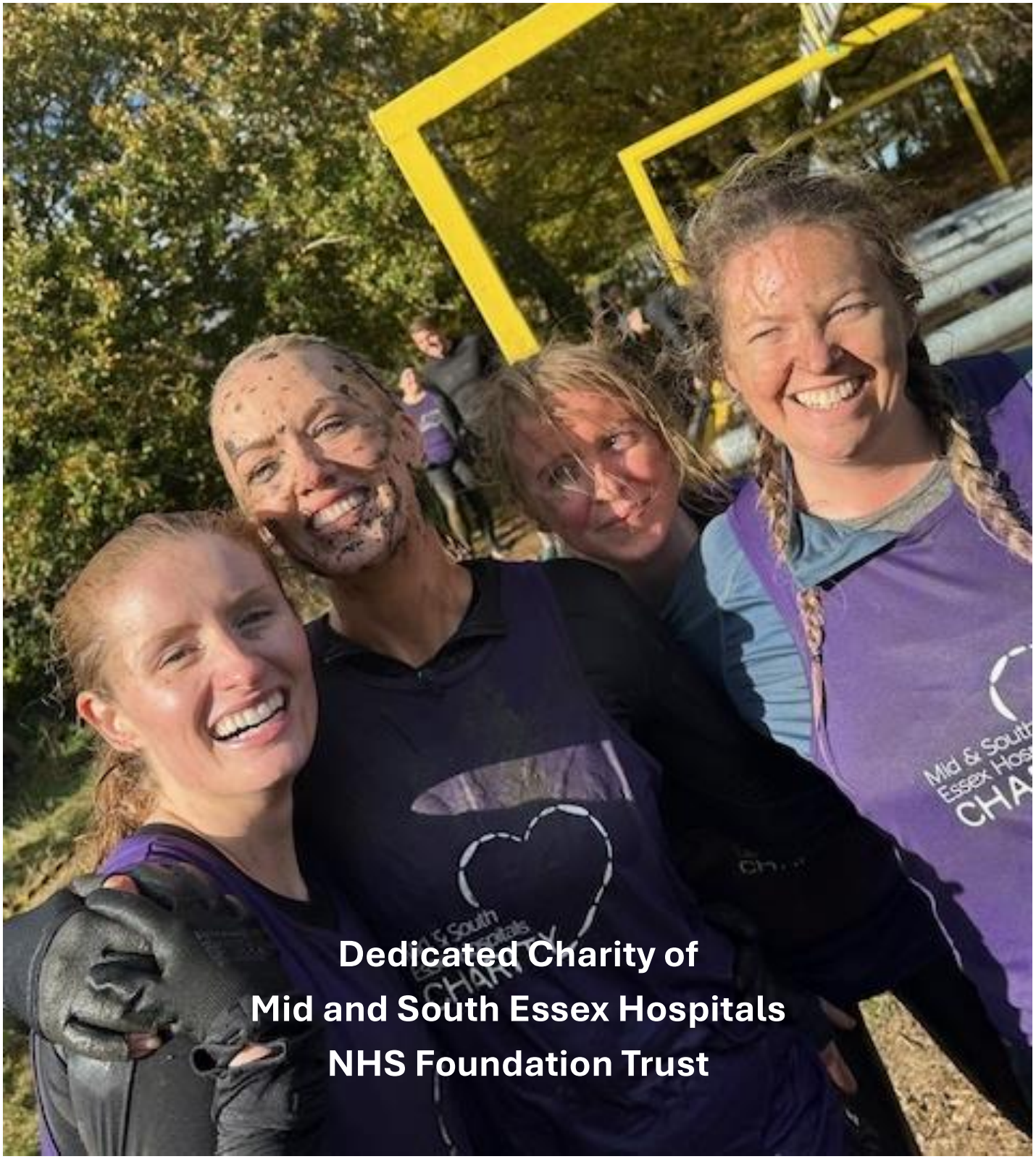
Annual Report
2025 – 26

Mid & South Essex Hospitals CHARITY

Registered Charity No: 1057266



Dedicated Charity of
Mid and South Essex Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

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Glossary of terms

Corporate Trustee

The Trustee of Mid & South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity is the corporate body of Mid & South Essex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Charitable Funds Committee

The Charitable Funds Committee is constituted as a standing committee of, and accountable to, the Board of Directors, as agents of the Corporate Trustee.

The Committee has delegated authority which is outlined in the Scheme of Delegation, and this is in line with the Trustee Act 2000, section 11. The Corporate Trustee may review and alter any aspect of the delegation. Acting for the Corporate Trustee, the Charitable Funds Committee is responsible for the overall management of the Charitable Fund.

Restricted Fund

A Restricted Fund is a fund that holds income and/or capital which can only be applied for specific purposes. The restriction will be imposed by the donor at the point of the donation.

Unrestricted Fund

An Unrestricted fund is a fund that can be spent at the Trustee's discretion in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

Designated Funds

A designated fund constitutes unrestricted fund monies that have been allocated by the Corporate Trustee for a particular purpose. This is for administrative purposes only and does not legally restrict Trustee's discretion to apply the monies in this way.

Endowment Funds

There are two types of endowment fund - One is a permanent endowment fund which the charity cannot spend as income; - it must be invested to produce income for the charity which is then spent in accordance with the purpose of the charity or used in the activities of the charity. The other type is an expendable endowment fund, which can be spent but differs from donated income as there is no requirement to spend the capital until the Trustee wishes to. Until then it must be invested to create income which is then spent for the purposes of the charity within a reasonable amount of time.

General Purpose Fund

It is a fund that holds unrestricted monies which have not been designated by the Corporate Trustee.

Fund Holder

A person approved by the Charitable Funds Committee to have delegated responsibility as outlined in the Foundation Trust's Standing Financial Instructions and Scheme of Delegation.

Grant

A grant is a voluntary payment (or other transfer of property) in favour of a person or institution. Grant payments, when made by a charity, are any such payments made in furtherance to its objects.

Income

Income is all resources which become available to a charity, including contributions to endowment funds but excluding gains and losses on investment assets. Total income includes all trading and investment income, legacies, donations, grants, and gains from disposal of fixed assets for use by the charity.

Legacy

Money or property bequeathed to another by will.

Reserves Policy

A policy required by the Charity Commission to ensure a charity can justify the level of reserves held, so that it is not seen to be 'hoarding' but also has significant reserves to continue its objectives over the long term.

Resources Expended

All costs incurred while expending or utilising the charity’s funds.

Foreword by Lucy Thomas-Clayton, Director of Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity

Welcome to the Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity Annual Report for 2025/26.

Our charity proudly supports the vital work of the Mid & South Essex NHS Foundation Trust (MSEFT), making a real difference to patients, families, and staff across the region.

This year has been one of remarkable progress, heartfelt generosity, and renewed ambition for Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity. Despite the ongoing pressures of the cost-of-living crisis, our community has continued to stand with us, demonstrating extraordinary kindness and commitment to improving patient care across our hospitals. Because of you, 2025/26 has been a year defined by innovation and impact.

One of our proudest milestones was the opening of the Helena Woolley Research Suite, a transformative space that will accelerate clinical research and enhance outcomes for patients for years to come. We also celebrated the successful closure of the Spotlight Radiotherapy Appeal, which raised an incredible £920,000. This achievement reflects the power of collective generosity and the belief our supporters share in advancing cancer care.

This year's key achievements include:

- Opened the Helena Woolley Research Suite, expanding research capacity across the Trust
- Successfully completed the Spotlight Radiotherapy Appeal, raising £920k
- Launched a new Grants programme.
- Implemented a new supporter database to strengthen community engagement
- Delivered a full calendar of well attended fundraising events, despite economic pressures
- Supported numerous patient-centred projects and enhancements across Mid and South Essex hospitals
- Increased volunteer involvement and strengthened partnerships with local organisations.

None of this success would have been possible without our generous, compassionate, and dedicated community. Your support ensures that we can continue to enhance patient care, fund pioneering research, and provide comfort where it is needed most.

A special thank you must also go to our incredible charity staff and volunteers. Their passion, expertise, and tireless behind-the-scenes work make every achievement in this

report possible. Together, we are making a lasting difference for patients, families, and staff across Mid and South Essex.

Thank you for being at the heart of everything we do.



Aashish Khadia

Chair of Charitable Funds Committee



Lucy Thomas-Clayton

Director of Charities & Voluntary Services

Trustee Report

The Trustee presents its annual report and the financial statements audited by the independent auditor for the year ending 31 March 2026, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practices (FRS102).

Who we are?

Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity is a registered charity (Registered Number 1057266).

We exist to receive donations for the benefit of staff and patients of MSEFT. By securing donations, legacies, and sponsorship, we can enhance the care provided for patients, their families, and the staff who look after them.

MSEFT serves a population of 1.2 million Essex residents. It is an extremely busy hospital group, providing a wide range of acute services and offering specialist services in cancer, cardiac and burns care.

We would like you to support us in our crucial work so please read on and let us tell you more about ourselves, what we do, what we have achieved, and how we go about spending the money given to us.

Our mission

In the Charity's Governing Document, the Charitable Object is: 'For any charitable purposes relating to the National Health Service'.

We achieve this by raising new money and careful management of our existing funds. The Charity provides public benefit by making grants to MSEFT and the organisations it works in partnership with in order to:

'Make a real difference to the health and wellbeing of patients, their families and the staff who treat them. To provide support for innovation, education, and care.'

Grants are made in accordance with charity law, our constitution, and the wishes and directions of donors. In making grants, we endeavour to reflect the wishes of patients and staff by directing funds towards areas they tell us are most in need. During the year 2025/26 grants totalling £1.1 million were made. When considering where to focus our attention our Corporate Trustee's Board and, particularly, the members of the Charitable Funds Committee have regard to the Charity Commission of England and Wales's guidance on public benefit and what this means for the Charity.

Our plans are to continue to increase our level of charitable income and enable us to work with our NHS partners to transform the health prospects for patients in our community.

What we have achieved: highlights from the activities undertaken in the year

Our mission is to serve the NHS patients of MSEFT for public benefit. By funding education, services, and equipment we aim to provide care for patients which go above and beyond that which are funded by the state.

We proudly work with the NHS, to assist patients from every walk of life, irrespective of race, disability, creed, ethnicity or personal or family financial circumstances. We put this aim into practice by helping the patients, their families and carers, and visitors to the hospital by:

Enhancing care, we provide new equipment and building improvements to deliver better facilities to our partner hospitals.

Investing in people, we create caring environments for NHS staff, patients, their families and visitors supporting those who work in the NHS in MSEFT.

Direct Patient support, we offer information, networking support and improved facilities to directly benefit patients.

All of this is made possible through a range of projects funded by you, our generous donors. Below you'll find highlights of the main activities undertaken this year. Showcasing the incredible difference, we can make together, both now and in the future.

Our charity has been a pillar of support for hospital staff who have worked tirelessly to keep the public safe under challenging circumstances. We are forever grateful for the unwavering support from our volunteers, fantastic fundraising, generous donors, and NHS Charities Together.

Health and Wellbeing



At the heart of our hospitals are the extraordinary people who care for our communities every single day. Their dedication, compassion, and resilience continue to inspire us, and supporting their wellbeing remains one of our most important priorities. This year, Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity has proudly invested in a range of initiatives designed to recognise, celebrate, and care for our NHS colleagues.



We continued our commitment to honouring staff achievements through funding our monthly Values Awards, shining a light on individuals and teams who embody the Trust's core values in everything they do. We were also delighted to support the Long Service Awards, recognising the remarkable dedication of colleagues who have devoted many years to caring for patients across Mid and South Essex.



