,963	124,866	148,069
	<u>1,921,027</u>	<u>529,066</u>	<u>2,450,093</u>	<u>2,145,349</u>

Charitable expenditure comprises the following main elements:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries, including staff training	1,813,399	1,658,109
Office running costs	380,609	224,817
IT costs	87,896	120,571
Travel and subsistence costs	77,175	43,025
Insurances	8,127	8,305
Deafblind Club costs	2,389	2,464
Interpreting costs	21,602	12,530
Depreciation and loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	42,056	62,433
Bad debt expenses	-	(2,585)
Audit and accountancy	16,840	15,680
	<u>2,450,093</u>	<u>2,145,349</u>

Support costs are allocated directly between activities based on total costs incurred. The movement on restricted funds in respect of charitable activities is detailed note 13.

■ **Care & Support:** This is the total of all contracted services Deafblind UK provide across the country

■ **Community Services:** This is the total of all charitable services Deafblind UK provide in the community across the country

■ **National Services:** This is the total of all charitable services centrally provided by Deafblind UK to support members across the country

■ **Rainbow Court:** This is an independent living facility in Peterborough that supports people with deafblindness to live in their own accommodation

■ **Information and Communications Technology:** To provide specialist computer equipment and training for people with deafblindness, either at Deafblind UK or in their home.

Note 7. Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,921,830	1,781,947
Social security costs	160,576	137,488
Pension costs	47,848	44,254
Termination payments	27,848	2,022
	<u>2,158,102</u>	<u>1,965,711</u>

Employees who earned more than £60,000 during the year:

	2023	2022
	£	£
£80,001 – £90,000	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
£60,001 – £70,000	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Particulars of employees

The average number of staff employed by the group during the financial year amounted to:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Finance administrative and support	13	12
Care and support	56	54
Fundraising	9	11
Community service	<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>
	<u>103</u>	<u>99</u>

The key management personnel of the parent charity, Deafblind UK, comprise the Trustees (who are not remunerated in their role), and members of the executive team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £293,175 (2022: £281,451).

The key management personnel of the group comprise those of the Charity and the key management personnel of its wholly owned subsidiaries Deafblind UK Trading Limited and About Me Care & Support Limited. The employee benefits of key management personnel for the group was therefore £308,324 (2022: £297,657).

Pension contributions in relation to these employees amounted to £14,416 (2022: £15,415) in the year.

Included in termination payments are non-contractual payments of £15,000 (2022: £0).

£386 has been reimbursed to Trustees during the year (2022: £56). This related to travel costs, guides and interpreting costs. Three Trustees in total received reimbursements (2022: 1).

Trustees did not receive remuneration in 2022 or 2021.

Note 8. Net income/(expenditure)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed asset – owned	54,556	78,732
Profit on disposal	(7,680)	-
Auditors' remuneration:		
■ statutory audit of parent and consolidated accounts	15,300	13,140
■ statutory audit of subsidiaries	3,200	2,850
■ other services	3,665	1,770
	<u>69,041</u>	<u>96,492</u>

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting)

Note 9. Tangible fixed assets

Group	Freehold Property	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost At 1 April 2022	703,323	336,506	1,039,829
Additions	111,587	14,111	125,698
Disposals	-	(27,916)	(27,916)
At 31 March 2023	814,910	322,701	1,137,611
Depreciation At 1 April 2022	291,065	257,765	548,830
Charge for the year	17,962	36,594	54,556
Eliminated on disposal	-	(27,915)	(27,915)
At 31 March 2023	309,027	266,444	575,471
Net book value At 31 March 2023	505,883	56,257	562,140
Net book value At 1 April 2022	412,258	78,741	490,999

Charity	Freehold Property	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost At 1 April 2022	703,323	270,708	974,031
Additions	111,587	14,111	125,698
Disposals	-	(27,916)	(27,916)
At 31 March 2023	814,910	256,903	1,071,813
Depreciation At 1 April 2022	291,065	223,749	514,814
Charge for the year	17,962	27,094	45,056
Eliminated on disposal	-	(27,915)	(27,915)
At 31 March 2023	309,027	222,928	531,955
Net book value At 31 March 2023	505,883	33,975	539,858*
Net book value At 31 March 2022	412,258	46,959	459,217

All fixed assets are held for charitable purposes.

