

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 01336067 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 803544

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3BH**

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objectives are to promote excellence in research, manufacture, and clinical practice of contact lenses and anterior eye for patient benefit. The policies adopted in furtherance of the charity's objects are continuing dialogue and education amongst eye care professionals. The BCLA continues to offer their members a high-quality educational programme and resources to support their development and practice, both in the UK and internationally.

Vision - Bringing the global contact lens and anterior eye health community together.

Mission - To be recognised as the world's leading contact lens and anterior eye community. Through the process of knowledge sharing, education and networking, BCLA brings expertise from the world of academia and research into the world of the eye health professionals, for the benefit of their patients.

The Values of the BCLA

Best practice - striving to improve standards of professional and clinical excellence in contact lenses and anterior eye.

Community - bringing together the world of academic research with eye health professionals.

Learning - supporting education and professional development to drive progress.

Accessible - BCLA is for everyone - if you are passionate about eye care you can join our community.

The Council Members confirm that in all activities that are delivered they have complied with their legal duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and meet the BCLA's objectives listed above.

The BCLA's aim to educate, interact and promote growth in the field of contact lenses and anterior eye has the full support of its members and is reflected in all the association's activities. These include: the biennial Clinical Conference and Exhibition, UK and International meetings, continued professional development (CPD) activities, the publication of *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye* (the journal of the BCLA), evening scientific meetings (via webinars), online certificate courses, and the dissemination and interchange of knowledge and information in the field of contact lenses and anterior eye.

Significant activities

Success is measured by pre-set KPI's for the year. These are related to overall budget, profitability of any conference and membership numbers and retention figures. Not forgetting the BCLA brand equity, which is more difficult to measure.

Events

BCLA Asia

The BCLA marked an historic milestone with the successful inaugural edition of BCLA ASIA in mainland China. The two-day event took place on March 8-9, 2024, in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, and was jointly organised by BCLA, the Sichuan Association of Optometry and Eye Care, and hosted by West China Hospital, Sichuan University.

With a significant turnout of approximately 1,600 attendees, including 150 delegates specifically for the BCLA segment, the forum brought together top experts from around the world to focus on critical topics such as myopia prevention and control, dry eye treatment, corneal contact lenses and care, and special corneal contact lenses.

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The success of the event not only strengthened communication and cooperation between regional and international optometric communities but also fostered supportive, professional ties between China and the UK in specialist care within optometry. The BCLA remains committed to advancing global optometry and the BCLA ASIA programme contributed to the progress of optometry worldwide through shared learning.

The event also celebrated the graduates of BCLA's Contact Lens Fitting Continuing Education Training Course, recently delivered in China, who received certificates of completion. At the closing ceremony, Professor Liu Longqian emphasised the forum's significance as a landmark international industry conference in contact lenses, blending innovative views with both Chinese and Western perspectives.

Optometry Tomorrow 2024 incorporating BCLA Focus

We were proud to deliver *Optometry Tomorrow 2024 incorporating BCLA Focus*—an innovative collaboration between the College of Optometrists and the BCLA. Held from 28–29 April 2024 at the Telford International Centre, the event brought together the College's flagship conference and BCLA Focus for the first time. We were pleased to welcome 789 attendees, the majority of whom were from the UK to this strengthened and more comprehensive programme, which gave eye care professionals greater access to CPD, research, and good clinical practice, while also bringing a bigger and more diverse event to delegates.

Programmes from both organisations ran alongside each other, with 10 tracks in total, including BCLA's own dedicated lecture and workshop streams. This structure allowed attendees to choose from approximately 110 CPD sessions across two days, enabling them to gain all their required CPD points in the final year of the GOC cycle, while benefitting from a diverse mix of lecture streams and hands-on workshops.

A key theme of the BCLA track was *BCLA CLEAR™ Presbyopia*, with a dedicated session featuring presentations from contributors to the paper, offering delegates direct insight into the latest evidence and thinking in presbyopic care. Myopia was also in focus during the joint Charter Lecture, developed in collaboration with the College, which addressed the profession's critical role in managing this growing concern.

