Shine Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements 2025/26

Year ended 31st March 2026











Shine

Spina bifida • Hydrocephalus

Information • Networking • Equality



Foreword from our Chair

The Trustees are really pleased with the progress Shine has made over the past year. The charity is continuing to strengthen its services while also ensuring a more strategic and forward-looking approach to its work.

Trustees recognise the dedication and professionalism of Shine's staff, and the valuable contribution made by our volunteers, in delivering consistent, high-quality support to members, alongside developing new ways of working that extend Shine's reach and impact. The clearer structure across programmes, the growth in partnerships, and the continued focus on ensuring services respond to members' needs at every stage of life are all positive developments.

This progress provides a strong foundation for the future, and for the development of Shine's next Corporate Plan.

Kind regards,

Joanne Williams

Joanne Williams, Chair

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Introduction from Kate, our CEO



2025/26 has been a year of significant strategic progress for Shine.

Building on the consolidation in year three (2024/25) of our Corporate Plan, we have introduced new initiatives and ways of working to strengthen our model of lifelong support for our members, re-thinking how our services are designed and delivered, and how best we can engage both existing and new members more effectively.

Our progress is reflected in the continued evolution of our work over the years. Early intervention for babies and children is now delivered through a defined national programme; youth work has developed into a structured project; and our approach to influencing and partnerships has matured significantly.

> Whether we are working with children, young people or adults, the focus is on ensuring everyone receives the right level of support to improve well-being

We have taken important steps to address areas where further progress is needed. This includes strengthening our adult services, improving engagement with under-represented groups, and building a more robust evidence base to demonstrate our impact.

Across all our work streams and projects, we place a strong emphasis on one-to-one support built on trust, care and compassion.

This is particularly important at Shine, as we recognise that every member's needs, abilities and goals are different. Whether we are working with children, young people or adults, the focus is on ensuring everyone receives the right level of support to improve well-being, gets answers to their questions, and access the help they need, when they need it.



In April 2026, Shine celebrated our 60th anniversary! In April 2027, we will launch our next five-year Corporate Plan. Our knowledge, experience, the work we have done and the progress bodes well for Shine's next steps to engage, enable and empower our members, professionals and others, influencing change, improving understanding of the conditions, and making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

As always, I am so proud of the work we do. This work would never happen without our fantastic staff at Shine, our dedicated Trustees and volunteers, our supporters and partners, all of whom contribute in so many ways to make a difference to so many lives.

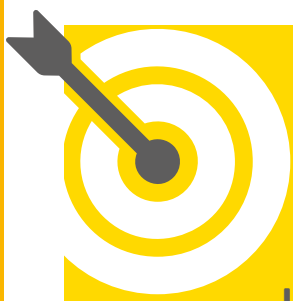
Kate

Kate Steele, CEO

Our vision and goals



Shine's vision is for a society where all those whose lives are affected by spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, and associated conditions, are empowered and enabled through choice and equality of opportunity.



Shine's aim

Our aim is to make a positive difference to the lives of people affected by spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, and associated conditions.





Our values:

- Promote the empowerment and participation of people with spina bifida and hydrocephalus, and associated conditions
- Value and respect all the different people with whom we work
- Challenge the ways in which society disables our members
- Work to achieve excellence
- Welcome challenge and review
- Use resources ethically, thoughtfully and responsibly

Our goals for 2022 - 2027

1. **Enabling** babies and children with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus to achieve their potential
2. **Empowering** young people with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus through knowledge, confidence and skills to manage their conditions and thrive
3. Adults with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus have the **choices and opportunities** to live healthy and independent lives
4. A **connected** community
5. **Preventing** spina bifida and anencephaly
6. **Changing experiences** of pregnancies affected by neural tube defects
7. **Transforming attitudes** and improving access to health and care services through engagement, partnerships, research and campaigning

Our impact at a glance

In 2025/26, Shine…

Welcomed 939 new members to Shine bringing our overall membership to 15,305 members!

We supported OVER 5,000 members

1,682 members
…improved health understanding

Enabling better management of their conditions

3,419 members
…connected

Felt less isolated

2,092 members
…were empowered

To confidently self-advocate

89 families helped

To access safer, more suitable housing

80 members enabled
…were empowered

To secure or remain in employment

£610,000
in financial support unlocked

Improving financial stability for 222 members

843 members
secured better care and support

118 members
accessed better education

Strategic Goal 1

Enabling babies and children to achieve their potential



Our aims

- Provide expert information and guidance to our families
- Strengthen early intervention
- Improve educational and specialist support

What we achieved

255 new members

2,908 Little Stars members

1,415 families supported

Early intervention is the foundation of Shine's lifelong model of support. In 2025/26, Shine improved our Little Stars programme for babies and young children, ensuring that families received consistent, structured support from birth to build confidence and promote positive developmental outcomes.

As well as our tailored 1-2-1 support, Shine:

- Established an **early intervention pathway** (0–2 years), providing specialist advice for families through our **physiotherapy and occupational therapy touchpoints** to build parents' confidence and provide them with an early understanding of developmental milestones and the importance and need for movement and play.
- Introduced a **6-week online programme for new parents,** covering a range of important topics, including managing medical appointments, routines, sensory play, and well-being.
- Continued our **spinal stimulation** project, making strong progress in evaluating its benefits for children with spina bifida to demonstrate its potential as part of NHS physiotherapy provision.
- Continued delivery of **continence services,** which provided tailored individual support alongside structured group programmes such as 'Shall Wee Talk', helping children and families build skills, confidence and independence in managing bladder and bowel needs.
- Strengthened **our presence in NHS clinics,** which enabled us to connect with existing Shine children and families, and new. Working closer with NHS clinical teams improved access to medical care and support and also aided our members in better understanding their conditions and the importance of proactive condition management.
- Enhanced **educational support** through tailored advice, training for schools, and proactive engagement with education professionals. Shine's School Award and direct work with teachers helped improve inclusion, transitions and access to appropriate learning environments.

The difference Shine made

Improving health and self-management

526
families better understood their child's condition

531
families learnt to manage their child's conditions more effectively

Support to access services more freely

591
families were able to access better care and support

295
children benefitted from better support and access to education

74
families were financially better off, with over £250,000 secured in benefits entitlements and support grants

47
families secured better, more accessible housing

"We were lost and we didn't know anything about hydrocephalus. That's when Sharon from Shine entered our lives and gave us lots of support and advice… support with DLA benefits, emotional support, and referring us to Shine's Health Team… Shine helped when we were at our absolute lowest."

Chloe, Parent of Shine Member



"Different things happen at each stage of my daughter's life. Whatever the outcome of any changes, Shine is there to help, and they understand.

The hospitals only really tell you the negative things, but Shine explains everything… If I didn't have Shine, I would have had no one around who really understands my daughter."

Steph, Parent of Shine Member



"Shine are always reaching out and checking in on my son. We were given a lot of support and knowledge regarding self-catheterisation and Shine went above and beyond to support us in meetings while applying for his Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP)."

Lauren, Parent of Shine Member



What we learnt

We know that early intervention is most effective when it is delivered proactively.

Families benefit most from structured, repeat engagement, which builds confidence over time and supports a better understanding of developmental milestones and condition management. We learnt that access to clear, high-quality resources and well-defined programmes plays a critical role in enabling parents to feel informed and empowered.

What worked well

The improved rollout of physiotherapy and occupational therapy touchpoints for children aged 0–2 proved particularly effective, establishing a consistent and preventative early support model.

Virtual delivery continued to be well received, allowing families to access our services to suit their needs and provide flexibility around their busy lives. Our presence in more NHS paediatric clinics also enhanced Shine's visibility and enabled more joined-up support for families.

What didn't work as well

Due to increasing demand for our services and the need to prioritise our work, some outputs were delayed and were carried forward into 2026/27.

Emerging needs

There is a clear need to fully embed a consistent quality framework and evaluation approach across all services, ensuring greater clarity on outcomes and impact.

Finally, we will continue to build and deepen our work with external partners, particularly across education and health systems, to strengthen transition pathways and ensure continuity of support as children and young people move through different stages of their lives.

