CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1183608

Suffolk Sight

Unaudited independently examined accounts

31 March 2026

Suffolk Sight

Financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

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Suffolk Sight

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 March 2026

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Suffolk Sight
Charity registration number	1183608
Principal office	19 Tower Street Ipswich IP1 3BE

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

G Staff (Chair)
S Hodgkiss (Vice Chair)
C Allum*
N Broadbent
B Carter (Appointed 21/08/2025)
G Chambers*
S Giddings
R Hanspal
A Kelly*
M Peak*
S Walker
G Watts*

*visually impaired

Chief executive officer	S O'Donoghue
Member services manager	A Eaves
Finance manager	A Sibun

Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ
Investment managers	CCLA 1 Angel Lane London EC4R 3AB
Independent examiner	A Robinson BFP FCA DChA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA

Objectives and activities

Policies and objectives

Suffolk Sight's principal objective is to provide support, welfare services and social activities enabling those experiencing sight loss in Suffolk to continue living independent and fulfilling lives within their home community wherever practical.

The overarching objective of Suffolk Sight is to relieve the needs of people who are visually impaired across Suffolk for the public benefit by providing the best support and care so that they can lead rich and fulfilling lives with the highest level of independence and by promoting its objectives to its members, beneficiaries and the wider communities in which it operates.

The main aims and objectives of the Charity are:

To provide appropriate help, support, advice and access to daily living aids that contribute to improving the quality of life of blind and partially sighted people; this includes a home-visiting service and telephone support where appropriate; this also includes a low-vision service (demonstration and training on the correct use of manual and electronic magnifiers) in client's homes, where they are not able to or choose not to access the facilities at the hospital eye clinics. Through the equipment and resource centre, to offer a facility where clients can visit to evaluate a range of daily living aids, as well as to have access to a trained Technology Advisor - themselves partially sighted - who can demonstrate a variety of IT products and offer training and technical support.

To help people who use the Charity's services maintain choice and control over their lives.

To raise awareness of the impact and benefits of CVI (Certificate of Visual Impairment) registration for blind or partially sighted people and to signpost/support people to register as appropriate. To provide appropriate support to ensure the service users dignity and at all times respecting the choices service users make.

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To provide and facilitate monthly social meeting groups and other activity-based and recreational groups across our region.

To raise awareness of eye health issues through education and involvement with local communities.

The Charity has at any time approximately 2,600 people in Suffolk on its database who are living with sight loss and who wish to benefit from its services. The RNIB statistics indicate that there are 31,900 people in Suffolk living with sight loss of whom 3,390 are registered sight impaired or severely sight impaired. The number of people in the county living with sight loss is predicted to rise to 39,600 by 2032 (+25%).

Public benefit

Within the parameters set by its constitution, Suffolk Sight provides public benefit by supporting people with a visual impairment in endeavouring to maintain independence and quality of life. In the exercise of its powers to that end, Suffolk Sight has paid due regard to the published guidance from the Charity Commission on the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

Achievements and performance

Throughout the last twelve months, the demand for the Charity's services remained at a high level, with waiting times of several weeks for some of our services. We continued to develop and improve our delivery to meet the needs of our beneficiaries and the constantly evolving environment in which the Charity operates, with reference to our Sustainability Plan. We are incredibly proud of the achievements we have made and the continued high level of service and support we have provided to our beneficiaries, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our staff and volunteers. We continue to strive to help our beneficiaries live independent lives, with reduced isolation and improved mental health and wellbeing.

Main achievements of the Charity

1. At the end of the reporting period, there were 2635 registered beneficiaries on the Suffolk Sight database. The average age of new registrations continues to increase, largely due to continuously improved treatments and longer life expectancy. We are still finding that a lot of new registrants are suffering multiple disabilities or long-term conditions and hence are being supported by several agencies.

2. New referrals into Suffolk Sight came from the Eye Clinic Liaison Officers (ECLOs) at West Suffolk, Ipswich, James Paget and Addenbrookes hospitals, from Sensing Change, social prescribers, other charities and NHS departments, and directly from individuals or family members, either through recommendation, Suffolk Sight's widely distributed trifold information leaflets or via outreach events.

