

Charity Number: 511288  
Company Registration Number: 01535327

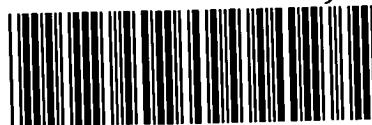
**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND**

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

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

MONDAY



\*ACIMY1JC\*

A26

18/12/2023

#218

COMPANIES HOUSE

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

## CONTENTS

---

	<b>Pages</b>
Charity reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report (including directors' report)	2-20
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	21
Independent Examiner's report	22-23
Statement of financial activities	24
Balance sheet	25-26
Cash flow statement	27
Notes to the financial statements	28-50

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

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

---

### Legal and administrative information

**Charity registration number** 511288

**Company Registration Number** 01535327

**Trustees**

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

**Company secretary** M J Conroy

**President** L Jackson OBE

**Registered office** 10 – 12 Carlton Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 1NN

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

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

HSBC Bank plc  
26 Clumber Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 3GA

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

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

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

---

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

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

### **Trustees of the charity**

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

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

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Legal status and governing documents**

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

### **Appointment of trustees**

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

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

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

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

### **Trustee recruitment, induction and training**

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

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

### **Organisation**

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

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

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

---

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

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

### **Management team**

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

### **Remuneration of key management personnel**

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

### **Umbrella body**

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

### **Related parties**

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

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

### **Risk management**

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising of:

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

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

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

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Objectives and activities**

The objects of the charity are:

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

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

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

---

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

### **Vision:**

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

### **Statement of purpose**

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

### **Strategy**

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

### **The key principles of My Sight Notts' strategy:**

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



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

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

---

### **My Sight Notts' Services**

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

#### **Low Vision Advice:**

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

#### **Support Centre and Mobile Equipment Advice and Support Service:**

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

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

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

#### **Technology classes and home tuition**

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

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

#### **Shared Vision**

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

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

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

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

#### **Hospital Based Support**

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

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

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

#### **Befriending, Tele-befriending and My Guide Services**

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

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

#### **Social groups and activities**

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

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

#### **Sports and healthy lifestyle services**

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

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

#### **Arts and Choir**

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

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

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

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

---

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

### **Talking News**

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

### **For Professionals**

**Accessibility audits, training, transcriptions, Digital Accessibility Group.**

#### **Accessibility Audits**

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

#### **Sight Loss Awareness Training**

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

#### **Transcription**

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

#### **Digital Accessibility Group**

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

#### **Volunteering**

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

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

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

### Service development

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

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

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

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

### Spotlight on The Bigger Picture:

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

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

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

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

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

---

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

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Practical support**

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

#### **Technology and Equipment:**

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

In 2022/2023:

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

#### **Outcomes for Practical Support**

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

#### **Emotional Support**

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

#### **Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO)**

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

In 2022/2023:

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

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

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

---

### **Shared Vision**

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

In 2022/2023:

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

### **Counselling**

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

In 2022/2023:

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

### **My Guide Befriending Service**

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

In 2022/2023:

- We supported 26 My Guide partnerships

### **Outcomes for Emotional Support**

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

### **Social Activities, Arts and Sports**

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

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

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

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



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

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

---

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

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

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

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

### **Outcomes**

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

### **For Professionals**

#### **Transcriptions**

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

#### **Digital Accessibility Group**

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

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

#### **Training**

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

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

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

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

---

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

### **Accessibility Audits**

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

### **Fundraising**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

### **Other donations and gifts – income £28,340**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Engagement**

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

### **Financial review**

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

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

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

### **Plans for future periods**

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

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

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

### **Pension liabilities**

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

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

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

### **Reserves policy**

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

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

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

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

---

### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

In so far as we are aware:

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

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



M Conroy  
Company Secretary

Date: 3.11.23

Charity registration number: 511288  
Company registration number: 01535327

---

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

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

---

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

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

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

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

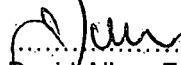
- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give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

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

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

---

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

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

14 Park Row  
Nottingham  
NG1 6GR

Date: 3/1/23.....