Next steps

Our early intervention work has strong foundations. Our challenge in the coming 12 months will be to further embed and evaluate early intervention work, strengthen education support and transition pathways, and enhance communications so that current and new members will continue to benefit from Shine's Little Stars Programme.

Strategic Goal 2

Empowering young people (13–17 years)

FIRE
Friendship • Independence
Resilience • Empowerment

Our aims

- Provide expert information and guidance to our young people and their parents / carers
- Improve transition support
- Strengthen youth engagement

What we achieved

32 new members

1,153 FIRE members

502 young people supported

As well as our tailored 1-2-1 support, Shine:

- Developed Shine's **FIRE youth programme** for 13-17-year-olds, ensuring that Shine's youth members received coordinated support to build independence, confidence and life skills.
- Delivered **20 online zoom sessions** for our FIRE members.
- Progressed **Young Person's Guides** on key topics such as health, well-being and independent living, in co-production with young people. This work will provide a suite of resources, reflecting real lived experience and information to encourage proactive condition management and greater independence.
- Launched an online **Youth Hub** for young people, creating a centralised, digital-first platform that will improve access to information and support different learning styles.



- Provided our youth panel with opportunities to act as **Young Ambassadors,** raising awareness of the conditions and how they want professionals to see and treat them.
- Strengthened **NHS engagement and transition support**, to improve pathways from children to adult services. This included targeted work with transition clinics and specialists, helping ensure smoother, more supported transition services for young people

The difference Shine made

Improving health and self-management

95
young people better understood their condition

79
young people felt more confident to manage their health independently

Support to access services more freely

156
young people accessed better care and support

64
children benefitted from better support and access to education

16
families secured £43,000 in benefits entitlements and support grants

7
families secured better, more accessible housing

"[At Shine] I could connect with people who had similar experiences. It felt like a safe space where I could just be myself. Nobody labelled me. I was treated equally."

Ava, Shine Member, 2025

"I used to think I was weak, that my conditions meant I couldn't do anything. Shine changed that."

Dan, Shine Member, 2025



What we learnt

We learnt that young people are most engaged with Shine when our services are tailored to their needs; have been produced in partnership with them; and are available in a variety of formats.

Transition from children to adult services remains a key challenge, with young people requiring more structured support to navigate this stage of their lives. Peer connection and visible role models were also shown to be highly valuable in building confidence and identity.

What worked well

The development of the FIRE programme has created a clear, structured and nationally deliverable offer for young people.

The Youth Panel involvement has strengthened our approach to co-production.

What didn't work as well

Some elements of the project took longer to develop and embed than planned.

Emerging needs

There is a clear need to continue developing and expanding a safe digital-first youth offer. The Youth Hub, with podcasts, video content and other resources will improve access and engagement with FIRE.

Our young people also need a dedicated sign-posting service to external training and specialist employment support to open opportunities which will help maximise their potential in the world of work.

Next steps

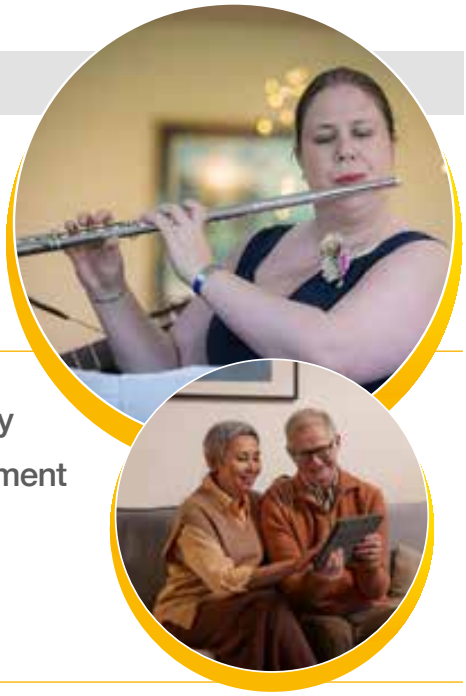
Thanks to a 5-year grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, our FIRE programme will have the resources and staffing to move from development of the programme to scaling its reach and impact to engage and benefit existing, and new, Shine youth members.

2026/27 will see key pieces of work and initiatives coming to fruition and, longer-term, Shine will implement its plan to:

- **Drive a digital-first youth offer**
- **Deliver a proactive model to engage more of our youth members**
- **Help our Little Stars transition to FIRE**
- **Complete and embed core content and learning resources**
- **Seek to formalise NHS, education and transition pathways**
- **Introduce more of a focus on employment**
- **Strengthen data, impact measurement and sustainability**

Strategic Goal 3

Supporting adults to live healthy and independent lives



Our aims

- Better understand how our adult members are managing their health and well-being in the 21st century
- Create specialist information for better condition management and preventative approaches for healthy living
- Build a specialist NPH service

What we achieved

652 new members
Approx. 200 new members with NPH

11,417 adult members

2,819 members supported

Overall, we progressed most of our planned work for our adult members, reflecting strong delivery across a complex portfolio and the successful establishment of new services, resources and partnerships.

As well as our tailored 1-2-1 support, Shine:

- **Updated resources** on independent living, hospital admissions and our shunt alert cards
- Invested further in our **Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH) specialist service** to address the growing demand for specialist support on this still little-known condition through clinical partnerships, developing condition-specific resources and delivered training.
- Expanded **our adult support and well-being** through structured on-line courses, condition-specific peer groups and virtual support, improving connections and emotional support for Shine's adult members.
- Strengthened **NHS engagement** by maintaining and expanding Shine's involvement and influence in the few NHS adult spina bifida clinics, building stronger relationships with clinicians, and working together to improve understanding of condition management, and access to care.
- Surveyed our members on their **experiences of emergency care for hydrocephalus,** identifying significant challenges in recognising and responding to shunt failure. We also contributed to the national shunt pathway for children and adults, which is due to be published in 2026.

The difference Shine made

Improving health and self-management

982 adults better understood their condition

955 adults felt more confident to manage their health independently

Support to access services more freely

843 adults were able to access better care and support

118 adults benefitted from better support and access to education

127 adults secured £270,000+ in benefits entitlements and support grants thanks to our support

89 adults secured better, more accessible housing

80 adults received support to secure or remain in work

"Shine have signposted me to clinical care and therapies that have helped me, which I would never have otherwise known about. I'm now approaching my 50th birthday and am proud to have been a Shine member for 40 of those years. I hope to continue for many more years to come."

Tanya, Shine Member



"There was a Shine session about benefits, and I was informed that I would likely qualify for PIP, to help with day-to-day costs… I applied for and was awarded PIP support. Before joining Shine, I had never heard of the PIP, never mind known I might qualify for it."

Vicky, Shine Member

"Through Shine Membership I've gained more insight into my condition and am able to get news updates and attend events, as well as support and advice."

Mehmet, Shine Member

What we learnt

Our adult members are the largest group of members across the Shine community, yet they are the least engaged and less likely than our babies, children, young people and families to benefit from our services.

To address this imbalance, we have further strengthened our evidence base to better understand long-term outcomes for adults with spina bifida. Analysis of national mortality data (2001–2023) showed that while life expectancy has increased, a significant survival gap remains, with many deaths linked to preventable causes.

This, coupled with our knowledge of the significant barriers and gaps in Health and Social Care provision, experienced by adult members, highlights ongoing challenges. Through an increased focus on self-management, prevention and system influence, Shine is helping to address these issues by supporting people to navigate complex healthcare systems more safely and confidently, whilst at the same time finding practical solutions, such as promoting the wider use of shunt cards and clearer emergency guidance.

There is also on-going demand for condition-specific support and opportunities to connect with peers.

What worked well

The Spina Bifida in Adulthood Handbook was well received. The continued delivery of structured well-being programmes has provided valuable support to adult members.

The development of the NPH specialist service, alongside increased engagement with NHS clinics, has strengthened Shine's role as a trusted provider of specialist advice. Peer support and well-being programmes have also demonstrated strong engagement and positive feedback.

What didn't work as well

Engagement with adult clinics remains inconsistent across regions, reflecting the limited availability of statutory specialist services for adults living with spina bifida, hydrocephalus or NPH.

Emerging needs

Shine's adult service model needs a much stronger focus on how we can better engage our adult members and promote our services more effectively to them so that a greater number of our members can benefit from what we do.