3. Suffolk Sight offers a service that is both holistic and person-centred. The primary activity was supporting visually-impaired beneficiaries through our team of eight Community Sight Loss Advisors resolving their needs by a combination of home visits and telephone support, offering advice, providing solutions and making referrals to third parties where appropriate. Although we are generally only called upon to serve something like 20% of our members at any one point in time, we endeavour to contact all of our members at least once a year to see if their circumstances have changed and to check if they require any support. A proportion of our services continued to be offered remotely, with face-to-face support being given where appropriate. We continued to use a telephone triage system to help manage demand.

4. Our Community Sight Loss Advisors continued to use their magnification training to both demonstrate and arrange purchase of simple and electronic hand-held magnifiers. This is an extremely valuable service particularly for those living without easy access to Low Vision clinics at the hospitals. Wherever possible they demonstrated a core set of daily living aids and provided catalogues and help where necessary to make sure that our beneficiaries could purchase from a large range of other daily living aids. During the year, we provided or helped with the acquisition of daily living aids for our beneficiaries and, where they were financially disadvantaged, we were able to assist in the purchase of small items by applying for appropriate grants or, where this was not applicable, via a fund kindly donated to Suffolk Sight by a number of charitable trusts and donors. For this, we and the beneficiaries concerned are very appreciative.

5. Suffolk Sight continued to assist its beneficiaries with applications for welfare benefits where appropriate, most commonly Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payment (PIP). We also helped with applications for concessions, such as Blue Badges and bus passes.

6. Suffolk Sight has two trained Technology Advisors and a small number of volunteers who demonstrated a range of IT assistive technology products as well as providing training and technical support for member's own IT equipment. This support was provided remotely, at the resource centres and outreach events, or in the beneficiary's home.

7. We continued to offer our befriending scheme, which saw increased demand throughout the year, with many people experiencing feelings of social isolation. The service was delivered by a mixture of telephone and face-to-face visits. Our Befriending Co-ordinator worked with other organisations offering similar services to co-ordinate resources and manage keep waiting times to a minimum.

8. The telephone counselling, a permanent, externally-funded service, continued to be in demand, as we helped beneficiaries struggling to come to terms with their sight loss and its impact on their lives.

9. We provided a twice-yearly informative newsletter that went out to all of our members either in large print, on CDs, USB Sticks or via email. These newsletters contained a wide range of helpful information and guidance for our members.

10. Across Suffolk we had sixteen social groups, including a children's group, meeting at least once a month for those of our members who are able to attend. These offered professional advice and peer-to-peer support in a good social setting, usually involving food and drink and, more often than not, some activity or entertainment, and the occasional outing.

11. Several of our social groups offered, directly or in conjunction with other local organisers, a range of activity groups for our members to participate in. These included Blind Bowls, Blind Shooting, New Age Curling, rambles, sailing, arts and crafts, and Boccia.

12. We set up a pilot project for a Walking Group, which proved to be very popular, allowing beneficiaries to exercise and access nature in a safe environment.

13. At a time when charities are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit volunteers, we explored new ways to reach and attract people and continued to have a steady flow of new volunteers joining the team and helping us to deliver our services.

14. We collaborated with a number of other charities, such as Cohere Arts to apply for funding and to deliver activities including art, drama and craft sessions for our clubs.

15. As part of our drive to take more of our services to our beneficiaries in their own communities, we continued holding pop-up advice and equipment sessions in Lowestoft, Haverhill and Newmarket.

16. Our Equipment Day in Bury St Edmunds was a great success and was very well attended, with people able to receive information and advice from suppliers of assistive technology and daily living aids, as well as ourselves and other charities and agencies.

17. The monthly telephone-based Charles Bonet support group continued to go from strength to strength and a face-to-face meet up was held as a result of feedback from beneficiaries.

18. We provided referrals to the RNIB for any of our members who required help getting back into or staying in employment.

19. We encouraged all of our members to receive talking newspapers and magazines from both local and national charities offering this service. In addition, we helped members get access to talking books either through the RNIB or through a charity called Calibre.

20. We acted as agents for a charity called British Wireless for the Blind (BWFB) who provide radios and radio/CD/USB stick players as well as internet-based radios. These are offered to members who meet the tight criteria set by BWBF.

21. We implemented a new database, Charitylog, which has made our administration more efficient and enables us to improve our care and support for our beneficiaries as well as gather more and better data about our beneficiaries and their use of our services.