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

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		2023			2022				
Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowm ent funds £	Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	2	121,121	105,427	-	226,548	342,903	5,050	-	347,953
Charitable activities	3	50,833	-	-	50,833	27,632	-	-	27,632
Other trading activities	4	99,425	-	-	99,425	85,211	-	-	85,211
Investments	5	3,771	-	-	3,771	2,952	-	-	2,952
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>275,150</b>	<b>105,427</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>380,577</b>	<b>458,698</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>463,748</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>									
Raising funds	6	155,094	-	-	155,094	150,945	-	-	150,945
Charitable activities	7	413,535	83,004	-	496,539	350,271	59,867	-	410,138
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>568,629</b>	<b>83,004</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>651,633</b>	<b>501,216</b>	<b>59,867</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>561,083</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		<b>(293,479)</b>	<b>22,423</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(271,056)</b>	<b>(42,518)</b>	<b>(54,817)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(97,335)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(293,479)</b>	<b>22,423</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(271,056)</b>	<b>(42,518)</b>	<b>(54,817)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(97,335)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward	26	489,495	43,403	-	532,898	532,013	98,220	-	630,233
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	26	<b>196,016</b>	<b>65,826</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>261,842</b>	<b>489,495</b>	<b>43,403</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>532,898</b>

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

The notes on pages 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

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

**BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	16		40,934		50,927
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock		7,430		7,406	
Debtors	17	26,650		19,266	
Cash at bank and in hand		215,569		495,371	
		<u>249,649</u>		<u>522,043</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	(22,870)		(30,862)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>226,779</u>		<u>491,181</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			267,713		542,108
<b>Provisions for liabilities</b>	19	(5,871)		(9,210)	
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>261,842</u>		<u>532,898</u>
<b>Charity funds:</b>					
Unrestricted funds	26	196,016		489,495	
Restricted funds	26	65,826		43,403	
Endowment funds	26	-		-	
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<u>261,842</u>		<u>532,898</u>

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

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

---

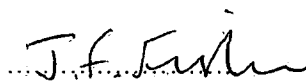
For the year ended 31 March 2023, the charitable company was entitled to audit exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue at the Annual General Meeting and were signed on its behalf on 3.11.23.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

  
J Fisher  
Chair

Date: 3 | 11 | 23

Charity registration number: 511288  
Company registration number: 01535327

The notes on page 27 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

---

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

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	22	(286,116)		(115,554)	
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>			<u>(286,116)</u>		<u>(115,554)</u>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(413)		(582)	
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		2,956		96	
Interest received		<u>3,771</u>		<u>2,952</u>	
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>			<u>6,314</u>		<u>2,466</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>			<u>(279,802)</u>		<u>(113,088)</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year</b>			495,371		608,459
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			<u>215,569</u>		<u>495,371</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents consists of:</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand			215,569		495,371
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>			<u>215,569</u>		<u>495,371</u>

The notes on page 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

---

### 1 Summary of significant accounting policies

#### (a) General information and basis of preparation

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

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

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

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

#### (b) Funds

##### **Unrestricted funds**

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

##### **Designated funds**

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

##### **Restricted funds**

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

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

---

### (b) Funds (continued)

#### ***Endowment funds***

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

### (c) Income recognition

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

---

### (d) Expenditure recognition

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

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

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

### (e) Support costs allocation

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

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

The analysis of these costs is included in note 10.

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

---

### (f) Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

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

### (g) Stocks

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

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

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

### (i) Provisions

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

### (j) Leases

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

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



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

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

---

### **(k) Employee benefits**

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

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

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

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

### **(l) Tax**

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

### **(m) Going concern**

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

The trustees are actively working with staff to manage and mitigate the impact to COVID-19 on the company's operations. On review currently the trustees do not consider there to be a significant impact on their ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future. The company is continually reviewing and monitoring the expected impact of COVID-19 and should it have any impact on the value of their assets and liabilities this will be recognised in the accounting period to which it relates.

