Company registration number: 07371472
Charity registration number: 1140978

Devon in Sight
Your local sight loss charity

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as
Devon in Sight
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Clyst Works
Clyst Road
Topsham
Exeter
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Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

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Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Registration Number:	1140978
Company Registration Number	07371472
Country of Incorporation	England and Wales
Registered Office	Unit 3 Splatford Barton Splatford Land Kennford Exeter Devon EX6 7XY
Independent Examiner	Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants 2 Clyst Works Clyst Road Topsham Exeter EX3 0DB
Accountants	Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants 2 Clyst Works Clyst Road Topsham Exeter Devon EX3 0DB
Solicitors:	Michelmores Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 234 High Street Exeter EX4 3NL

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as Devon in Sight
Trustees' Report 2025/26

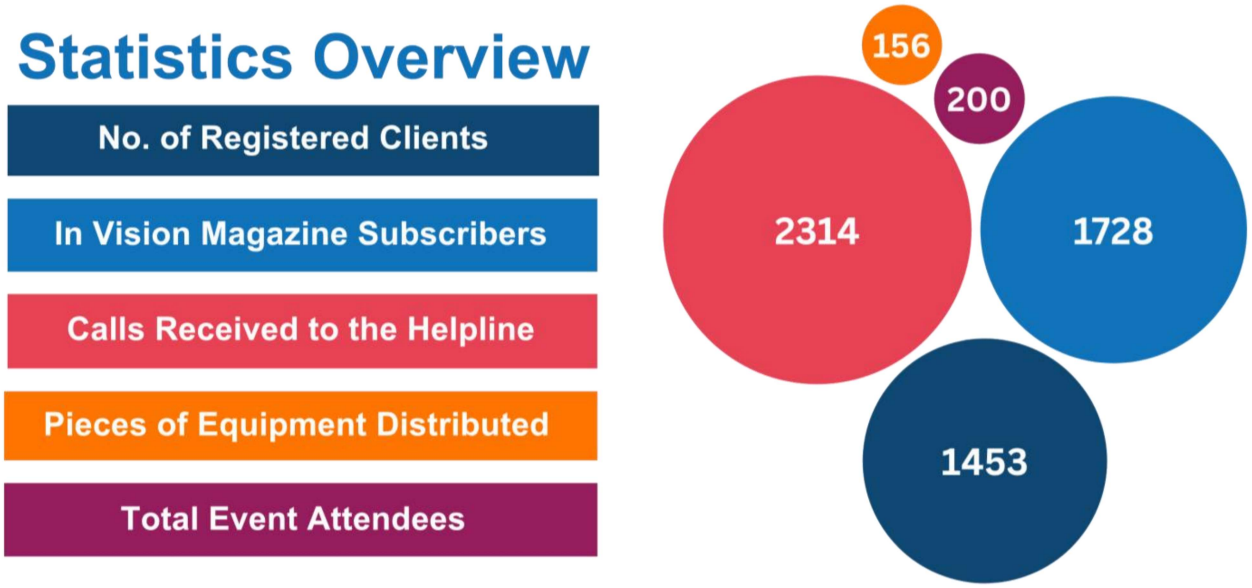
Summary & Highlights of the year

Devon in Sight celebrated its 100th anniversary in this report year. Over those 100 years, the types of services that the charity provides, has changed to reflect the changing nature of society and the needs of the visual impaired (VI) community. What hasn't changed throughout this time, is the commitment and determination of the charity to support the blind and visual impaired community across Devon.

We do this by providing a wide range of services to cater to a number of needs as expressed to us by our clients in a biennial survey.

Key details in numbers

- 1453 registered clients
- 2314 calls received on our helpline
- 22 Community Engagement events
- 1728 people accessed our quarterly magazine
- 156 pieces of equipment were provided to clients at no cost
- 34 clients benefited from a total of 221 hours of counselling
- 13 people referred to the Thomas Pocklington Trust Employment Hub
- 6 Living Well with Sight Loss events in different locations around Devon



Joint Report from the Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

The last year has seen a significant milestone being reached as the charity celebrated its centennial anniversary. Additionally, the charity won a national award for the quality of our counselling services.

The year was also marked by some significant changes in the management of the charity with both a new Chair of Trustees appointed in October 2025 and a new CEO taking over as the charity's year came to a close in March 2026.

Quite apart from the centenary anniversary, there are lots of things to celebrate from the year just gone; from the range of day-to-day activities undertaken by the charity, to the impact that these have had on our clients. This is clearly evidenced in the summary page at the front of this report and, more importantly, in the pages of impact reports that follow. Devon in Sight has continued to meet client needs.

Despite the many successes, 2025/26 was also a very challenging year for the charity. The economic environment made it increasingly difficult to raise the money necessary to maintain the charity and the services.

The level of legacy and grant income, which the charity has historically been reliant on, fell substantially, as did other sources of income, in something of a perfect storm. This resulted in expenditure being only 33% covered by income and further details can be found in the Treasurer's report. As a result of the income shortfall, we initiated a review at the end of the financial year in order to:

- Ensure that the charity is providing the correct services to clients and,
- Restructure the way in which the charity finances its operations

The review began at the end of March 2026 and continued into the 2026/27 financial year. It included extensive consultation with our clients, together with professionals we work with in the health & social care sector and other charities. The outcome of the review identified some clear areas that our clients need more help with. The main ones revolve around reducing social isolation and loneliness, and help with the use of technology to reduce digital exclusion.

The Future: 2026/27 and beyond

To address social isolation, we will introduce a number of new services:

- Befriending telephone services
- A walking buddy service
- Access to clubs and hobby groups
- Regular outings to the theatre and music venues
- Monthly coffee/lunch groups in up to 40 locations around the county

Allied to social isolation is digital exclusion. The move towards a digital society is gathering pace and those that don't, or can't, access digital services, are not only being left behind, but are being actively disadvantaged. From online banking to online doctors' appointments and test results via the NHS app, the visually impaired community face increasing barriers to core services. To address this, Devon in Sight is launching:

- A **H**ome **A**ssistive **T**echnology **S**ervice (**HATS**) to help people in their own homes with improved access through mainstream devices such as smart phones, TVs, tablets, smart speakers etc.

- Workshops for small groups of people in multiple locations around the county to teach the use of digital equipment and reduce social exclusion. This service will be in collaboration with the Adult Learning & Skills Team of Devon County Council.

Despite the challenges, we feel confident that the identified needs and exciting plans in place for the year ahead, will position the charity very well. This will significantly expand the scope and impact of services and generate a far more diversified and sustainable income base to secure the long-term future of the charity. Further details about the future funding mix can be found later in this report

Alongside the challenges, the changing economic and political environment also provide opportunities which the charity is determined to take. In time, we have plans to create hubs in multiple locations around the county from which to deliver services, including commissioned services from the NHS. This will start with a relocation of our head office in 2027 to a more accessible location and with additional space to house and deliver new services.

The commitment, innovation and passion of the team, underpinned by a strengthened financial position following the review, means that the charity is extremely well placed to not just survive, but to thrive in the years ahead.

Devon in Sight is proud to have reached 100 years of age, during which time it has delivered enormous benefit to the visual impaired community of Devon. The changes now underway, will help to ensure that the legacy of years gone by can continue in the decades ahead, with new and exciting services meeting the changing needs of the VI community in the 21st century. We invite all our clients, volunteers, staff, partners and funders to join us on this adventure.



Scott Bailey
Chair of Trustees



Richard Pike
Chief Executive Officer

Our Charitable Purpose

Devon in Sight exists to provide support to the visual impaired community of Devon via a wide range of supportive services. Additionally, to be an advocate to bring about societal change through education, understanding and integration of the visual impaired community into wider society.

Our Vision

Our vision is that everyone with sight loss in Devon receives the support they deserve to live life to the full.

Our Mission

Devon in Sight is a local charity providing a range of services for both blind and partially sighted people, their families, friends and carers. From advice and support in the early stages of diagnosis, through to ongoing support and guidance throughout their lives, we are there for every step of the journey. We offer practical help and emotional support to enable people to overcome the many challenges of living with sight loss and to maintain their independence, health and wellbeing.

The Prevalence of Sight Loss in Devon

The older you are, the greater your risk of sight loss. The proportion of people aged 75 years and over in Devon is higher than the average for England - 12% of the population are aged 75 plus, compared to 9% in the rest of England.

There are 54,957 people living with sight loss in Devon that impacts their daily life (RNIB, 2026). This equates to 1 in 24 people (2026 total population in Devon 1.3 million).

Future Projections

The numbers of people living with sight loss is predicted to double by 2050 (RNIB, 2026).

Impact

Devon in Sight is committed to demonstrating the value of the services it provides in a tangible and measurable way. Not only does it demonstrate fullfillment of the charity's purpose, but that more fundamentally, we are meeting the needs of the community of people that we exist to serve.

We also recognise that funders are facing the increasing challenge of deciding between an ever growing list of charities seeking financial support with, in many cases, a reduced sum of money to allocate.

We measure the outcomes and impact of our services in both a quantitative and qualitative way to get a full picture.

Counselling

One of our core services that has the greatest impact on clients' quality of life is our counselling service. We were delighted that our counselling service received a Customer Excellence Award from Visionary, the national umbrella organisation overseeing most charities operating in the field of visual impairment.

A total of 34 clients benefited from our telephone and face to face counselling services during the year. 221 hours of counselling were provided in total with the number of sessions ranging from 1 to 13 and the average number of sessions being 6.5

During the first session, counsellors carried out:

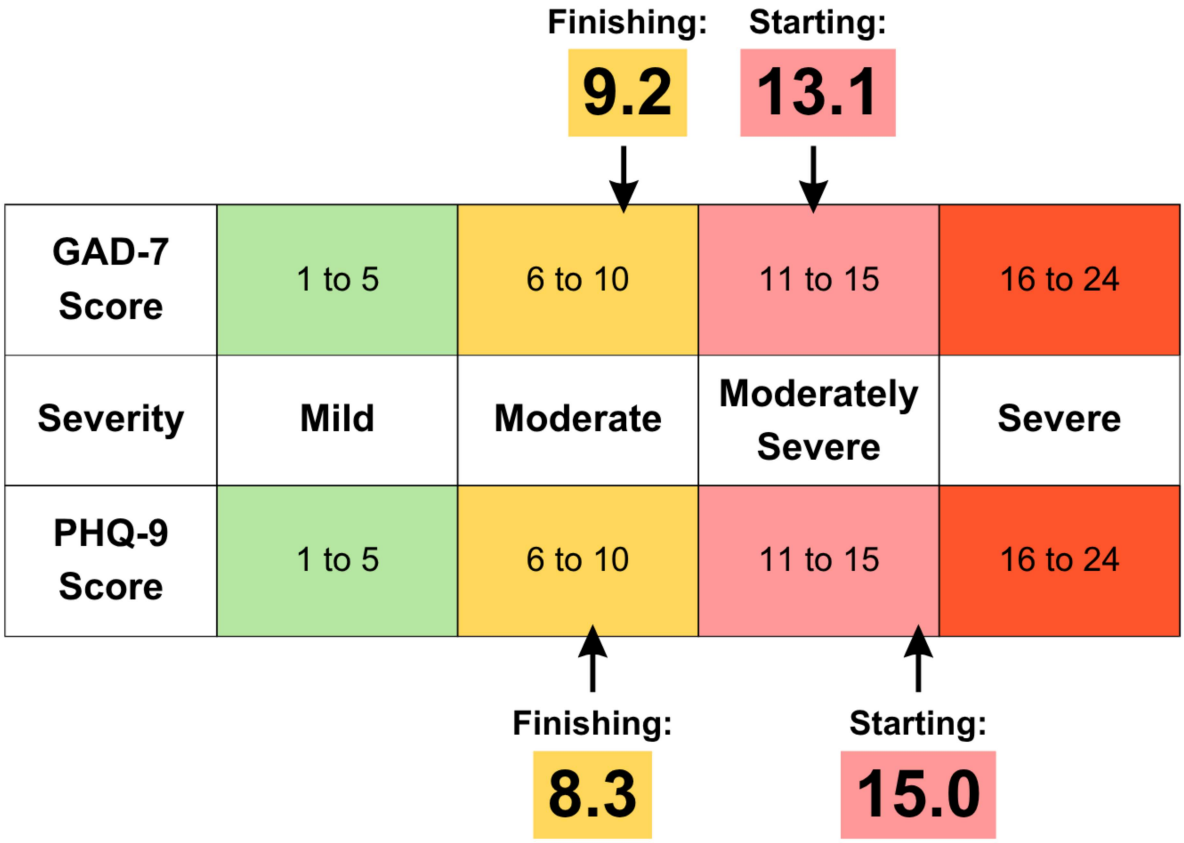
- A Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD-7) assessment, an NHS tool designed to identify a patient's stresses or worries that affects their daily life.
- A Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9), an NHS tool developed to diagnose and monitor the severity of depression in primary care.