There is still much to do on the importance of looking after oneself and accessing preventative health services to improve long-term health and well-being, as well as expanding support around financial resilience, employment and independent living.

Working more closely with NHS partners to support the development and expansion of adult clinic provision will make a positive difference too.

Next steps

The creation of a dedicated adult team (May 2026), and introduction of our NPH service, will enable Shine to focus our expertise, increase capacity, and provide a more strategic approach to the adult services and support we can offer.

Over the coming 12 months, Shine will:

- **Reach and engage more of our adult members and ensure a more consistent offer across all conditions and regions, reducing variation in support.**
- **Consolidate the NPH service as a national, specialist offer, completing the roll out of a full suite of resources for members, carers and professionals.**
- **Strengthen NHS engagement and national coverage, increasing Shine's role in influencing statutory adult health and care services across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.**
- **Complete and promote up-to-date accessible resources, including housing and independent living guidance, benefits and financial support information and more on health and well-being for members and professionals.**
- **Improve our services to support employment and training, financial resilience and benefits advice, and independent living skills.**

Strategic Goal 4

A connected community



Our aims

- Strengthen connection and inclusion from diverse groups within our community
- Improve our data to better understand our members' needs and priorities
- Increase member engagement and participation

What we achieved

1,124 welcome calls

40 face-to-face events

229 online events

2,030 members engaged with events

662 well-being checks

In 2025/26, Shine focused on building the foundations for a more connected and inclusive community and considered ways in which we could improve our member engagement, and clearer promotion of our membership offer.

Shine:

- Made significant progress in **our digital systems and communications,** improving the accessibility of information and introducing more automation through Salesforce.
- Began development of **a new website,** due to launch in summer 2026.
- **Strengthened co-production,** working closely with members of all ages, using their insight to shape our services and priorities.
- Used **surveys, feedback and engagement** activities to inform all areas of our work, ensuring a member-led approach.
- Progressed the **member stories initiative,** creating a platform to share lived experiences and highlight the impact of Shine's work.
- Improved **social media and virtual engagement**
- Began exploring how to better reach and **engage with under-represented communities,** including LGBTQ+ and minority groups.
- Started work on an updated **volunteering strategy.** This progressed more slowly than planned and will continue into the next year.
- Used our **awareness weeks** to improve health knowledge and engagement, with targeted sessions on topics such as bladder management, cognition, shunt complications and sexual health.

CRONFA GYMUNEDOL COMMUNITY FUND

The difference Shine made

Improving health and self-management

3,419 felt better connected

zoom





"Shine's monthly Zoom meetings and events are a great way to make friends and see each other. It's nice to have a bit of banter and seeing people laugh. I love the monthly Shine Occulta and Me get-togethers…

Being a Shine member brings a sense of community, people that 'get' you, friendship and so much knowledge and information about my health."

Vicky, Shine Member

"NPH demanded far more resilience than we could have imagined, physically, emotionally, and mentally…

Shine's website stood out immediately because it spoke in a way that reflected lived experience, not just clinical description… when everything felt overwhelming, Shine provided grounding, reassurance, and a sense of community that made a profound difference."

Husband of Shine Member with NPH

What we learnt

The importance of shared experience has continued to be a central theme, with members valuing opportunities to connect with and learn from one another. Co-production has proven effective in shaping services, although it requires clear structures and capacity to deliver consistently.

We also recognise that some groups (e.g. travelling communities, LGBTQ+, ethnic minorities) remain under-represented in terms of direct engagement with our services and require more targeted engagement.

What worked well

Engagement through online events, face to face events and digital platforms has continued to grow, supported by improvements in our communications infrastructure and systems.

Member insight has increasingly informed service development, ensuring that delivery remains responsive to need. Our WhatsApp groups, tailored to the conditions and/or geographical areas, provided a safe space for our adult members and parent/carers to connect, share experiences and offer one another peer support.

What didn't work as well

Progress in developing and implementing a volunteering strategy was slower than planned, limiting the ability to expand member and supporter involvement.

We actively engaged with LGBTQ+ and minority groups, but recognise we want, and need, to do more.

Emerging needs

Priorities for the coming year include developing a clear and resourced volunteering strategy, strengthening engagement with underrepresented groups, and continuing to invest in digital platforms to improve accessibility and connection.

There is also for more investment in high-quality resources and diverse delivery channels, that can be accessed by large numbers of members at any time. Strengthening this aspect of our work will be essential to meeting growing demand and improving consistency of support.

Next steps

Shine will:

- Launch and embed the new website, improving accessibility, user experience and engagement.
- Build on digital infrastructure and automation to enable more personalised and consistent member engagement.
- Strengthen co-production by involving members more directly in communications, service design and decision-making.
- Expand the member stories platform to better reflect the diversity of experiences across the Shine community.
- Develop and implement targeted approaches to engage underrepresented groups, ensuring greater inclusivity.
- Complete and begin delivery of a comprehensive volunteering strategy to increase participation and community involvement.



Campaigning goals

Strategic Goal 5

Preventing spina bifida and anencephaly



Our aims

- Support the implementation of mandatory folic acid fortification across the UK
- Promote pre-conception supplementation alongside fortification
- Influencing policy and practice across government and public health agencies

What we achieved

Our on-going work on prevention represents significant steps towards reducing the incidence of spina bifida and anencephaly in the UK.

Shine:

- Saw most of the flour industry **implementing mandatory fortification of all white flour with folic acid** across the UK, well ahead of the December 2026 deadline. Our campaigning for over 30 years paid off!
- Worked in partnership with Vitabiotics to raise awareness of folic acid and vitamin B12 supplementation through our **Folic for Life campaign.** We ran social media campaigns and engaged with professionals to get the messages about supplementation and its role in prevention to wider audiences.
- **Influenced national policy and practice,** liaising with the Department of Health and Social Care, and devolved administrations in Wales and Northern Ireland, to request:
  - the adoption of consistent public health messaging on the optimum time to take folic acid supplementation to improve the chances of not having a pregnancy affected by a NTD.
  - implementation of a public health campaign to raise awareness of the importance of taking folic acid supplements.
  - clarity on the use of L-methyl folate in place of folic acid.

The difference Shine made

Products using fortified flour are now beginning to appear on supermarket shelves.

The effects of mandatory fortification of flour with folic acid in the UK have not yet been seen but, over time, it is expected to make a significant and measurable difference to population health by reducing the number of neural tube defects (NTDs), such as spina bifida and anencephaly, improve outcomes for families, and deliver long-term benefits for the healthcare system.

Evidence from countries that have already implemented fortification shows reductions in NTD-affected pregnancies of around 20–30%, and in the UK context this could prevent an estimated 150–200 affected pregnancies each year. As a population-wide measure, fortification helps ensure women of childbearing age have adequate folate levels before pregnancy - particularly important given that many pregnancies are unplanned—and reduces health inequalities by reaching those least likely to take supplements.

“The good news is that the UK baking and flour milling industries implemented flour fortification ahead of the mandated transition period. Most UK flour was fortified from autumn 2025.”

Kate, Shine CEO

“Shine have really led the way and supported the happy outcome we have today; that the UK will be implementing a policy of fortification and will in fact be the first country in Europe to do so.”

Ursula Arens, Dietetics and Nutritional Science Expert, 2025

What we learnt

After a sustained, long-term campaign for the implementation of mandatory folic acid fortification, we need to continue our quest for recognition and public health messaging on the importance and timing of folic acid supplementation.

What worked well

The national rollout of folic acid fortification and the continued delivery of the Folic for Life campaign have significantly increased awareness and engagement.

Strong partnerships and effective advocacy have maintained Shine’s momentum in this area.

What didn’t work as well

Despite progress, public understanding of supplementation remains inconsistent, and behavioural change has been slower than anticipated.

This area continues to rely on engagement from government and public health bodies.

Emerging needs

There is a need for sustained public health messaging and national campaigns to reinforce the importance of fortification and supplementation.

Continued influencing of policy, guidance and practice will also be important to ensure messages are consistent if any campaigns are to maximise impact.

Next steps

We made significant steps in highlighting our concerns around supplementation to government, yet there remains much more to be done.