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
			<b>Total £</b>			<b>Total £</b>		
Donations and gifts	27,107	1,233	-	28,340	25,144	50	-	25,194
Legacies	93,264	-	-	93,264	242,622	-	-	242,622
Grants	750	104,194	-	104,944	75,137	5,000	-	80,137
	121,121	105,427	-	226,548	342,903	5,050	-	347,953

**3 Income from charitable activities**

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
			<b>Total £</b>			<b>Total £</b>		
Sale of visual aids and equipment	32,259	-	-	32,259	27,192	-	-	27,192
Sale of transcription services	249	-	-	249	440	-	-	440
Sale of training services	17,500	-	-	17,500	-	-	-	-
Sale of accessibility services	825	-	-	825	-	-	-	-
	50,833	-	-	50,833	27,632	-	-	27,632

**4 Income from other trading activities**

	2023			2022				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
			<b>Total £</b>			<b>Total £</b>		
Fundraising events	5,959	-	-	5,959	7,649	-	-	7,649
Shop income	84,107	-	-	84,107	76,281	-	-	76,281
Other	9,359	-	-	9,359	1,281	-	-	1,281
	99,425	-	-	99,425	85,211	-	-	85,211

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**5 Income from investments**

	2023				2022			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest received	3,771	-	-	3,771	2,952	-	-	2,952
	<u>3,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,771</u>	<u>2,952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,952</u>

**6 Expenditure on raising funds**

	Note	2023				2022			
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff training		106	-	-	106	-	-	-	-
Motor and travel		551	-	-	551	496	-	-	496
Sundry expenses		4,285	-	-	4,285	6,724	-	-	6,724
Computer costs		455	-	-	455	446	-	-	446
Insurance		1,843	-	-	1,843	1,791	-	-	1,791
Light, heat and power		2,160	-	-	2,160	4,001	-	-	4,001
Rates		1,408	-	-	1,408	719	-	-	719
Rent		27,131	-	-	27,131	26,536	-	-	26,536
Water rates		505	-	-	505	457	-	-	457
Repairs and maintenance		101	-	-	101	77	-	-	77
Telephone and fax		750	-	-	750	717	-	-	717
Advertising and publicity		459	-	-	459	-	-	-	-
Wages and salaries	12	102,134	-	-	102,134	96,959	-	-	96,959
Social security costs	12	9,215	-	-	9,215	8,204	-	-	8,204
Staff pensions	12	3,934	-	-	3,934	3,687	-	-	3,687
Printing, postage and stationery		58	-	-	58	131	-	-	131
		<u>155,094</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,094</u>	<u>150,945</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,945</u>

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**7 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	Note	2023			2022			Total £	
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £		
Staff training		3,959	36	-	3,395	-	1,350	-	1,350
Motor and travel		14,000	3,042	-	17,042	12,912	1,363	-	14,275
Sundry expenses		12,524	1,543	-	14,067	6,586	3,179	-	9,765
Computer costs		2,291	509	-	2,800	4,065	-	-	4,065
Insurance		15,274	-	-	15,274	15,186	-	-	15,186
Light, heat and power		5,806	-	-	5,806	6,539	153	-	6,692
Rent		27,346	470	-	27,816	25,216	3,658	-	28,874
Water rates		726	-	-	726	613	20	-	633
Repairs and maintenance		5,372	-	-	5,372	3,946	-	-	3,946
Telephone and fax		9,977	1,018	-	10,995	10,204	568	-	10,772
Advertising and publicity		5,399	964	-	6,363	4,750	-	-	4,750
Purchases		28,370	-	-	28,370	22,388	-	-	22,388
Wages and salaries	12	237,886	67,565	-	305,451	216,213	45,795	-	262,008
Social security costs	12	15,476	4,610	-	20,086	13,752	2,025	-	15,777
Staff pensions	12	11,388	3,247	-	14,635	11,063	1,756	-	12,819
Pension provision		4,031	-	-	4,031	(21,159)	-	-	(21,159)
Printing, postage and stationery		4,126	-	-	4,126	-	-	-	5,076
Bank charges		1,139	-	-	1,139	1,187	-	-	1,187
Depreciation	16	7,906	-	-	7,906	8,539	-	-	8,539
(Profit) or loss on disposal of fixed assets		(2,956)	-	-	(2,956)	45	-	-	45
Governance costs	11	4,096	-	-	4,096	2,999	-	-	2,999
Bad and doubtful debts		-	-	-	-	151	-	-	151
		413,535	83,004	-	496,539	350,271	59,867	-	410,138