This scoring was then repeated at the end of counselling to ascertain the movement in scores.

On average, clients shifted from the moderately severe category to the moderate category in in both PHQ-9 and GAD-7 scores. This represents a material shift in wellbeing. Such shifts can be attributed to things like: improved confidence and reduced absence from work/education.



Of the 34 clients, 10 started with an average PHQ-9 score in the highest (severe) category at 20.2 and finished at 12.5 accounting for the cohort with the largest shift.



Impact can be effectively measured in different ways but one of the best measures is by what the clients who benefit, tell us:

"I lost my sight suddenly and without warning on October 7th last year! I had only recently retired to Devon and was feeling very isolated vulnerable and frightened. All too quickly I was swallowed up by daily hospital appointments, tests and the whole gammut of the NHS machine. Finding Devon in Sight via my ECLO [Eye Clinic Liaison Officer] saved me. Their speedy response to my initial referral was exactly what I needed. I immediately agreed that one to one counselling would be really helpful.

(Claire) my counsellor has been central to my wellbeing, enabling me to move forward at my own pace and find a way to come to terms with my new devastating situation. Together we have tackled many issues from the seemingly ridiculous to the potentially life altering. I chose to extend my sessions after my initial six weeks and can happily say that I am now in a much better place personally and mentally than I have been for many years!

This is directly due to the excellent and timely counselling service provided by Devon in Sight I cannot thank them enough." **- Suzi D**

It is not just the person with a sight loss condition that is deeply impacted but their partner, children, parents and wider family and friends. Devon in Sight is there to support all those affected. The husband of a client wrote:

….."My problem, as her loving carer, is how to support [my wife] in this predicament. Anticipating her sight's decline, I thought the independence and self reliance, that I've had life-long, would see us through. But eventually I realised I was selling her short and needed to rethink, both for her sake and for my own peace of mind,

The counselling at Devon in Sight helped me immeasurably with that rethink. Not just by having someone to unburden to, but to help me consider things from other perspectives. As a result of the sessions at Splatford, I feel I now cope with the slings and arrows of our life better and with greater equanimity, most importantly to Sue's benefit.

Thank you Devon in Sight for being there." **- Tim H**

Helpline

Our Helpline is the first port of call for clients and professionals contacting Devon in Sight. People who have suddenly experienced a loss of sight or been recently diagnosed with a life changing condition often call in a state of extreme distress.

Our sight loss adviser is highly experienced at supporting people and meeting their needs. Often, this starts with an initial conversation to reassure clients that we understand their situation and are there to support them. Subsequent conversations take place at the pace that the client can cope with and cover a wide range of matters.

Our helpline really is a lifeline for so many people calling us in distress about their situation and feeling that they have nowhere else to turn.

"If I get stuck I know I can ring you to see if there is something you can do to help me. It is reassuring that you are there."

"I appreciate that 'Devon in Sight' still keeps in touch with me - thank you."

"Telephone - friendly, helpful voice. Immediate response (fantastic) to a cry for help. Advice and practical help."

"…..knowing a friendly person on the phone who understands how challenging life can be and helpful."

Living Well with Sight Loss Events (LWWSL)

It was another successful year with 6 LWWSL events in different locations around the county taking place from Easter to the autumn. These events bring together a large number of organisations who can provide services to those living with sight loss. Examples include; Devon Carers, Fire & Rescue Services, Guide Dogs, Rehabilitation Officers for the VI (ROVIs) from Devon County Council Sensory Team, Macular Society and companies that provide assistive technology for the VI community.

The events continue to be well attended (200 clients over the course of the year), particularly by those with a new sight loss condition or by those whose vision has deteriorated to the next level. As a result, we feel that these events are vitally important to retain going forward but will look to advertise them more widely in the local areas involved in order to boost attendance outside of our existing list of clients.



We will also be looking to introduce new exhibitors in order to keep the events fresh and relevant to clients and their changing needs. New exhibitors planned include; technology tutors, companies specialising in the provision of holidays for the VI community, and training and access to smart glasses such as Meta Glasses.

We intend to change the name of the event to "ReVItalise" in 2027 to prevent confusion with the RNIB who originally used the LWWSL title.

Chit-Chat Calls

Our regular Chit Chat calls are a human contact lifeline to many of our clients who live alone and are unable to leave their homes, either due to invalidity or as a result of their sight loss condition and lack of transport infrastructure. They provide a safe space to talk about shared interests and act as a peer support network, encouraging those who are going through a difficult period of life. The frequency of events has varied throughout the year due to variable numbers attending but a return to a fixed weekly timeslot (as requested by our clients in the recent survey) has resulted in much improved attendance and greater continuity. There were 175 client attendances on a call during the year.

In Vision – Quarterly Magazine



Our quarterly newsletter is an important part of our strategy for communicating with our clients. Many of them are not digitally connected and so the large font, printed magazine is our primary method for informing them of upcoming events as well as thanking and celebrating our generous fundraising supporters. Approximately 1282 copies are posted each quarter with an additional 130 sent via audio recording and 351 via email link.

As the range of services is expanded, we are committed to ensuring that In-Vision evolves to accommodate the wider breath of services as well as engaging clients more widely. It is a key “shop window” alongside our website and both will see big changes taking place in 2026 and onwards.

Community Events

As a “silent disability” sight loss is widely misunderstood in the general population and there are many false beliefs about the VI community in general. These create unnecessary and unhelpful barriers to those with a visual impairment from integrating fully into a well informed and welcoming society and work place.

Whilst the trend in the last decade towards mainstream educational provision for children with sight loss (as opposed to segregated, specialist provision) will help improve this situation over time, there remains a large gap in understanding in the older generations.

Engagement within the community is therefore an important part of the charity’s role. It facilitates greater understanding, tolerance of, and empathy with the challenges that those living with a sight condition face. Over the course of the year, our Fundraising & Community Engagement Officer attended 22 events and gave presentation to local community groups and represented the VI community at various events and forums.

Equipment Bursary

The equipment bursary provides a range of equipment to those experiencing sight loss who can’t afford to purchase it themselves. Generally, this is relatively low value items (less than £50) but are things that can have a big impact on the ability to live safely and independently.

A level liquid indicator is the item most frequently provided which enables a vision impaired individual to safely fill a cup with water to the correct level and avoid spillages that could be dangerous. Such simple tasks (to the sighted community) make a massive difference to the confidence and independence of a VIP. A range of other equipment from magnifiers, portable lights, speaking clocks, large button telephones and many others are provided via the bursary. During the year, items totalling nearly £2,000 were provided to 79 clients

Sight Loss Forum

The Sight Loss Forum (SLF) is a group of people with varying levels of sight loss, who meet on a regular basis to discuss issues that the VI community face in day-to-day life. Of particular relevance are issues that could be resolved by a change in practice by different authorities. An example is liaising with the health authority to issue all letters (not just those from the eye clinic) to VIPs in larger font to improve accessibility.

Members of the SLF are often co-opted onto consultation committees. For instance, our Fundraising and Community Engagement Officer (who is severely sight impaired) attended numerous meetings of a forum set up by Exeter Airport to improve accessibility and this has resulted in a much-improved travelling experience for people using the airport.

In Partnership with The Thomas Pocklington Trust (TPT)

Working in partnership with other organisations is vital to the provision of services to the VI community. As economic conditions result in the restructuring and withdrawal of services from lots of organisations, successful collaboration between partner organisation becomes even more important.

This was the 2nd year of our partnership with the Thomas Pocklington Trust. Over the course of the year, 13 clients were referred by Devon in Sight to the TPT, Works for Me programme and this relationship continues to greatly benefit our working age clients.

“Since being put in touch with the Thomas Pocklington Trust’s ‘Works for Me’ employment team by Devon in Sight, my confidence and drive as regards job seeking has increased a great deal. The members of the employment team are extremely knowledgeable of the challenges faced by visually impaired job seekers, having often experienced them first-hand. They are always willing to talk through any issues being experienced, and to offer their own perspective. For me, one of the most useful aspects of the service is the proof-reading of CVs, cover letters, and application forms. They’ll keep an eye out for formatting inconsistencies and grammatical errors, which could go undetected by a screen-reader.

Overall, the service has genuinely improved my quality of life, especially in terms of confidence and motivation" – **Sam W**

Looking Ahead

Next year will be busy with a number of clear objectives that fall under one of two broad headings

- Developing a range of new, client-focussed, community-based services.
- Establishing a more diversified and sustainable funding base to underpin the delivery and long-term future of new services.

Services

Having consulted widely with our clients, we are co-designing new services based on what they have told us they need and want, to improve their quality of life. These are broadly grouped around 2 key areas:

- A range of social groups, leisure and entertainment activities with transport provided where needed.
- Supported learning with how to use technology.

Brief details of these initiatives were provided earlier in this report and will be reported on in full in next year's report as they begin to be rolled out.

It is evident that the charity's office space is not going to be suitable for the needs of the charity moving forward. Our clients tell us that we are not accessible enough and the space available is not sufficient to house additional services. The charity will therefore be looking for more suitable office space on completion of the existing lease in 2027.

This will facilitate a new resource centre that clients will be able to visit, to explore and experiment with different equipment in order to assist them. From our client survey, this was one of the greatest needs identified with the same message coming from the hospital eye clinics and Sensory Team at Devon County Council.

We will also be looking at whether the charity is suitably placed to provide some commissioned services on behalf of the NHS where we feel that services to the VI community could be enhanced by our contribution. A larger, better located office will position the charity to take advantage of opportunities that might present themselves.

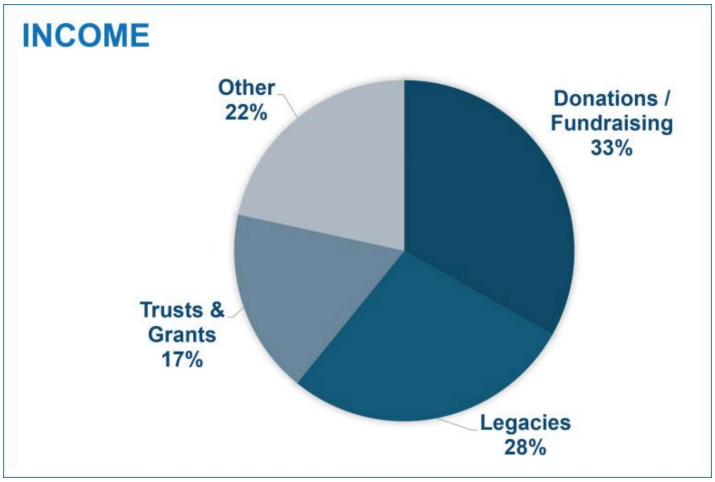
Income

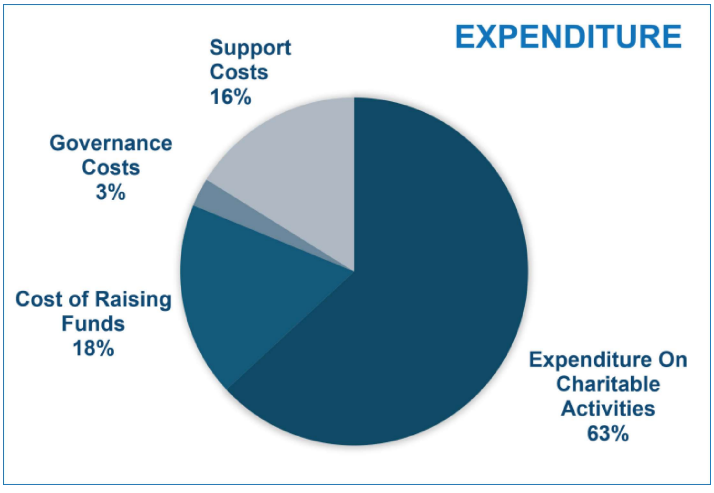
We aim to reduce our dependence on Trust & Grant funding, and to instead, generate more income from a variety of different streams. To facilitate this, we are:

- Launching a monthly lottery called “Eyes on the Jackpot”.
- Launching a Charity of the Year programme to attract corporate supporters.
- Relaunching our Friends of Devon in Sight programme with a range of benefits for regular givers.
- Launching a Legacy Service through partnership with local firms of solicitors for will writing services.
- Boosting our fundraising efforts through expansion of our flagship Race Across Devon event and other exclusive events such as Dine@The Palace.