Management and staffing

Suffolk Sight employed eighteen part-time staff.

The day-to-day operations of the Charity were the responsibility of the senior staff team, consisting of the Chief Executive, Services Manager and Finance Manager, supported by the Administrator. The Charity also employed eight Community Sight Loss Advisors, a Befriending Co-ordinator, two Technology Advisors, a Low Vision Specialist, a Social Club and Volunteer Co-ordinator and a Communications and Engagement Officer.

Volunteers

Volunteers continued to be an essential part of Suffolk Sight's overall operation throughout the year. The Charity was fortunate to be able to call upon over 200 volunteers across Suffolk to cover a wide range of duties. Volunteers supported a number of our services and provided a wide range of practical help including administration support, befriending, outreach events, and running monthly social and activity groups including outings and transport.

Financial review

Total income for the year ended 31 March 2026 amounted to £201,614, an increase of 26% compared to last year's total of £156,232. This growth reflects the continued generosity and support of our community, alongside successful efforts to broaden how we generate income.

While overall income increased there has been a decline in more traditional forms of giving; legacies, events, community fundraising, cash collections and Gift Aid all fell compared to last year. This reflects wider changes in how people choose to give and reinforces the importance of maintaining diverse income streams. Income this year came from a wide mix of activities:

Voluntary income including legacies: 23%

Grant income: 30%

Investment dividends and interest: 15%

Rental income: 15%

Social club income:12%

Other income: 5%

We are also grateful for donations in kind (non-cash gifts such as goods or services), which totalled £3,107, up from £1,205 last year.

Total expenditure for the year was £459,862, a decrease of £6,105 compared to last year (2025: £465,967). This reduction is largely due to lower fundraising costs which fell significantly from £42,561 last year to £15,164 this year as no fees were incurred in managing legacies. These savings have been partly offset by rising costs elsewhere, most notably increased salary costs due to Employer National Insurance contributions changes.

Our charitable spending totalled £444,698 (2025: £418,074), with the majority focused directly on supporting people with sight loss:

66% funded one-to-one support services, including our team of Community Sight Loss Advisors, Access Technology Advisors, Low Vision Assessments, and emotional support services. These teams deliver vital help to individuals across the county.

31% supported community engagement, including volunteers, befriending services, and our 16 regional social groups, helping people stay connected and active in their communities.

3% covered fundraising and governance activities.

The net position means we are reporting a planned operating deficit of £239,170 (2025: a deficit of £56,738) which has been met by an agreed drawdown of reserves of the same amount.

All invested funds experienced a decline in value at the year end, reflecting broader market volatility. However, our two investment properties, which are let under residential tenancies, were revalued during the year, resulting in an increase of £55,000.

The year-end funds of the charity total £1,259,841 (2025: £1,499,011). The unrestricted fund balance was £1,154,791 (2025: £1,340,961) of which £77,151 (2025: £91,487) comprises the balances held by our social club funds and £70,777 is the capacity building designated fund (2025 £71,472) .The restricted fund balance was £105,050 (2025: £158,050).

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Reserves policy

Suffolk Sight's strategy and sustainability plan has been implemented and the Trustees have set a reserves policy for the forthcoming year. The Trustees have given due consideration to the external environment and the performance of current operations and have set a policy which requires that reserves be maintained at a level to ensure continuity of Suffolk Sight's core activities, and which recognises that the principal source of funding is from legacies, which by their very nature are unpredictable.

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted accessible funds at a level which equates to a minimum of twelve months and a maximum of 18 months of unrestricted charitable expenditure and ensures that there are sufficient resources:

- To enable Suffolk Sight to continue to deliver its core activities in the event of a shortfall in voluntary and other income streams
- To meet short term cashflow requirements
- To provide funds to protect Suffolk Sight against unforeseen adverse circumstances

The Trustees hold these reserves in a ready realisable form i.e. that can be easily converted into cash.

This policy is reviewed annually and levels of reserves are monitored and reviewed as part of the management accounts every two months. This gives the Trustees sufficient time to adjust to changing financial circumstances and to manage the levels of our liquid reserves.

Accessible reserves held at 31st March 2026 were £256,922 (2025: £286,912) which equates to 6 months of charitable expenditure based on current costs. To meet this target reserves level of between 12 and 18 month's expenditure Suffolk Sight will be disposing of its some of its investment assets which are subsequently held for sale at the year end.