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**8 Analysis of expenditure**

	Note	2023			2022			Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	
Raising funds	6	155,094	-	-	150,945	-	-	150,945
Charitable activities	7	413,535	83,004	-	350,271	59,867	-	410,138
		568,629	83,004	-	501,216	59,867	-	561,083

Split into direct and support costs:

	Note	2023			2022		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Direct costs	9	39,753	138,025	177,779	41,964	122,847	164,811
Support costs	10	115,341	358,513	473,854	108,981	287,291	396,272
		155,094	496,539	651,633	150,945	410,138	561,083

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**9 Direct costs**

	2023			2022		
	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Staff training	106	3,395	3,501	-	1,350	1,350
Motor and travel	551	17,042	17,594	496	14,275	14,771
Sundry expenses	4,285	14,067	18,352	6,724	9,765	16,489
Computer costs	455	2,800	3,255	446	4,065	4,511
Insurance	1,843	15,274	17,116	1,791	15,186	16,977
Light, heat and power	2,160	5,806	7,967	4,001	6,692	10,693
Rates	1,408	-	1,408	719	-	719
Rent	27,131	27,816	54,946	26,536	28,874	55,410
Water rates	505	726	1,230	457	633	1,090
Repairs and maintenance	101	5,372	5,473	77	3,946	4,023
Telephone and fax	750	10,995	11,745	717	10,772	11,489
Advertising and publicity	459	6,363	6,821	-	4,750	4,750
Purchases	-	28,370	28,370	-	22,388	22,388
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	151	151
	<b>39,753</b>	<b>138,025</b>	<b>177,779</b>	<b>41,964</b>	<b>122,847</b>	<b>164,811</b>

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**10 Support costs**

	Note	2023			2022		
		Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total £
Wages & salaries	12	102,134	305,451	407,585	96,959	262,008	358,967
Social security costs	12	9,215	20,086	29,301	8,204	15,777	23,981
Staff pensions	12	3,934	14,635	18,569	3,687	12,819	16,506
Pension provision			4,031	4,031	-	(21,159)	(21,159)
Printing, postage & stationery		58	4,126	4,184	131	5,022	5,153
Legal & professional		-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges		-	1,139	1,139	-	1,187	1,187
Depreciation		-	7,906	7,906	-	8,593	8,593
Profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	(2,956)	(2,956)	-	45	45
Governance costs	11	-	4,096	4,096	-	2,999	2,999
		<u>115,341</u>	<u>358,513</u>	<u>473,854</u>	<u>108,981</u>	<u>287,291</u>	<u>396,272</u>

**11 Governance costs**

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fees	4,096	2,999
	<u>4,096</u>	<u>2,999</u>

**12 Staff costs and employee benefits**

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

	Number	2023 FTE	Number	2022 FTE
Administration	4	3	4	4
Services	13	9	10	7
Fundraising	3	3	4	3
	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 12 Staff costs and employee benefits (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	407,574	358,967
Social security	29,301	23,981
Defined contribution pension costs	18,569	16,506
	<u>455,444</u>	<u>399,454</u>

One employee (2022 – none) received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) between £60,000 - £70,000. No employees received employee benefits greater than £70,000.

### 13 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or had expenses reimbursed during the year (2022 – £nil).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £138,694 (2022 – £128,712). The highest paid employee received remuneration of £65,915 (excluding employer pension costs).

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

### 14 Independent Examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration includes an independent examination fee of £4,096 (2022 – £2,999).