Financial Summary

The 2025/26 financial year was a very challenging year for the charity in respect of generating income with total income falling by 54% from £206k to £94k. The biggest cause of this decrease was a drop in legacy income of 79% from £125k to £26k. Funding from Trusts and Grants dropped modestly, whilst the other sources of income remained largely static.





Expenditure increased by 5.7% in the year to £283k with the majority of this accounted for by increased employment costs. Inflationary pay increases and increased employer NI costs accounted for the bulk of this.

The result of these changes to income and expenditure meant that only 33% of the charity’s income was covered by income received. The remaining 67% was

covered by using the charity's reserves. Due to the historic volatility of received income, the charity has, in the past, maintained a level of reserves in excess of that held by some other charities. The 2025/26 year is a good example of why that continues to be a prudent policy for the Trustees to adopt.

The level of reserves fell during the year by £158k to £431k representing 1.5 years of expenditure. The charity remains in a financially secure position with a healthy level of reserves to cushion the ebb and flow of income in the increasingly tough and unpredictable economic environment.

Despite the remaining levels of reserves, if the imbalance between income and expenditure continues at the same rate for an extended period of time, the reserves will eventually be expended. The previous section outlines the extensive plans that have been created to increase the service delivery of the charity going forward, and these improvements to client services will result in the expenditure of the charity increasing. These improvements will largely depend on the successful recruitment of a large team of volunteers which will take time to achieve and therefore the cost increases in the next year are expected to be modest.

Alongside these changes to services, plans to increase the amount and sources of income are also being implemented to leave the charity less dependent on unpredictable sources of income such as legacies and Trusts & Grants. Again, these will take time to establish and grow so the charity will continue to rely heavily on Trust & Grant income in the next (2026/27) year.

The changes to both services and income generation are expected to take a 2-year period to fully implement. As a result, a deficit budget has been approved by the Trustees for 2026/27, at a much-reduced rate, with a balanced budget predicted in the 2027/28 year and reserve levels not dropping below the 1-year minimum set by the Trustees.

Thank you

The 2025/26 year was one of enormous contrasts. On the one hand, it was a year of celebration and achievement with the centenary milestone being reached and receiving the Customer Excellence Award for our counselling services. On the other hand, it was a stark reminder that what may have worked in the past, won't necessarily work in the future.

An enormous amount of work has been done in partnership with our clients to map out what the future path of Devon in Sight looks like. It is therefore appropriate to start by thanking all of our many clients for their continued support over the last 12 months. Your optimism, encouragement and willing engagement, have spurred the whole team on as we endeavour to develop more services in order to help you.

We would also like to say thank you to our, (currently) small band of volunteers who have continued to support the charity in a number of ways. These include our Trustees and ambassadors who give freely of their time and who continue to push Devon in Sight forward and promote it.

We are very grateful to all of our funders who, despite an increasingly challenging economic environment, have stood by us and supported us throughout the year.

The year was a difficult one for the staff team and they deserve a special thanks as they worked hard to juggle the challenges of a reduced income stream with the need to maintain service levels. It was also significant for the departure of both the Chair of Trustees (Dr Adrian Jacobs) and the long standing Chief Executive Officer (Grahame Flyn). Both of them leave with our best wishes in their retirement.

It was also with great sadness that Pepsi, Mandy's guide dog, also retired at the end of the year after many years of loyal service, but there is always great excitement when she occasionally comes back to visit the office!

Finally, we would like to extend a thank you to Lady Devon, our long-standing patron for her continued support and advocacy of the charity.

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as Devon in Sight
Trustees' Report 2025/26

Statutory Report & Accounts

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005. The charity was founded in 1925 and was incorporated in April 2011.

Trustees:

Dr Adrian Jacobs	Chair (Retired 18.11.2025) Trustee Safeguarding Lead
Mr Scott Bailey	Chair
Mr Steve Muncer	Treasurer
Dr Dave Adams	Optometry Lead
Mr Paul Hannan	Safeguarding Lead (Sabbatical 23.10.2025)
Ms Marilyn Minter-Newson	Safeguarding Lead (Retired 13.01.2026)
Mrs Alvis Merral-Spiers (VI)	Trustee (Appointed 18.11.2025)
Mrs Sharon Wood	Trustee (Co-opted 22.01.2026)

Honorary Life Members:

Mrs Gwyn Dickinson MBE
Mr Peter Wareham
Dr Adrian Jacobs

Patron:

Diana Devon, The Dowager Countess of Devon

Structure, Governance and Management

The company (Number 07371472) is a Registered Charity (Number 1140978) and is constituted under its Articles of Association dated 9th September 2010. The management of the affairs of the Charity is vested in the Trustees. The

Trustees are the Directors of the Company together with not more than ten members elected by the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Trustees.

Shortly after Trustees are appointed, they attend the main premises for induction meetings with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. An induction pack is given to the prospective Trustees followed by induction and training.

Sub Committee Working Groups may address certain matters. As part of their functions the Sub Committees may make recommendations and shall always be accountable to the Trustees. The Trustees are also empowered to appoint a Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer, and staff as they deem necessary and may determine their remuneration, duties, and conditions of service. The Articles of the Association dated 9th September 2010 are available for inspection at the registered office address.

Public Benefit Statement

When planning activities for the year the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of health, and the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Our charity supports people in Devon living with sight loss to lead independent, fulfilling lives. We provide a range of free services including; information and advice, assistive technology training, emotional support, and community activities.

Over the past year, we have helped hundreds of individuals adapt to changes in their vision, access essential resources, and connect with others to reduce isolation. Our work benefits not only those directly affected by sight loss, but also their families, carers, and the wider community by promoting inclusion and understanding.

All activities are delivered in line with our charitable purposes and are accessible to anyone in Devon experiencing visual impairment.

Our Staff

In March 2026 the staff team consisted of five full-time staff and two part-time Support Works funded by Access to Work and a Guide Dog.

Grahame Flynn	Chief Executive Officer (Retired 31.03.2026)
Richard Pike	Chief Executive Officer (Joined 23.03.2026)
Tessa Barrett	Head of Services
Louise Millington	Sight Loss Adviser
Sarah Small	Head Office & Marketing Manager
Mandy Darling (VI)	Community Engagement & Fundraising Officer
Fiona Hess	Access Assistant
Dr Lisa Gould	Access Assistant (Joined 08.11.2025)
Pepsi	Guide Dog

Financial Review
by Steve Muncer, Honorary Treasurer

Review of the Financial Year 2025/26

(Note: prior year figures shown in parenthesis)

2025/26 has proved to be a very challenging year, particularly for income generation, and as a consequence we continue to have to use our reserves to support our day to day services. While our reserves still appear relatively healthy, they are diminishing rapidly.

In the year we had a deficit of £166,156, significantly worse than the prior year £67,653, predominantly because of lower income.

Income, at £93,996, fell nearly 55% compared to £205,617 in the previous year, due mainly to a fall in legacy income of £98,902 and a £22,252 reduction in Trust and Grants. All other income sources remained relatively flat, although we did benefit from the Government increasing the Small Business Employment Allowance from £5,000 to £10,500 to help ameliorate the increase in Employers National Insurance costs.

Expenditure in 2025/26 was £282,640, a 5.7% increase compared to the prior year £267,264, with staff costs, at 70%, remaining by far the biggest element of our cost base. The main driver for the higher expenditure was a £17,825 increase in staff costs, reflecting both pay rises and the hike in Employer's NI rates. Additional costs were incurred on the AGM and Annual Conference, in

part to celebrate our Centennial, but these were offset by reductions in our Equipment Bursary and prior year non recurring Event costs.

The deficit in the year has been reduced by a welcome gain in the year on investments of £22,488 compared to a loss of £6,006 in 2024/25.

There was no capital expenditure in the year.

Total funds at 31st March 2026 stood at £432,177 (£598,333) and comprised furniture and equipment of just £6,908 (£8,525) and liquid reserves of £431,477 (£589,808). All the funds are unrestricted.

Although falling fast, our current reserves reflect the sale of our previous offices in Topsham and the significant legacy monies we have received over the previous few years. Together these non-recurring events have contributed well over £900,000 to our liquid reserves and enabled us to continue to fund existing services. However, the scale of our liquid reserves continues to present challenges for future fundraising as we can't rely on large windfalls and need to continue to seek reliable and ongoing sources of funds. This is a priority for the current financial year.

Funding

Funding our services remains key and we would like to thank all our funders, sponsors and donors for their support, especially the following:

Forest Hill Trust
Tesco Community Grants
See the Future
Sight & Sound
Professor Stanga Clinic
Spa Medica
Honiton Lions
All Soul's, St George's, St Thomas & Courtland Masonic Lodges
Seaton & District VIP club
Visionary
Dr T Harrod
Les Mazurek
Mr & Mrs P T Hirst
Friends of Devon in Sight

We also wish to re-iterate our sincere thanks to the friends and family of Mrs Anita Fearnside for her very generous legacy and also those who arranged in memoriam collections.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank Mrs Linda Garaway, who retired last October, after more than 20 years of volunteering as the charity's Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer. She was very much the 'steady hand on the tiller' and her support and advice is greatly missed.

Our Reserves Policy

There has been no change in our reserve policy in the year and we continue with a minimum level of 12 months operating costs.

With the earlier proceeds from the sale of our office and recent large legacies we are conscious that our liquid reserves appear comparatively strong. However, we no longer have the security of owning our own building and have no statutory funding or guaranteed income streams. We currently have underlying losses of around £100,000 per annum and the Trustees recognise that we will continue to run down reserves over the next few years to both subsidise existing services and also to provide match/seed funding to make us more attractive to potential future funders.

Our Designated Funds

Trustees have reviewed existing and new designated funds as follows:-

Building Fund

During 2018/19 the Trustees disposed of our previously owned property in Topsham and moved into rented accommodation at Splatford Barton. Our 6 year lease expired in July 2024 and we explored various options including purchasing and relocating to alternative premises. Although we eventually decided to remain in Splatford and renew our lease for a further 6 years we still think it is sensible to keep the existing £250,000 designated fund

Redundancy Fund

Whilst not an immediate issue the Trustees believe that it is prudent to set aside monies within the general reserve for potential redundancy costs if the charity were ever to close. Following a review, the Trustees believe the existing £35,000 allowance is adequate.

Service Support Fund

This fund was originally set aside to recognise that we didn't have the capacity to readily react to potential negative external events. On reflection this is a risk all small charities have to live with and manage as best as they can. Trustees now believe that it is no longer appropriate to hold designated funds for this purpose and have now removed the previous provision of £50,000.

Match/Seed fund

We remain heavily reliant on attracting Trust and Grant funders. It is a very competitive market, not helped by our current level of liquid reserves. We believe that if we demonstrate that we were prepared to provide either our own seed or match funding we would be better placed to attract additional external funding. As a minimum the Trustees consider that this fund ought to be maintained at £50,000.

Our Investment Policy

There was no change in the investment policy during the year and at the year end we continued to hold a mix of fixed security and equity investments managed on our behalf by Rowan Dartington and fixed term notice accounts.