* This number differs from the balance sheet by £1 due to roundings.

Note 10. Investments

	2023	2022
Group	£	£
Brought forward	2,769,182	-
Additions	896,770	2,991,544
Disposals at carrying value (market value)	(692,617)	(164,418)
Unrealised gain / (loss)	(161,257)	(56,825)
Realised gain / (loss)	(84,173)	(1,119)
Investments	2,727,906	2,769,182
Cash held at brokers	59,877	193,060
Total Fund	2,787,783	2,962,242

	2023	2022
Charity	£	£
Listed Investments		
Brought forward	2,769,182	-
Additions	896,770	2,991,544
Disposals at carrying value (market value)	(692,617)	(164,418)
Unrealised gain / (loss)	(161,257)	(56,825)
Realised gain / (loss)	(84,173)	(1,119)
Investments	2,727,906	2,769,182
Cash held at brokers	59,877	193,060
Total Fund	2,787,783	2,962,242

Shares in Subsidiary Companies at cost	10	10
Total Value of Investments	2,787,793	2,962,252

Fixed asset investments comprise of listed investments

Fixed asset investments comprise of listed investments, and shares held in 100% owned subsidiaries. The subsidiary companies are Deafblind UK Trading Limited and About Me Care and Support Limited, both are incorporated in the United Kingdom.

Note 11. Debtors

	2023	2022
Group	£	£
Trade debtors	56,612	55,261
Other debtors	354,811	187,477
Prepayments	67,392	6,370
	<u>478,815</u>	<u>249,108</u>

	2023	2022
Charity	£	£
Trade debtors	56,612	55,261
Amounts owed by group undertakings	177,102	155,359
Prepayments	67,342	6,370
Other debtors	354,811	187,477
	<u>655,867</u>	<u>404,467</u>

Note 12. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year

Group	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	64,860	67,145
Taxation and social security	30,767	22,170
Other creditors	31,148	94,503
Accruals	227,748	257,556
	<u>354,523</u>	<u>441,374</u>

Charity	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	59,525	60,009
Taxation and social security	30,628	25,326
Other creditors	30,981	93,468
Accruals	218,339	248,973
	<u>339,473</u>	<u>427,776</u>

Note 13. Restricted 2022 – 2023

Group and Charity Movement in resources	Balance at 31 March 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
The National Lottery Community Fund – Out of the Shadows (Northern Ireland)	5,548	99,225	98,908	-	5,865
BAME Appeal	43,918	5,000	48,918	-	-
Access to Work Appeal	39,935	32,047	39,509	-	32,473
Youth Project Appeal	11,125	39,847	33,924	-	17,048
Education Project	44,609	81,648	81,807	-	44,450
Community Reconnections Cymru	-	49,447	37,649	-	11,798
Essex	-	45,125	45,125	-	-
Deafblind Friendly Garden	-	4,960	4,960	-	-
Digital Inclusion	-	6,500	6,500	-	-
Deafblind Holidays	-	10,500	10,500	-	-
Bristol Outreach	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Cambridgeshire Carers Project	-	7,445	7,445	-	-
E-Learning Project	-	7,500	7,500	-	-
Veterans	-	34,950	34,950	-	-
Wellbeing & Emotional Support	-	273,664	273,664	-	-
Early Intervention	-	54,828	54,828	-	-
Deafblind Equipment	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
Restricted funds	145,135	765,186	796,187	-	114,134