### 15 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16	10,406	11,092
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible fixed assets		(2,956)	45
Operating lease rentals	20	41,501	40,957
Independent examiner's remuneration	11	4,096	2,999
		<u>45,047</u>	<u>55,093</u>



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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**16 Tangible fixed assets**

	Short term leasehold improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation:</b>					
At 1 April 2022	56,740	71,643	6,306	32,802	167,491
Additions	-	-	413	-	413
Disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
At 31 March 2023	56,740	71,643	6,719	28,552	163,654
<b>Depreciation:</b>					
At 1 April 2022	21,869	60,864	5,611	28,220	116,564
Charge for the year	5,674	1,611	622	2,500	10,407
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
At 31 March 2023	27,543	62,475	6,233	26,470	122,721
<b>Net book value:</b>					
At 31 March 2023	29,197	9,168	486	2,082	40,933
At 31 March 2022	34,871	10,779	695	4,582	50,927

**17 Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	13,093	5,648
Prepayments and accrued income	13,557	13,618
	26,650	19,266

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	5,272	13,828
Taxation and social security	9,316	6,923
Other creditors	2,704	2,628
Accruals and deferred income	5,578	7,483
	22,870	30,862

**19 Provisions for liabilities**

	Defined benefit pension £	2023 Total £	Defined benefit pension £	2022 Total £
Provision brought forward	9,210	9,210	40,624	40,624
Interest expense	173	173	234	234
Deficit contributions paid	(3,345)	(3,345)	(10,280)	(10,280)
Re-measurement adjustment	(157)	(157)	(21,368)	(21,368)
Provision carried forward	5,871	5,871	9,210	9,210

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

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

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

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 19 Provisions for liabilities (continued)

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

### 20 Operating lease commitments

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year	25,160	38,458
Due within two to five years	100,000	100,160
Due after five years	16,667	41,667
	141,827	180,285

### 21 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

#### Defined contribution plans

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £18,569 (2022 – £16,506).

At the year end the balance owing was £2,690 (2022 – £2,615).

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net (expenditure) for the year	(271,056)	(97,335)
Interest receivable	(3,771)	(2,952)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	10,406	11,092
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(2,956)	45
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(24)	(257)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(7,384)	187
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(7,992)	5,080
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(3,339)	(31,414)
Net cash flow from operating activities	(286,116)	(115,554)

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**23 Change in net debt**

Current year	1 April 2022	Cash flows	Other non-	31 March 2023
	£	£	cash changes	£
Cash	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	495,371	(279,802)	-	215,569
<b>Comparative year</b>				
	1 April 2021	Cash flows	Other non-	31 March 2022
	£	£	cash changes	£
Cash	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371
	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
	608,459	(113,088)	-	495,371

**24 Related party transactions**

A director of the charity is a director of Requisite Investments Limited. During the year the charity incurred rental and insurance costs of £12,668 (2022 – £12,756) with the company. At the year end the balance owing was £nil (2022 – £nil).

**25 Company limited by guarantee**

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

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

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

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

---

#### **Restricted funds – Befriending My Guide**

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

#### **Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Building Connections**

Project will tackle loneliness and isolation experienced by many of the local VI community by creating opportunities for groups of individuals to share experiences. My Sight will provide a wide range of accessible activities, workshops, support and social opportunities that bring together groups of VI people over a positive experience. Activities will focus on building self-confidence and well-being and facilitating people to do things they enjoy. We need to be able to offer a range of social activities in order to have broad spectrum appeal. Most of the things we hope to deliver have been 'tried and tested' either by us or other groups and organisations we have learnt from.

This project will:

- Offer twice monthly drop in coffee mornings for visually impaired people, their friends and carers at our Nottingham City Hub.
- Develop our group and team focused sporting activities.
- Develop our choir and singing sessions.
- Deliver more arts workshops in different areas of the county.
- Offer peer support sessions in different areas of the county for VI people, their families and carers.
- We will develop peer support sessions that are specific to individual sight loss conditions. Sight loss conditions are quite diverse and affect people in different ways.