Although we had a positive return in the year, historically performance has been volatile and there are concerns that equity values are close to an all time high and there could well be some form of correction in the short to medium turn. Furthermore, we recognise that our reserves are reducing and without a major turnaround in the coming year we will be near our minimum 12 month operating cost reserve limit at the end of 2026/27. In these circumstances it is very questionable whether we should be holding equities and securities better suited for longer term investment.

Following a review in the new financial year the Trustees have decided to liquidate all their investments managed by Rowan Dartington and switch to a self managed mix of short term gilts, fixed term notice accounts and a maximum 25% in medium risk tracker funds. We believe that such a change will reduce risk, provide stability without having any material impact on short to medium returns.

The charity will not invest directly into companies that derive more than 10% of turnover from the manufacture, distribution or sale of tobacco or tobacco related products in recognition of the connection between tobacco use and sight loss.

Our Risk Management Policy

The Senior Management Team and Trustees review the risks the charity is exposed to on an ongoing basis. They have recently undertaken a SWAT & PESTLE analysis with the intention of refreshing the risk register and mitigations over the coming months.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision relating to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006..

The annual report was approved by the Board of trustees of the charity on 15th October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



…….
Mr S Muncer
Honorary Treasurer

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Devon County Association for the Blind ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Devon County Association for the Blind ('the Company')

.....
Keith Tuvey FCCA
Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants

2 Clyst Works
Clyst Road
Topsham
Exeter
EX3 0DB

15 October 2026

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

Current financial year	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2026 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	47,443	47,443
Other trading activities	5	18,684	18,684
Investment income	6	17,369	17,369
Other income	7	10,500	10,500
Total income		93,996	93,996
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	8	(63,516)	(63,516)
Charitable activities	9	(219,124)	(219,124)
Total expenditure		(282,640)	(282,640)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		22,488	22,488
Net expenditure		(166,156)	(166,156)
Net movement in funds		(166,156)	(166,156)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		598,333	598,333
Total funds carried forward	23	432,177	432,177

The notes on pages 30 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

Prior financial year	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	162,109	4,680	166,789
Charitable activities	4	1,261	-	1,261
Other trading activities	5	12,736	-	12,736
Investment income	6	19,831	-	19,831
Other income	7	5,000	-	5,000
Total income		200,937	4,680	205,617
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	8	(60,639)	(3,013)	(63,652)
Charitable activities	9	(189,280)	(14,332)	(203,612)
Total expenditure		(249,919)	(17,345)	(267,264)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		(6,006)	-	(6,006)
Net expenditure		(54,988)	(12,665)	(67,653)
Transfers between funds		(8,630)	8,630	-
Net movement in funds		(63,618)	(4,035)	(67,653)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		661,951	4,035	665,986
Total funds carried forward	23	598,333	-	598,333

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2025 is shown in note 23.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

(Registration number: 07371472)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2025 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	17	6,908	8,525
Investments	18	315,079	301,462
		321,987	309,987
Current assets			
Debtors	19	33,950	6,599
Cash at bank and in hand	20	86,219	293,058
		120,169	299,657
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	21	(9,979)	(11,311)
Net current assets		110,190	288,346
Net assets		432,177	598,333
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		432,177	598,333
Total funds	23	432,177	598,333

The notes on pages 30 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

(Registration number: 07371472)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

For the financial year ending 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 26 to 53 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr S Muncer
Trustee

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:
Unit 3 Splatford Barton
Splatford Land
Kennford
Exeter
Devon
EX6 7XY

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 15 October 2026.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Devon County Association for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The accounts are presented in £ Sterling and are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments
All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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 by the charity 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 these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administrator/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the charity.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs
These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation
The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and office equipment	15% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line basis
Freehold interest in land and buildings	2% straight line basis

Fixed asset investments
Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	15,396	15,396	13,587
Legacies	26,000	26,000	124,902
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	6,047	6,047	28,300
	47,443	47,443	166,789

4 Income from charitable activities

	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Commissioned work	-	1,261

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Events income;			
Annual show and AGM	11,924	11,924	6,424
Local fundraising income	3,873	3,873	6,312
Advertising and commission income	2,887	2,887	-
	18,684	18,684	12,736

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	7,319	7,319	11,233
Other income from fixed asset investments	10,050	10,050	8,598
	17,369	17,369	19,831

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
UK Government grants - employment allowance	10,500	10,500	5,000

8 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Direct costs £	Allocated support costs £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	51,077	12,439	63,516	58,870

b) Investment management costs

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Other investment management costs;				
Other portfolio management costs		4,963	4,963	4,782
		4,963	4,963	4,782

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2026 £
Information advice and guidance	47,504	10,905	58,409
Independent living	48,210	12,546	60,756
Health and wellbeing	48,308	9,646	57,954
Influencing change	34,423	7,582	42,005
	178,445	40,679	219,124

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £
Information advice and guidance	50,743	6,774	57,517
Independent living	46,328	6,511	52,839
Health and wellbeing	47,359	5,535	52,894
Influencing change	35,472	4,890	40,362
	179,902	23,710	203,612

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £7,494 (2025 - £6,424) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 10 for further details.

10 Analysis of governance and support costs

Basis of allocation

Reference	Method of allocation
A	Costs associated with fundraising
B	Costs allocated on the basis of management assessment

Support costs allocated to raising funds

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2026 £
Fundraising	A	1,755	148	8,880	454	1,142	60	12,439

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 £
Fundraising	A	1,457	73	4,286	264	542	342	6,964

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2026 £
Information advice and guidance	B	1,539	129	7,784	398	1,001	54	10,905
Independent living	B	1,770	149	8,956	458	1,151	62	12,546
Health and wellbeing	B	1,361	114	6,886	352	885	48	9,646
Influencing change	B	1,069	90	5,411	277	697	38	7,582
		5,739	482	29,037	1,485	3,734	202	40,679

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 £
Information advice and guidance	B	1,419	71	4,169	256	527	333	6,775
Independent living	B	1,364	68	4,006	246	506	320	6,510
Health and wellbeing	B	1,159	58	3,406	210	431	272	5,536
Influencing change	B	1,024	51	3,009	185	380	240	4,889
		4,966	248	14,590	897	1,844	1,165	23,710

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	3,852	3,852	3,720
Trustees remuneration and expenses	60	60	69
Annual General Meeting	2,184	2,184	1,307
Other governance costs	1,398	1,398	1,328
	7,494	7,494	6,424

11 Total resources expended

	Direct charitable activity £	Direct fundraising £	Indirect charitable expenditure £	Governance £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Emotional support costs	12,856	-	-	-	12,856	11,646
Equipment donations	993	-	-	-	993	3,087
Wages, agency staff and training	122,948	37,495	37,413	-	197,856	180,031
Commissioned work	-	-	-	-	-	1,231
Premises costs	14,975	4,579	4,569	-	24,123	22,646
Office and IT costs	8,420	2,574	2,570	-	13,564	15,087
Sight loss events	1,099	-	-	-	1,099	1,237
Volunteers travel	90	28	28	-	146	581
Trustee expenses and travel	768	235	234	60	1,297	1,519
Fundraising and DC Show	-	391	-	-	391	4,703
In Vision Magazine	7,089	-	-	-	7,089	6,781
Promotional and AGM	8,203	505	504	2,184	11,396	7,225
Independent examiners fees	-	-	-	3,852	3,852	3,720
Insurance	-	-	-	1,398	1,398	1,328
Legal and professional	-	4,963	-	-	4,963	4,782
Depreciation and loss on disposal	1,004	307	306	-	1,617	1,660
	178,445	51,077	45,624	7,494	282,640	267,264

12 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	1,617	1,660

13 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Mrs M Minter-Newson
£94 (2025: £558) of expenses were reimbursed to Mrs M Minter-Newson during the year.

Amounts reimbursed for travel expenses

Mr Paul Hannan
£Nil (2025: £104) of expenses were reimbursed to Mr Paul Hannan during the year.

Amounts reimbursed for travel expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

14 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	171,469	157,440
Social security costs	21,371	15,450
Pension costs	4,681	4,589
	197,521	177,479

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2026 No	2025 No
Administration and support	5	5
	5	5

5 (2025 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £4,681 (2025 - £4,589).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

15 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2026 £	2025 £
Examination of the financial statements	3,852	3,720

16 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

17 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2025	16,484	16,484
At 31 March 2026	16,484	16,484
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2025	7,959	7,959
Charge for the year	1,617	1,617
At 31 March 2026	9,576	9,576
Net book value		
At 31 March 2026	6,908	6,908
At 31 March 2025	8,525	8,525

18 Fixed asset investments

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2025	301,462	301,462
Revaluation	16,606	16,606
Additions	104,188	104,188
Disposals	(107,177)	(107,177)
At 31 March 2026	315,079	315,079
Net book value		
At 31 March 2026	315,079	315,079
At 31 March 2025	301,462	301,462

The market value of the listed investments at 31 March 2026 was £315,079 (2025 - £301,462).

19 Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Accrued income	33,950	6,599

20 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash on hand	50	80
Cash at bank	86,169	292,978
	86,219	293,058

21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Other taxation and social security	4,193	3,376
Other creditors	2,090	4,395
Accruals	3,696	3,540
	9,979	11,311

22 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

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

	2026 £	2025 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	13,680	14,436
Between one and five years	3,405	17,085
	17,085	31,521

23 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
Unrestricted Income Fund	199,464	99,880	(282,642)	50,000	-	66,702
Revaluation reserve	13,869	-	-	-	16,606	30,475
	213,333	99,880	(282,642)	50,000	16,606	97,177
Designated						
Redundancy Fund	35,000	-	-	-	-	35,000
Building Fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Service Support Fund	50,000	-	-	(50,000)	-	-
Match/Seed Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
	385,000	-	-	(50,000)	-	335,000
Total funds	598,333	99,880	(282,642)	-	16,606	432,177

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
Unrestricted Income Fund	252,076	200,937	(249,919)	(3,630)	-	199,464
Revaluation reserve	19,875	-	-	-	(6,006)	13,869
	271,951	200,937	(249,919)	(3,630)	(6,006)	213,333
Designated						
Redundancy Fund	40,000	-	-	(5,000)	-	35,000
Building Fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Service Support Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
Match/Seed Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
	390,000	-	-	(5,000)	-	385,000
Total unrestricted funds	661,951	200,937	(249,919)	(8,630)	(6,006)	598,333

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted						
Talking Computers	953	-	(1,019)	66	-	-
Emotional support/counselling	3,082	-	(11,646)	8,564	-	-
Devon County Show	-	4,680	(4,680)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	4,035	4,680	(17,345)	8,630	-	-
Total funds	665,986	205,617	(267,264)	-	(6,006)	598,333

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Details of designated funds are included in the Treasurer's report.