The event played a key role in furthering BCLA's strategic goal of advancing clinical knowledge and supporting evidence-based practice.

Webinars

There were nine webinars delivered in 2024, two of which were sponsored. Sponsors included Topcon Healthcare and CooperVision, both of whom also delivered their own webinars. Council decided to change the BCLA's webinars from being a BCLA member-only benefit to open to all. This resulted in registration and attendee numbers grow considerably. The total number of registrations over the nine webinars was 1734 of which a total of 1016 attended.

The most popular webinar and in fact, highest number of registration and attendees in the BCLA webinar history(!), related to 'Keratoconus: In practice (How to treat with contact lenses)' and was delivered by Bronagh Clarke & Rachel Davison. The webinar had 289 registrations and 175 attendees.

All nine webinars were CPD accredited, and certificates were sent to all those eligible, not just BCLA members. A large number of attendees were OVN members (Netherlands) and IACLE members (global). These associations promoted the webinars on their newsletters to their members. The main audience was optometrists followed by contact lens opticians. The attendance was between 15 and 30 different countries on each webinar with the UK and the Netherlands being the top two countries.

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Online Learning

The BCLA launched the new Fundamentals of Contact Lenses Certificate in May 2024, also the Early Career version aimed at pre-reg, international students, UK students and newly qualified BCLA members. Below are the current numbers for the BCLA courses. Below is an update on the numbers of certificate passers and currently enrolled and in progress.

Dry Eye Certificate passers	14
Early Career Dry Eye Certificate passers	4
Dry Eye currently enrolled	76
Early Career Dry Eye currently enrolled	14
Myopia Certificate passers	16
Early Career Myopia Certificate passers	2
Myopia currently enrolled	51
Early Career Myopia currently enrolled	9
FOCL Certificate passers	10
Early Career FOCL Certificate passers	1
FOCL currently enrolled	35
Early Career FOCL currently enrolled	16

Podcasts

The BCLA has delivered podcasts to a growing audience since 2020 with a variety of topics discussed by innovative and knowledgeable experts. In 2024 we presented 7 podcasts throughout the year with having between 60 to 100+ listeners during the year.

We already have a schedule in place for 11 podcasts and some ad hoc episodes to be published throughout 2025. There will be a variety of topics like the celebration of 30 years on the contact lens prescribing trends surveys, also there is the intention to have some podcasts that will be linked to the BCLA Conference & Exhibition 2025.

Membership

2024 finished with a total membership of 1,145 (2023: 1,231). Whilst this is a fall of 7% on 2023, it follows the pattern of previous nonclinical conference years. Compared to 2022, the last pre-conference year, membership was up by 3% overall and Full membership by 4%. This trend is expected to continue into 2025.

We ran two campaigns in 2024: an offer of 12 months for the price of 10 to attract lapsed members to reinstate and a member get member campaign. Overall, we recruited 29 members, and we will look to run similar campaigns in 2025. In addition, we have been working with 19 student ambassadors to promote student membership which resulted in an increase in student membership of 127% in December. Whilst this is good news – this still only represents around 5% of the students on optometry courses and will continue to be a focus of our work in 2025.

A notable contributor to the stability in membership was the continued partnership with Vision Express, a three-year partnership to support Vision Express ECP's CPD through the membership offer, specifically the certificates in myopia management and dry eye management.

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As the Association goes into a clinical conference year the focus turns to harnessing the increased numbers of members and we will continue to engage with the multiples to improve membership numbers further. The BCLA has a very attractive membership offer and it continues to effectively communicate this at various touch points. In 2024 there were more engagement initiatives implemented, ensuring that membership benefits are communicated regularly – particularly in the first year of membership.

Research and guidelines

BCLA CLEAR™ (Continued Learning Evidence-based Academic Reports)

BCLA CLEAR™ is an important initiative in the eye care profession that continues to influence and shape practice, globally. The findings are initially published in the BCLA's scientific journal, *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye*, under open access. Each project has been funded by educational grants from numerous companies.