Designated reserves of £70,000 have been set aside by the Trustees in order to build the capacity of the organisation and invest in our future sustainability and resilience. Pending successful recruitment we plan to draw on this designated reserve in the forthcoming financial year.

Designated funds for each of our regional social clubs' funds are managed by each club. The total held by our social clubs at 31st March 2026 was £77,150.

Investments policy

In accordance with the charity's constitution, the Trustees have the power to invest in such stocks, shares and investments as they see fit. The Trustees have delegated oversight of Suffolk Sight's investment assets to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee, which meets six times a year, report and make recommendations to the Trustees at Board meetings held every two months.

Suffolk Sight's investment strategy is to generate a consistent and sustainable return, within an acceptable level of risk, to part fund annual expenditure and to deliver the investment objectives, which are in turn aligned with Suffolk Sight's short-, medium- and long-term strategic objectives.

At the year-end £440,707 (2025: £476,629) was held within four COIF Charities Funds (Common Investment Funds) which are administered by CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) and £135,000 was held in one freehold rental property in Ipswich. Two further freehold rental properties valued at £335,000 are currently being held for sale.

Plans for future periods

One of Suffolk Sight's key strengths is the ability to adapt quickly to changes in our environment and different ways of working whilst maintaining our provision of support to people across the county. In the future, we will ensure that our services continue to respond and develop in the most appropriate and safe way. In particular, we will:

Continue to provide, develop and enhance the current range of core services and activities, based on the evolving needs of our beneficiaries.

Build capacity to ensure that we can deliver our services across the entire county.

Value and nurture lived experience and ensure that co-production is an inherent part of everything we do.

Continue to transform our service delivery model, bringing yet more of our support to our beneficiaries in their local communities.

Build on our links with statutory and community organisations, aiming to ensure that the needs of people with sight loss in Suffolk are met most appropriately.

Maintain (and where possible, increase) the numbers of people we support.

Improve our reach and engage with all communities in Suffolk.

Continue to explore innovation and best practice and further develop partnerships and collaborative working.

Update our policies and procedures to ensure they reflect legislation, best practice and our working arrangements.

Increase and diversify membership of the Trustee Board.

Invest in consolidating and developing fundraising activities and improving our communications.

Continue to invest in training and development of staff, trustees and volunteers.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Suffolk Sight is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and a charity registered in effect from 29 May 2019. Suffolk Sight's activities are governed by its Constitution last amended and approved on 10 October 2024, which it sets out the nature and limitations of the Charity's work with local blind and partially-sighted people.

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees who are elected, appointed and co-opted under the terms of the Charity Commission Scheme. The current Board of Trustees and the changes which have occurred since the previous annual report are as stated in the reference and administration details of these accounts.

Recruitment and induction of Trustees

New trustees are currently appointed at the Annual General Meeting or at any point in the year by the decision of the Trustee Board. Induction is carried out by the Chair and Chief Executive. A range of resources are used to provide information about Suffolk Sight and the roles and responsibilities of its trustees. It is considered appropriate that a proportion of the trustees should be service users and currently five of the trustees have a visual impairment.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies

Suffolk Sight has a paid staff team to oversee provision of all services together with sixteen volunteer-run clubs that are all self-financing and run local social and activity groups for members of Suffolk Sight within their geographical areas. The majority of these clubs operate their own bank accounts; however, they operate and report within the registered Charity and also operate under the Charity's single insurance policy. Suffolk Sight's strategic direction is set by its Board of Trustees which meets six times per year.

Implementation of the strategy and management of the organisation is the responsibility of the part-time Chief Executive who is also responsible for the organisation's supporting infrastructure, assisted by a part-time Services Manager, part-time Administrator and part-time Finance Manager. The other frontline members of staff are involved directly in the delivery of services to beneficiaries. The Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive meet regularly to share information and consider important issues arising between board meetings. The Chief Executive holds a team meeting of all the paid staff every month to deal with operational matters.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The Board of Trustees and the senior staff team (the Chief Executive, Services Manager and Finance Manager) comprise the key management personnel of the Charity, in charge of directing and controlling its day-to-day operations. The remuneration of the senior staff team is reviewed annually and all changes approved by the Trustees. Salary increases consider both inflation rates and affordability and comparison of salaries within the sector. No trustees receive remuneration or other benefits from their work with the Charity.