A standout moment of the year was the Shine Awards, our annual celebration of excellence across the Trust. This inspiring event brings together staff from all disciplines to recognise outstanding contributions, innovation, and compassionate care. Our charity is proud to help make this celebration possible, ensuring our NHS teams receive the recognition they truly deserve.

Highlights of the year

Music of the World Concert doubles fundraising goal for Prostate Cancer Research



A packed audience at the Radisson Park Inn, Southend, helped raise an extraordinary £20,000 for the Prostate Cancer Research Fund at Southend Hospital during the Music of the World concert in October 2025 an achievement that doubled the original fundraising target.

The event celebrated a rich variety of musical traditions, spanning classical, jazz, folk, Indian and pop. It was organised by Trevor Taylor and Tom Gough two local men living with prostate cancer - together with their consultant, Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, Clinical Oncologist at Southend Hospital.

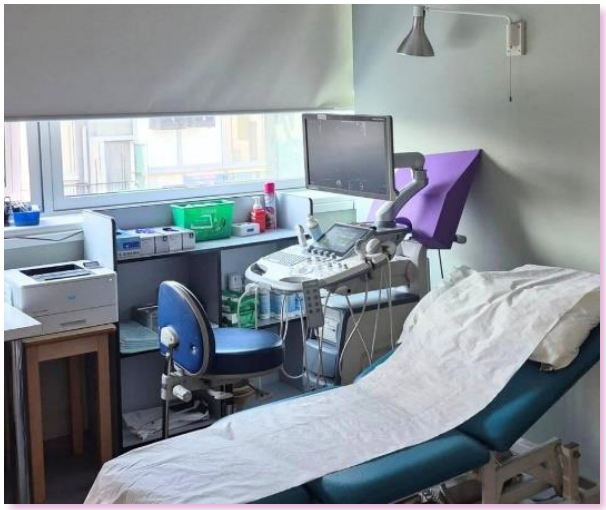
Trevor, 78, and Tom, 71, both lifelong musicians, took to the stage themselves. Trevor performed on bass with jazz group Mandala Jazz, while Tom sang with the Southend Bach Choir. Dr Ahmed also joined the line-up, performing with Anandadhara, a South Asian music ensemble.

The concert brought together an impressive range of performers, including the Leigh Orpheus Male Choir, The Ondines, singer Lele Bizzcola, and jazz vocalist Catherine Lima. Their collective talent and generosity created an evening that resonated deeply with everyone present.

Reflecting on the impact of the event, Dr Ahmed said: “This kind of support allows us to push forward with life-saving work. Research gives hope – and saves lives.”

The success of the concert not only showcased the power of community spirit but also provided vital support for pioneering treatment and research at Southend Hospital throughout 2025–26.

Charity funded refurbishment transforms maternity ultrasound rooms



During 2025–26, we were proud to fund the full modernisation of three maternity ultrasound rooms at Basildon Hospital, made possible through a £15,000 grant from Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity.

These rooms, which had remained unchanged since the 1960s, were completely refurbished and transformed into bright, modern and welcoming spaces offering a significantly improved experience for expectant parents and the staff who care for them.

The refurbishment marked an important first step in a wider programme of planned improvements for the maternity unit. We were delighted to support this essential upgrade, helping create an environment that better reflects the high standard of care provided.

Charitable funding enhances thoracic patient recovery

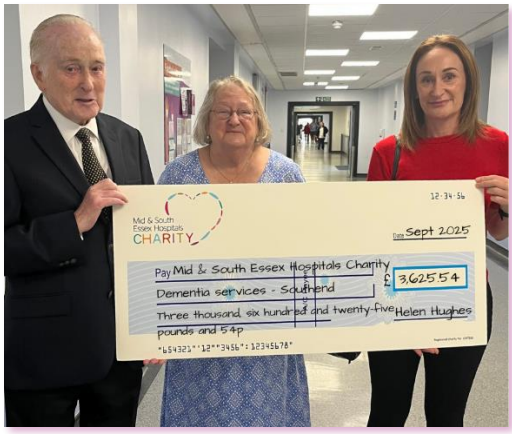


We were proud to provide £4,000 to support a new prehabilitation and rehabilitation programme for thoracic surgery patients at Basildon's Cardiothoracic Centre.

The funding enabled the purchase of five smartwatches and two specialist exercise bikes for use on Chelmer Ward, supporting patients to build physical resilience before surgery and recover more effectively afterwards. Prehabilitation and rehabilitation are particularly important for thoracic patients, helping to improve outcomes and reduce complications following complex lung procedures.

Initially piloted with five patients, the programme aims to expand to support up to 30 patients, using a personalised, data-informed approach to enhance recovery and independence.

Dedicated supporter runs 100km for Dementia services



In May, Helen Hughes completed the gruelling 100km Brighton Ultra Challenge, finishing the London to Brighton route in just over 14 hours. She undertook the challenge in support of Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity, raising vital funds for Dementia services at Southend Hospital, a cause close to her heart following her father Arthur's dementia diagnosis in 2023.

Motivated by her family's experience, Helen trained for months and openly shared her personal story to raise awareness. Her efforts raised an impressive £3,625, with additional support from her mother Geraldine, who contributed £350 through a fundraising afternoon tea.

Helen had been a dedicated supporter of the charity since 2020, when she volunteered during the COVID-19 pandemic. She had since continued fundraising and volunteering, even travelling long distances. Her commitment helped enhance dementia care by funding resources that improved patient comfort and reduced anxiety for those receiving treatment.

A visionary leap forward in Cancer Research

A cutting-edge £430,000 cancer research suite; the first of its kind for Mid and South Essex opened its doors, marking a major milestone in the region's fight against cancer. This pioneering facility was made possible thanks to the remarkable generosity of Helena Woolley of Thundersley, Benfleet, who, in 2018, made the heartfelt decision to leave a sizeable portion of her estate to Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity.



Her legacy brought to life The Helena Woolley Research Suite, located on Elizabeth Loury Ward at Southend Hospital. As the Trust's first dedicated inpatient cancer research suite, it stood as a powerful testament to how one person's foresight and kindness could spark lasting change advancing research, expanding clinical opportunities, and offering renewed hope to patients across mid and south Essex.

Donation funds new Neonatal milk kitchen at Basildon Hospital

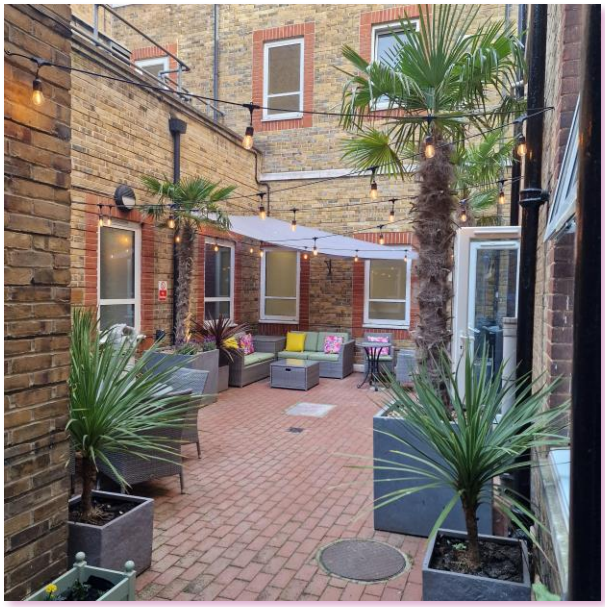


A £9,000 donation from parents Danielle and Chris Batley is set to fund a dedicated milk kitchen for Basildon Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The donation was inspired by their daughter Iris's ten-week stay in the NICU following her premature birth.

The new milk kitchen will provide a safe, fully equipped space where parents can independently clean, sterilise and prepare feeding equipment, supporting their involvement in their baby's care while freeing up valuable nursing time.

Funds were raised through a charity golf day and a community open day at the family's flower fields. Work on the milk kitchen will begin in 2026, helping to improve the experience of families with babies receiving specialist neonatal care.

Memorial garden provides peaceful space at Southend Hospital



In memory of Sue Marney, who died in December 2023 aged 59, her family worked with Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity to transform the courtyard of the Elizabeth Loury Ward at Southend Hospital into a welcoming garden space.

Designed by Sue's husband Ron, the refurbished garden features palm trees, colourful planting, lighting and a sculpture, creating a peaceful environment for patients, families and staff. The garden was officially opened in April 2025 celebrating Sue's life and the compassionate care she received on the ward.

The new space offers a calm retreat away from the clinical environment, providing comfort and reflection for those using the cancer care ward while honouring Sue's legacy.

Noah's Big Charity transforms care for our tiniest patients



A remarkable act of generosity helped transform care for the tiniest and most vulnerable patients at Basildon Hospital this year. Thanks to an incredible donation of over £33,000 from Noah's Big Charity, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) gained groundbreaking new equipment that elevated training, strengthened clinical confidence, and enhanced outcomes for premature and critically ill babies.

The centrepiece of this gift was an advanced newborn simulation manikin, a highly sophisticated training tool capable of replicating real newborn physiology. It breathed, cried, and displayed vital signs with astonishing realism, enabling NICU nurses and doctors to rehearse complex emergency scenarios in a completely safe environment. Alongside this, the charity also funded a Video Laryngoscope, giving clinicians a clearer, more precise view during vital airway procedures—an essential advantage when every second counts.

This transformative donation built on more than a decade of unwavering support from Noah's Big Charity. Founded by Richard and Lydia Hobden in memory of their son Noah—born 15 weeks early, weighing just 1lb 15oz, and cared for at Basildon's NICU before he sadly passed away at 91 days old—the charity's continued commitment has created a legacy of hope. Their dedication ensured that Noah's story would go on to strengthen care for countless families facing the most difficult of beginnings.

Celebrating our mud loving staff at Broomfield Hospital

An extraordinary group of NHS staff supported by some equally determined family members stepped far outside their comfort zones this year and straight into the mud. Colleagues from Broomfield Hospital's stroke wards, Emergency Department, and other frontline services took on the notoriously tough Nuclear Race, swapping their scrubs for sports gear and pushing themselves through obstacles, freezing water, and endless mud. Their mission was simple but powerful: to raise vital funds to help patients stay active and prevent deconditioning during their hospital stay.



Their grit and teamwork paid off. Together, they raised an impressive £3,000, funds that directly supported patients at risk of losing mobility, strength, and independence both in hospital and on their journey back home.

This incredible fundraising effort enabled staff to access specialist equipment, activity resources, and enhanced training that go beyond standard NHS funding. These tools helped patients stay mobile, build confidence, and maintain dignity throughout their recovery. From stroke rehabilitation to elderly care, the impact was tangible supporting people to regain strength not just for their hospital stay, but for life beyond it.

What made this achievement even more inspiring was that these were the very same staff who cared for these patients every single day. They saw firsthand how crucial movement was to recovery, and they chose to go the extra mile quite literally to ensure their patients had every opportunity to thrive.

Nurse steps up for heart patients walking Southend to Basildon including a 50k challenge

A remarkably dedicated nurse from Basildon Hospital stepped into a major fundraising mission in February, taking on not one but two formidable walking challenges to support vital improvements for patients receiving heart and lung care.



Shona Perry, a registered nurse in the Cardiothoracic Centre (CTC), had already proven her determination long before this challenge balancing work, raising three boys, and completing her nursing degree. Despite her humility, her drive was unmistakable, and this year she channelled that strength into an ambitious effort to make a meaningful difference for her patients.