The first project, which focussed on contact lenses, was published in 2021 and its findings have continued to be used, including the development of clinical practice guidelines (publication date TBC), and a new certificate in contact lens fundamentals which launched in the first half of 2024. The papers have gained an impressive number of downloads, over 130,000, and citations, over 600.

This was followed by BCLA CLEAR™ Presbyopia, published in 2024. Already this has attracted respectable figures, over 30,000 downloads and over 50 citations. Phase two is underway and has delivered: a summary of the findings, multiple translations of the summary, presentations, and CPD articles in the optical media. More resources are expected in 2025 (including a certificate in presbyopia) that will make a considerable difference to presbyopic care, globally.

CLAE Journal

Contact Lens and Anterior Eye (CLAE) is owned by the BCLA and published by Elsevier and has a truly international feel to it with global readership, international authors and editorial panel members from all over the world. The Editor-in-Chief is Shehzad Naroo (UK) and there are four Associate Editors: Robin L Chalmers (USA); Pauline Cho (Hong Kong); Eric Papas (Australia); and Stephen Vincent (Australia). In 2024 no themed issue were planned because the BCLA CLEAR Presbyopia papers took a full issue. This issue collated all the evidence on this topic, gathered by global experts and presented in one concise issue of CLAE. The authors were a Multi-disciplinary team of optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians, researchers, vision scientists and physicists. A total of 84 authors participated in BCLA CLEAR Presbyopia from 19 countries (including 28 from the UK, 15 from the USA and 11 from Australia). A third CLEAR issue is planned for 2027 and a call of authors will be made in 2025. This third CLEAR issue will be on the topic of Astigmatism and this will include irregular astigmatism too.

In 2024 the number of new submissions seemed to reach the heights of the lockdown years, with 555 new submissions to the journal. In 2025 a themed issue around Speciality Contact Lenses was released in issue 1 of 2025. Downloads of papers from CLAE are up on previous years and citations show a steady rise too. China now seems to be the largest market for CLAE in terms of new submissions and downloads.

The journal is a peer reviewed journal covering all aspects of contact lens theory and clinical practice and related anterior eye topics. CLAE is an important journal in the ophthalmic field and is one of only two peer reviewed journals specialising in contact lenses that has an impact factor (ranked journals). The impact factor is an important measure for a peer reviewed journal. In July 2024 the 2023 impact factors were released, and CLAE has a value of 4.1 (CLAE is ranked equal 10th out of 85 ranked ophthalmology journals), placing it firmly in the upper quartile of ophthalmic related peer reviewed journals. CLAE has long been the leading contact lens journals, and out of optometry peer reviewed journals CLAE continues to sit in 1st place which is a remarkable feat for a speciality journal competing against journals with a much wider remit of papers. In 2024 CLAE' impact factor rose above journals such as the British Journal of Ophthalmology (the official journal of the UK Royal College of Ophthalmologists) and is equal to the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

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Strategy discussions were held with the publishers Elsevier and the BCLA throughout the year. CLAE would like to thank the BCLA Council for their continued support of their journal and an enormous thanks to the authors and reviewers who work tirelessly putting manuscripts together for publication in CLAE.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Finance of the organisation is a key priority, to enable the Association to be able to continue to deliver on the Mission and Vision and serve the membership. The financial position is monitored monthly to review the financial performance year to date against budget and both the trading & cash flow forecasts going forward. The Council are satisfied with the results for the year ended 31 December 2024 and the reserves as at that date.

The net expenditure for the year in the unrestricted fund amounts to £93,246 (2023: net income of £204,936).

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific use, would be maintained at a level equivalent to 6 months overheads.

Six months budgeted expenditure for 2025 equates to £310,265 and the unrestricted reserves carried forward as at 1 January 2025 are £251,002.