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Total funds at 31 March 2026
	General	Designated	
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	6,908	-	6,908
Fixed asset investments	-	315,079	315,079
Current assets	100,248	19,921	120,169
Current liabilities	(9,979)	-	(9,979)
Total net assets	97,177	335,000	432,177

	Unrestricted funds		Total funds at 31 March 2025
	General	Designated	
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,525	-	8,525
Fixed asset investments	-	301,462	301,462
Current assets	216,119	83,538	299,657
Current liabilities	(11,311)	-	(11,311)
Total net assets	213,333	385,000	598,333

25 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year

26 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Financing cash flows £	Other non cash changes £	At 31 March 2026 £
Cash at bank and in hand	293,058	(206,839)	-	86,219
Debt due within one year	(11,311)	1,332	-	(9,979)
Current asset investments	316,586	22,745	16,606	355,937
Net debt	598,333	(182,762)	16,606	432,177

	At 1 April 2024 £	Financing cash flows £	Other non cash changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	271,241	21,817	-	293,058
Debt due within one year	(11,395)	84	-	(11,311)
Current asset investments	405,496	(82,904)	(6,006)	316,586
Net debt	665,342	(61,003)	(6,006)	598,333

Company registration number: 07371472
Charity registration number: 1140978

Devon in Sight
Your local sight loss charity

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as
Devon in Sight
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Clyst Works
Clyst Road
Topsham
Exeter
EX3 0DB

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

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Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Registration Number:	1140978
Company Registration Number	07371472
Country of Incorporation	England and Wales
Registered Office	Unit 3 Splatford Barton Splatford Land Kennford Exeter Devon EX6 7XY
Independent Examiner	Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants 2 Clyst Works Clyst Road Topsham Exeter EX3 0DB
Accountants	Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants 2 Clyst Works Clyst Road Topsham Exeter Devon EX3 0DB
Solicitors:	Michelmores Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 234 High Street Exeter EX4 3NL

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as Devon in Sight
Trustees' Report 2025/26

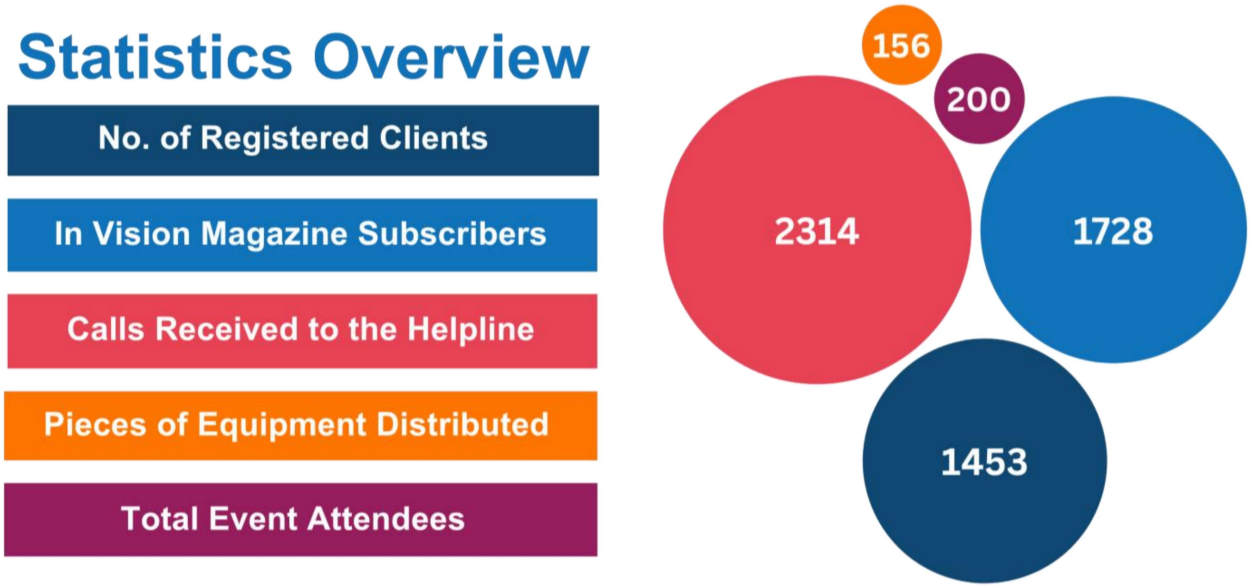
Summary & Highlights of the year

Devon in Sight celebrated its 100th anniversary in this report year. Over those 100 years, the types of services that the charity provides, has changed to reflect the changing nature of society and the needs of the visual impaired (VI) community. What hasn't changed throughout this time, is the commitment and determination of the charity to support the blind and visual impaired community across Devon.

We do this by providing a wide range of services to cater to a number of needs as expressed to us by our clients in a biennial survey.

Key details in numbers

- 1453 registered clients
- 2314 calls received on our helpline
- 22 Community Engagement events
- 1728 people accessed our quarterly magazine
- 156 pieces of equipment were provided to clients at no cost
- 34 clients benefited from a total of 221 hours of counselling
- 13 people referred to the Thomas Pocklington Trust Employment Hub
- 6 Living Well with Sight Loss events in different locations around Devon



Joint Report from the Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

The last year has seen a significant milestone being reached as the charity celebrated its centennial anniversary. Additionally, the charity won a national award for the quality of our counselling services.

The year was also marked by some significant changes in the management of the charity with both a new Chair of Trustees appointed in October 2025 and a new CEO taking over as the charity's year came to a close in March 2026.

Quite apart from the centenary anniversary, there are lots of things to celebrate from the year just gone; from the range of day-to-day activities undertaken by the charity, to the impact that these have had on our clients. This is clearly evidenced in the summary page at the front of this report and, more importantly, in the pages of impact reports that follow. Devon in Sight has continued to meet client needs.

Despite the many successes, 2025/26 was also a very challenging year for the charity. The economic environment made it increasingly difficult to raise the money necessary to maintain the charity and the services.

The level of legacy and grant income, which the charity has historically been reliant on, fell substantially, as did other sources of income, in something of a perfect storm. This resulted in expenditure being only 33% covered by income and further details can be found in the Treasurer's report. As a result of the income shortfall, we initiated a review at the end of the financial year in order to:

- Ensure that the charity is providing the correct services to clients and,
- Restructure the way in which the charity finances its operations

The review began at the end of March 2026 and continued into the 2026/27 financial year. It included extensive consultation with our clients, together with professionals we work with in the health & social care sector and other charities. The outcome of the review identified some clear areas that our clients need more help with. The main ones revolve around reducing social isolation and loneliness, and help with the use of technology to reduce digital exclusion.

The Future: 2026/27 and beyond

To address social isolation, we will introduce a number of new services:

- Befriending telephone services
- A walking buddy service
- Access to clubs and hobby groups
- Regular outings to the theatre and music venues
- Monthly coffee/lunch groups in up to 40 locations around the county

Allied to social isolation is digital exclusion. The move towards a digital society is gathering pace and those that don't, or can't, access digital services, are not only being left behind, but are being actively disadvantaged. From online banking to online doctors' appointments and test results via the NHS app, the visually impaired community face increasing barriers to core services. To address this, Devon in Sight is launching:

- A **H**ome **A**ssistive **T**echnology **S**ervice (**HATS**) to help people in their own homes with improved access through mainstream devices such as smart phones, TVs, tablets, smart speakers etc.

- Workshops for small groups of people in multiple locations around the county to teach the use of digital equipment and reduce social exclusion. This service will be in collaboration with the Adult Learning & Skills Team of Devon County Council.

Despite the challenges, we feel confident that the identified needs and exciting plans in place for the year ahead, will position the charity very well. This will significantly expand the scope and impact of services and generate a far more diversified and sustainable income base to secure the long-term future of the charity. Further details about the future funding mix can be found later in this report

Alongside the challenges, the changing economic and political environment also provide opportunities which the charity is determined to take. In time, we have plans to create hubs in multiple locations around the county from which to deliver services, including commissioned services from the NHS. This will start with a relocation of our head office in 2027 to a more accessible location and with additional space to house and deliver new services.

The commitment, innovation and passion of the team, underpinned by a strengthened financial position following the review, means that the charity is extremely well placed to not just survive, but to thrive in the years ahead.

Devon in Sight is proud to have reached 100 years of age, during which time it has delivered enormous benefit to the visual impaired community of Devon. The changes now underway, will help to ensure that the legacy of years gone by can continue in the decades ahead, with new and exciting services meeting the changing needs of the VI community in the 21st century. We invite all our clients, volunteers, staff, partners and funders to join us on this adventure.



Scott Bailey
Chair of Trustees



Richard Pike
Chief Executive Officer

Our Charitable Purpose

Devon in Sight exists to provide support to the visual impaired community of Devon via a wide range of supportive services. Additionally, to be an advocate to bring about societal change through education, understanding and integration of the visual impaired community into wider society.

Our Vision

Our vision is that everyone with sight loss in Devon receives the support they deserve to live life to the full.

Our Mission

Devon in Sight is a local charity providing a range of services for both blind and partially sighted people, their families, friends and carers. From advice and support in the early stages of diagnosis, through to ongoing support and guidance throughout their lives, we are there for every step of the journey. We offer practical help and emotional support to enable people to overcome the many challenges of living with sight loss and to maintain their independence, health and wellbeing.

The Prevalence of Sight Loss in Devon

The older you are, the greater your risk of sight loss. The proportion of people aged 75 years and over in Devon is higher than the average for England - 12% of the population are aged 75 plus, compared to 9% in the rest of England.

There are 54,957 people living with sight loss in Devon that impacts their daily life (RNIB, 2026). This equates to 1 in 24 people (2026 total population in Devon 1.3 million).

Future Projections

The numbers of people living with sight loss is predicted to double by 2050 (RNIB, 2026).

Impact

Devon in Sight is committed to demonstrating the value of the services it provides in a tangible and measurable way. Not only does it demonstrate fullfillment of the charity's purpose, but that more fundamentally, we are meeting the needs of the community of people that we exist to serve.

We also recognise that funders are facing the increasing challenge of deciding between an ever growing list of charities seeking financial support with, in many cases, a reduced sum of money to allocate.

We measure the outcomes and impact of our services in both a quantitative and qualitative way to get a full picture.

Counselling

One of our core services that has the greatest impact on clients' quality of life is our counselling service. We were delighted that our counselling service received a Customer Excellence Award from Visionary, the national umbrella organisation overseeing most charities operating in the field of visual impairment.

A total of 34 clients benefited from our telephone and face to face counselling services during the year. 221 hours of counselling were provided in total with the number of sessions ranging from 1 to 13 and the average number of sessions being 6.5

During the first session, counsellors carried out:

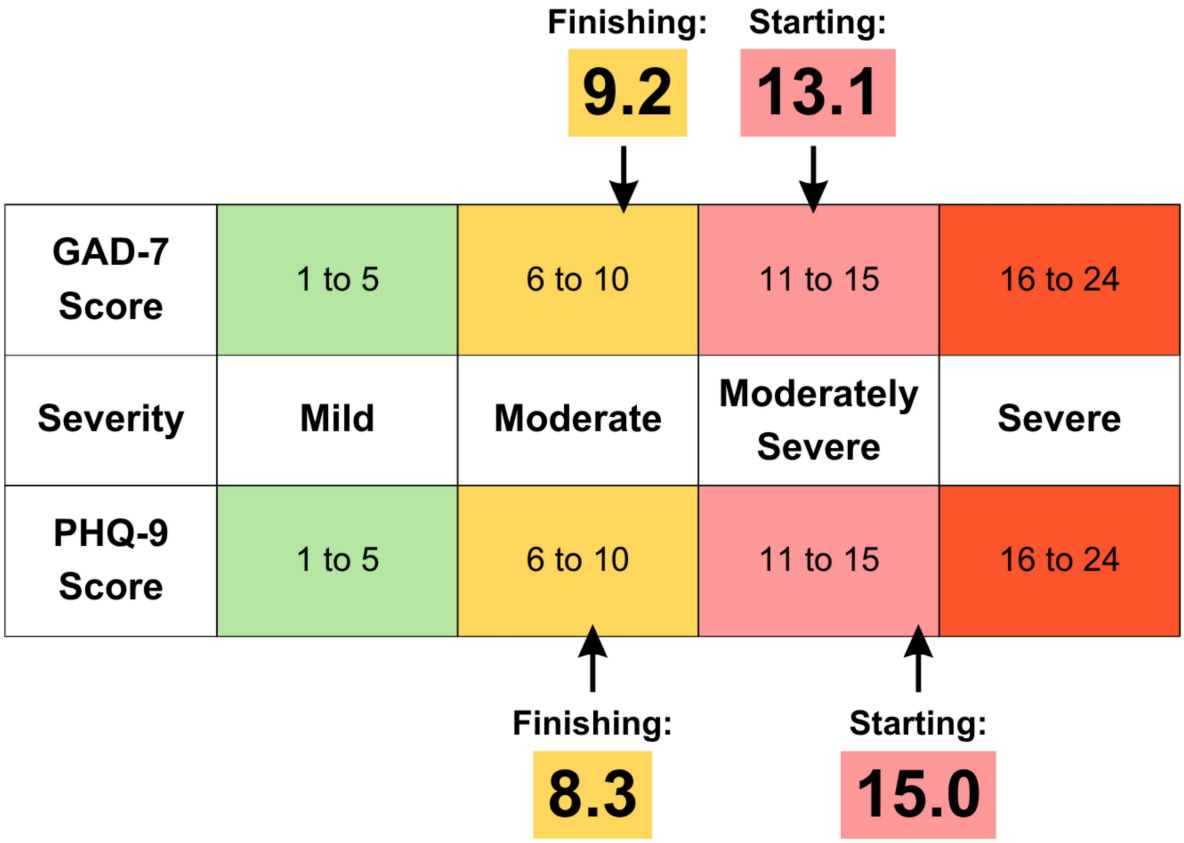
- A Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD-7) assessment, an NHS tool designed to identify a patient's stresses or worries that affects their daily life.
- A Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9), an NHS tool developed to diagnose and monitor the severity of depression in primary care.