Shona's first challenge saw her complete a solo walk from Southend Hospital to Basildon Hospital, a symbolic journey connecting the communities she serves. She then pushed herself even further by taking on the Kent Downs 50km Ultra Challenge a demanding endurance event that tested both her physical stamina and mental resilience.

Shona's commitment embodied the very spirit of the NHS: compassion, perseverance, and an unwavering dedication to improving patient care. Her efforts helped shine a light on the importance of enhanced support for those living with heart and lung conditions, turning every mile into a step toward better care for the future.

Substantial donation from Rayleigh based organisation benefits critically ill patients



When critically ill patients need an MRI scan, every second of their journey matters. Moving someone who is already in a critical condition from the safety of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to the MRI department is a complex, finely coordinated effort – one that relies on specialist teams and equipment to keep them stable every step of the way.

Thanks to a generous donation of more than £30,000 from Rayleigh-based organisation New Leaf Distribution, that journey has improved significantly. New Leaf Distribution has supported Southend Hospital for many years, quietly contributing to projects that make a real difference to patients and staff. This latest gift has allowed Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity to purchase an additional high spec portable ventilator – a piece of equipment that will directly benefit some of the hospital's sickest patients. For the ICU team, the arrival of this additional ventilator makes a real difference.



Thirty-one half marathons for Broomfield Hospital

A determined 21-year-old from Danbury took on an extraordinary festive challenge this winter lacing up his running shoes and committing to a half marathon every single day for an entire month to support children's services at Broomfield Hospital.

From 24 November through to Christmas Eve, Harry Squires ran 13.1 miles each day

across Danbury and Chelmsford, clocking up hundreds of miles through local parks, busy town-centre streets, and familiar neighbourhood routes. Come rain, frost, or early morning darkness, Harry kept going—driven by a mission to raise £1,000 for Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity and to make a meaningful difference for young patients and their families.

What began as a personal challenge quickly grew into a community effort. Residents spotted Harry on his daily runs, cheered him on, and followed his progress online as he pushed through fatigue, winter weather, and the sheer mental endurance required to complete 31consecutive half marathons. His commitment, especially at such a young age, captured hearts and inspired many to donate.

Harry's remarkable month-long feat not only raised vital funds but also shone a light on the power of individual determination to create real change. His dedication brought festive spirit, community pride, and hope to children and families who rely on the care provided at Broomfield Hospital.

Local angling group netted over £34,000 for Southend Hospital



Over the last 11 years, members of the Prittlewell and District Angling Society (PADAS) have reeled in tens of thousands of pounds for cancer services at Southend Hospital.

The latest haul was presented in the form of a £1,230 cheque in support of oncology services at Southend. PADAS said: "We hold regular charity fishing matches, which is a tradition started in 2015 by former member Paul Rashbrook, after losing his mum, Dianne, and later his father-in-law, Duncan, to cancer.

Although Paul has since moved away, we've proudly continued the fundraising in his honour as everyone knows someone impacted by cancer and Southend Hospital do such great work." Clair Dade, Fundraising coordinator for the charity, praised the group's long-standing commitment, since 2015 they have raised over £34,000 to support local patients undergoing cancer treatment at Southend Hospital. We are beyond thankful for the incredible support they continue to provide.

Florentina's Feast Fridays



Families on Basildon Hospital's children's ward were treated to a heart-warming new tradition this year with the arrival of Florentina's Feast Fridays a weekly pizza night bringing comfort, joy, and a much-needed moment of normality to young patients and their loved ones. This much-loved initiative became a reality thanks to the incredible generosity of Florentina's Footsteps Foundation, who, with the support of their local community, donated fresh pizzas every Friday to brighten the hospital experience for families going through some of their toughest days.

Feast Fridays were created in honour of Florentina, a vibrant and courageous seven-year-old who tragically passed away in November 2024 following a diagnosis of stage 4 high-risk neuroblastoma. Her strength, kindness, and unmistakable sparkle inspired her mum, Amelia, to establish Florentina's Footsteps Foundation in 2025 ensuring her daughter's legacy lived on with purpose. The foundation was built on the values that defined Florentina herself: joy, generosity, and the ability to make others smile, even in difficult moments.

Very quickly, Florentina's Feast Fridays became a firm favourite at Broomfield Hospital. Staff, patients, and families alike looked forward to the weekly tradition, which offered not just a delicious meal but a moment of togetherness. Parents shared how receiving a pizza brought a welcome smile during long, stressful days on the ward, helping to ease the emotional weight of hospital life and giving families a chance to pause, connect, and feel cared for.

What began as a simple act of kindness grew into a powerful reminder of the impact one child's legacy could have. Through Florentina's Feast Fridays, her spirit continued to shine - bringing warmth, comfort, and community to families who needed it most.

Marathon fundraiser supports Southend Stroke Unit



In April 2025, Natalie Sandford completed the Brighton Marathon to raise funds for the stroke rehabilitation unit at Southend Hospital. Exceeding her £1,000 target, Natalie raised £2,000 with support from friends and family.

Inspired by the care her father received following a stroke in 2023, Natalie took on her first full marathon despite recovering from glandular fever earlier in the year. She completed the race in 5 hours and 56 minutes.

The funds raised supported the Southend Hospital Stroke Unit, helping to enhance the rehabilitation experience for patients through improvements to equipment and recovery spaces.

Afternoon Tea for Broomfield's Breast Unit



On October 16th, our charity team was proud to host its very first afternoon tea in support of Broomfield Hospital's Breast unit- part of our wider support for breast services across Basildon, Broomfield, and Southend Hospitals. Held at the beautiful Little Channels venue, we welcomed guests for an afternoon of connection and great food – raising over £700 to support vital funds to help enhance patient care at Broomfield, one of the largest breast units in the UK.

Refurbishment project creates comfortable space for patients undergoing cancer treatment

A £90,000 refurbishment at Southend Hospital brought a significant boost to the care and comfort of cancer patients undergoing a highly specialised form of radiotherapy—made possible in large part thanks to an extraordinary £50,000 contribution from Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity.



At the heart of this project was the Trust's only radioactive isolation room, located on Elizabeth Loury Ward. This unique space is used by patients from across Essex who require targeted radiotherapy that leaves them temporarily radioactive for a brief period after treatment. Because of this, patients must remain inside the self-contained room for up to a week, unable to leave and with only minimal staff contact. The environment they stay in becomes more than just a room it becomes their world for several days, making comfort, safety, and psychological wellbeing essential.

While the room looked like a standard hospital side room, the improvements made possible through charitable funding were anything but ordinary. Many of the enhancements were subtle, unseen, and highly technical, yet each played a vital role in patient safety and experience. These included a new lead-lined door with a viewing panel, allowing staff to check on patients without unnecessary exposure; no-touch taps and toilet flush, reducing contamination risks; a specialist fully sealed window; and sealed sky-themed ceiling tiles designed to bring a sense of calm and openness to an otherwise confined space.

To make extended periods of isolation more bearable, the refurbishment also added thoughtful touches such as a small kitchen area and a new television, helping patients maintain a sense of independence and connection to the outside world.

Behind the scenes, the upgrades were just as crucial. Thicker concrete walls, enhanced shielding, and specialist wastewater treatment systems ensured that staff, other patients, and the environment were fully protected from radiation exposure. These

essential safety measures, though invisible to the eye, formed the backbone of the room's transformation.

This refurbishment not only elevated the standard of care but also demonstrated the profound impact charitable giving can have turning a necessary clinical space into a safer, more dignified, and more compassionate environment for patients facing some of the most challenging moments of their treatment journey.

Stroke rehabilitation garden transformed with charitable funds

A £1,000 improvement project was made possible through the investment of charitable funding from donations made by the local community.



The funding initial request was submitted by Hannah Futcher, Stroke Rehab Team Lead and Physiotherapist, who saw the potential of the outdoor area to offer patients a peaceful space to aid their recovery. The garden now features a range of improvements including a large outdoor clock, metal wall mural, comfortable new cushions, hosepipes, raised flower beds suitable for wheelchair users, and a variety of new plants and flowers. A water feature and gardening tools were also purchased, creating both a calming and interactive environment.

"This space gives our patients a taste of normality which aids in their rehabilitation," said Hannah.

"Whether they're helping plant flowers, caring for the garden, or just enjoying the fresh air with visitors, it supports their mental well-being and confidence as they prepare to return home."

£10,000 raised for Basildon Breast Unit after Everest Base Camp Trek



When Natalie Robinson from Wickford was diagnosed with stage 1 breast cancer in May 2023, she could never have imagined that just over two years later she would be standing at Everest Base Camp—having raised an astonishing £10,000 for the very team who supported her through every step of her diagnosis and treatment.

In a powerful act of gratitude and determination, Natalie set off in September on an 18-day journey to Nepal with her husband, James. Their goal was to complete the iconic trek to Everest Base Camp while raising £7,000 for Basildon Hospital's breast unit. Thanks to overwhelming generosity from friends, family, colleagues, and a series of local fundraising events, Natalie didn't just reach her target she soared past it.

After completing her treatment, Natalie felt compelled to take on a challenge that symbolised both her personal recovery and her desire to give back. The Everest trek became that milestone: a test of strength, resilience, and hope. Each step taken at high altitude was a reminder of how far she had come since her diagnosis, and how deeply she valued the care she received.



Her journey inspired everyone who followed her progress, turning her story into a beacon of courage for others facing their own battles. Natalie's achievement not only raised vital funds for future patients but also celebrated the life-changing impact of compassionate NHS care proving that even the toughest mountains can be climbed with determination, support, and gratitude.

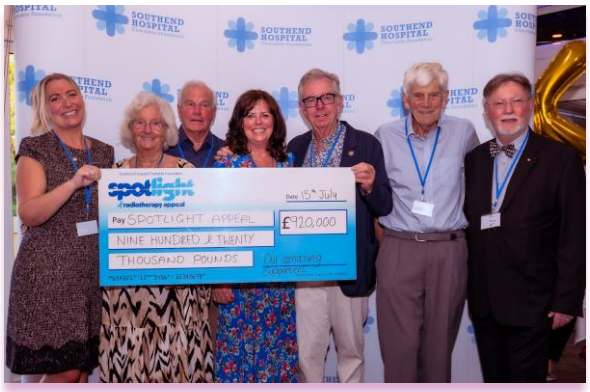
Southend Hospital Foundation



We were absolutely thrilled to be celebrating the amazing success of the Southend Hospital Foundation's Spotlight Radiotherapy Appeal, which has now officially closed after raising a phenomenal £920,000 – far surpassing the original goal of £600,000!

To mark the occasion and to thank everyone who made this possible, we joined supporters, charity staff, trustees, and radiotherapy colleagues at a celebration event hosted at Thorpe Hall Golf Club. It was a fantastic moment to reflect on just how much has been achieved – all thanks to the incredible generosity of our local community.





The Spotlight Appeal launched back in February 2023 with the ambitious aim of funding the latest advancements in radiotherapy at Southend Hospital. Thanks to the support of so many kind individuals, businesses, and organisations, that ambition has now become a reality.



We're especially thankful to some of the major contributors who helped push the appeal to new height including local Rotary Clubs, the Essex Masons who donated over £100,000, New Leaf with an incredibly generous £60,000, and Stockvale Ltd, whose long-standing support continues to make a huge impact. Although the Spotlight Appeal has now officially closed, this isn't the end of our support. The Foundation has created a dedicated fund so that donations can continue to support the radiotherapy department at Southend Hospital in the future.