Accordingly, the level of unrestricted reserves falls short of the stated reserves policy.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy and objectives

The Council Members have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds given the highly fluctuating market conditions that existed throughout the year. It was unanimously agreed to follow a prudent approach whereby the Association's capital would be safeguarded, and a prudent policy was adopted of investing in low-risk deposit and money market accounts. This policy was reviewed at a council meeting in 2019, and still considered reasonable, triggered by changes in the interest rates, after seeking professional advice, council agreed to keep the distribution of funds under review. This approach continues.

Under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), up to £85,000 per person, per institution is now protected if a bank, building society or credit union goes into liquidation. There are currently two institutions qualifying for the FSCS compensation limit of £85,000.

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FUTURE PLANS

Organisational strategy

2024 was a key year for stabilising activities and delivering new partnership initiatives, including working with the College of Optometrists on a conference event, and several partners in China to deliver BCLA Asia. Both of these events delivered successes in several areas, including specialist education and increased brand awareness. The latter is important for the growth prospects of the Association.

Important work also begun on reform – something that is critical to the BCLA's future. Following a membership survey the findings were discussed at a strategic workshop where key issues were identified, and numerous possible solutions took shape. Focus groups with members were held and commercial stakeholders were also consulted on the results of the research and proposed models. It has been identified that significant change is required, something which will be explored further in 2025.

During 2024, the key elements of the overall strategy continued to be delivered.

Membership development

Aim: to grow BCLA membership through member service excellence and engagement.

Members are the lifeblood of any association and the BCLA continues to deliver a strong package of services to keep retention stable. Membership numbers at the end of 2024 were solid, outperforming comparable years, helped by numerous initiatives to boost recruitment. This provides a strong starting point going into 2025 when traditionally there has been an increase in membership due to the clinical conference. The shape of the membership offer will play a key part within the reform work underway, with an aim to attract an increasing number of members.

Growth and engagement initiatives in 2024 included:

- Re-engagement campaign with lapsed members
- Attendance at external events, including Specsavers PAC and Scottish Optical Conference, to promote brand awareness and membership offer
- Promotional offers to non-members that have engaged with a BCLA initiative
- Survey of members and non-members to inform the reform activity

We will increase awareness of the MBCLA and FBCLA post-nominal letters to help membership driving activity and provide increased visibility for our expert membership base.

Conference Strategy

Aim: to ensure BCLA conferences are suitable for the future of the contact lens category

2024 provided a good opportunity to explore partnership working to deliver the BCLA Focus programme within the *Optometry Tomorrow* conference. In addition to a new way of working it also offered exposure to a wider audience – both in terms of the BCLA's content and programme, and the brand overall. Experimenting with collaborative initiatives is important to developing the Association's ability to work with others and also improving our understanding of what works well and what doesn't. The BCLA brings a high degree of expertise that will make a valuable part of any conference programme. Workshops are particularly beneficial, and these will be given more focus in the future.

Looking further ahead the reform process has highlighted new options for delivering the clinical conference. As this is shaped up and finalised it will see us bring together a strategy for future events, which will outline what the conference will look like in 2027 and beyond.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
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Educational programme development

Aim: to develop skills, knowledge and behaviours through high quality learning activities.

Through the process of knowledge sharing, education and networking, the BCLA brings the contact lens and anterior eye health community together. The BCLA has an active programme of learning in place that has grown and evolved over the years. Growing this function will benefit both membership and non-member revenues.

A new certificate based on the research in BCLA CLEAR™ Contact Lenses was developed. Fundamentals of Contact Lenses was launched in the first half of 2024 and has had a positive uptake.

‘Early career’ courses were formally rolled out in 2024 for both the myopia management and dry eye certificates. These are aimed at students and newly qualified eye care professionals with the aim of introducing them to these key areas of eye care and providing an opportunity to gain accreditation. These are based on the part A lectures with an assessment component that is aligned with emerging knowledge for new professionals.

Changes are being introduced to the certificates in 2025 that are aimed to increase participation and improve completion rates.

Support / infrastructure

Aim: ensure all support elements have the capability to service the BCLA’s activities.

To deliver a growth-focused strategy it is important to have an appropriate structure in place to support our activities.