This scoring was then repeated at the end of counselling to ascertain the movement in scores.

On average, clients shifted from the moderately severe category to the moderate category in in both PHQ-9 and GAD-7 scores. This represents a material shift in wellbeing. Such shifts can be attributed to things like: improved confidence and reduced absence from work/education.



Of the 34 clients, 10 started with an average PHQ-9 score in the highest (severe) category at 20.2 and finished at 12.5 accounting for the cohort with the largest shift.



Impact can be effectively measured in different ways but one of the best measures is by what the clients who benefit, tell us:

"I lost my sight suddenly and without warning on October 7th last year! I had only recently retired to Devon and was feeling very isolated vulnerable and frightened. All too quickly I was swallowed up by daily hospital appointments, tests and the whole gammut of the NHS machine. Finding Devon in Sight via my ECLO [Eye Clinic Liaison Officer] saved me. Their speedy response to my initial referral was exactly what I needed. I immediately agreed that one to one counselling would be really helpful.

(Claire) my counsellor has been central to my wellbeing, enabling me to move forward at my own pace and find a way to come to terms with my new devastating situation. Together we have tackled many issues from the seemingly ridiculous to the potentially life altering. I chose to extend my sessions after my initial six weeks and can happily say that I am now in a much better place personally and mentally than I have been for many years!

This is directly due to the excellent and timely counselling service provided by Devon in Sight I cannot thank them enough." **- Suzi D**

It is not just the person with a sight loss condition that is deeply impacted but their partner, children, parents and wider family and friends. Devon in Sight is there to support all those affected. The husband of a client wrote:

….."My problem, as her loving carer, is how to support [my wife] in this predicament. Anticipating her sight's decline, I thought the independence and self reliance, that I've had life-long, would see us through. But eventually I realised I was selling her short and needed to rethink, both for her sake and for my own peace of mind,

The counselling at Devon in Sight helped me immeasurably with that rethink. Not just by having someone to unburden to, but to help me consider things from other perspectives. As a result of the sessions at Splatford, I feel I now cope with the slings and arrows of our life better and with greater equanimity, most importantly to Sue's benefit.

Thank you Devon in Sight for being there." **- Tim H**

Helpline

Our Helpline is the first port of call for clients and professionals contacting Devon in Sight. People who have suddenly experienced a loss of sight or been recently diagnosed with a life changing condition often call in a state of extreme distress.

Our sight loss adviser is highly experienced at supporting people and meeting their needs. Often, this starts with an initial conversation to reassure clients that we understand their situation and are there to support them. Subsequent conversations take place at the pace that the client can cope with and cover a wide range of matters.

Our helpline really is a lifeline for so many people calling us in distress about their situation and feeling that they have nowhere else to turn.

"If I get stuck I know I can ring you to see if there is something you can do to help me. It is reassuring that you are there."

"I appreciate that 'Devon in Sight' still keeps in touch with me - thank you."

"Telephone - friendly, helpful voice. Immediate response (fantastic) to a cry for help. Advice and practical help."

"…..knowing a friendly person on the phone who understands how challenging life can be and helpful."

Living Well with Sight Loss Events (LWWSL)

It was another successful year with 6 LWWSL events in different locations around the county taking place from Easter to the autumn. These events bring together a large number of organisations who can provide services to those living with sight loss. Examples include; Devon Carers, Fire & Rescue Services, Guide Dogs, Rehabilitation Officers for the VI (ROVIs) from Devon County Council Sensory Team, Macular Society and companies that provide assistive technology for the VI community.

The events continue to be well attended (200 clients over the course of the year), particularly by those with a new sight loss condition or by those whose vision has deteriorated to the next level. As a result, we feel that these events are vitally important to retain going forward but will look to advertise them more widely in the local areas involved in order to boost attendance outside of our existing list of clients.



We will also be looking to introduce new exhibitors in order to keep the events fresh and relevant to clients and their changing needs. New exhibitors planned include; technology tutors, companies specialising in the provision of holidays for the VI community, and training and access to smart glasses such as Meta Glasses.

We intend to change the name of the event to "ReVItalise" in 2027 to prevent confusion with the RNIB who originally used the LWWSL title.

Chit-Chat Calls

Our regular Chit Chat calls are a human contact lifeline to many of our clients who live alone and are unable to leave their homes, either due to invalidity or as a result of their sight loss condition and lack of transport infrastructure. They provide a safe space to talk about shared interests and act as a peer support network, encouraging those who are going through a difficult period of life. The frequency of events has varied throughout the year due to variable numbers attending but a return to a fixed weekly timeslot (as requested by our clients in the recent survey) has resulted in much improved attendance and greater continuity. There were 175 client attendances on a call during the year.

In Vision – Quarterly Magazine



Our quarterly newsletter is an important part of our strategy for communicating with our clients. Many of them are not digitally connected and so the large font, printed magazine is our primary method for informing them of upcoming events as well as thanking and celebrating our generous fundraising supporters. Approximately 1282 copies are posted each quarter with an additional 130 sent via audio recording and 351 via email link.

As the range of services is expanded, we are committed to ensuring that In-Vision evolves to accommodate the wider breath of services as well as engaging clients more widely. It is a key “shop window” alongside our website and both will see big changes taking place in 2026 and onwards.

Community Events

As a “silent disability” sight loss is widely misunderstood in the general population and there are many false beliefs about the VI community in general. These create unnecessary and unhelpful barriers to those with a visual impairment from integrating fully into a well informed and welcoming society and work place.

Whilst the trend in the last decade towards mainstream educational provision for children with sight loss (as opposed to segregated, specialist provision) will help improve this situation over time, there remains a large gap in understanding in the older generations.

Engagement within the community is therefore an important part of the charity’s role. It facilitates greater understanding, tolerance of, and empathy with the challenges that those living with a sight condition face. Over the course of the year, our Fundraising & Community Engagement Officer attended 22 events and gave presentation to local community groups and represented the VI community at various events and forums.

Equipment Bursary

The equipment bursary provides a range of equipment to those experiencing sight loss who can’t afford to purchase it themselves. Generally, this is relatively low value items (less than £50) but are things that can have a big impact on the ability to live safely and independently.

A level liquid indicator is the item most frequently provided which enables a vision impaired individual to safely fill a cup with water to the correct level and avoid spillages that could be dangerous. Such simple tasks (to the sighted community) make a massive difference to the confidence and independence of a VIP. A range of other equipment from magnifiers, portable lights, speaking clocks, large button telephones and many others are provided via the bursary. During the year, items totalling nearly £2,000 were provided to 79 clients

Sight Loss Forum

The Sight Loss Forum (SLF) is a group of people with varying levels of sight loss, who meet on a regular basis to discuss issues that the VI community face in day-to-day life. Of particular relevance are issues that could be resolved by a change in practice by different authorities. An example is liaising with the health authority to issue all letters (not just those from the eye clinic) to VIPs in larger font to improve accessibility.

Members of the SLF are often co-opted onto consultation committees. For instance, our Fundraising and Community Engagement Officer (who is severely sight impaired) attended numerous meetings of a forum set up by Exeter Airport to improve accessibility and this has resulted in a much-improved travelling experience for people using the airport.

In Partnership with The Thomas Pocklington Trust (TPT)

Working in partnership with other organisations is vital to the provision of services to the VI community. As economic conditions result in the restructuring and withdrawal of services from lots of organisations, successful collaboration between partner organisation becomes even more important.

This was the 2nd year of our partnership with the Thomas Pocklington Trust. Over the course of the year, 13 clients were referred by Devon in Sight to the TPT, Works for Me programme and this relationship continues to greatly benefit our working age clients.

“Since being put in touch with the Thomas Pocklington Trust’s ‘Works for Me’ employment team by Devon in Sight, my confidence and drive as regards job seeking has increased a great deal. The members of the employment team are extremely knowledgeable of the challenges faced by visually impaired job seekers, having often experienced them first-hand. They are always willing to talk through any issues being experienced, and to offer their own perspective. For me, one of the most useful aspects of the service is the proof-reading of CVs, cover letters, and application forms. They’ll keep an eye out for formatting inconsistencies and grammatical errors, which could go undetected by a screen-reader.

Overall, the service has genuinely improved my quality of life, especially in terms of confidence and motivation" – **Sam W**

Looking Ahead

Next year will be busy with a number of clear objectives that fall under one of two broad headings

- Developing a range of new, client-focussed, community-based services.
- Establishing a more diversified and sustainable funding base to underpin the delivery and long-term future of new services.

Services

Having consulted widely with our clients, we are co-designing new services based on what they have told us they need and want, to improve their quality of life. These are broadly grouped around 2 key areas:

- A range of social groups, leisure and entertainment activities with transport provided where needed.
- Supported learning with how to use technology.

Brief details of these initiatives were provided earlier in this report and will be reported on in full in next year's report as they begin to be rolled out.

It is evident that the charity's office space is not going to be suitable for the needs of the charity moving forward. Our clients tell us that we are not accessible enough and the space available is not sufficient to house additional services. The charity will therefore be looking for more suitable office space on completion of the existing lease in 2027.

This will facilitate a new resource centre that clients will be able to visit, to explore and experiment with different equipment in order to assist them. From our client survey, this was one of the greatest needs identified with the same message coming from the hospital eye clinics and Sensory Team at Devon County Council.

We will also be looking at whether the charity is suitably placed to provide some commissioned services on behalf of the NHS where we feel that services to the VI community could be enhanced by our contribution. A larger, better located office will position the charity to take advantage of opportunities that might present themselves.

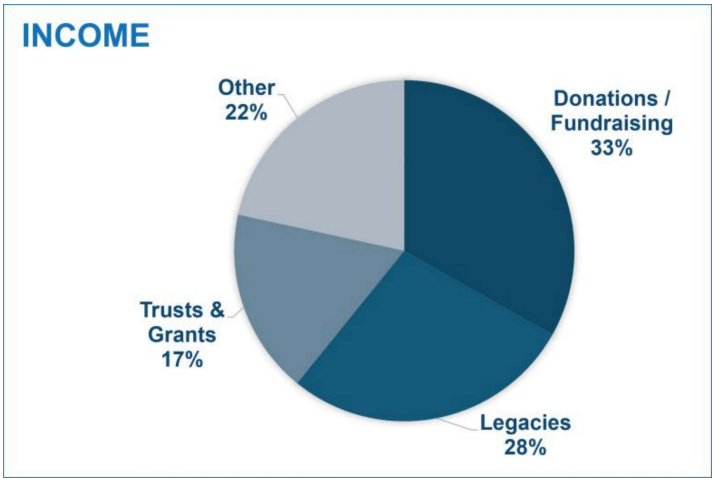
Income

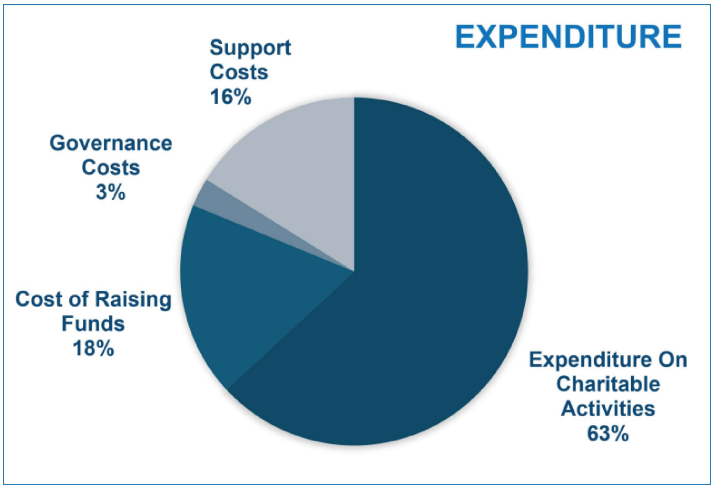
We aim to reduce our dependence on Trust & Grant funding, and to instead, generate more income from a variety of different streams. To facilitate this, we are:

- Launching a monthly lottery called “Eyes on the Jackpot”.
- Launching a Charity of the Year programme to attract corporate supporters.
- Relaunching our Friends of Devon in Sight programme with a range of benefits for regular givers.
- Launching a Legacy Service through partnership with local firms of solicitors for will writing services.
- Boosting our fundraising efforts through expansion of our flagship Race Across Devon event and other exclusive events such as Dine@The Palace.