Partnerships and collaborative working

The Charity maintains close links with both national and other local charities within the sight-loss sector. It is an active member of Visionary, which is a national body that supports local voluntary sight-loss charities. It also has a close working relationship with Sensing Change (the sensory team for Suffolk County Council Social Services) and the four NHS Hospital Eye Clinics serving the population of Suffolk. The Charity administers distribution of radios on behalf of the British Wireless for the Blind Fund and helps beneficiaries to access local and national taking newspapers, as well as talking book services. Other relevant charities, including Blind Veterans UK, The Macular Society and the RNIB, are referred to for provision of information and support for Suffolk Sight clients within their remits. The Charity also recommends those who would benefit from a guide dog to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Related party relationships

The Charity maintains a Register of Interests for all Trustees and senior management, which is reviewed annually. Information on all related party transactions is recorded and disclosed in the annual accounts.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to manage any exposure to identified major risks, which are subject to regular review. The Trustees have recognised as a prime risk the need for on-going financial stability. Consequently, the operations team has continued to address overheads and work closely with Suffolk Sight's commission-based external fund raiser.

True and fair override

The financial statements have been prepared to give a `true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a `true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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 issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

8/8/2026

The trustees' annual report was approved on ..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



G Staff (Chair)
Trustee

Suffolk Sight

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Suffolk Sight

Year ended 31 March 2026

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has since been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

Abigail Robinson

A Robinson BFP FCA DChA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA
10/8/2026

Suffolk Sight

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	**4**	37,022	3,925	40,947	44,270
Charitable activities	**5**	74,948	13,446	88,394	49,329
Other trading activities	**6**	6,683	652	7,335	7,263
Investment income	**7**	55,906	3,957	59,863	51,918
Other income		5,075	–	5,075	3,452
Total income		179,634	21,980	201,614	156,232
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	**8**	15,164	–	15,164	47,893
Charitable activities	**9**	379,776	64,922	444,698	418,074
Total expenditure		394,940	64,922	459,862	465,967
Net expenditure and net movements in funds before gains and losses on investments		(215,306)	(42,942)	(258,248)	(309,735)
Net gains on investments		29,136	(10,058)	19,078	252,997
Net expenditure and net movement in funds		(186,170)	(53,000)	(239,170)	(56,738)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,340,961	158,050	1,499,011	1,555,749
Total funds carried forward		1,154,791	105,050	1,259,841	1,499,011

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

Suffolk Sight

Balance sheet

31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	**13**		1,985		5,809
Investments	**14**		575,707		891,629
			577,692		897,438
Current assets					
Stocks	**15**	1,683		1,655	
Debtors	**16**	34,796		24,746	
Assets held for sale	**17**	335,000		–	
Cash at bank and in hand		334,075		610,439	
		705,554		636,840	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**18**	(23,405)		(35,267)	
Net current assets			682,149		601,573
Total assets less current liabilities			1,259,841		1,499,011
Net assets			1,259,841		1,499,011
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			105,050		158,050
Unrestricted funds			1,154,791		1,340,961
Total charity funds	**20**		1,259,841		1,499,011

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8/8/2026....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

G Staff (Chair)
Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

Suffolk Sight, registered charity number 1183608, is a public benefit entity established in the UK as a charitable incorporated organisation governed by its constitution dated 29th May 2019. Suffolk Sight is formed from the amalgamation of West Suffolk Sight CIO and East Suffolk CIO and East Suffolk Association for the Blind CIO and became active on 1st April 2020.

Suffolk Sight operates from its offices in Stowmarket and Ipswich and regionally throughout Suffolk. The Charity's principal office is 19 Tower Street, Ipswich, IP1 3BE.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis and the Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The Trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the Charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income tax

As a registered Charity, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees to further any of the Charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies ***(continued)***

Income

All income is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the funds, receipt is deemed 'probable' and the amount is measurable.

Where income is received in advance of performance of a specified service, it is deferred until the charity is entitled to that income.

Income includes donations and legacies. For legacies, entitlement is recognised from the earlier of the date of receipt or when sufficient notification is received by the Charity to enable it to quantify its entitlement with probability. Donations are recognised when the Charity has received the income. If the donation is subject to a restriction the Charity will recognise when the restriction is met or wholly within the control of the Charity.