Staffing structure is continually reviewed and, if feasible/appropriate, will be reconfigured.

Of equal importance is to build a strong sense of purpose for staff through objectives clearly aligned with the objectives of this strategy and the mission of the BCLA.

The role of BCLA Council is critical in two ways: as trustees that are responsible for setting the overall direction of the BCLA; and providing expertise that directly contributes to the shape of our products and services. Council continues to play an active role in the learning programme and broader activities – something that is vital to delivering a busy work programme. This is bolstered by a broad committee structure reliant on the contributions of volunteers which brings its benefits and detractors. Sector expertise is exemplary but equally relying on available time is challenging. This work will continue to be monitored with further change expected to follow from the reform work being undertaken.

There are numerous systems used to deliver our services. Whilst they are not obsolete yet, it is important to assess their suitability to meet our needs in both the short and long term. In 2024 work begun to upgrade the CRM system, with completion planned in 2025.

BCLA awards

No awards were made in 2024.

Honorary life membership was awarded to Pauline Cho.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The charity's objectives are to promote excellence in research, manufacture and clinical practice of contact lenses and related areas.

The charity has a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking, BCLA Trading Company Limited. This arranges the Association's annual conference and exhibition series and continuing education courses. 2018 saw the execution of the updated Memorandum and Articles, specifically related to Council Member recruitment. The Council Members, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements are recorded in the Trustees Report.

Organisational structure

The day to day running of the charity is the responsibility of the CEO. As stated in the Articles, the Council/Trustees give the responsibility of running the Association to the Exec Committee who are responsible for all key management decisions and delivery of these tasks are the responsibility of the CEO.

Council meets on a regular basis; the executive committee have a bi-weekly call to ensure all key activities are on track. The day-to-day management is delivered by the CEO.

L D Stevens-Burt, CEO

Executive Committee:

N Retallic
R K Kapoor
S L Farrant
D Webley
B Huntjens

Salary reviews and remuneration are decided with the Executive Committee and benchmarked to external agencies. None of the members of the company has any beneficial interest in the charity. All of the Council Members are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Induction and training of new trustees

All new trustees undertake an induction within their first year of taking up a post formally at the AGM. This includes receiving an information pack about: governance of the Association, details of fellow trustees, details about the structure of the Association and its key business activities, priorities and objectives. New trustees will also meet with key personnel in the Association, including the CEO and President.

Fundraising Statement

The Association raises funds through a corporate sponsorship programme. These are not usually donations, but funds received in exchange for facilitating engagement with our community of eye care professionals at events and through digital platforms. The Association may at time lead or contribute to projects for the good and benefit of eye health. These projects may require sponsorship which is attained outside of the standard sponsorship programme and provided to the BCLA in support of its role in executing the project and the project deliverables. No professional fundraisers have been employed to carry out any part of the sponsorship activities.

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

01336067 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

803544

Registered office

201 Haverstock Hill
Belsize Park
London
NW3 4QG

Trustees

N Retallic
D Dutta
A J Jackson
B Huntjens
S L Farrant
R K Kapoor
C S C Liu
D Webley
N Ghorbani Mojarrad - appointed 19 November 2024
R Gil Cazorla – appointed 19 November 2024
I Sexton – appointed 19 November 2024
I S Grewal – resigned 19 November 2024
L Goldsmith – resigned 30 March 2025
C McElduff – resigned 19 November 2024
A Blackman – resigned 19 November 2024

Company Secretary

L D Stevens-Burt

Auditors

J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3BH

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Coutts & Co
440 Strand
London
WC2R 0QS

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Chief Executive Officer

L D Stevens-Burt

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The British Contact Lens Association Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, J W Hinks LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ...01 June 2025..... and signed on its behalf by:



D Webley - Trustee

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
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**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
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Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The British Contact Lens Association Limited (the 'charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Parent Charity Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

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LIMITED**

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting records, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
- Reviewing and challenging the assumptions and judgements used by management in their significant accounting estimates.
- Assessing the extent of compliance, or lack of, with the relevant laws and regulations.
- Testing key revenue lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank balances.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as board minutes for discussions of irregularities including fraud.