#### **Restricted funds – Big Lotteries – Peoples Project**

A Community Cafe at our Support Centre in Nottingham offering work experience and training to visually impaired visually impaired people, to work in and run the cafe as well as creating a friendly social space for visually impaired people to be able to get together, meet people and build connections.

The purpose of the cafe is therefore two-fold:

- It will offer a safe accessible training environment where visually impaired people can gain work experience in catering, customer service, cash handling, stock control and administration as well as learning important skills such as teamwork and communication. It will aim to build people's confidence and independence and provide a stepping stone in to employment.
  - The cafe will also provide a space for visually impaired people to get together, socialise and share experiences. A destination where people with sight loss feel safe, understood and part of a community. Many of the visually impaired people we work with feel lonely and socially isolated by their disability. We want to create a welcoming and accessible space where there is always someone to chat to.
-

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

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

---

### **Restricted funds – HEEM ELCO and Peer Support**

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

### **Restricted funds – Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project**

Funding from Big Lotteries for a 6-month project to provide equipment and technical support to enable isolated visually impaired people to access platforms such as Zoom to keep in touch with family and friends during Covid lockdowns and to use online shopping, banking etc.

### **Restricted funds – Newark Group**

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

### **Restricted funds – Building Accessibility / Smart Room**

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

### **Restricted funds - ECLO**

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

### **Restricted funds - Global Make Some Noise Tech Project**

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

### **Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Works for Me**

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

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

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

---

### **Restricted funds - Thomas Pocklington Internship**

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

### **Restricted funds - Support Centre**

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

### **Restricted funds - Shared Vision**

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

### **Restricted funds - Tandem Project**

Providing group tandem rides in partnership with Ridewise.

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**26 Movement in funds (continued)**

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



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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**26 Movement in funds (continued)**

<b>Comparative year</b>	<b>At 1 April 2021</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31 March 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>resources</b>	<b>resources</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>		
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
General fund ("free reserves")	248,789	458,698	(501,216)	(5,000)	201,271
<b>Designated funds</b>					
<i>Investments</i>	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
<i>Heathcoat Street reinstatement</i>	15,000	-	-	5,000	20,000
<i>IT support for Nottinghamshire</i>	8,224	-	-	-	8,224
<i>Counselling service</i>	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds 2022</b>	<b>532,013</b>	<b>458,698</b>	<b>(501,216)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>489,495</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Thursday Group	1,528	50	(57)	-	1,521
Talking Newspaper	1,808	-	(66)	-	1,742
Sight Matters	1,355	-	-	-	1,355
Big Lotteries – Reaching Communities	11,588	-	(4,184)	-	7,404
Emotional and Peer Support	7,014	-	(7,014)	-	-
Befriending My Guide	8,533	5,000	(12,296)	-	1,237
Big Lotteries – Building Connections	8,015	-	(8,015)	-	-
Big Lotteries – Peoples Project	19,563	-	(19,563)	-	-
HEEM ECLO and Peer Support	32,000	-	(7,411)	-	24,589
Big Lotteries Covid Tech Project	1,181	-	(1,181)	-	-
Newark Group	1,694	-	(80)	-	1,614
Building Accessibility / Smart Room	3,941	-	-	-	3,941
<b>Total restricted funds 2022</b>	<b>98,220</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>(59,867)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,403</b>
<b>Endowment funds:</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total endowment funds 2022</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total funds 2022</b>	<b>630,233</b>	<b>463,748</b>	<b>(561,083)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>532,898</b>

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**28 Analysis of funds**

**Current year**

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

**Comparative year**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	46,344	4,583	-	50,927
Cash and current investments	478,640	43,403	-	522,043
Other current liabilities	(26,279)	(4,583)	-	(30,862)
Provisions	(9,210)	-	-	(9,210)
	489,495	43,403	-	532,898

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**28 Analysis of funds**

**Current year**

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

**Comparative year**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	46,344	4,583	-	50,927
Cash and current investments	478,640	43,403	-	522,043
Other current liabilities	(26,279)	(4,583)	-	(30,862)
Provisions	(9,210)	-	-	(9,210)
	489,495	43,403	-	532,898