League of Friends Basildon

Since its inception, the League of Friends at Basildon Hospital has played an invaluable role in enhancing patient care and strengthening the hospital community. For decades, this dedicated group of volunteers have poured their time, energy, and compassion into supporting patients, families, and staff - quietly transforming countless experiences across the hospital.



Through unwavering commitment to fundraising and volunteering, the League helped provide vital medical equipment, improve patient environments, and fund projects that would otherwise not be possible through NHS resources alone. Their efforts touch every corner of the hospital, from waiting rooms and wards to specialist departments, ensuring that patients receive not only excellent clinical care but also comfort, dignity, and reassurance during difficult moments.

Beyond the tangible improvements, the League of Friends bring something equally important: a sense of community. Their presence reminds patients and families that they are not alone and that local people care about their wellbeing. Whether through funding essential items, supporting staff initiatives, or offering a friendly face, the League have created a legacy of kindness which continues to ripple through the hospital.

Their decades of service have made a lasting difference, ensuring that patients, families, and staff feel supported, valued, and cared for. The League of Friends stand as a powerful example of how volunteer spirit and community generosity can elevate healthcare far beyond the expected, leaving an enduring impact on everyone who passes through Basildon Hospital's doors.

Friends at Broomfield Hospital



For 75 years, Friends at Broomfield have been a vital part of Broomfield Hospital, raising funds to improve patient care and support staff. With over 50 dedicated volunteers running two hospital shops, they contributed a record-breaking £104,000 in 2025 alone. Over the decades, their generosity has exceeded £1.6 million, funding essential projects and equipment. Friends at Broomfield were proud to support the development of five dedicated end-of-life rooms, created through the Dandelion Appeal to provide comfort, dignity, and peace for patients and their families.

These enhanced spaces will offer a calm, compassionate environment at the most difficult moments, ensuring families can be together with privacy, warmth, and the highest standard of care. Another project was the development and creation of a relative room and overnight space in our intensive care unit at Broomfield Hospital.

Friends at Braintree Community Hospital



The Friends of Braintree Community Hospital continued to be a cornerstone of support for both the hospital and the wider community this year, championing projects that enhanced comfort, dignity, and wellbeing for everyone who walked through the doors. Their dedication, built on years of volunteering, fundraising, and heartfelt community spirit, once again made a meaningful difference to patients, visitors, and staff alike.

This year, the Friends funded a range of practical yet transformative additions, including new perching stools to support patients who struggle with mobility or fatigue. These simple but essential pieces of equipment offered greater independence and safety, helping patients maintain confidence during everyday activities such as washing, dressing, or preparing to return home. Their impact was immediate and deeply appreciated by clinical teams who rely on such tools to support rehabilitation and recovery.

The Friends also invested in new seating for the hospital café, creating a more welcoming and comfortable space for patients, families, and staff to take a moment of rest. For many visitors, the café is a small sanctuary during long or emotional days, and the improved seating helped foster a warmer, more accessible environment where people could pause, connect, and feel supported.

Children's Burns Club

The Children's Burns Club at Broomfield Hospital continued to be a lifeline for young people and families navigating the long and often complex journey of recovering from a burn injury. For many children, the physical healing is only one part of their story—rebuilding confidence, self-esteem, and a sense of belonging can take far longer. The Club played a crucial role in that process, offering a safe, supportive, and uplifting community where children could meet others who truly understood their experiences.

Throughout the year, the Club provided countless opportunities for young people to connect, make friends, and rediscover their confidence through a wide range of fun, challenging, and empowering activities. These included residential weekends, family day trips, and the much-anticipated week-long summer camp, each designed to help children build resilience, independence, and peer support in an environment where they felt completely accepted.

These experiences were far more than just outings—they were carefully crafted moments of growth. Children had the chance to try new activities, overcome fears, and celebrate achievements, all with the guidance of specialist staff, volunteers, and psychologists who understood the emotional impact of burn trauma.

This year, the charity funded Children's Burns Club hosted a two-night minicamp for ten children aged 8–11, all of whom had experienced trauma from burn injuries. The minicamp offered a blend of exciting activities, team-building challenges, and therapeutic support. With club psychologists on hand, children were encouraged to talk openly, build trust, and develop coping strategies - all while having fun and forming friendships that often lasted long after the camp ended.

For many families, the Club became a vital source of reassurance and community. Parents found comfort in meeting others facing similar challenges, while children discovered they were not alone - that their scars did not define them, and that they could thrive with the right support.

The Children's Burns Club remained a shining example of holistic, compassionate care - helping young people heal not just physically, but emotionally and socially, and giving them the confidence to move forward with strength and pride.

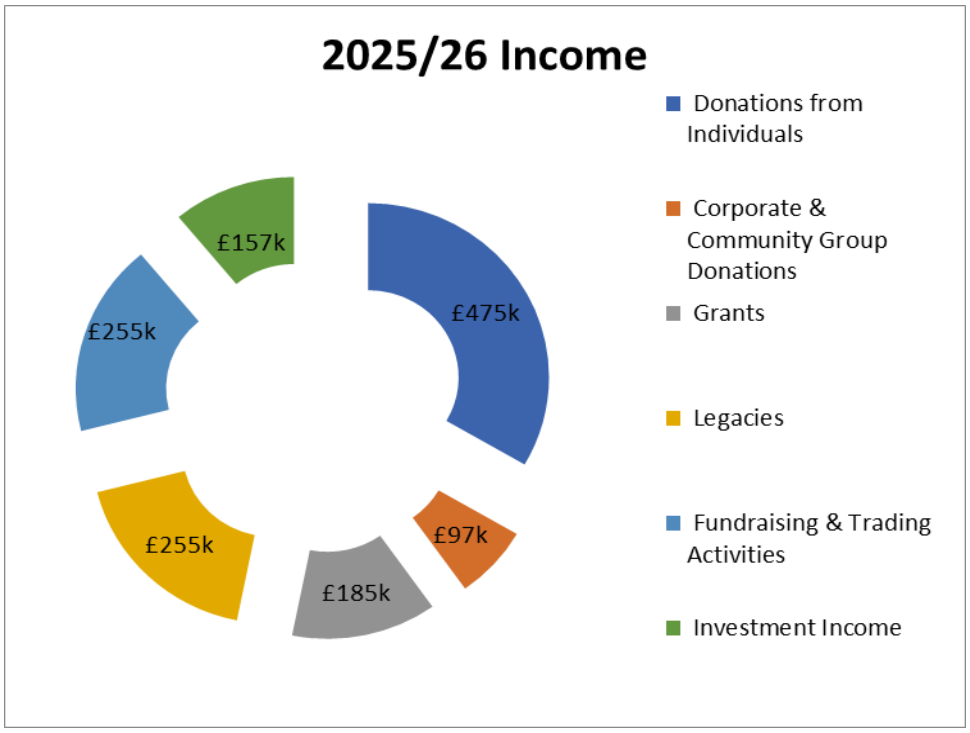
How we funded our work, our achievements and performance

The following figures are taken from the full accounts approved on 24 September 2026, if more details are required, please refer to the accounts. This part of the Trustee's annual report comments on key features of those accounts. In this section we firstly explain how we raised the money and then how we spent it.

Money received

Total income received by the Charity has decreased this year, totalling £1,424k compared to £1,463k in 2024/25. Whilst individual donation levels have remained static, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis has been seen in community and corporate fundraising and event participation.

Money received: Source of funds



All our income comes from the voluntary efforts of the general public. The chart above shows our main sources of income this year. Our largest source of income this year is donations from individuals.

Donations from individuals (£475k)

Donations from individuals are our largest source of income. Donations from grateful patients are falling as the impact of the cost-of-living crisis takes hold. However, we are looking to maximize the impact of these donations by promoting tax effective giving and promoting the impact donations have.

Corporate and Community Group Donations (£97k)

Many companies adopt charities as a way of putting something back into the community. The Charity is grateful to the companies that have donated over the year and to their employees who have given their time and money to maximise the corporate support we receive. We are also grateful to the many local groups and organisations who support our work throughout the year.

Grants (£185k)

We are grateful to our Charity partners and other similar organisations that have given us grants to fund projects or purchase pieces of equipment.

Legacies (£255k)

A gift in a will really is an investment in the better care of our patients, and we are fortunate to be remembered by so many people each year.

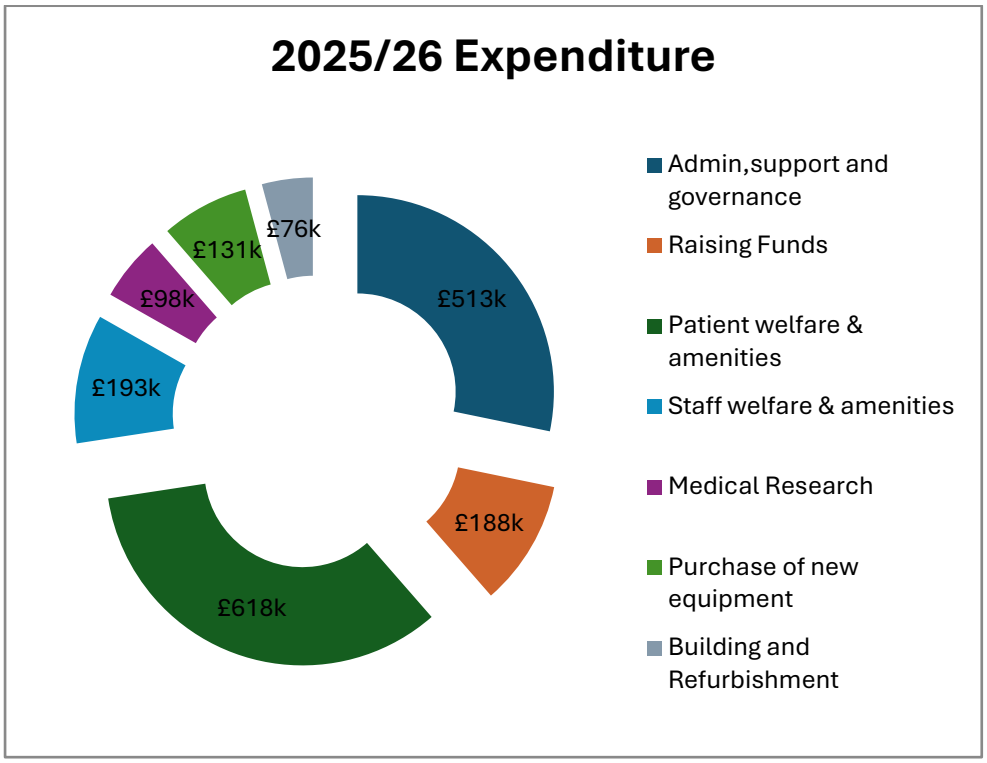
Fundraising and Trading Activities (£255k)

MSE Hospitals Charity has one charity shop in Leigh-on-Sea and recently opened a pop-up shop in the outpatient department at the hospital. We remain indebted to our volunteers and charity shop staff for their hard work in generating much needed income and promoting a more sustainable and environmentally friendly shopping experience.

Investment Income (£157k)

We earned interest and dividends by investing funds not immediately required for use in the hospital.

Money spent - what we spent the money on



Total expenditure by the Charity has decreased this year, totalling £1,817k compared to £2,859k in 2024/25. As the chart above shows, our largest area of expenditure was on patient welfare and amenities.

Staff welfare and amenities (£193k)

Over the past year, Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity has played a vital role in supporting staff welfare, funding initiatives that help our teams feel valued, cared for, and equipped to thrive. The commitment to refurbish staff rooms, provide coaching and provision of development opportunities has strengthened wellbeing across our hospitals and made a meaningful difference to staff throughout the organisation.