Note 13 continued. Restricted 2021 – 2022

Group and Charity	Balance at 31 March 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 March 2022
Movement in resources	£	£	£	£	£
Digital Inclusion	-	1,150	1,150	-	-
Merseyside & Manchester Outreach	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund – Out of the Shadows (Northern Ireland)	10,336	96,610	101,398	-	5,548
North Wales Project	-	250	250	-	-
Essex Outreach	-	47,087	47,087	-	-
Caravan & Respite Breaks	-	16,000	16,000	-	-
National Services	-	231,919	231,919	-	-
Bristol Outreach	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Helpline (Service)	38,431	8,280	46,711	-	-
Wellbeing & Emotional Support	48,994	-	48,994	-	-
Veterans	19,475	33,000	52,475	-	-
Clinicans Project	9,805	-	9,805	-	-
Volunteer Programme	6,978	150	7,128	-	-
Cambridgeshire Outreach	8,057	-	8,057	-	-
E-Learning Project	12,570	26,000	38,570	-	-
Mental Health Project	15,000	-	15,000	-	-
Virtual Groups Project	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
BAME Project	-	50,000	6,082	-	43,918
Access to Work Project	-	39,935	-	-	39,935
Youth Project	-	11,125	-	-	11,125
Carers Project	-	7,446	7,446	-	-
Education Project	-	44,609	-	-	44,609
Restricted Funds	169,646	643,561	668,072	-	145,135

Restricted Funds

The National Lottery Community Fund –
Out of the Shadows (N. Ireland):
Big Lottery Fund Grant (under the
Reaching Communities fund) for
supporting deafblind people across
Northern Ireland.

Caravan and Respite Breaks:
Subsidised caravan respite breaks for
deafblind people, and their families
and carers.

National Services: Supporting
information, advice, caseworker
and volunteer services for deafblind
members, carers and others working
with deafblind people.

Digital Inclusion: Raising awareness
of digital inclusion for deafblind people
with opportunity to try out accessibility
features of technology, supported by
volunteers.

Various Outreach funds: Funds to
support staff and volunteers working
with deafblind people in their homes
and communities and the provision of
Peer Support groups in North Wales,
London, Yorkshire, Essex, Manchester
& Merseyside, East Anglia, West
Midlands & Bristol.

Note 13 continued.

Designated funds

Expansion of Rainbow Court	1,000,000
Purchase & fit out new care home	1,500,000
Energy efficiency maintenance at Rainbow Court	150,000
Seed funding for retail expansion	90,000
IT Support Programme	100,000
Research Programme	150,000
Purchase of Minibus	45,000
Total Designated Funds	3,035,000

Analysis of group reserves

Restricted Reserves	114,134
Unrestricted Designated Reserves	3,035,000
Unrestricted Fixed Assets	562,070
Unrestricted Free Reserves	1,085,867
	4,797,071

Note 14. Unrestricted funds 2022 – 2023

Movement in resources	Balance at 31 March 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 March 2023
Group	£	£	£	£	£
General	4,352,919	2,167,965	(2,274,391)	(125,696)	4,120,797
Other fixed assets	491,000	-	(54,556)	125,696	562,140
Unrestricted funds	<u>4,843,919</u>	<u>2,167,965</u>	<u>(2,328,947)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,682,937</u>
Movement in resources	Balance at 31 March 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance at 31 March 2023
Charity	£	£	£	£	£
General	4,510,261	2,557,782	(2,540,747)	(125,696)	4,401,600
Other fixed assets	459,217	-	(45,056)	125,696	539,857
Unrestricted funds	<u>4,969,478</u>	<u>2,557,782</u>	<u>(2,585,803)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,941,457</u>

Other fixed assets

The other fixed asset fund represents tangible fixed assets held for the charity's use. The expenditure allocated on this fund represents the depreciation charged on these assets in the year, and the transfer represents the net movement relating to additions and disposals in the year.