Grants are included in the statement of activities when the entitlement to the grant is probable. Grants made for specific purposes are classified as restricted income. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor or funder has specified that the income is to be expended in a future accounting period.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support programme activities, and is recognised as the services are provided.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis

Rental income form assets leased under operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a Charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

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

Office Equipment	-	20% straight line

Investments

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Underlying management fees for the common investment funds have been incurred and have been charged to those funds.

Investment property

Investment property is revalued to its fair value at each reporting date and any changes in fair value are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

Pension contributions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Donations			
Donations	25,733	3,887	29,620
Gift aid	1,698	38	1,736
Legacies			
Legacies	9,591	–	9,591
	37,022	3,925	40,947

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
Donations	13,569	8,841	22,410
Gift aid	2,707	–	2,707
Legacies			
Legacies	4,488	14,665	19,153
	20,764	23,506	44,270

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Grants	52,943	8,544	61,487
Social Club	19,949	4,902	24,851
Other charitable income	2,056	–	2,056
	74,948	13,446	88,394

5. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Grants	8,000	7,985	15,985
Social Club	19,360	12,683	32,043
Other charitable income	1,301	–	1,301
	28,661	20,668	49,329

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Community fundraising	5,499	652	6,151
External fundraising	1,184	–	1,184
	6,683	652	7,335

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Community fundraising	4,064	2,892	6,956
External fundraising	15	292	307
	4,079	3,184	7,263

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**
Rental income from investment properties	29,813	–	29,813
Investment income	26,093	3,957	30,050
	55,906	3,957	59,863

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Rental income from investment properties	29,100	–	29,100
Investment income	19,343	3,475	22,818
	48,443	3,475	51,918

8. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Staff costs of raising voluntary income	7,427	7,427	5,332	5,332
Fundraising costs	7,737	7,737	42,561	42,561
	15,164	15,164	47,893	47,893

9. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	**Total funds 2026 £**	Total fund 2025 £
Staff costs	274,452	45,199	319,651	283,526
Depreciation	3,824	–	3,824	4,205
Direct costs for service delivery	37,835	–	37,835	31,586
Training	761	–	761	2,262
Administration	10,515	–	10,515	15,327
Communications	4,832	–	4,832	4,429
Social club expenditure	23,721	–	23,721	28,843
Accountancy fees and payroll	1,539	–	1,539	1,320
Occupational costs	23,213	–	23,213	29,294
Legal and professional	7,401	–	7,401	7,010
Digital expenditure	6,463	–	6,463	6,570
Governance costs	–	4,943	4,943	3,702
	394,556	50,142	444,698	418,074

10. Independent examination fees

	2026 £	2025 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	3,921	3,702

11. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Wages and salaries	297,402	269,391
Social security costs	21,101	11,900
Pension costs	8,575	7,567
	327,078	288,858

The average head count of employees during the year was 18 (2025: 17).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2025: None).

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the CEO, Member Services Manager and Finance Manager. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received in respect of key management personnel amounted £94,199 (2025: £87,989).

12. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Trustees were reimbursed expenses amounting to £70 (2025: £660) during the year.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2025	21,766
Disposals	(2,231)
At 31 March 2026	19,535
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2025	15,957
Charge for the year	3,824
Disposals	(2,231)
At 31 March 2026	17,550
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2026	1,985
At 31 March 2025	5,809

14. Investments

	Listed investments £	Investment properties £	**Total £**
Cost or valuation			
At 1 April 2025	476,629	415,000	891,629
Additions	–	–	–
Fair value movements	(35,922)	55,000	19,078
Transfers	–	(335,000)	(335,000)
At 31 March 2026	440,707	135,000	575,707
Impairment			
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026			–
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2026	440,707	135,000	575,707
At 31 March 2025	476,629	415,000	891,629

All investments shown above are held at valuation.

14. Investments *(continued)*

Investment properties

Investment property comprises three rental properties.

At the reporting date, the Trustees resolved to market two of these properties for sale. Accordingly, these properties have been reclassified from fixed assets to assets held for sale, as the Trustees consider that the criteria for such classification have been met, including that the assets are available for immediate sale and that completion is highly probable within 12 months of the reporting date.