New equipment (£131k)

The NHS, of course, buys much of its own equipment for day-to-day use, but NHS funds for large items of equipment are limited and must be used for essential items only. With advances in technology and items becoming obsolete, we can make a real difference to patients by funding equipment that might not otherwise have been bought. Equipment purchased in the year includes:

- £40k fetal and maternal centrally monitors
- £30k Cardiac monitor and case system
- £13k resus trolley for Children's emergency department

Patient welfare and amenities (£618k)

Our support for the provision of patient comfort continued with funding for additional seating, recliner chairs and relative beds. We also purchased televisions for side rooms and bays and reminiscent tools for our dementia patients. We also utilise charitable funds to support the work of our chaplaincy and end-of-life teams. The following were also funded:

- £10k Air conditioning installation to our Chemotherapy Suite
- £5k Patient toiletries and other support items

Administration, support, and governance (£513k)

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. These include the cost of staff working for the Charity, IT Support, Independent Examiner/Audit fees, and administration costs.

Raising Funds (£188k)

The cost of raising funds includes investment manager fees, Charity shop costs and professional fees paid.

Medical Research (£98k)

Due to a significant legacy, the Charity is able to provide funding for a research suite. This £98k is the initial start-up funding with further funding for the next financial year.

Building and Refurbishment (£76k)

The Radioactive room refurbishment and Phoenix ward wellbeing room pod formed our expenditure for building and refurbishment.

Performance against Objectives

Spending money is only part of the story because we want to make sure we achieve value for money. To ensure money is well spent, applications for general fund grants include questions about the objectives, impact, and success criteria for the proposed project. The charity undertakes reporting for all grants awarded over £5,000 and a sample of smaller grants to establish the extent to which the intended benefits have been realised.

We ask the applicant what the outcome of the grant was both in terms of what they spend the money on and the difference it made to the care and treatment of the patients and their families.

During the year 2025/26 the Charity's work included:

- Approval of the fundraising strategy 2025-2028
- New grant programme and grant reporting giving teams a direct route to request charitable funding for projects, equipment, and initiatives that enhance patient care across all sites
- Rolled out our new legacy programme in partnership with Octopus helping supporters explore meaningful ways to leave a gift in their will and create long lasting impact for future generations or patients
- Implemented new charity database transforming how we understand, engage with and steward our donors and community, this upgrade strengthened relationship building, improved reporting and supported more personalised communications
- Introduction of our automated telephone system significantly improving cross-site communications and making it easier for donors, supporters and partners to reach the right member of the team quickly and efficiently

Strategic goals 2025 - 2028

1. To work alongside the Trust to enhance the experience of patients and staff above and beyond what can be delivered through NHS core funding.
2. Support the health and wellbeing and professional development of MSEFT staff and volunteers.
3. Fund developments and health related clinical research and innovation as identified in MSEFT strategy.
4. Develop partnerships to address health inequalities and to create healthier communities.
5. Be a trusted charity partner connected and engaged with supporters and volunteers.
6. To be financially secure, responsive, and have good governance.
7. Expansion of our staff lottery

Our Fundraising practices

Members of the Charity organise fundraising events and co-ordinate the activities of our supporters both in the hospital and in the wider community. The Charity does not use professional fundraisers or involve commercial participators. There have been no complaints about fundraising this year.

The Charity has signed up to the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice. All direct marketing is undertaken by the Charity office to ensure that it is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent. Contact is made through direct marketing a maximum of twice a year. All marketing materials contain clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Our future plans

Despite several challenging years, we've delivered many of the strategic objectives set out in our 2022-2025 Charity Strategy. However, we find ourselves in a very different financial climate and health and social care landscape.

In many ways, it is an exciting time to support the work of Mid and South Essex NHS FT as it embarks on a new ten-year strategy. The development of new technologies, such as AI and the advent of a new Electronic Patient Record, are driving change throughout the NHS and our wider community, and this offers new ways for us to engage with supporters and donors.

Over the coming months we will be refreshing the Charity's Strategy to better reflect this new world. We will work in partnership with the Trust, our local community and key stakeholders to ensure that the Charity is a sustainable, purpose-led organization delivering grants for patient benefit that have the greatest impact.

We will look to expand and diversify our charitable income streams, achieving our goal of raising £2 million in 2026/27.

In addition to the spending plans identified by our designated fund holders:

- To design a new individual giving programme – including our In Memory giving
- To establish a Broomfield fundraising appeal to support the work of our St Andrews Burns and Plastics teams
- To establish a Basildon fundraising appeal to support the work of our Essex Cardiothoracic centre
- Continue to grow our trading activities through leveraging existing donation streams – e.g. implementing gift aid on donations and establishing an online retail platform.

- Continue to raise the profile of the Charity, engaging with community partners, hospital staff with the introduction of charity champions and the local community across a variety of platforms.

We are proud to be the charity for MSE FT and to help make a difference to patients' lives.

How we manage the money

The Charity makes grants from unrestricted, restricted, and endowment funds. The grants from restricted funds must be used in accordance with the conditions attached to the donation. Within the unrestricted funds, grants are made from general funds and designated (earmarked) funds.

Restricted funds.

These funds are received by the Charity for a specific purpose determined by the donor, or through an appeal established for a particular charitable purpose. The Charity is legally required to use these funds only for the purpose for which they were given. Restricted funds support a wide range of activities across the Trust, including specific wards, departments, patient groups, equipment purchases, research projects and capital developments.

In some circumstances, a donor may express a preference as to how their donation is used without imposing a legally binding restriction. Where such preferences do not create a restriction in trust law, the funds are treated as unrestricted funds. To respect the donor's wishes, the Trustee may choose to designate these funds for the purpose intended by the donor. Designated funds remain unrestricted in accounting terms.

Unrestricted funds. These funds are received by the Charity with no particular preference expressed by donors. The Charitable Funds Committee invites grant applications from any member of the hospital, and from specialist partner charities, for example MacMillan, and patient groups working with the hospital. Based on their knowledge of the hospital, the committee agrees to funding priorities and score the applications for quality and value for money. Grants are particularly targeted at projects in areas of the hospitals that do not have available designated funds to assist them.

Designated (earmarked) funds. These are unrestricted funds that have been earmarked for a particular ward, department, service or activity. They are overseen by fund holders who can make recommendations on how the money should be spent within the designated area. Fund holder recommendations are generally accepted, and these funds can be spent at any time in support of the designated purpose.

Endowment funds - U Brown. This is a permanent endowment fund managed by the Charity. The Fund cannot be spent as income and is instead invested.

Our reserves policy

The Corporate Trustee formulates the reserves policy in accordance with the Charity Commission booklet CC19, Charities' Reserves.

The Corporate Trustee has a minimum target for reserves of £0.5 million, which is required for the continued administration of the Charity and has a ceiling for reserves of £5.0 million. Any unrestricted funds above the minimum target allow the Corporate Trustee the freedom to make grants when they are needed in anticipation of donations, whilst being mindful of guidance from the Charity Commission that donations should be spent within two to three years of receipt. The total reserves, including designated funds, held at the end of the year are £2.5 million (2024/25 £1.9 million) against a target of between £0.5 million and £5 million.

The Corporate Trustee anticipates that maintaining the target level of reserves is likely to be achievable given the level of unrestricted funds held at the end of the year. The Charitable Funds Committee reviews compliance with this policy at each meeting. The Corporate Trustee notes the level of designated funds within the Charity and has plans to continue to spend these balances towards the purposes for which they have been designated. If the need identified for any designated funds no longer exists, these funds will be redirected to the general-purpose fund.

About our investments

The management of the Charity's investment funds is delegated to professional investment managers. The performance of the investments is continuously monitored and reported at every Charitable Funds Committee meeting.

The Charity invests funds in accordance with its investment powers as defined by the Trustees Act 2000. This gives the same power to invest the Charity's assets, except for any investment in land, as if it owned the assets outright rather than holding them on Trust.

The movement in the stock market affects the value of our investments. This financial year we have an unrealised gain. The unrealised gain makes little difference to the day-to-day running of the Charity until the point that we must sell our investments and realise the gain or loss.

The investment policy requires that all monies, apart from working capital, to be invested to maximise the overall return consistent with an acceptable level of risk.

How we organise our affairs, reference, and administrative details

The Charity

The Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity is registered with the Charity Commission under the single Registered Number 1057266.

Mid & South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity is also known as Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity (Registered Number 1057266)

Its objects are 'for any charitable purpose or purposes relating to the National Health Service.'

How to contact us

The Charity office and principal address is:

Director of Charities and Voluntary Services Mid & South Essex Hospitals Charity Office The Lodge

Southend University Hospital Prittlewell Chase

Westcliff-on-Sea

Essex SS0 0RY

Telephone: 0300 443 0052

E-mail: MSE.Charity@nhs.net

www.msehospitalscharity.co.uk

Trustee arrangements

MSEFT is the sole Corporate Trustee of the Charity. The Corporate Trustee responsibilities are therefore carried out by MSEFT's board of directors. The board is appointed in accordance with the FT's constitution. Details of MSEFT board membership can be found in its annual report and accounts and on its website.

As the Charity has a Corporate Trustee it is, in accounting terms, controlled by MSEFT and is therefore its subsidiary. Financially, the Charity is not material to MSEFT, so it is not consolidated into the FT's accounts.

MSEFT's board meet quarterly as Corporate Trustee to:

- review and approve the Charity strategic plan and
- approve the Trustee's annual report and accounts for the year.

The board of directors of MSEFT delegate responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Charity to the Charity Director with oversight of charitable funds being held by the Charitable Funds Committee in accordance with the scheme of delegation and standing financial instructions. Together, they are responsible for fulfilling the Corporate Trustee's strategic plan and collaborating with the professional advisors and with the representatives of MSEFT who provide financial services to the Charity.

The Charitable Funds Committee comprises two executive members of the board and three non-executive members. Other members of MSEFT staff are invited to attend committee meetings but do not have a vote at those meetings. During the year, the committee members were:

Name	Position	In year changes
Aashish Khadia	Chair and Non - Executive Director	Until 11 June 26
Ralph Jackman	Chair and Non - Executive Director	From 12 June 26
Dawn Scrafield	Chief Finance Officer	Until 31 October 25
Andrew Grimshaw	Chief Finance Officer	From 1 November 25
Christine Blanshard	Chief Medical Officer	
Julie Parker	Non - Executive Director	
Dave Hughes	Non - Executive Director	

Pen profiles of the members of the charitable funds committee:

Ralph Jackman, Chair and Non-Executive Director (from 12 June 26)

Ralph is a senior leader in change and continuous improvement. He has nearly 20 years' experience in change management within Policing, including total organisational redesign of Norfolk Constabulary's policing model through austerity.

He continues to lead the design and delivery of large-scale organisational transformation to adapt the police service to the digital world, exploiting the opportunities of data and artificial intelligence to improve public service.

A graduate of the College of Policing's Strategic Command Course, Ralph is a member of the Joint Chief Officer Team for Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies.

Aashish Khadia, Chair and Non-Executive Director (until 11 June 26)

Aashish is the Director of Strategic Planning and Performance at the University of Leeds where he is responsible for strategy development, implementation and monitoring, and business intelligence and data analytics. Aashish is passionate about making a difference, giving back to the community, and transforming lives.

Aashish started his career in local government at Cheshire County Council before moving to the higher education sector. He has worked for a range of higher education institutions including University College Birmingham, St. George's, University of London, Brunel University London, University of Bedfordshire, and the University of Leicester. In addition to his experience in strategy, planning and performance, Aashish has experience in risk management, business continuity, information assurance, and corporate governance.