Over the coming 12 months, Shine will:

- **Continue to promote the importance of folic acid supplementation, recognising its critical role alongside fortification.**
- **Call for the Department of Health and Social Care to provide clear and consistent information and messaging to professionals and the public about the importance of taking folic acid at the right time for the greatest effect on prevention.**
- **Request a review of the NICE guidelines on timing.**
- **Understand the use of L-Methyl Folate interchangeably with folic acid and plan what we need to do as a result.**

Strategic Goal 6

Changing experiences of pregnancies affected by neural tube defects



Our aims

- Deliver a high-quality personalised 1:1 pregnancy advice and support service
- Strengthen our specialist anencephaly support for members and families
- Increase professional engagement, awareness and training

What we achieved

80 parents-to-be received confidential support

897 members in anencephaly support group

45 new members joined our closed anencephaly support group

Our core pregnancy services are now well established, and we have worked with professionals, including midwives, GPs and fetal medicine services, to better support and signpost parents-to-be to the right services and advice when they most need them.

Shine:

- Fully embedded our **pregnancy pathway** offering a consistent approach and a 24-hour response for parents-to-be who have had a diagnosis of spina bifida or anencephaly in their unborn baby. The health team also offered on-going support to members who had a pregnancy affected by a NTD, and who wished to try for another pregnancy but had questions and concerns.
- Made significant progress in developing an improved **anencephaly support service,** including consistent delivery of 1:1 support, growth in peer support provision, and increasing referrals to Shine from hospital partners. We promoted this important service through our contacts and across our social media.
- Continued with more **professional engagement and influencing,** delivering CPD training and seminars, and strengthening relationships with midwifery teams, fetal surgery centres and commissioners. This work expanded Shine's professional membership, increasing our visibility and positioning the charity as a trusted, expert partner in spina bifida, hydrocephalus, NPH and associated conditions - informing best practice, supporting early diagnosis, and improving outcomes for families.
- Worked in partnership with Fetal Surgery teams and NHS commissioners to provide direct feedback on our members' experiences of **fetal medicine** support, and improve access to referrals for further advice, investigations and potential options for surgery.
- Joined the Baby Loss Alliance, to raise awareness of the **impact of pregnancy and baby loss;** and of the vital work that is needed to improve pregnancy outcomes and to save babies' lives.

The difference Shine made

53
felt more confident to self-advocate with regard to their choices

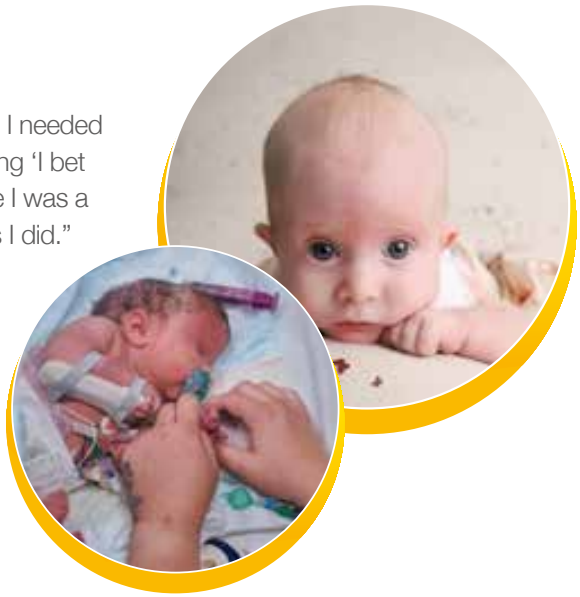
60
of the people we supported during pregnancy felt they better understood these conditions

"Throughout all of my pregnancy, I was able to text or call Gill at Shine when I needed to talk to someone, and nothing was ever a silly question. I remember thinking 'I bet I sound silly' or 'I bet they get asked that loads', but honestly, it never felt like I was a burden. Without Shine I wouldn't have got through my pregnancy as well as I did."

Gemma, Parent of Shine Member

"I spoke to Chris from Shine all through my pregnancy. I just needed someone to talk to. He explained everything about spina bifida and hydrocephalus and sent us information too. It helped a lot and gave us more understanding of our baby's diagnosis. We stayed positive through the whole pregnancy."

Steph, Parent of Shine Member



What we learnt

Parents value both the clinical information and emotional support they receive via Shine's personalised pregnancy pathway.

There is still a wide variation in professional understanding and communication, particularly at the point of diagnosis.

What worked well

Shine's pregnancy pathway is now well established and provides a responsive, consistent model of support.

Relationships with clinical teams have strengthened, leading to increased referrals and improved integration. The development of anencephaly support, including peer groups and one-to-one provision, has also progressed.

What didn't work as well

The anencephaly support offer is not yet fully defined or consistently communicated, which means that not all those parents-to-be or bereaved parents are yet benefitting from this much needed support.

Progress in professional engagement, including CPD uptake and relationship development with midwifery teams, was slower than planned. In addition, data and insight into antenatal experiences remain underdeveloped.

Emerging needs

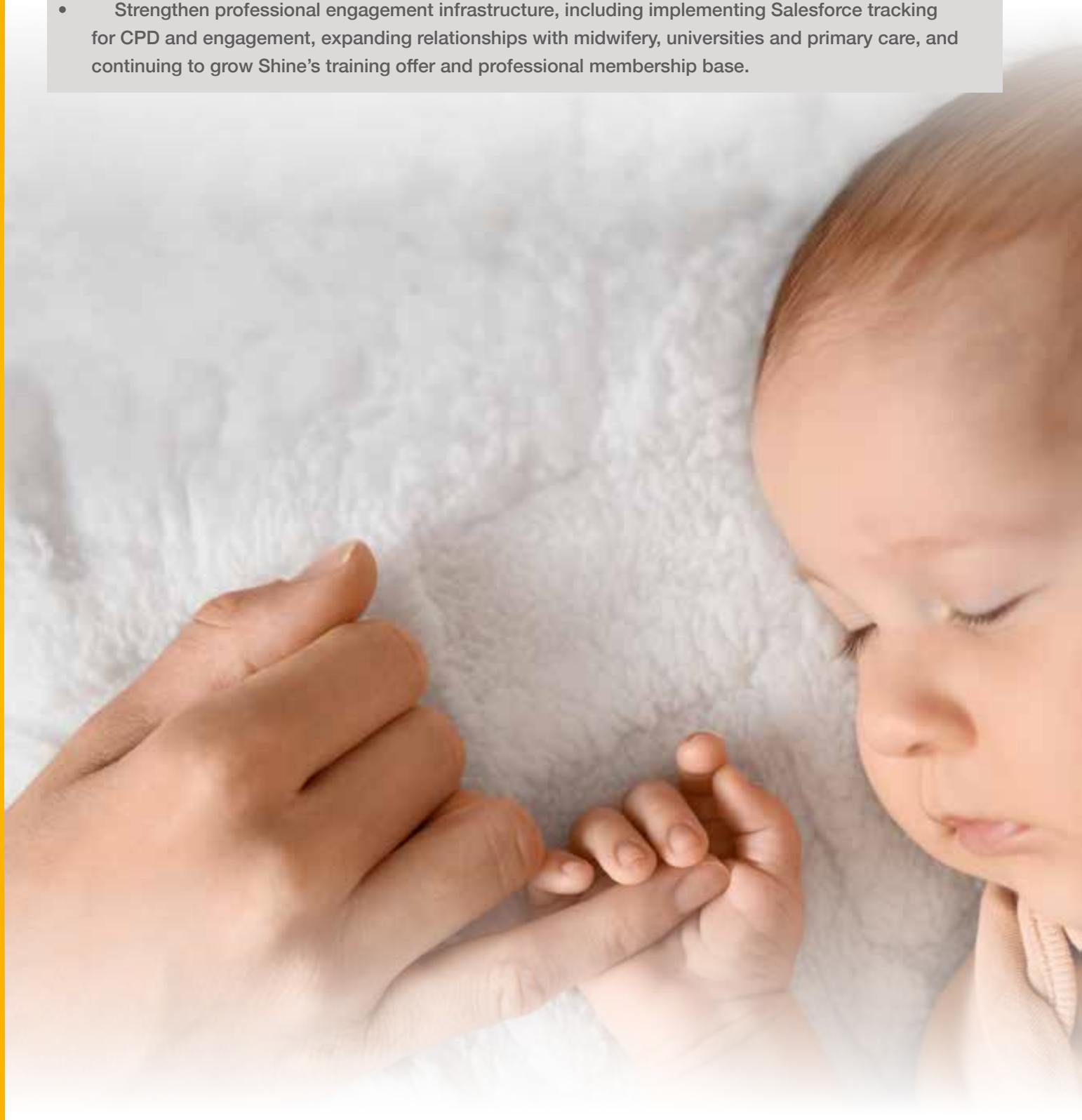
Further work is needed to define and embed a clear, end-to-end anencephaly support model.