Prior to reclassification, the two properties were valued by an independent qualified valuer on an open market value basis. The carrying values have been adjusted to reflect their fair value less costs to sell at the reporting date.

The fair value of the remaining investment property has been determined by the Trustees. In arriving at this valuation, the Trustees have considered evidence of recent transaction prices for similar properties and other relevant market data available at the reporting date. The valuation has been prepared on an open market value basis and reflects the Trustees' assessment of fair value in prevailing market conditions.

Financial assets held at fair value

The company's investment properties are measured at fair value, based on an open market basis by the Trustees.

15. Stocks

	2026	2025
	£	£
Goods for resale	1,683	1,655

16. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	6,485	2,373
Other debtors	28,311	22,373
	34,796	24,746

17. Assets held for sale

	2026	2025
	£	£
Properties held for sale	335,000	–

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	3,750	3,713
Social security and other taxes	6,992	5,456
Other creditors	12,663	26,098
	23,405	35,267

19. Deferred income

	2026	2025
	£	£
At 1 April 2025	3,713	3,463
Amount released to income	(3,713)	(3,463)
Amount deferred in year	3,750	3,713
At 31 March 2026	3,750	3,713

Deferred income relates to rent in advance of the period to which it relates and where relevant any conditional grant income received in the year on behalf of projects being completed in following years.

20. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 March 2026

	At 1 Apr 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure and investment movement £	Transfers £	**At 31 Mar 2026 £**
Restricted funds					
Aids equipment and magnifier	4,269	2,943	(6,379)	–	833
Community Sight Loss Advisors	6,000	52	(6,052)	–	–
Database	14	–	(14)	–	–
Outreach	–	250	(250)	–	–
Social Clubs	10,416	3,000	(3,000)	(9,807)	609
Social Clubs - Ipswich VIP	–	530	(1,939)	9,532	8,123
Social Clubs - Mildenhall	–	1,371	(626)	275	1,020
Suffolk Sight Juniors	1,508	7,167	(6,215)	–	2,460
Telephone Service	1,713	2,710	(3,458)	–	965
Walker Estate	134,130	3,957	(47,047)	–	91,040
	158,050	21,980	(74,980)	–	105,050
Designated funds					
Additional team members	70,000	–	–	–	70,000
Beccles & Bungay	1,785	1,811	(1,752)	–	1,844
Brandon	186	120	–	–	306
Bury St Edmunds VIP	1,724	3,149	(1,448)	–	3,425
Felixstowe	16,682	1,837	(2,897)	–	15,622
Hadleigh Optimists	1,533	1,013	(1,316)	89	1,319
Halesworth & Southwold	5,224	522	(774)	–	4,972
Haverhill BAPS	2,636	2,330	(2,396)	–	2,570
Insurance claim	1,472	–	–	(695)	777
Ipswich	9,532	–	–	(9,532)	–
Lowestoft	7,110	3,467	(2,801)	–	7,776
Mildenhall	250	–	–	(250)	–
Pakenham VIP	941	573	(841)	–	673
Shotley	6,327	2,275	(2,470)	–	6,132
Stowmarket	4,445	1,066	(1,803)	–	3,708
Sudbury VIP	17,105	3,792	(428)	–	20,469
Woodbridge	9,659	907	(2,230)	–	8,336
	156,611	22,862	(21,156)	(10,388)	147,929
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,184,350	156,772	(344,648)	10,388	1,006,862