Dawn Scrafield, Chief Finance Officer (until 31 October 25)

Dawn is a highly experienced, value-driven senior NHS leader with a strong reputation as an effective problem solver, with drive, determination, energy, and imagination to deliver high-quality, cost-effective services to patients. Dawn is a qualified and seasoned finance professional with over 28 years' experience at senior and board levels, with a successful track record of achievements operating as a Director and Deputy Chief Executive in complex multi- site NHS organisations.

Prior to Mid and South Essex Hospitals Group, Dawn supported the successful merger of Colchester and Ipswich Hospitals, to form East Suffolk and North Essex Foundation Trust.

A strong team player with an excellent reputation for achieving significant results across a broad range of portfolios including corporate leadership and strategy, financial improvement, performance management, and turnaround in challenged organisations.

Andrew Grimshaw – Chief Finance Officer (from 1 November 25)

Andrew has previously been the Chief Finance Officer at St George's for eight years and has a wealth of experience in the health service, including as Acting Chief Executive of London Ambulance Service.

Christine Blanshard – Chief Medical Officer

Christine has held senior leadership roles in a number of acute trusts including Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust where she was Medical Director for nine years and acted as Gold Command for their highly praised response to the Novichok poisonings.

She then took on a regional role as Medical Director for Strategy and Transformation within NHS England Southwest and, most recently, was Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Chief Executive at Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Dave Hughes - Non-Executive Director, Senior Independent Director

Dave is pursuing a portfolio career combining non-executive, trustee and consulting roles following a highly successful senior executive career with British Telecom including over 15 years; board level experience creating and transforming high technology businesses. Dave is passionate about helping the community by utilising the business skills he has developed to help other organisations, something he has already experienced as Deputy Chair of Papworth Hospital and recently Directors of Paradigm Trust, Health Enterprise East and as a Trustee of Suffolk Community Foundation.

Julie Parker - Non-Executive Director

Julie is an experienced non-executive director with strong finance and corporate governance expertise. She has been a Director of Resources and Finance with an excellent track record in providing strategic direction, strong financial management, and effective support services. Her experience spans the London Borough of Haringey, Tower Hamlets and Barking, and Dagenham.

She has extensive audit committee experience including the Health and Care Professions Council, Essex Fire and Rescue and Essex Police. Prior to her appointment with the MSE Board, Julie was a non-executive director of East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust and its predecessor Colchester University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust since April 2014.Committee memberships – Audit, Finance and Performance Committee (Chair from 1 October 2021), Charitable Funds Committee, Remuneration and Nominations Committee.

Members of the charitable funds committee are selected to give the Charity a good mix of appropriate professional skills – for example, finance, investment and fundraising.

All members of the MSEFT board are provided with the Charity Commission's guidance: public benefit: an overview and the essential Trustee: what you need to know (CC3) and a summary of what this means for a Corporate Trustee.

New members of the charitable funds committee are provided with an induction pack consisting of the governing documents, previous years Trustee's annual reports and accounts, policies and procedures of the Charity as well as the Charity Commission's guidance: public benefit: an overview and the essential Trustee: what you need to know (CC3). Appropriate training courses are offered in charity law and administration, and the roles and responsibilities of Trustees.

Statement of Corporate Trustee's responsibilities in respect of the Corporate Trustee's annual report and the financial statements

The corporate trustee is responsible for preparing the Corporate Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the corporate trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted

Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 ***The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.***

Under company law the corporate trustee must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the corporate trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- assess the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The corporate trustee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charitable company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The corporate trustee is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Our staff and advisors

The Charity has 12 whole time equivalent staff employed by MSEFT.

The charitable funds committee is also assisted by a number of professional advisors, as detailed below

Investment Managers:

LGT Wealth Management, 14 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NR

External Auditors:

KPMG LLP (UK), 15 Canada Square, London E14 5GL

Internal Auditors:

RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP, The Pinnacle, 170 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK9 1BP

Bankers:

Natwest, 280 Bishopgate, London EC2M 4RB Barclays Bank, Leicester, Leicestershire LE87 2BB

Key management personnel remuneration

The Board of the Corporate Trustee and the Charity Director comprise the key management personnel of the Charity as they are in charge of:

- directing and controlling the Charity
- running and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis

MSEFT's board members are either executive members who are employees of MSEFT or non-executive members who are appointed in accordance with the MSEFT's constitution.

Details of expenses paid to key management personnel are disclosed in note 12 to the accounts.

Members of MSEFT's board are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises. All related party transactions are disclosed in note 21 to the accounts.

The Charity Director is employed by MSEFT on NHS terms and conditions. Her remuneration is reviewed annually and is increased in accordance with the nationally agreed increases for her pay scale. The Charity is fully recharged by MSEFT for the employment costs relating to the Charity office and finance team.

Risk analysis

As part of the business planning exercise carried out during the year, the Charitable Funds Committee has considered the risks to which the Charity is exposed. They have reviewed systems and identified steps to mitigate those risks. Three major risks have been identified on the charity risk register, and arrangements have been put in place to mitigate those risks.

Future levels of income

The Charity is reliant on donations to allow it to make grants to NHS bodies. If income falls, then the Charity would not be able to make as many grants or enter into longer term commitments with the NHS bodies it supports.

The Committee mitigates the risk that income will fall by engaging with the Fundraising Department. That Department comprises dedicated fundraising experts who work with MSEFT to provide a co-ordinated approach to raising funds. Fundraising activity is regularly benchmarked against our peers and thorough reviews are undertaken after major campaigns and events to understand what worked well and how things could be done better.

NHS waiting times for treatment are getting longer – this is partly due to the impact of the pandemic, but demand also continues to rise. There is a risk that the public's goodwill for the NHS will reduce, making fundraising more difficult.

The cost of living remains a significant pressure on many people's lives. This is continuing to have an impact on the amount that people are able to donate to charity and is being closely monitored.

Fall in investment returns

The Charity generates additional income from investing its cash balances, so the Committee considers the loss of investment income to be a major financial risk. The risk is mitigated by retaining expert investment managers, having a diversified investment portfolio.

and regularly review that portfolio. The committee makes use of benchmarking information when reviewing the portfolio.

Unforeseen changes in the operation of the NHS

The NHS is, by its very nature, subject to national changes in government policy as well as local politically driven decisions. The Charitable Funds Committee has identified this as a risk as it may mean initiatives or healthcare activities supported by the Charity are no longer delivered in the Mid & South Essex area. The Committee regularly liaises with NHS partners to understand the changes that they are facing at an early stage.

Wider networks

Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity is one of over 400 NHS linked charities in England and Wales who are eligible to join NHS Charities Together. As a member charity, we have the opportunity to discuss matters of common concern and exchange information and experiences, join with others to lobby government departments and others, and to participate in conferences and seminars which offer support and education for our staff and members of the Charitable Funds Committee.

As a member of NHS Charities Together, we have also been very grateful to receive grants from their national emergency appeal.

Related parties

MSEFT is the Corporate Trustee of the Charity and is therefore a related party.

We do pay grants to other NHS bodies, particularly members of Mid & South Essex ICS where they provide services which align with our charitable objectives. The Committee consults with representatives of these organisations formally through their committee meetings and via other, less formal contacts. However, they retain their independence to act in the best interests of the Charity and the Charity's beneficiaries.

Our relationship with the wider community

The ability of the Charity to continue its vital support for the NHS in Mid & South Essex is dependent on its ability to raise funds from the general public. The Charity also continues to forge strong relationships with members of NHS staff whose co-operation in the ability to make an effective contribution would be much diminished.

Volunteers

On behalf of the Trustee body, the Charitable Funds Committee would like to pay tribute to:

- the members of staff who give of their time out of hours in support of the work of the Charity and working with us to identify how we can help them care for the patients.
- our fundraisers who do so much to encourage others to enrich lives through donations and fundraising activities.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustee of Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and related notes, including the accounting policies in note 1.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the charity in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

Going concern

The trustees have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the charity or to cease its operations, and as they have concluded that the charity's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over its ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

In our evaluation of the trustees' conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the charity's business model and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate; and

- we have not identified and concur with the trustees' assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a guarantee that the charity will continue in operation.

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations – ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of management and inspection of policy documentation as to the Charity's high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- Reading Charitable Fund Committee minutes.
- Using analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.

We communicated identified fraud risks throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit.

As required by auditing standards, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in particular the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries. On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because the nature of the income received by the Charity is non-complex with limited opportunity for manipulation.

We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We performed procedures including:

• Identifying journal entries to test based on risk criteria and comparing the identified entries to supporting documentation. These included journals posted to unusual account combinations.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general sector experience and through discussion with the directors and other management (as required by auditing standards), from inspection of the Charity's regulatory and legal correspondence and

discussed with the directors and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related charities law), and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: health and safety, data protection, and anti-bribery laws, recognising the nature of the Charity's activities. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information, which comprises the Trustee's Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. We are required to report to you if:

- based solely on that work, we have identified material misstatements in the other information; or
- in our opinion, the information given in the Trustee's Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Charities Act 2011 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Corporate Trustee's responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 41, the trustees are responsible for: the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

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

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (or its predecessors) and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Sarah McKean
for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
KPMG LLP
15 Canada Square,
London,
E14 5 GL

25 September 2026

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Endowment Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Income and endowments from						
Donations and legacies	**3**	678	334	0	**1,012**	1,022
Charitable activities	**4**	0	0	0	**0**	0
Other trading activities	**5**	244	11	0	**255**	243
Investments	**6**	151	6	0	**157**	198
Total		**1,073**	**351**	**0**	**1,424**	**1,463**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	**7**	174	14	0	**188**	166
Charitable activities	**8**	965	664	0	**1,629**	2,693
Total		**1,139**	**678**	**0**	**1,817**	**2,859**
Net gain on fixed asset revaluation	**20**	0	41	0	41	**0**
Net gain/(loss) on investments	**20**	178	312	0	490	**(125)**
Net income/(expenditure)		**112**	**26**	**0**	**138**	**(1,521)**
Transfers between funds	**10**	60	(60)	0	**0**	**0**
Net movement in funds		**172**	**(34)**	**0**	**138**	**(1,521)**
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total Funds brought forward	**20**	1,959	3,721	62	**5,742**	7,263
Total Funds carried forward	**20**	**2,131**	**3,687**	**62**	**5,880**	**5,742**

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.
The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Endowment Funds £000	Total Funds 2026 £000	Total Funds 2025 £000
Fixed assets						
Tangible Assets	**14**	6	195	0	**201**	171
Investments	**15**	1,989	3,340	0	**5,329**	4,811
Total Fixed Assets		**1,995**	**3,535**	**0**	**5,530**	**4,982**
Current assets						
Stock	**16**	0	1	0	**1**	3
Debtors - amounts falling due within one year	**17**	46	329	0	**375**	141
Cash and cash equivalents	**18**	336	(48)	62	**350**	1,016
Total Current Assets		**382**	**282**	**62**	**726**	**1,160**
Liabilities						
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	**19**	(246)	(130)	0	**(376)**	(400)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		**136**	**152**	**62**	**350**	**760**
Total Net Assets		**2,131**	**3,687**	**62**	**5,880**	**5,742**
The Funds of the Charity						
Endowment funds	**20**	0	0	62	**62**	62
Restricted income funds	**20**	0	3,687	0	**3,687**	3,721
Unrestricted income funds	**20**	2,131	0	0	**2,131**	1,959
Total charity funds	**20**	**2,131**	**3,687**	**62**	**5,880**	**5,742**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Corporate Trustee by:



24 September 26

Andrew Grimshaw, Chief Finance Officer
Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ending 31 March 2026

	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activities	**(795)**	**(768)**
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividend, interest and rents from investments	157	198
Proceeds from the sale of investments	1,406	907
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	0	(7)
Purchase of investments	(1,434)	(1,004)
Net cash provided by investing activities	129	94
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(666)	(674)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	1,016	1,690
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	**350**	**1,016**

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	**138**	**(1,521)**
Adjustments for :		
Depreciation	11	12
(Gains)/losses on investments	(490)	125
(Gains)/losses on fixed asset revaluation	(41)	0
(Gains)/losses on disposal of fixed assets	0	8
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(157)	(198)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	2	13
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(234)	559
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(24)	234
Net cash provided by operating activities	(795)	**(768)**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments and buildings which are included at fair value.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a ‘true and fair’ view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a ‘true and fair view’. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the Trustees consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The business model of the charity is such that its charitable activities are limited to those which it has sufficient funds to support from the excess of funding received over the costs of administering the charity. The charity therefore has no specific commitments and no committed costs beyond its fixed costs of operation which are detailed in note 7a.