Strengthening professional engagement, improving data collection and building a clearer evidence base will be key priorities.

Next steps

Over the coming 12 months, Shine will build on strong foundations to further strengthen, clarify and scale this work. We will:

- Formalise our anencephaly support service, ensuring a clear model of delivery, supported by updated resources, improved website content, and stronger external signposting.
- Scale and evidence the impact of pregnancy services, strengthening data collection and insight on antenatal experiences, improving capacity and responsiveness, and using this evidence to inform commissioning opportunities and wider system influence.
- Strengthen professional engagement infrastructure, including implementing Salesforce tracking for CPD and engagement, expanding relationships with midwifery, universities and primary care, and continuing to grow Shine's training offer and professional membership base.



Strategic Goal 7

Transforming attitudes and improving access to health and care services through engagement, partnerships, research and campaigning





Our aims

- Improve NHS access and system influence
- Build strategic relationships across the health system
- Develop a clearer approach to influencing and campaigning
- Increase research engagement and contribution
- Maintain and grow national and international partnerships

What we achieved

364 professionals joined Shine

1,967 professional members

345 new members referred by professionals

22 clinics (paediatric, transition and adult)

753 supported in clinic

538 education staff trained

72 training sessions delivered

10 schools achieved Shine's Star Award

2025/26 reflected a clear step forward in Shine's role as an influential partner and advocate, improving awareness, driving collaboration, and increasing access to health and care services for our members.

Shine raised awareness

- **Worked closely with the NHS and other strategic partners** to expand our presence across clinics and professional networks, increasing visibility across children's and adult services nationwide. This strengthened collaboration with clinical teams, improving access, care pathways and outcomes for our members. We widened partnerships with clinicians, representative bodies and partners at local, regional and national levels, aligning shared priorities and creating new opportunities for collaboration, influence and system-wide impact.

Shine raised awareness (continued)

- Continued to offer legal advice and support to members through **Shine's Legal Panel,** supported by **Davies and Partners and Enable Law;**
- Over 1,000 members benefitted from Shine Health Direct, delivered in partnership with **Bullen.**

- Delivered a programme of **national awareness campaigns, professional webinars and events,** increasing engagement with both clinical and wider professional audiences. This activity has helped to embed regular communication and raise awareness of Shine's expertise, services and role within the sector.
- Strengthened our **professional engagement** through targeted education and awareness initiatives, including the publication of clinical guidance, delivery of specialist webinars, and a suite of CPD-accredited courses. The latter includes a course specifically for social workers, being developed in partnership with Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board. In addition, Shine contributed to national and international conferences, including the British Paediatric Neurosurgery Group (BNPG), ERIC, the Primary Care Conference and the Hydrocephalus World Congress.



Shine campaigned

- Elevated **Shine members' voices** through influencing and campaigning on key topics. This was informed by improved data, member surveys and online discussions, providing evidence and insight from our members in response to government consultations and stakeholder initiatives.
- Notable pieces of work included our responses to SEND reform: Putting Children and Young People First and A call for evidence for the Timms Review of Personal Independence Payments.

Shine took part in research

- Contributed to a range of research studies and patient and public involvement (PPI) opportunities, sharing insights and lived experiences to inform research and practice. Despite some delays in specific projects, this work has continued to strengthen Shine's profile as a trusted and valued research partner.
- Lent support to the Society for Research into Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (SRHSB), producing its SRHSB 2025 conference report, translating complex, multidisciplinary research - from molecular biology and engineering innovations to patient-centred care - into accessible insights for a wider audience.
- Ensured that the voices and experiences of our members informed research design, priorities and outputs, being involved in a range of national and international research initiatives, including work on pressure ulcer prevention, sexual well-being in spina bifida, and emerging developments in fetal surgery and stem cell therapy.

Shine influenced systems and services

- Continued to use member insight and data to influence **improvements in healthcare delivery.** Our work on mortality trends and emergency care experiences highlighted systemic gaps in awareness, coordination and preventative care. We are continuing to use this evidence to engage clinicians, policymakers and partners to improve pathways, promote earlier intervention, and reduce avoidable complications - particularly in non-specialist and emergency settings.

- Promoted the importance of **routine health checks** among our members, recognising that people living with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus can face additional barriers in accessing preventative healthcare. This has included encouraging uptake of screening programmes such as breast and bowel cancer screening, alongside other routine health checks, and providing tailored advice where needed. By raising awareness and reinforcing key health messages, we aim to ensure members are supported to fully access available services and manage their long-term health more effectively.
- As part of our commitment to assuring quality and expertise across everything we do, Shine **established a Health Advisory Panel, and an NPH Advisory Group,** bringing together leading medical professionals to ensure our information and services are accurate, evidence-based and up to date. Alongside Shine's clinician-led Health Team, the panels review and develop resources and support our Health team in delivering information and advice on the complexities of the conditions.

Shine worked internationally



- Worked with our partner (Festus Fajemilo Foundation - FFF) to maintain existing activity and introduced a lead nurse programme to address the question of project sustainability, eventually passing the baton on entirely to FFF and its team of nurses in **Nigeria.**
- Explored plans to disseminate the programme to neighbouring **Ghana,** subject to funding, and provided information and ideas to associations in **Namibia and Zambia.**
- Continued membership of the **International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus and the Society for Research into Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida,** both of which help to reinforce our position as a recognised contributor to spina bifida and hydrocephalus awareness, care and prevention.

The difference Shine made

Clinicians reiterated how much they value our support at clinics:

"We find Shine's presence immensely helpful. For parents, it's part of holistic care. Whatever I can do medically is almost always matched and more by what you can do to support the family."

Alison Sansome, Consultant Community Paediatrician – Community Lead for complex neurodisability and associate specialist in paediatric urology, Addenbrookes

"Our partnership with SHINE reflects Bullen Healthcare's long-standing commitment to delivering person-centred care through collaboration. By combining SHINE's specialist expertise with our healthcare services, SHINE Health Direct continues to provide meaningful support to people and families across the UK. We are proud of what we have achieved together and excited about the opportunities ahead."

Paul Bullen, Chief Executive Officer, Bullen Healthcare

"We have had the pleasure of working with Shine to better safeguard children and adults with disabilities, in particular those with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. They bring invaluable expertise and insight that strengthen awareness, improve information-sharing, and help ensure all agencies with a statutory responsibility for safeguarding are better equipped to support children and adults at risk".

Julie Breckon, Strategic Regional Safeguarding Manager for Children and Adults at Risk, Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board

"Shine has been an invaluable partner to Festus Fajemilo Foundation, providing technical expertise and mobilizing resources that have enabled specialist continence care, healthcare worker training, and family support, benefiting over 300 children and facilitating life-saving surgeries for 82 children in Nigeria".

Afolabi Fajemilo Festus Fajemilo Foundation, Nigeria

What we learnt

This year reinforced the importance of combining data, research and lived experience to influence systems effectively. While increasing presence and engagement is important, achieving real impact requires a more structured, strategic approach to influencing and campaigning.

What worked well

Shine has strengthened its engagement with NHS partners, professional networks and research communities, increasing its visibility and influence.

Our activities such as training, awareness activity and participation in national and international forums, have helped improve professional understanding of hydrocephalus, spina bifida and normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH), further establishing Shine as a trusted and credible partner within clinical and professional networks.

What didn't work as well

Some research projects experienced delays due to limited capacity among key stakeholders. This made it challenging to secure time for engagement and influence. As a result, progress from initial discussions to action was slower than anticipated.