Year ended 31 March 2025

	At 1 Apr 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure and investment movement £	Transfers £	**At 31 Mar 2025 £**
Restricted funds					
Aids equipment and magnifier	8,530	1,153	(5,414)	–	4,269
Community Sight Loss Advisors	–	6,000	–	–	6,000
Database	2,500	2,500	(4,986)	–	14
Social Clubs	1,854	14,432	(5,870)	–	10,416
Suffolk Sight Juniors	3,012	2,963	(4,467)	–	1,508
Technical Advisers	823	–	(823)	–	–
Telephone Service	1,157	5,644	(5,088)	–	1,713
Walker Estate	154,248	18,141	(38,259)	–	134,130
	172,124	50,833	(64,907)	–	158,050
Designated funds					
Additional team members	70,000	–	–	–	70,000
Beccles & Bungay	2,377	825	(1,417)	–	1,785
Brandon	1,227	–	(1,041)	–	186
Bury St Edmunds VIP	58	2,159	(896)	403	1,724
Felixstowe	18,875	1,304	(3,497)	–	16,682
Hadleigh Optimists	1,906	870	(1,243)	–	1,533
Halesworth & Southwold	5,758	855	(1,389)	–	5,224
Haverhill BAPS	2,433	2,646	(2,465)	22	2,636
Insurance claim	2,631	–	(1,159)	–	1,472
Ipswich	–	12,346	(2,814)	–	9,532
Lowestoft	6,419	3,690	(2,999)	–	7,110
Mildenhall	–	337	(1,917)	1,830	250
Pakenham VIP	1,173	521	(753)	–	941
Shotley	5,621	2,935	(2,229)	–	6,327
Stowmarket	3,687	1,806	(1,048)	–	4,445
Sudbury VIP	14,523	200	2,382	–	17,105
Woodbridge	11,496	1,549	(3,386)	–	9,659
	148,184	32,043	(25,871)	2,255	156,611
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,235,441	73,356	(122,192)	(2,255)	1,184,350

Restricted fund purposes:

- Aids equipment and magnifier: funds the provision of aids to members who are in need, assistive technology for our community sight loss advisors and access technical adviser.
- Social Clubs: funds the activities of Blink our active social club
- Social Clubs - Ipswich VIP: funds the activities of our Ipswich club
- Social Clubs - Mildenhall: funds the activities of our Mildenhall club
- Suffolk Sight Juniors: funds equipment, facilities, activities and salaries of those involved in running the club
- Telephone Service: funds the provision of one-to-one telephone counselling offered to sight-impaired people
- Walker Estate: funds our services in the Felixstowe area

The following restricted funds have been completed, although the service they funded still continues and is funded by our general funds:

- Community Sight Loss Advisors: funds the role of one of our community sight loss advisors
- Database: funds the introduction of a new database
- Outreach: funds volunteer apparel for outreach events

Designated fund purposes:

- Additional team members: the Trustees have created a designated fund to cover the salaries of additional team members so that Suffolk Sight services can be offered throughout the county.
- Beccles & Bungay: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Beccles & Bungay club.
- Brandon: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Brandon club.
- Bury St Edmunds VIP: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Bury St Edmunds VIP club.
- Felixstowe: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Felixstowe club.
- Hadleigh Optimists: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Hadleigh Optimists club.
- Halesworth & Southwold: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Halesworth & Southwold club.
- Haverhill BAPS: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Haverhill BAPS club.
- Insurance claim: the Trustees have created a designated fund to carry forward income received from an insurance claim to cover the replacement of flood damaged equipment.
- Ipswich: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Ipswich club.

At the year end, the amounts received in respect of this fund were reviewed and subsequently reclassified as a restricted fund.

- Lowestoft: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Lowestoft club.
- Mildenhall: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Mildenhall club. At the year end, the amounts received in respect of this fund were reviewed and subsequently reclassified as a restricted fund.
- Pakenham VIP: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Pakenham club.
- Shotley: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Shotley club.
- Stowmarket: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Stowmarket club.
- Sudbury VIP: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Sudbury VIP club.
- Woodbridge: the Trustees have designated these funds to support the activities of the Woodbridge club.

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

31 March 2026

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	1,985	–	–	1,985
Investments	484,667	–	91,040	575,707
Current assets	545,018	146,526	14,010	705,554
Current liabilities	(23,405)	–	–	(23,405)
Net Assets	1,008,265	146,526	105,050	1,259,841

31 March 2025

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	5,809	–	–	5,809
Investments	757,499	–	134,130	891,629
Current assets	456,309	156,611	23,920	636,840
Current liabilities	(35,267)	–	–	(35,267)
Net Assets	1,184,350	156,611	158,050	1,499,011

22. Operating lease commitments

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

	2026	2025
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	21,084	10,374

23. Related parties

Suffolk Sight received a donation of £52 (2025: £6,000) from New Medica, Raj Hanspal is consultant ophthalmologist and clinical partner at New Medica and is also a trustee of the charity. The donation was made in September and January and is restricted to funding the role of one of our community sight loss advisors. The transaction was reviewed and approved by the board of trustees, including those with no conflict of interest.

There were no other related party transactions in this or the prior year.