Financial Summary

The 2025/26 financial year was a very challenging year for the charity in respect of generating income with total income falling by 54% from £206k to £94k. The biggest cause of this decrease was a drop in legacy income of 79% from £125k to £26k. Funding from Trusts and Grants dropped modestly, whilst the other sources of income remained largely static.





Expenditure increased by 5.7% in the year to £283k with the majority of this accounted for by increased employment costs. Inflationary pay increases and increased employer NI costs accounted for the bulk of this.

The result of these changes to income and expenditure meant that only 33% of the charity’s income was covered by income received. The remaining 67% was

covered by using the charity's reserves. Due to the historic volatility of received income, the charity has, in the past, maintained a level of reserves in excess of that held by some other charities. The 2025/26 year is a good example of why that continues to be a prudent policy for the Trustees to adopt.

The level of reserves fell during the year by £158k to £431k representing 1.5 years of expenditure. The charity remains in a financially secure position with a healthy level of reserves to cushion the ebb and flow of income in the increasingly tough and unpredictable economic environment.

Despite the remaining levels of reserves, if the imbalance between income and expenditure continues at the same rate for an extended period of time, the reserves will eventually be expended. The previous section outlines the extensive plans that have been created to increase the service delivery of the charity going forward, and these improvements to client services will result in the expenditure of the charity increasing. These improvements will largely depend on the successful recruitment of a large team of volunteers which will take time to achieve and therefore the cost increases in the next year are expected to be modest.

Alongside these changes to services, plans to increase the amount and sources of income are also being implemented to leave the charity less dependent on unpredictable sources of income such as legacies and Trusts & Grants. Again, these will take time to establish and grow so the charity will continue to rely heavily on Trust & Grant income in the next (2026/27) year.

The changes to both services and income generation are expected to take a 2-year period to fully implement. As a result, a deficit budget has been approved by the Trustees for 2026/27, at a much-reduced rate, with a balanced budget predicted in the 2027/28 year and reserve levels not dropping below the 1-year minimum set by the Trustees.

Thank you

The 2025/26 year was one of enormous contrasts. On the one hand, it was a year of celebration and achievement with the centenary milestone being reached and receiving the Customer Excellence Award for our counselling services. On the other hand, it was a stark reminder that what may have worked in the past, won't necessarily work in the future.

An enormous amount of work has been done in partnership with our clients to map out what the future path of Devon in Sight looks like. It is therefore appropriate to start by thanking all of our many clients for their continued support over the last 12 months. Your optimism, encouragement and willing engagement, have spurred the whole team on as we endeavour to develop more services in order to help you.

We would also like to say thank you to our, (currently) small band of volunteers who have continued to support the charity in a number of ways. These include our Trustees and ambassadors who give freely of their time and who continue to push Devon in Sight forward and promote it.

We are very grateful to all of our funders who, despite an increasingly challenging economic environment, have stood by us and supported us throughout the year.

The year was a difficult one for the staff team and they deserve a special thanks as they worked hard to juggle the challenges of a reduced income stream with the need to maintain service levels. It was also significant for the departure of both the Chair of Trustees (Dr Adrian Jacobs) and the long standing Chief Executive Officer (Grahame Flyn). Both of them leave with our best wishes in their retirement.

It was also with great sadness that Pepsi, Mandy's guide dog, also retired at the end of the year after many years of loyal service, but there is always great excitement when she occasionally comes back to visit the office!

Finally, we would like to extend a thank you to Lady Devon, our long-standing patron for her continued support and advocacy of the charity.

Devon County Association for the Blind
known as Devon in Sight
Trustees' Report 2025/26

Statutory Report & Accounts

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005. The charity was founded in 1925 and was incorporated in April 2011.

Trustees:

Dr Adrian Jacobs	Chair (Retired 18.11.2025) Trustee Safeguarding Lead
Mr Scott Bailey	Chair
Mr Steve Muncer	Treasurer
Dr Dave Adams	Optometry Lead
Mr Paul Hannan	Safeguarding Lead (Sabbatical 23.10.2025)
Ms Marilyn Minter-Newson	Safeguarding Lead (Retired 13.01.2026)
Mrs Alvis Merral-Spiers (VI)	Trustee (Appointed 18.11.2025)
Mrs Sharon Wood	Trustee (Co-opted 22.01.2026)

Honorary Life Members:

Mrs Gwyn Dickinson MBE
Mr Peter Wareham
Dr Adrian Jacobs

Patron:

Diana Devon, The Dowager Countess of Devon

Structure, Governance and Management

The company (Number 07371472) is a Registered Charity (Number 1140978) and is constituted under its Articles of Association dated 9th September 2010. The management of the affairs of the Charity is vested in the Trustees. The

Trustees are the Directors of the Company together with not more than ten members elected by the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Trustees.

Shortly after Trustees are appointed, they attend the main premises for induction meetings with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. An induction pack is given to the prospective Trustees followed by induction and training.

Sub Committee Working Groups may address certain matters. As part of their functions the Sub Committees may make recommendations and shall always be accountable to the Trustees. The Trustees are also empowered to appoint a Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer, and staff as they deem necessary and may determine their remuneration, duties, and conditions of service. The Articles of the Association dated 9th September 2010 are available for inspection at the registered office address.

Public Benefit Statement

When planning activities for the year the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of health, and the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Our charity supports people in Devon living with sight loss to lead independent, fulfilling lives. We provide a range of free services including; information and advice, assistive technology training, emotional support, and community activities.

Over the past year, we have helped hundreds of individuals adapt to changes in their vision, access essential resources, and connect with others to reduce isolation. Our work benefits not only those directly affected by sight loss, but also their families, carers, and the wider community by promoting inclusion and understanding.

All activities are delivered in line with our charitable purposes and are accessible to anyone in Devon experiencing visual impairment.

Our Staff

In March 2026 the staff team consisted of five full-time staff and two part-time Support Works funded by Access to Work and a Guide Dog.

Grahame Flynn	Chief Executive Officer (Retired 31.03.2026)
Richard Pike	Chief Executive Officer (Joined 23.03.2026)
Tessa Barrett	Head of Services
Louise Millington	Sight Loss Adviser
Sarah Small	Head Office & Marketing Manager
Mandy Darling (VI)	Community Engagement & Fundraising Officer
Fiona Hess	Access Assistant
Dr Lisa Gould	Access Assistant (Joined 08.11.2025)
Pepsi	Guide Dog

Financial Review
by Steve Muncer, Honorary Treasurer

Review of the Financial Year 2025/26

(Note: prior year figures shown in parenthesis)

2025/26 has proved to be a very challenging year, particularly for income generation, and as a consequence we continue to have to use our reserves to support our day to day services. While our reserves still appear relatively healthy, they are diminishing rapidly.

In the year we had a deficit of £166,156, significantly worse than the prior year £67,653, predominantly because of lower income.

Income, at £93,996, fell nearly 55% compared to £205,617 in the previous year, due mainly to a fall in legacy income of £98,902 and a £22,252 reduction in Trust and Grants. All other income sources remained relatively flat, although we did benefit from the Government increasing the Small Business Employment Allowance from £5,000 to £10,500 to help ameliorate the increase in Employers National Insurance costs.

Expenditure in 2025/26 was £282,640, a 5.7% increase compared to the prior year £267,264, with staff costs, at 70%, remaining by far the biggest element of our cost base. The main driver for the higher expenditure was a £17,825 increase in staff costs, reflecting both pay rises and the hike in Employer's NI rates. Additional costs were incurred on the AGM and Annual Conference, in

part to celebrate our Centennial, but these were offset by reductions in our Equipment Bursary and prior year non recurring Event costs.

The deficit in the year has been reduced by a welcome gain in the year on investments of £22,488 compared to a loss of £6,006 in 2024/25.

There was no capital expenditure in the year.

Total funds at 31st March 2026 stood at £432,177 (£598,333) and comprised furniture and equipment of just £6,908 (£8,525) and liquid reserves of £431,477 (£589,808). All the funds are unrestricted.

Although falling fast, our current reserves reflect the sale of our previous offices in Topsham and the significant legacy monies we have received over the previous few years. Together these non-recurring events have contributed well over £900,000 to our liquid reserves and enabled us to continue to fund existing services. However, the scale of our liquid reserves continues to present challenges for future fundraising as we can't rely on large windfalls and need to continue to seek reliable and ongoing sources of funds. This is a priority for the current financial year.

Funding

Funding our services remains key and we would like to thank all our funders, sponsors and donors for their support, especially the following:

Forest Hill Trust
Tesco Community Grants
See the Future
Sight & Sound
Professor Stanga Clinic
Spa Medica
Honiton Lions
All Soul's, St George's, St Thomas & Courtland Masonic Lodges
Seaton & District VIP club
Visionary
Dr T Harrod
Les Mazurek
Mr & Mrs P T Hirst
Friends of Devon in Sight

We also wish to re-iterate our sincere thanks to the friends and family of Mrs Anita Fearnside for her very generous legacy and also those who arranged in memoriam collections.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank Mrs Linda Garaway, who retired last October, after more than 20 years of volunteering as the charity's Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer. She was very much the 'steady hand on the tiller' and her support and advice is greatly missed.

Our Reserves Policy

There has been no change in our reserve policy in the year and we continue with a minimum level of 12 months operating costs.

With the earlier proceeds from the sale of our office and recent large legacies we are conscious that our liquid reserves appear comparatively strong. However, we no longer have the security of owning our own building and have no statutory funding or guaranteed income streams. We currently have underlying losses of around £100,000 per annum and the Trustees recognise that we will continue to run down reserves over the next few years to both subsidise existing services and also to provide match/seed funding to make us more attractive to potential future funders.

Our Designated Funds

Trustees have reviewed existing and new designated funds as follows:-

Building Fund

During 2018/19 the Trustees disposed of our previously owned property in Topsham and moved into rented accommodation at Splatford Barton. Our 6 year lease expired in July 2024 and we explored various options including purchasing and relocating to alternative premises. Although we eventually decided to remain in Splatford and renew our lease for a further 6 years we still think it is sensible to keep the existing £250,000 designated fund

Redundancy Fund

Whilst not an immediate issue the Trustees believe that it is prudent to set aside monies within the general reserve for potential redundancy costs if the charity were ever to close. Following a review, the Trustees believe the existing £35,000 allowance is adequate.

Service Support Fund

This fund was originally set aside to recognise that we didn't have the capacity to readily react to potential negative external events. On reflection this is a risk all small charities have to live with and manage as best as they can. Trustees now believe that it is no longer appropriate to hold designated funds for this purpose and have now removed the previous provision of £50,000.

Match/Seed fund

We remain heavily reliant on attracting Trust and Grant funders. It is a very competitive market, not helped by our current level of liquid reserves. We believe that if we demonstrate that we were prepared to provide either our own seed or match funding we would be better placed to attract additional external funding. As a minimum the Trustees consider that this fund ought to be maintained at £50,000.

Our Investment Policy

There was no change in the investment policy during the year and at the year end we continued to hold a mix of fixed security and equity investments managed on our behalf by Rowan Dartington and fixed term notice accounts.