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

Use of our report

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



James Cruse ACA, FCCA, BSc (Econ) Hons (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3BH

Date.....01/06/2025.....

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Charitable activities	3		
Conference & exhibitions		173,834	805,618
Member services including journal		341,999	329,495
Investment income	2	11,451	9,956
Total		527,284	1,145,069
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Conference & exhibitions		434,831	756,482
Member services including journal		161,307	142,315
Seminars and courses		24,392	41,336
Total		620,530	940,133
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME		(93,246)	204,936
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		344,248	139,312
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		251,002	344,248
CONTINUING OPERATIONS			
All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.			

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01336067)**

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2024**

			2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes			
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets	7		944	503
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	9		208,756	232,106
Cash at bank			<u>293,791</u>	<u>482,101</u>
			502,547	714,207
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	10		(224,710)	(337,128)
			<u>277,837</u>	<u>377,079</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
			278,781	377,582
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11		(27,779)	(33,334)
			<u>251,002</u>	<u>344,248</u>
NET ASSETS				
FUNDS	13			
Unrestricted funds			<u>251,002</u>	<u>344,248</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>251,002</u>	<u>344,248</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01336067)**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2024**

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
D Webley - Trustee



.....
S Farrant - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01336067)**

**PARENT CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2024**

			2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS	Notes			
Investments	8		2	2
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	9		556,648	364,934
Cash at bank			<u>292,791</u>	<u>481,101</u>
			849,439	846,035
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	10		<u>(188,614)</u>	<u>(245,453)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>660,825</u>	<u>600,582</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			660,827	600,584
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11		<u>(27,779)</u>	<u>(33,334)</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>633,048</u>	<u>567,250</u>
FUNDS	13			
Unrestricted funds			<u>633,048</u>	<u>567,250</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>633,048</u>	<u>567,250</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements


**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 01336067)**


**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2024**

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

01 June 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
D Webley - Trustee


.....
S Farrant - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The group financial statements reflect the results and combined financial position of The British Contact Lens Association Limited and BCLA Trading Limited. As permitted by s408 of the Companies Act 2006, the parent charitable company has not presented its own income and expenditure account and related notes.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains/losses on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of the subsidiary to bring their accounting policies used into line with those used by the parent charity.

INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds; it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Membership and conference income is included in the financial statements on an accruals basis.

Investment income is included in the financial statements when receivable.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered when incurred by the charity.

Governance costs include organisational management and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

TAXATION

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

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Website development – 33% on cost

Fixtures & fittings – 20% on cost

PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash & bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and loans from fellow group companies are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest received	<u>11,451</u>	<u>9,956</u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	Total	Total
	activities	activities
	£	£
Subscription and journal income	341,999	329,495
Conferences and exhibitions	<u>173,834</u>	<u>805,618</u>
	<u>515,833</u>	<u>1,135,113</u>

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	<u>13,593</u>	<u>13,159</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year ended 31 December 2024, two trustees were reimbursed a total of £1,718 (2023: £1,089 across two trustees) in respect of travel expenses.

During the year ended 31 December 2024, one trustee received a total of £150 (2023: £750) in respect of speaker fees and 2 trustees received a combined total of £500 (2023: £nil) in respect of contributions towards certificates.

6. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	201,793	198,930
Social security costs	20,348	20,894
Other pension costs	<u>15,648</u>	<u>14,158</u>
	<u>237,789</u>	<u>233,982</u>

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

	2024	2023
Administration	1	1
Direct charitable expenditure	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

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

	2024	2023
£80,001 - £90,000		1
£90,001 - £100,000	<u>1</u>	<u></u>

The key management personnel of the group received employee benefits in the year of £90,499 (2023: £82,075).