We were unsuccessful in securing much needed funds to underpin the continence care and management programme in Nigeria. Moreover, we have seen a marked reduction in grant funding for international work in the past 2 years.

Emerging needs

There is a need to implement a clear, prioritised influencing and campaigning strategy, underpinned by strong data and evidence. Deeper integration with NHS partners and greater involvement in service design, pathways and commissioning will be key to driving long-term change.

It will also be important to plan the direction of travel we wish to take with our overseas work and identify new sources of funding to support this.

Shine must work with international charities to explore opportunities to carry the work forward and sustain activity long into the future.

Next steps

Building on this year's progress, Shine will continue to strengthen its influencing, partnerships and research activity to improve access to services and support.

We plan to:

- **Finalise and implement a clear, influencing and campaigning strategy, with defined priorities and measurable outcomes.**
- **Enhance NHS integration by exploring ways in which we can work together to improve service design, pathway development and commissioning conversations.**
- **Strengthen the impact of our research through increased member participation, stronger partnerships and delivery of high-quality outputs and publications.**
- **Build on existing strategic partnerships, such as the Spinal Injuries Association, Wales Neurological Alliance and the Urology Trade Association to deliver joint campaigns and amplify Shine's influence across the health and disability sectors.**
- **Expand reach and accessibility of resources and engagement, ensuring more equitable access and targeting underserved communities.**
- **Develop a transition programme for international work.**

Shine works with hundreds of organisations, associations, and networks in many different ways. We are grateful for everyone's time, expertise and partnership - all of which contribute our work and the difference we make.

In addition to those mentioned elsewhere in our report, here are just a few more:

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has supported Shine financially over the past year.

Each person and organisation who chooses to support us does so for their own reasons, but all share a belief in the importance of our work.

The generosity of individuals, companies, trusts, foundations and partners continues to be the cornerstone of everything we do. Your support provides vital funding that enables us to reach more people, expand our services and maintain the quality and breadth of our work. Quite simply, Shine would not be able to deliver the impact we do without this incredible community of supporters.

As our CEO reflects:

> ”Every contribution we receive - no matter the size - represents a shared commitment to the people we serve. Our supporters make it possible for Shine to continue changing lives, and we are deeply grateful for the trust and belief placed in the work we do.”

While we cannot list everyone who has helped make this work possible, we are pleased to highlight just a few of the many individuals and organisations who have played a particularly important role this year.

Companies and organisations 2025/26

Integra Neurosciences Codman	British Homing World Show of the Year	Holmesdale Lodge 874 (Ian Butler)
Bullen Healthcare	Vitabiotics Ltd	The Guild of Letting and Management
Davies and Partners	The Anderson Foundation	Sene Valley Hive Golf Club (Brian Gallagher)
Enable Law	NHS Property Services	

Individual and Family Supporters

Mr John Hill	Olivia Newton	Jane Gillings
Dr Claire Hoe	Karl Fox	Moraig McCrum
Tracey Walker	Gemma Faulkner	Sarah Wilson
Gavin Pixton	Claire Commander	Amanda Clifton & Andi McEntee
Adam Parfitt	Tom Wooldridge	Elio Pace
Christopher Hughes	Lois Bennett	Val Conway
Stephen & Michelle Milton	Rhys Williams	Eimear Franey
Hannah & Alex Mortimore	Laura Holgate	Hilary Lyttle
Simon Cresswell	Lucy Burgess	Albert Watts (Mum Nicola Watts)
Hayden Boon (Dad John Boon)	Gethin Phillips	Kane Mason
James Devane	Jon Clark	Laura Patterson
Joe Smith	Victoria & David Render	Connie and Jamie Amer
Chris Bown	Gavin Thornton	

Trusts and Foundations who supported Shine 2025/26

Apax Foundation

Baron Davenport's Charity

BBC Children in Need

Charles S. French Charitable Trust

Doris Field Charitable Trust

E F Bulmer Benevolent Fund

Eastern Counties Educational Trust Limited

G J W Turner Trust

Homelands Charitable Trust

J Reginald Corah Foundation Fund

Marsh Charitable Trust

Medicash Foundation

Milles Charitable Foundation Limited

National Lottery Community Fund - NI, Eng and Wales

Patrick Rowland Foundation

Peter Sowerby Charitable Foundation

Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire

Sandra Charitable Trust

Shanly Foundation

Sir Donald and Lady Edna Wilson Charitable Trust

The Basil Brown Charitable Trust

The Basil Death Trust

The Belstead Ganzoni Charitable Settlement

The Cecil Rosen Foundation

The Chandris Foundation

The Chapple Trust

The Clare Milne Trust (restricted grant)

The Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust

The Englefield Charitable Trust

The Eric Stanton (Northampton) Trust

The Eveson Trust

The Fowler, Smith and Jones Trust

The Frazer Trust

The Gale Family Charity Trust

The Hamamelis Trust

The Hamilton Wallace Trust

The Henry Smith Foundation

The Hospital Saturday Fund

The Joseph and Annie Cattle Trust

The Lady Hind Trust

The Mackintosh Foundation

The Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity

The Pierrepont Trust

The Privy Purse Charitable Trust

The Rest-Harrow Trust

The Roger and Douglas Turner Charitable Trust

The Rothley Trust

The Strangward Trust

The Theodore Maxxy Charitable Trust

The Valentine Charitable Trust

The Vandervell Foundation

Toyota Manufacturing UK Charitable Trust

Balloon Race Supporters

Special Appeals

Andertons Music Company

Brinor Freight Ltd

BWW Communications

CJ Thorne & Co Ltd

Constantine Construction Co (Medway) Ltd

CTC Europe.Com Ltd

DW Precision Engineering

ERS Distribution Ltd T/A E Redmayne & Son

FIC (UK) Ltd

Forelle Estates Ltd

MPI Ltd

Mr J Harkness

Mr M Bloom

Niarchos London Ltd

Perrywell Computer Systems Ltd

Pinnacle International Freight Ltd

RDT Ltd

Selby Marketing Services Ltd

Simon Bridbury Restaurant Investments Ltd

Skypark Freight Ltd

Sparks Catering Butchers Ltd

Streets SJ Males Limited

Two Cats Can Ltd

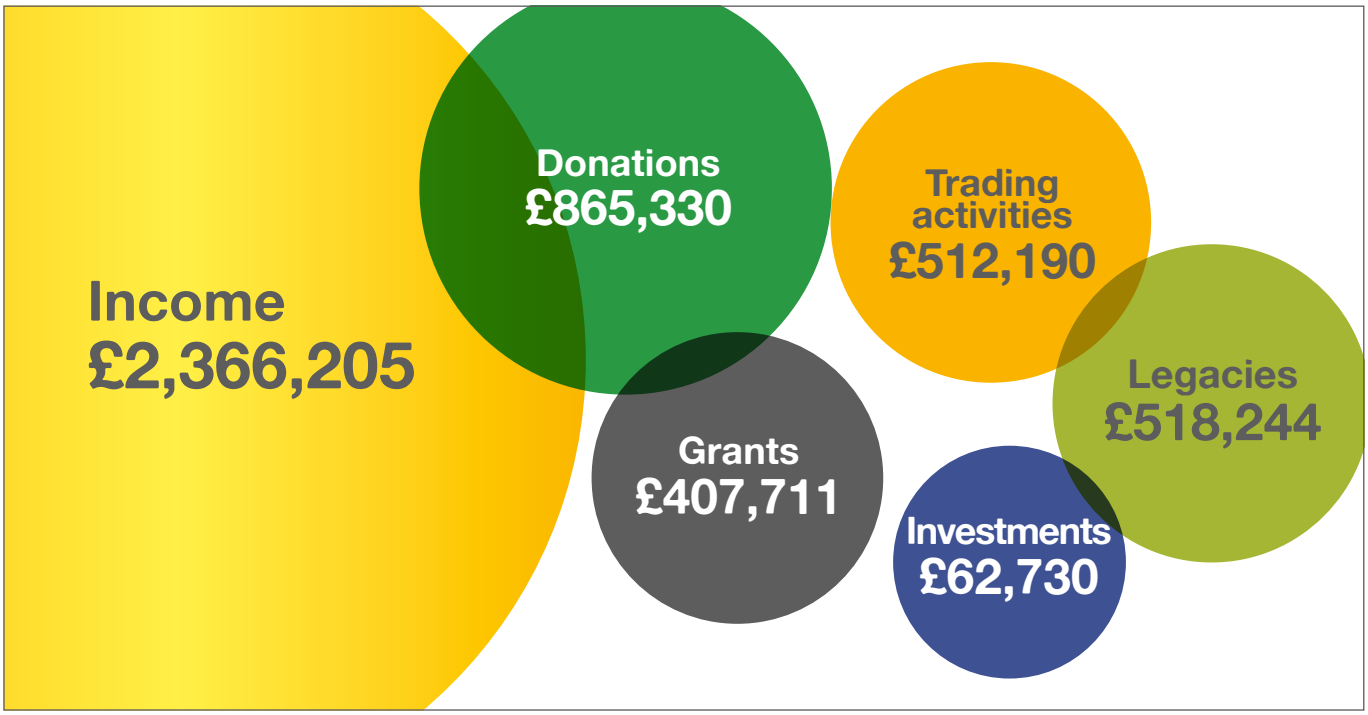
Usborne Publishing Ltd

VTSL

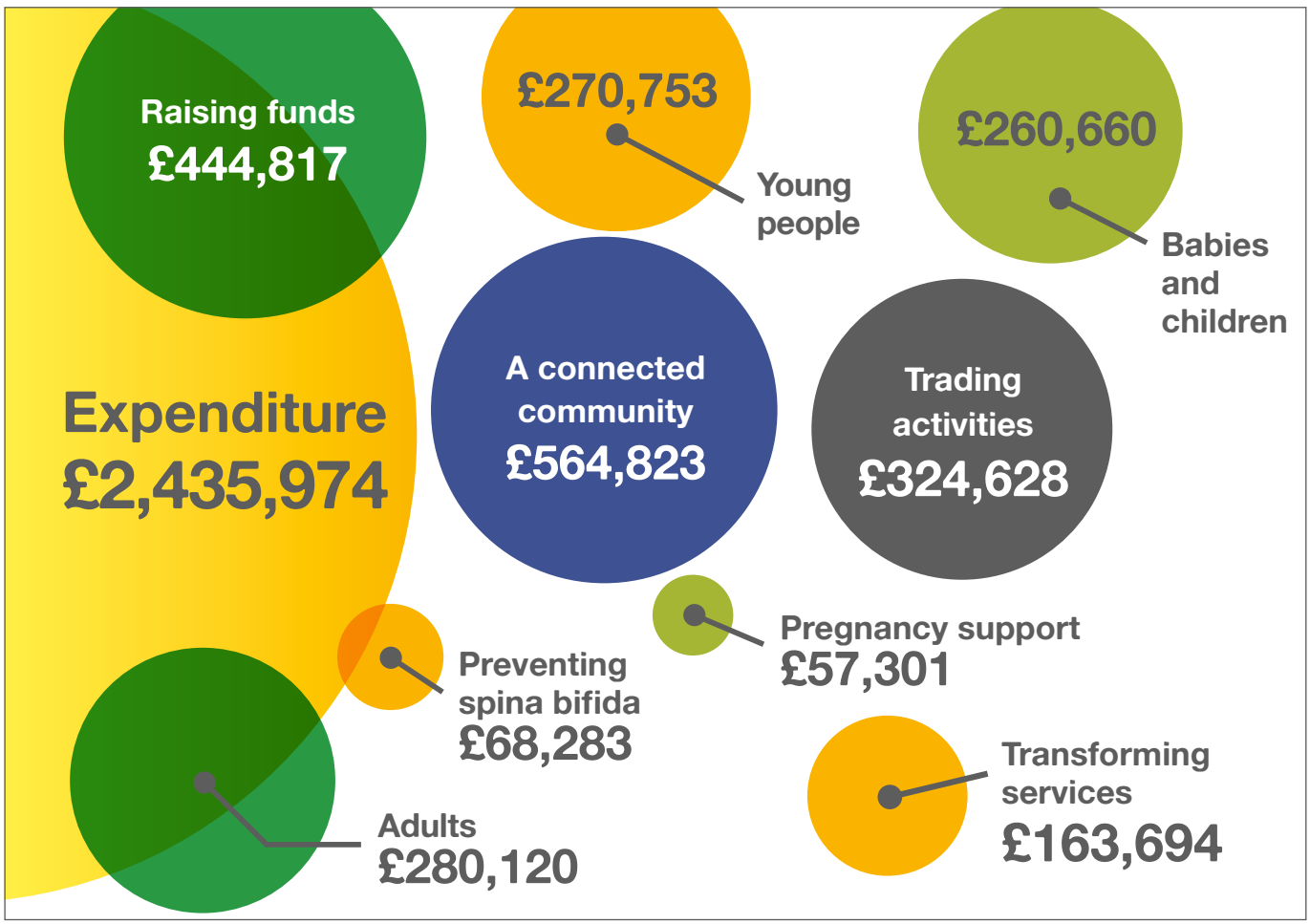
Waymont Consulting Ltd

Income and expenditure 2025/26

Total Income



Total Expenditure





Financial Review

The table below provides a five-year financial summary, showing that we continue to deliver a robust financial position, as we seek to ensure long-term sustainability.

£000's	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
Income	£2,366	£2,467	£2,155	£2,347	£1,894
Net movement in funds	£21	£10	-£65	£338	£171

Trustees approved a 2025/26 budget deficit of £237,936 as we continued to use reserves generated from the sale of 42 Park Road to invest in new services for our members.

Shine reports an actual surplus of £20,497 (2024/25 £9,645 surplus), which consists of a £49,207 unrestricted surplus, a £5,828 designated deficit, and a £22,882 restricted deficit.

Income

Total income for 2025/26 was £2,366,205 (2024/25 £2,466,856). Although this is a 4.0% decrease, the prior year included significant one-off donations of £159,522 from two local groups which closed (Teeside ASBAH and Shine Surrey). Furthermore, in considering the changes outlined in the Charity SORP 2026 with regard to income recognition, a deferred income adjustment has been made in relation to the virtual balloon race operated within the trading subsidiary. If these two items are excluded, income increased year on year by 4.6%.

Donations from individuals (excluding legacies), corporates and community groups recorded a 7% decrease year on year. However, as noted above, if the receipts from Teeside ASBAH and Shine Surrey are excluded, donation income was the highest annual value in over ten years, growing by 12%. This is despite the cost-of-living challenges faced by many individuals. We believe that the growth in Shine members, greater reach, and the impact of our support is driving income.

The National Lottery Community Fund and other charitable trusts continued to fund an important part of Shine's work in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. After six years, Lottery funding in England for our Little Stars programme came to an end. We are therefore delighted that the National Lottery has chosen to support our F.I.R.E. (Friendship, Independence, Resilience and Empowerment) project for under 25s. The National lottery starts their funding in April 2026 and will continue for five years.

Legacies continue to be a major source of funding; 20 individuals left gifts in their wills last year, providing our highest annual value since 2020/21. We are incredibly grateful that people continue to remember us in their wills.

The largest element of our trading activity continues to be our virtual balloon races. This income stream faces several challenges and continues to decline. Nonetheless, during the year, 4,015 business supporters bought a balloon, many entering multiple races.

Trustees remain confident that Shine has a broad income base and provides sufficient staff resources to deliver sustainable income levels.

Expenditure

Total expenditure in the year was £2,435,974 (2024/25 £2,418,225), which was an increase of 0.7%. Of this, expenditure on charitable activities increased by £3,836 (0.2%) to £1,665,614, representing 68.4% of total expenditure (68.7% in 2024/25). Expenditure on raising funds increased by the amount of £13,913 to £770,360.

A reduced level of staff turnover was experienced, with 8 leavers in the year (9 in 2024/25), of which 3 were retirements. Recruitment of suitable candidates has been challenging and despite our efforts staffing levels in Shine's services decreased during the year by 1.4 FTE. Our planned service staffing remains at 32.5 and compares to 24.6 before COVID-19. A staff survey was last completed in 2025, and a general pay award was made in April 2026 (back dated to October 2025).