The Trustees have reviewed the cash flow forecasts for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements which indicate that the charity will have sufficient funds to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period. The Trustees have also considered the cost of living impact on these cash flow forecasts and consider that as a result of its operating model explained above, even if no further funding is received in the 12 month period, the charity has sufficient cash reserves to pay all committed costs.

Consequently, the Trustees are confident that the charity will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity is a public benefit entity.

1.2 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value of the incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

1.2.1 Donations, legacies and gifts in kind

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Gifts in kind are valued at estimated fair market value at the time of receipt. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

1.2.1 Donations, legacies and gifts in kind (continued)

Grants are credited to revenue on a receivable basis. In the event that the grant is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in the creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Legacies are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable.

Receipt is probable when:
a) confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that probate has been granted
b) the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and
c) all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled or are within the charity's control.

If there is uncertainty as to the amount of the legacy and it cannot be reliably estimated, then the legacy is shown as a contingent asset until all of the conditions for income recognition are met.

Administration of legacies
Where a legacy is received for a specific purpose or is material in value (being greater than £5,000), the legacy is allocated to a separate fund. In accordance with the Charity's income and expenditure apportionment policy, a one-off support charge of 20% is applied on receipt to contribute towards the costs of administering and managing charitable funds.

1.2.2 Grants receivable
Grants receivable are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

1.2.3 Lottery income
The Charity operates a staff lottery as part of its fundraising activities. Lottery proceeds are recognised as income when receivable. Under the terms of the lottery, 50% of monthly lottery proceeds are allocated to participants as prizes and the remaining proceeds are retained by the Charity for the support of its charitable activities.

1.3 Resources expended
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Costs of generating voluntary income are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include costs of disseminating information in support of charity activities. All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party.

1.3.1 Grants payable
Grants payable are payments, made to third parties (including NHS bodies) in furtherance of the funds held on trust's charitable objectives. Grant payments are recognised as expenditure when the conditions for their payment have been met or where there is a constructive obligation to make a payment. A constructive obligation arises when a grant is approved by the Trustee and accepted by the beneficiaries (i.e. where a third party has a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant). The Trustee has control over the amount and timing of grant payments and consequently where approval has been given by the Trustee, and any of the above criteria have been met then a liability is recognised. Grants are not usually awarded with conditions attached. However, when they are then those conditions have to be met before the liability is recognised.

1.3.2 Fundraising costs
Costs of raising funds are those costs attributable to generating income for the charity, other than those costs incurred in undertaking charitable activities. It includes investment management fees.

1.3.3 Charitable activities
Costs of charitable activities comprise all costs incurred in the pursuit of the charitable objects of the Fund. These costs comprise direct costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 8.

1.3.4 Allocation of support costs
Support costs have been allocated between charitable activities in proportion to the average month end balances held on each individual fund. Support costs are those costs which do not relate directly to a single activity. These include some staff costs, costs of administration, and IT support.

1.3.5 Irrecoverable VAT
Any irrecoverable VAT is charged to the statement of financial activities, or capitalised as part of the cost of the related asset, where appropriate.

1.3.6 Recognition of liabilities
Liabilities are recognised when an obligation arises to transfer economic benefits as a result of past transactions or events.

1.4 Fund accounting

1.4.1 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 a specific fund.

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

1.4.3 Designated funds
Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustee for particular purposes, but without restricting or committing the funds legally.

1.4.4 Endowment funds
Endowment funds are capital funds given to be held in perpetuity.

Investment income is apportioned to the individual funds in proportion to the average fund balance.

1.5 Tangible assets

1.5.1 Capitalisation
All assets falling into the following categories are capitalised:

a) Tangible Assets which are capable of being used for more than one year, and have a cost equal to or greater than £5,000;
b) Groups of tangible fixed assets which are interdependent or would normally be provided or replaced as a group with a total value in excess of £5,000 and an individual value of £500 or more;

1.5.2 Valuation
Valuations for Buildings and Land are carried out professionally at intervals of between three and five years. The most recent valuation was carried out by Montagu Evans LLP with a valuation date of 31st March 2026. Fixed assets are valued as follows:

a) Buildings, installations and fittings are valued at depreciated replacement cost for specialised property. The valuation is determined using Measured Existing Accommodation (MEA) floor areas.
b) Land is stated at open market value for its existing use;
c) Equipment is valued at the lower of estimated net replacement cost or recoverable amount;
d) Assets in the course of construction are initially valued at cost and are revalued by professional valuers as part of the charity's periodic valuation programme.

1.5.3 Depreciation

a) Depreciation is charged on each main class of tangible asset as follows:
Land and assets in the course of construction are not depreciated. Buildings, installation and fittings are depreciated on their re-valued amount over the assessed remaining life of the asset as advised by professional valuers, prior to initial valuation the estimated life of buildings is 30 years.
Information Technology (IT) assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over 4-7 years.
b) Impairments, where incurred in the year are separately identified in note 14 and charged to the funds of the charity where caused by price fluctuations and to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year when the impairment was recognised.

1.6 Fixed Asset Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument. Fixed asset investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and are subsequently measured at their fair value (market value) as at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. Quoted stocks and shares are included in the Balance Sheet at the current market value quoted by the investment manager, excluding dividend.

The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Income from investments is included, together with the related tax credit, in the year in which it is received.

1.6.1 Investment Policy

The primary investment objectives are capital preservation and income generation for the benefit of the Charitable Fund. However expenditure of monies will always be preferred to investment.The overall objectives are to create sufficient income and capital growth to enable the Charitable Fund to carry out its purposes consistently year by year with due and proper consideration for future needs and the maintenance of, and if possible, enhancement of the value of the Charitable Fund. Investment decisions are taken by the Trustee on the recommendations of the Committee.

1.7 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value on a first in first out basis.

1.8 Debtors

Debtors are amounts owed to the charity. They are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand is held to meet the day to day running costs of the Charity as they fall due.

1.10 Creditors

Creditors are measured at the amount that the charity expects to have to pay to settle the debt. Amounts which are owed in more than one year are shown as long term creditors.

1.11 Pensions

The charity is a grant making charity and has no employees and any pensions contribution liabilities that may arise are solely the responsibility of the grant recipient.

1.12 Critical accounting estimates

The principal accounting estimate applied in the preparation of these financial statements relates to the valuation of the charity's building asset. The asset is revalued by an independent professional valuer using the Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology. The valuation is based on assumptions relating to replacement cost, useful economic life, physical condition and obsolescence. Changes in these assumptions could result in material changes to the carrying value of the asset. The Trustee considers the valuation methodology and underlying assumptions to be appropriate.

2. Prior year comparatives by type of fund

The primary statements provide prior year comparatives in total; this note provides prior period comparatives for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet for each of the three types of fund that the Charity manages.

2a Unrestricted Funds - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

	2025/2026	2024/2025
	£000	£000
Income and endowments from		
Donations and legacies	678	529
Charitable activities	0	0
Other trading activities	244	218
Investments	151	158
Total	**1,073**	**905**
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	174	136
Charitable Activities	965	1,084
Total	**1,139**	**1,220**
Net gain on fixed asset revaluation	0	0
Net gains/(losses) on investments	178	(125)
Net income/(expenditure)	**112**	**(440)**
Transfers between funds	60	45
Net movement in funds	**172**	**(395)**
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total Funds brought forward	1,959	2,354
Prior Year Adjustment	0	0
Total Funds carried forward	**2,131**	**1,959**

2a Unrestricted Funds - Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	2025/2026	2024/2025
	£000	£000
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	6	9
Investments	1,989	1,693
Total Fixed Assets	**1,995**	**1,702**
Current assets		
Stock	0	2
Debtors - amounts falling due within one year	46	22
Cash and cash equivalents	336	341
Total Current Assets	**382**	**365**
Liabilities		
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	(246)	(108)
Net Current Assets	**136**	**257**
Total Net Assets for unrestricted funds	**2,131**	**1,959**
Total unrestricted funds	**2,131**	**1,959**

2b Restricted Funds - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

	2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Income and endowments from		
Donations and legacies	334	493
Charitable activities	0	0
Other trading activities	11	25
Investments	6	40
Total	**351**	**558**
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	14	30
Charitable Activities	664	1,609
Total	**678**	**1,639**
Net gain on fixed asset revaluation	41	0
Net gains/(losses) on investments	312	0
Net income/(expenditure)	**26**	**(1,081)**
Transfers between funds	(60)	(45)
Net movement in funds	**(34)**	**(1,126)**
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total Funds brought forward	3,721	4,847
Total Funds carried forward	**3,687**	**3,721**

2b Restricted Funds - Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	195	162
Investments	3,340	3,118
Total Fixed Assets	**3,535**	**3,280**
Current assets		
Stock	1	1
Debtors - amounts falling due within one year	329	119
Cash and cash equivalents	(48)	613
Total Current Assets	**282**	**733**
Liabilities		
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	(130)	(292)
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	**152**	**441**
Total Net Assets for restricted funds	**3,687**	**3,721**
Total restricted funds	**3,687**	**3,721**

2c Endowment Funds - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

	2025/2026	2024/2025
	£000	£000
Income and endowments from		
Donations and legacies	0	0
Charitable activities	0	0
Other trading activities	0	0
Investments	0	0
Total	**0**	**0**
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	0	0
Charitable Activities	0	0
Total	**0**	**0**
Net gains/(losses) on investments	0	0
Net income/(expenditure)	**0**	**0**
Transfers between funds	0	0
Net movement in funds	**0**	**0**
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total Funds brought forward	62	62
Total Funds carried forward	**62**	**62**

2c Endowment Funds - Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	2025/2026	2024/2025
	£000	**£000**
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	0	0
Investments	0	0
Total Fixed Assets	**0**	**0**
Current assets		
Stock	0	0
Debtors - amounts falling due within one year	0	0
Cash and cash equivalents	62	62
Total Current Assets	**62**	**62**
Net Current Assets	**62**	**62**
Total Net Assets for endowment funds	**62**	**62**
Total endowment funds	**62**	**62**

3. Analysis of income and endowments from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Donations from individuals	439	36	**475**	456
Grants	165	20	**185**	405
Corporate & Community Group donations	74	23	**97**	103
Total Donations	678	79	**757**	964
Legacies	0	255	**255**	58
Total	**678**	**334**	**1,012**	**1,022**

4. Analysis of income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
NHS Charities Together Stage 2 Community Partnership Grant	0	0	**0**	0
Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	0

5. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Charity Shops	93	0	**93**	98
Special Events	56	6	**62**	47
Lotteries and Competitions	81	1	**82**	72
Other Sales	14	4	**18**	26
Total	**244**	**11**	**255**	243

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Endowment Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Fixed asset equity and similar investments	145	6	0	**151**	186
Short term investments and deposits and cash on deposit	6	0	0	**6**	12
Total	**151**	**6**	**0**	**157**	198

7. Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Fundraising Events	54	8	62	46
Charity Shops	91	0	91	66
Adventure Island Tickets	0	0	0	12
Management Fee	29	6	35	42
Total	**174**	**14**	**188**	**166**

7a. Operating leases

Included within Charity Shops is rent charged as an expense.