Note 15. Analysis of net assets 2022 – 2023

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
Group	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	114,134	114,134
Unrestricted funds	562,070	4,120,867	4,682,937
	<u>562,070</u>	<u>4,235,001</u>	<u>4,797,071</u>

	Tangible fixed assets	Investments	Net current assets	Total
Charity	£	£	£	£
Restricted	-	-	114,134	114,134
Unrestricted funds	459,217	10	4,368,096	4,827,323
	<u>459,217</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4,482,230</u>	<u>4,941,457</u>

Note 15 continued. Analysis of net assets 2021 – 2022

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
Group	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	145,135	145,135
Unrestricted funds	3,453,241	1,390,678	4,843,918
	<u>3,453,241</u>	<u>1,535,813</u>	<u>4,989,054</u>

	Tangible fixed assets	Investments	Net current assets	Total
Charity	£	£	£	£
Restricted	-	-	145,135	145,135
Unrestricted funds	3,421,459	10	1,548,010	4,969,478
	<u>3,421,459</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1,693,145</u>	<u>5,114,614</u>

Note 16. Financial instruments

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
The carrying amount of the charitable company's financial instruments as at 31 March 2023 was:				
Financial assets				
Equity instruments measured at fair value	2,769,182	2,962,252	2,962,242	2,962,252
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	411,423	411,423	242,738	242,738
Financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost	126,775	121,134	183,818	178,803

Note 17. Related party transaction

At the year end the charity was owed £177,102 (2022: £155,359) by Deafblind UK Trading Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Deafblind UK. During the year the charity recharged expenses of £29,805 (2022: £29,545) and rent of £nil (2022: £nil) to Deafblind UK Trading Limited.

Note 18. Company limited by guarantee

The company does not have share capital and is limited by guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up, the maximum amount which each member is liable to contribute is £10.

Note 19. Pensions

The group contributes to a defined benefit contribution scheme for its employees.

The charge for the year is £47,848 (2022: £44,254) and at the balance sheet date there were £4,285 (2022: £3,564) of outstanding contributions which were included within the creditors.

Note 20. Contingent asset

There are no contingent assets as at 31 March 2023. (2022: £263,000).

Note 21. Contingent liability

There are no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2023. (2022: £nil).

Note 22. Comparative consolidated statement of financial activities by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from Donations and legacies			
Legacies	707,410	-	707,410
Grants and trusts	12,645	638,561	651,206
Other donations	128,764	5,000	133,764
	<u>848,819</u>	<u>643,561</u>	<u>1,492,380</u>
Other trading activities			
Commercial trading operations	90,430	-	90,430
Fundraising income	20,287	-	20,287
Non-charitable trading	59,401	-	59,401
	<u>170,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,118</u>
Charitable activities			
Contracted services	812,455	-	812,455
Income from property	232,650	-	232,650
	<u>1,045,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,045,105</u>
Investment income	36,152	-	36,152
Total income	<u>2,100,194</u>	<u>643,561</u>	<u>2,743,755</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds			
Fundraising costs	268,021	-	268,021
Commercial trading operations	128,190	-	128,190
Charitable activities	1,477,278	668,071	2,145,349
Total expenditure	<u>1,873,489</u>	<u>668,071</u>	<u>2,541,560</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(57,944)	-	(57,944)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year	168,761	(24,510)	144,251
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	4,675,158	169,645	4,844,803
Total funds carried forward	<u>4,843,919</u>	<u>145,135</u>	<u>4,989,054</u>

Note 23. Comparative analysis of charitable activities (Note 6)

	Direct charitable £	Support costs £	Total funds £
Direct charitable expenditure			
Care & Support Operations	837,217	253,775	1,090,992
Governance	124,977	37,883	162,860
Community services	35,292	10,698	45,990
National Services	244,603	74,143	318,746
Rainbow Court	290,604	88,088	378,692
Information and Communications Technology	113,627	34,442	148,069
	<u>1,646,320</u>	<u>499,029</u>	<u>2,145,349</u>
Wages and salaries, including staff training			1,658,109
Office running costs			224,817
IT costs			120,571
Travel and subsistence costs			43,025
Insurances			8,305
Deafblind Club costs			2,464
Interpreting costs			12,530
Depreciation and loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets			62,433
Bad debt expenses			(2,585)
Audit and accountancy			15,680
			<u>2,145,349</u>



DeafblindUK

Your support, your impact
Annual report 2022-23

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