Although we had a positive return in the year, historically performance has been volatile and there are concerns that equity values are close to an all time high and there could well be some form of correction in the short to medium turn. Furthermore, we recognise that our reserves are reducing and without a major turnaround in the coming year we will be near our minimum 12 month operating cost reserve limit at the end of 2026/27. In these circumstances it is very questionable whether we should be holding equities and securities better suited for longer term investment.

Following a review in the new financial year the Trustees have decided to liquidate all their investments managed by Rowan Dartington and switch to a self managed mix of short term gilts, fixed term notice accounts and a maximum 25% in medium risk tracker funds. We believe that such a change will reduce risk, provide stability without having any material impact on short to medium returns.

The charity will not invest directly into companies that derive more than 10% of turnover from the manufacture, distribution or sale of tobacco or tobacco related products in recognition of the connection between tobacco use and sight loss.

Our Risk Management Policy

The Senior Management Team and Trustees review the risks the charity is exposed to on an ongoing basis. They have recently undertaken a SWAT & PESTLE analysis with the intention of refreshing the risk register and mitigations over the coming months.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision relating to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006..

The annual report was approved by the Board of trustees of the charity on 15th October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



…….
Mr S Muncer
Honorary Treasurer

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Devon County Association for the Blind ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Devon County Association for the Blind ('the Company')

.....
Keith Tuvey FCCA
Redwoods Accountants (Exeter) Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants

2 Clyst Works
Clyst Road
Topsham
Exeter
EX3 0DB

15 October 2026

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

Current financial year	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2026 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	47,443	47,443
Other trading activities	5	18,684	18,684
Investment income	6	17,369	17,369
Other income	7	10,500	10,500
Total income		93,996	93,996
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	8	(63,516)	(63,516)
Charitable activities	9	(219,124)	(219,124)
Total expenditure		(282,640)	(282,640)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		22,488	22,488
Net expenditure		(166,156)	(166,156)
Net movement in funds		(166,156)	(166,156)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		598,333	598,333
Total funds carried forward	23	432,177	432,177

The notes on pages 30 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

Prior financial year	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	162,109	4,680	166,789
Charitable activities	4	1,261	-	1,261
Other trading activities	5	12,736	-	12,736
Investment income	6	19,831	-	19,831
Other income	7	5,000	-	5,000
Total income		200,937	4,680	205,617
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	8	(60,639)	(3,013)	(63,652)
Charitable activities	9	(189,280)	(14,332)	(203,612)
Total expenditure		(249,919)	(17,345)	(267,264)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		(6,006)	-	(6,006)
Net expenditure		(54,988)	(12,665)	(67,653)
Transfers between funds		(8,630)	8,630	-
Net movement in funds		(63,618)	(4,035)	(67,653)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		661,951	4,035	665,986
Total funds carried forward	23	598,333	-	598,333

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2025 is shown in note 23.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

(Registration number: 07371472)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2025 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	17	6,908	8,525
Investments	18	315,079	301,462
		321,987	309,987
Current assets			
Debtors	19	33,950	6,599
Cash at bank and in hand	20	86,219	293,058
		120,169	299,657
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	21	(9,979)	(11,311)
Net current assets		110,190	288,346
Net assets		432,177	598,333
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		432,177	598,333
Total funds	23	432,177	598,333

The notes on pages 30 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Devon County Association for the Blind

known as Devon in Sight

(Registration number: 07371472)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

For the financial year ending 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 26 to 53 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr S Muncer
Trustee

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:
Unit 3 Splatford Barton
Splatford Land
Kennford
Exeter
Devon
EX6 7XY

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 15 October 2026.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Devon County Association for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The accounts are presented in £ Sterling and are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments
All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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 by the charity 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 these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administrator/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the charity.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs
These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation
The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and office equipment	15% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line basis
Freehold interest in land and buildings	2% straight line basis

Fixed asset investments
Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	15,396	15,396	13,587
Legacies	26,000	26,000	124,902
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	6,047	6,047	28,300
	47,443	47,443	166,789

4 Income from charitable activities

	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Commissioned work	-	1,261

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Events income;			
Annual show and AGM	11,924	11,924	6,424
Local fundraising income	3,873	3,873	6,312
Advertising and commission income	2,887	2,887	-
	18,684	18,684	12,736

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	7,319	7,319	11,233
Other income from fixed asset investments	10,050	10,050	8,598
	17,369	17,369	19,831

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
UK Government grants - employment allowance	10,500	10,500	5,000

8 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Direct costs £	Allocated support costs £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	51,077	12,439	63,516	58,870

b) Investment management costs

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Other investment management costs;				
Other portfolio management costs		4,963	4,963	4,782
		4,963	4,963	4,782

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2026 £
Information advice and guidance	47,504	10,905	58,409
Independent living	48,210	12,546	60,756
Health and wellbeing	48,308	9,646	57,954
Influencing change	34,423	7,582	42,005
	178,445	40,679	219,124

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £
Information advice and guidance	50,743	6,774	57,517
Independent living	46,328	6,511	52,839
Health and wellbeing	47,359	5,535	52,894
Influencing change	35,472	4,890	40,362
	179,902	23,710	203,612

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £7,494 (2025 - £6,424) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 10 for further details.

10 Analysis of governance and support costs

Basis of allocation

Reference	Method of allocation
A	Costs associated with fundraising
B	Costs allocated on the basis of management assessment

Support costs allocated to raising funds

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2026 £
Fundraising	A	1,755	148	8,880	454	1,142	60	12,439

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 £
Fundraising	A	1,457	73	4,286	264	542	342	6,964

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2026 £
Information advice and guidance	B	1,539	129	7,784	398	1,001	54	10,905
Independent living	B	1,770	149	8,956	458	1,151	62	12,546
Health and wellbeing	B	1,361	114	6,886	352	885	48	9,646
Influencing change	B	1,069	90	5,411	277	697	38	7,582
		5,739	482	29,037	1,485	3,734	202	40,679

	Basis of allocation	Governance costs £	Info technology £	Staff costs £	Admin costs £	Premises including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 £
Information advice and guidance	B	1,419	71	4,169	256	527	333	6,775
Independent living	B	1,364	68	4,006	246	506	320	6,510
Health and wellbeing	B	1,159	58	3,406	210	431	272	5,536
Influencing change	B	1,024	51	3,009	185	380	240	4,889
		4,966	248	14,590	897	1,844	1,165	23,710

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	3,852	3,852	3,720
Trustees remuneration and expenses	60	60	69
Annual General Meeting	2,184	2,184	1,307
Other governance costs	1,398	1,398	1,328
	7,494	7,494	6,424

11 Total resources expended

	Direct charitable activity £	Direct fundraising £	Indirect charitable expenditure £	Governance £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Emotional support costs	12,856	-	-	-	12,856	11,646
Equipment donations	993	-	-	-	993	3,087
Wages, agency staff and training	122,948	37,495	37,413	-	197,856	180,031
Commissioned work	-	-	-	-	-	1,231
Premises costs	14,975	4,579	4,569	-	24,123	22,646
Office and IT costs	8,420	2,574	2,570	-	13,564	15,087
Sight loss events	1,099	-	-	-	1,099	1,237
Volunteers travel	90	28	28	-	146	581
Trustee expenses and travel	768	235	234	60	1,297	1,519
Fundraising and DC Show	-	391	-	-	391	4,703
In Vision Magazine	7,089	-	-	-	7,089	6,781
Promotional and AGM	8,203	505	504	2,184	11,396	7,225
Independent examiners fees	-	-	-	3,852	3,852	3,720
Insurance	-	-	-	1,398	1,398	1,328
Legal and professional	-	4,963	-	-	4,963	4,782
Depreciation and loss on disposal	1,004	307	306	-	1,617	1,660
	178,445	51,077	45,624	7,494	282,640	267,264

12 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	1,617	1,660

13 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Mrs M Minter-Newson
£94 (2025: £558) of expenses were reimbursed to Mrs M Minter-Newson during the year.

Amounts reimbursed for travel expenses

Mr Paul Hannan
£Nil (2025: £104) of expenses were reimbursed to Mr Paul Hannan during the year.

Amounts reimbursed for travel expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

14 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	171,469	157,440
Social security costs	21,371	15,450
Pension costs	4,681	4,589
	197,521	177,479

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2026 No	2025 No
Administration and support	5	5
	5	5

5 (2025 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £4,681 (2025 - £4,589).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

15 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2026 £	2025 £
Examination of the financial statements	3,852	3,720

16 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

17 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2025	16,484	16,484
At 31 March 2026	16,484	16,484
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2025	7,959	7,959
Charge for the year	1,617	1,617
At 31 March 2026	9,576	9,576
Net book value		
At 31 March 2026	6,908	6,908
At 31 March 2025	8,525	8,525

18 Fixed asset investments

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2025	301,462	301,462
Revaluation	16,606	16,606
Additions	104,188	104,188
Disposals	(107,177)	(107,177)
At 31 March 2026	315,079	315,079
Net book value		
At 31 March 2026	315,079	315,079
At 31 March 2025	301,462	301,462

The market value of the listed investments at 31 March 2026 was £315,079 (2025 - £301,462).

19 Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Accrued income	33,950	6,599

20 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash on hand	50	80
Cash at bank	86,169	292,978
	86,219	293,058

21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Other taxation and social security	4,193	3,376
Other creditors	2,090	4,395
Accruals	3,696	3,540
	9,979	11,311

22 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

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

	2026 £	2025 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	13,680	14,436
Between one and five years	3,405	17,085
	17,085	31,521

23 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
Unrestricted Income Fund	199,464	99,880	(282,642)	50,000	-	66,702
Revaluation reserve	13,869	-	-	-	16,606	30,475
	213,333	99,880	(282,642)	50,000	16,606	97,177
Designated						
Redundancy Fund	35,000	-	-	-	-	35,000
Building Fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Service Support Fund	50,000	-	-	(50,000)	-	-
Match/Seed Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
	385,000	-	-	(50,000)	-	335,000
Total funds	598,333	99,880	(282,642)	-	16,606	432,177

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
Unrestricted Income Fund	252,076	200,937	(249,919)	(3,630)	-	199,464
Revaluation reserve	19,875	-	-	-	(6,006)	13,869
	271,951	200,937	(249,919)	(3,630)	(6,006)	213,333
Designated						
Redundancy Fund	40,000	-	-	(5,000)	-	35,000
Building Fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Service Support Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
Match/Seed Fund	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000
	390,000	-	-	(5,000)	-	385,000
Total unrestricted funds	661,951	200,937	(249,919)	(8,630)	(6,006)	598,333

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted						
Talking Computers	953	-	(1,019)	66	-	-
Emotional support/counselling	3,082	-	(11,646)	8,564	-	-
Devon County Show	-	4,680	(4,680)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	4,035	4,680	(17,345)	8,630	-	-
Total funds	665,986	205,617	(267,264)	-	(6,006)	598,333

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Details of designated funds are included in the Treasurer's report.

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Total funds at 31 March 2026
	General	Designated	
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	6,908	-	6,908
Fixed asset investments	-	315,079	315,079
Current assets	100,248	19,921	120,169
Current liabilities	(9,979)	-	(9,979)
Total net assets	97,177	335,000	432,177

	Unrestricted funds		Total funds at 31 March 2025
	General	Designated	
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,525	-	8,525
Fixed asset investments	-	301,462	301,462
Current assets	216,119	83,538	299,657
Current liabilities	(11,311)	-	(11,311)
Total net assets	213,333	385,000	598,333

25 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year

26 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Financing cash flows £	Other non cash changes £	At 31 March 2026 £
Cash at bank and in hand	293,058	(206,839)	-	86,219
Debt due within one year	(11,311)	1,332	-	(9,979)
Current asset investments	316,586	22,745	16,606	355,937
Net debt	598,333	(182,762)	16,606	432,177

	At 1 April 2024 £	Financing cash flows £	Other non cash changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	271,241	21,817	-	293,058
Debt due within one year	(11,395)	84	-	(11,311)
Current asset investments	405,496	(82,904)	(6,006)	316,586
Net debt	665,342	(61,003)	(6,006)	598,333