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	**2025/2026 Total Funds £000**	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Operating lease charged as an expense	15	0	**15**	13
	15	**0**	**15**	**13**

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

Less than 1 year	15	0	**15**	13
Between 1 - 5 years	60	0	**60**	60
Over 5 years	11	0	**11**	29
	86	**0**	**86**	**102**

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	**2025/2026 Total Funds £000**	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Patients welfare and amenities	330	288	**618**	784
Staff welfare and amenities	153	40	**193**	205
Medical Research	0	98	**98**	98
Purchase of new equipment	62	69	**131**	981
Building and Refurbishment	26	50	**76**	146
Grant funded activity	571	545	**1,116**	2,214
Support Costs	378	115	**493**	457
Auditors Remuneration *	16	4	**20**	22
Total	**965**	**664**	**1,629**	**2,693**

* The audit fee is stated on a gross basis. The amount net of VAT is £17k.

9. Grants Payable

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	**2025/2026 Total Funds £000**	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Grants payable to the following institutions:				
Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust	571	545	**1,116**	2,214
Total	**571**	**545**	**1,116**	**2,214**

9a. Grant Commitments

The charity has no grant commitments.

10. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Transfer between funds	60	(60)	**0**	0
Total	60	(60)	**0**	**0**

In the normal course of business it is necessary to make transfers between funds. In all cases such transfers are consistent with the terms of any restrictions and subject to approval in accordance with the scheme of delegation. During the year, management identified that expenditure of £60280 recognised in the prior year against unrestricted funds was eligible to be funded from restricted funds in accordance with the restrictions of a legacy D Murphy. To reflect the application of the restricted fund, a transfer from restricted funds to unrestricted funds has been recognised in the current year.

11. Allocation of support costs and overheads

	Raising Funds £000	Charitable Activities £000	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
External audit	0	20	20	22
Salaries and related costs	0	493	493	457
Total	**0**	**513**	**513**	**479**
Unrestricted Funds	0	394	394	381
Restricted Funds	0	119	119	98
Endowment Funds	0	0	0	0
Total	**0**	**513**	**513**	**479**

12. Trustees remuneration, benefits and expenses

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust is the Corporate Trustee. There are no individual Trustees receiving remuneration or expenses in 2025/26 or 2024/25.

13. Analysis of staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

	2025/2026 Total Funds £000	2024/2025 Total Funds £000
Salaries and wages	401	368
Social security costs	47	36
Employers pension contribution	52	50
Total	**500**	**454**

No staff are employed directly by the charity. All charity staff are employed by Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust and recharged to the charity under a service level agreement. The amount charged in 2025/26 was £500k (2024/25: £454k) excluding non pay related costs. The full amount charged including non pay related costs and net of other income is £493k (2024/25 £457k). The number of whole time equivalent staff recharged to the charity is 12 (2024/25: 13), this includes the Fundraising team, Charity Shop and support services.

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity considers its key management personnel to be the members of the Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust board, acting on behalf of the corporate trustee, and the charity director. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £96k (2024/25: £93k).

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 and fell within the following bands was:

	2025/2026 No.	2024/2025 No.
Emoluments Band		
£60,000 - £70,000	1	1
£90,000 - £100,000	1	1
Total	**2**	**2**

14. Tangible assets

	2025/2026 Buildings	2025/2026 IT	2025/2026 Total	2024/2025 Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April	197	13	210	222
Additions	0	0	0	7
Disposals	0	0	0	(19)
Revaluation	41	0	41	0
At 31 March	238	13	251	210
Depreciation				
At 1 April	35	4	39	38
Charge for the year	8	3	11	12
Disposals	0	0	0	(11)
At 31 March	43	7	50	39
Net Book Value				
At 1 April	162	9	171	184
At 31 March	**195**	**6**	**201**	**171**

Buildings costs relate to the construction of the parents accommodation in Paediatrics. Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust owns the freehold of the land on which the building is located.

Valuations for the accommodation are carried out professionally at intervals of between three and five years. The most recent valuation was carried out by Montagu Evans LLP with a valuation date of 31st March 2026. The property was valued on a Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) basis using Measured Existing Accommodation (MEA) floor areas to determine the replacement cost of the asset.

15. Fixed asset investment

	2025/2026 Listed Investments	2024/2025 Listed Investments
	£000	£000
Market value brought forward	4,811	4,839
Add: additions to investments at cost	1,434	1,004
Less: disposals at carrying value	(1,406)	(907)
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	490	(125)
Market value as at 31 March	**5,329**	4,811

Fixed asset investments by type

	2025/2026	2024/2025
	£000	£000
Global Equity	2,997	2,496
Bonds - Corporate	404	482
Alternatives	211	221
UK Equity	991	939
Property Funds	71	61
Bonds - Government	445	490
Total listed investments	5,119	4,689
Cash investments	210	122
Total	**5,329**	**4,811**

All investments are carried at their fair value. Listed investments are valued using quoted market prices at the reporting date provided by the Charity's investment manager.

16. Stock

		2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Merchandise		**1**	3
	Total	**1**	**3**

17. Debtors

	2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Amounts falling due within one year		
Prepayments & accrued income	**363**	137
Other debtors	**12**	4
Total	**375**	**141**

18. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Cash in hand	**169**	228
Liquidity Fund	**181**	788
Total	**350**	**1,016**

19. Creditors

	2025/2026 £000	2024/2025 £000
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Creditors	**0**	0
Accruals for grants owed to NHS bodies	**327**	362
Other Creditors	**49**	38
Total	**376**	**400**

Material Funds are considered to be those with a balance that exceeded £50,000 either at the beginning or end of the Financial Year

20. Funds	Balance 1 Apr 25 £000	Incoming resources £000	Resources expended £000	Transfers Other £000	Gains & losses £000	Balance 31 Mar 26 £000
Permanent Endowment Funds						
U Brown Legacy	62	0	0	0	0	**62**
Restricted Funds						
Smaller Restricted Legacies	2,288	255	(389)	0	196	**2,350**
Dandelion Fund	0	55	(1)	0	2	**56**
Family Accomodation - Asset	163	0	(8)	0	55	**210**
Lectureship Fund - Restricted	77	0	0	0	7	**84**
CTC Restricted Legacy	332	0	(6)	(60)	26	**292**
Burns Peterborough Grant	267	0	0	0	24	**291**
Spotlight Appeal Fund	93	15	(106)	0	4	**6**
All other Funds	501	26	(168)	0	39	**398**
Sub Total Restricted Funds	**3,721**	**351**	**(678)**	**(60)**	**353**	**3,687**
Unrestricted Funds						
Oncology Fund	52	7	(14)	4	4	**53**
Breast Fund	84	15	(34)	(2)	7	**70**
Chemotherapy Unit Fund	51	7	(25)	1	4	**38**
Maternity Bereavement Fund	115	63	(37)	(93)	7	**55**
Charity Equipment Fund	55	42	(57)	0	4	**44**
Staff Lottery Fund	51	89	(90)	(16)	4	**38**
Burns Centre	17	81	(13)	0	5	**90**
General Purposes Charity Fund	194	64	(99)	63	23	**245**
Charity Shop	84	93	(91)	(30)	6	**62**
Staff Wellbeing & Retention	120	1	(16)	(1)	10	**114**
Maternity Bereavement Service	0	16	(2)	91	5	**110**
All other Funds	1,136	595	(661)	43	99	**1,212**
Sub Total Unrestricted Funds	**1,959**	**1,073**	**(1,139)**	**60**	**178**	**2,131**
Total Funds	**5,742**	**1,424**	**(1,817)**	**0**	**531**	**5,880**

Material Funds are considered to be those with a balance that exceeded £50,000 either at the beginning or end of the Financial Year

20. Funds	Balance 1 Apr 24 £000	Incoming resources £000	Resources expended £000	Transfers Other £000	Gains & losses £000	Balance 31 Mar 25 £000
Permanent Endowment Funds						
U Brown Legacy	62	0	0	0	0	**62**
Restricted Funds						
Smaller Restricted Legacies	2,894	31	(343)	(294)	0	**2,288**
Smaller Restricted Donations	53	4	(11)	0	0	**46**
Family Accomodation - Asset	171	0	(8)	0	0	**163**
Polly Parrot Appeal - Children	52	18	(106)	40	0	**4**
Lectureship Fund - Restricted	77	0	0	0	0	**77**
CTC Restricted Legacy	366	0	(34)	0	0	**332**
Burns Peterborough Grant	267	0	0	0	0	**267**
Spotlight Appeal Fund	410	347	(886)	222	0	**93**
All other Funds	557	158	(251)	(13)	0	**451**
Sub Total Restricted Funds	**4,847**	**558**	**(1,639)**	**(45)**	**0**	**3,721**
Unrestricted Funds						
E.Loury Ward Fund	54	10	(22)	0	0	**42**
Oncology Fund	68	5	(16)	(5)	0	**52**
Breast Fund	79	29	(21)	(3)	0	**84**
Chemotherapy Unit Fund	54	29	(27)	(5)	0	**51**
Maternity Bereavement Fund	68	73	(25)	(1)	0	**115**
Charity Equipment Fund	1	21	(38)	71	0	**55**
Staff Lottery Fund	55	82	(84)	(2)	0	**51**
Basildon Unrestricted Legacy	66	0	(46)	(30)	0	**(10)**
General Purposes Charity Fund	475	89	(360)	115	(125)	**194**
Charity Shop	110	98	(65)	(59)	0	**84**
Staff Wellbeing & Retention	151	1	(32)	0	0	**120**
All other Funds	1,173	468	(484)	(36)	0	**1,121**
Sub Total Unrestricted Funds	**2,354**	**905**	**(1,220)**	**45**	**(125)**	**1,959**
Total Funds	**7,263**	**1,463**	**(2,859)**	**0**	**(125)**	**5,742**

21. Related party transactions

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust is the Corporate Trustee of the Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity. The members of the Board are listed on page 6 of the Annual Report.

During the year, none (2024/25: None) of the members of the Trust Board or key management staff or parties to them have undertaken any material transactions with the Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity.

The Chief Finance Officer is a Trustee of Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) which is a charitable organisation. The charity also considers this organisation to be a related party. During 2025/26, Nil was granted to Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust to engage HFMA for staff educational services (2024/25: £2k).

The Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity has made revenue and capital payments to the Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust where the Corporate Trustees are also members of the Trust Board.

An administrative recharge for the year 2025/26 of £493k (2024/25: £457k) was made by the Trust to the Charity.

During the year the Charity made grants of £1,121k (2024/25: £2,214k) to Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust.

At the year end, the Charity had a balance outstanding owed to the Trust of £327k (2024/25: £362k). This represents trade creditors paid by Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust, and recharged to Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust Charity.

22. Post balance sheet events

Subsequent to the year end, probate was granted in respect of the estate of R Spanton on 10 July 2026. This is a non-adjusting post balance sheet event.