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - CONSOLIDATED

	Website Development £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2024	31,425	5,514	36,939
Additions	-	575	575
Disposals	-	-	-
Reclassification	-	-	-
	<u>31,425</u>	<u>6,089</u>	<u>37,514</u>
At 31 December 2024	31,425	6,089	37,514
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2024	31,425	5,011	36,346
Charge for year	-	134	134
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
Reclassification	-	-	-
	<u>31,425</u>	<u>5,145</u>	<u>36,570</u>
At 31 December 2024	31,425	5,145	36,570
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>944</u>	<u>944</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>503</u>

The parent charity does not hold any tangible fixed assets.

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS – PARENT CHARITY

	Shares in group undertakings £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>2</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	<u>2</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>2</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

BCLA Trading Company Limited

Registered office: England and Wales

Nature of business: Conference and exhibition hosting

Class of share:	% holding
Ordinary	2

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate capital and reserves	(382,044)	(223,000)
Profit / (loss) for the year	(159,044)	<u>112,416</u>

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	20,340	65,130	15,000	45,000
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	499,170	271,740
Other debtors	20,773	33,202	2,478	2,478
Prepayments	167,643	133,774	40,000	45,716
	<u>208,756</u>	<u>232,106</u>	<u>556,648</u>	<u>364,934</u>

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	3,438	12,455	407	451
Bank loans	5,556	5,556	5,556	5,556
Social security and other taxes	4,945	5,114	2,684	2,899
Other creditors	2,000	1,912	2,000	1,912
Accruals and deferred income	<u>208,771</u>	<u>312,091</u>	<u>177,967</u>	<u>234,635</u>
	<u>224,710</u>	<u>337,128</u>	<u>188,614</u>	<u>245,453</u>

Deferred income relates to grant and subscription income, whereby subscribers pay an annual fee.

Accruals and deferred income include deferred income of £149,867 (2024: £254,888) which will be released into the Statement of Financial Activities during the year ended 31 December 2025.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans	<u>27,779</u>	<u>33,334</u>	<u>27,779</u>	<u>33,334</u>
	<u>27,779</u>	<u>33,334</u>	<u>27,779</u>	<u>33,334</u>

12. LOANS - CONSOLIDATED

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans – less than 1 year	<u>5,556</u>	<u>5,556</u>
Bank loans - 1-2 years	<u>5,556</u>	<u>5,556</u>
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>16,667</u>	<u>16,667</u>
Bank loans more than 5 years by instalment	5,556	11,111

The Group took out a Bounce Back Loan on 16 November 2020. Interest is payable at 2.5% per annum. The loan is repayable by instalments and is due to be fully repaid 10 years after initial drawdown.

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CONSOLIDATED

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	344,248	(93,246)	251,002
	<u>344,248</u>	<u>(93,246)</u>	<u>251,002</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>344,248</u>	<u>(93,246)</u>	<u>251,002</u>
Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:			
	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	527,284	(620,530)	(93,246)
	<u>527,284</u>	<u>(620,530)</u>	<u>(93,246)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>527,284</u>	<u>(620,530)</u>	<u>(93,246)</u>
Comparatives for movement in funds			
	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	139,312	204,936	344,248
	<u>139,312</u>	<u>204,936</u>	<u>344,248</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>139,312</u>	<u>204,936</u>	<u>344,248</u>
Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:			
	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,145,069	(940,133)	204,936
	<u>1,145,069</u>	<u>(940,133)</u>	<u>204,936</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,145,069</u>	<u>(940,133)</u>	<u>204,936</u>

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – PARENT CHARITY

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	567,250	65,798	633,048
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>567,250</u>	<u>65,798</u>	<u>633,048</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	353,448	(287,650)	65,798
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>353,448</u>	<u>(287,650)</u>	<u>65,798</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	474,730	92,520	567,250
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>474,730</u>	<u>92,520</u>	<u>567,250</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	339,449	(246,929)	92,520
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>339,449</u>	<u>(246,929)</u>	<u>92,520</u>

**THE BRITISH CONTACT LENS ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year ended 31 December 2024 the Group incurred administration expenses of £5,120 (2023: £nil) from SB Squared Limited, a company in which the Group CEO, L D Stevens-Burt, is also a director.