Shine is confident it remains an attractive organisation to work for and has active recruitment plans, which aim to maintain service staffing levels in 2026/27.

Under the accounting standard SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) 2015, the full defined benefit pension deficit must be declared on the balance sheet. There was no material actuarial movement in the year (2024/25 loss of £38,477), a payment plan to eliminate this deficit remains in place, and the charity remains confident that it will meet the required pension contributions from its projected income without impacting its planned level of charitable activity. Further pension details are shown in note 19 of the accounts.

Financial Reserves Policy

Reserves are maintained at a level that enables the charity to manage financial risk and sustain services. Trustees have set a minimum free reserve to be held for the following purposes:

- Statutory obligations.
- Provide a 4-month commitment to our vulnerable members to wind up the affairs of the charity in an orderly fashion, in the event that the trustees cease to be confident in Shine's ability to continue.
- Offset the risks of an unexpected shortfall in income and an adverse movement in the defined benefit pension scheme liability.
- A working capital facility.

The level of reserves required to meet these requirements is calculated to be £875,000.

The free reserves position is reported to trustees as part of the monthly management accounts and quarterly forecasting. To set our free reserves target, trustees have sought to balance the needs of Shine's members against financial risks. COVID19, wars in Ukraine and the Middle East have demonstrated that our world is less certain than previously thought and our reserves target reflects this need for caution.

At the year-end, **Shine** held free reserves of £1,158,180, being general unrestricted funds, and excluding designated funds. This represents 6.7 months of committed expenditure cover, which is above the reserves target and has been boosted by the one-off sum realised from the sale of 42 Park Road in April 2022.

To bring our reserves in line with our target, the charity continues to use its reserves in a managed fashion, investing in members' futures. To do this, a number of new service positions have been created since 2022. As an example, in 2024/25 the charity appointed a Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH) & Dementia Coordinator. This was a response to an increase in new members presenting this condition. In 2025/26, additional resources were added to this service with the appointment of a NPH support and development worker. One Shine member has been particularly supportive to this service and has given donations of £18,000 in the year. In 2026/27, Shine will appoint a physiotherapist to support our Spinal Stimulation project. The impact of this project was outlined earlier in the annual report.

Restricted reserves must be applied for the specific purpose(s) intended by the donor, so these do not form part of Shine's free reserves. Funds totalled £96,818 at the year end and are planned to be expended in 2026/27.

Designated funds have been established by trustees and are also excluded from free reserves, these close at £569,611 and consist of the following:

- Fund for an additional Support and Development Worker in the Northeast – who will enhance the support we can provide to our members in more rural, isolated areas. This has been made possible by the transfer of closing funds from Teeside ASBAH.
- A fund to support our work in Gloucestershire – based on a legacy we have received.

- A fund to support our work in the Southwest – based on a legacy we have received.
- A fund for a Deputy Health Manager.
- A fund for an Education Officer.
- A fund for a Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus & Dementia Coordinator.
- A fund to support our Youth project (FIRE) which will supplement our National Lottery community grant from April 2026.
- A fund to support research and development.
- A fund to support our digital development.

Notwithstanding the existence of the above funds, unrestricted funds continue to be used to cover the costs of some new posts; notably the Deputy Health Manager & Education Officer.

Investment Policy

Under the governing document, the charity can make any investment the trustees see fit. R. C. Brown Investment Management plc are Shine's investment managers with the remit to manage the investments in line with the policy outlined below.

Investments are held as part of the long-term reserves of Shine. The aim is that they should maintain their value and generate income for Shine.

The portfolio must only be invested in assets with a balanced risk profile. This will include utilization of pooled funds, which provide diversification of assets, and ensure that the risk of losing a single holding is minimised.

- Investments may be held in a range of asset classes, including equities, corporate bonds, and gilts.
- There will be no direct investment in 'alternative' investments such as hedge funds or derivatives.
- There will be no direct investment in overseas equities. Any such investment must be made through pooled funds managed in the UK.

The trustees have agreed that the funds should initially be invested in a broad, balanced portfolio. The intention is to work towards ethical investments, with the advice of the investment managers, while being mindful of the charity's obligations for responsible investment.

During the year R. C. Brown Investment Management plc continued to manage the Shine portfolio; funds performed above their benchmark, recording a 12.54% gain during 2025/26 versus the benchmark gain of 10.90% (ARC steady growth index). Investments are held to support the reserves policy.

Risk Management and Internal Control

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the identification and management of the major risks facing the charity. A Risk Register is maintained and shared annually with trustees (more frequently if a significant issue arises). Risk management at operational level is managed by the senior leadership team; major risks have been reviewed, and systems established to manage these risks.

Therefore, the risk register currently covers five strategic areas.

1. **Governance & strategy**
2. **Income generation**
3. **Services**
4. **Finance**
5. **External influences, including inflation and the war in Ukraine**

As of 31 March 2026, the key risks on Shine's strategic risk register, together with the principal controls and main sources of assurances we have in place to mitigate these risks, are shown in the table on page 34.

Risk Area	Reason	Control Procedure
Shine does not meet members needs adequately	Increased membership and growing demand for Shine services.	**Membership engagement strategy and greater consultation provides greater insight to better understand members' needs and influence service provision.** Shine's First Contact and Charity Support Team (based in the office) are able to undertake some first line enquiries to ease workload and Improvements in Salesforce and automation is helping with workload. New services structure being introduced in 2026 to deal with increasing demand.
Income shortfall	Investment in fundraising does not produce sufficient income to cover committed expenditure. Increased competition for other charities applying for funding	**Income diversification planning group set up and new opportunities being explored / implemented, portfolio remains diversified and activity adapted to meet challenges in fundraising.** Income is tracked monthly via a financial dashboard and 1-2-1 conversations, identifying risks and plans to mitigate them, alongside building on successful opportunities.
Failure to keep key, specialist staff	Labour market is competitive	Succession plans in place and being implemented. New structure being introduced from 1 April 2026 to address areas of priority, using staff knowledge and skills where they are best placed. A less-flat structure is also being developed to provide progression opportunities.
Members' access to the right services at the right time	Statutory health & social care system capacity is likely to create further demand on Shine's services.	Investment in income generation and a team re-structure has provided us strong and experienced teams Improved supporter insights and stewardship help to maintain and nurture fundraising support, clear fundraising strategy for short and long-term pipeline.

Going Concern and Statement of Public Benefit

Going Concern

This report highlights Shine's financial performance over the last five years, the level of reserves held, and the principal risks and uncertainties faced. The activities of the charity, its objectives, and the policies for managing its capital and financial risk are detailed in the Trustees' Report.

The budget for 2026/27 was prepared by senior leadership and approved by the trustees in March 2026. The expectation is that income levels can be sustained as we continue to invest in fundraising resources. Expenditure levels will be allowed to increase in line with the expansion of service provision. A total deficit of £220,221 is budgeted, which includes a restricted deficit of £38,103 as funds received in prior periods are expended, and a deficit of £182,118 across unrestricted and designated funds.

This budgeting approach is consistent with previous years since the sale of 42 Park Road. During this period actual deficits have been materially below budget as increased expenditure on services has been largely offset by improved income generation.

We can do this because our reserves exceed the minimum level, the budget and its assumptions are reviewed against two key financial measures:

- In-year cash flow
- Free reserve cover

Management accounts are prepared by senior leadership and issued monthly to trustees; the current financial position and financial outlook are reviewed at quarterly trustee meetings. Given the level of reserves and outlook, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future being at least twelve months from date of approval of these financial statements. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern of accounting in preparing financial statements.

Statement of Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Shine's charitable objects are enshrined within its memorandum and articles, and as such trustees ensure that the charity's activities are carried out for public benefit through its strategic goals. An annual service work plan, aligned to the Corporate Plan 2022 - 2027 objectives, is developed each year with priorities and deliverables set for each team. Progress against the plan is reviewed quarterly by trustees.

The annual report allows us to show how charitable funds are spent and the beneficial impact this has on the lives of people affected by spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, and associated conditions.

Reference and Administration Details

Royal Patron **HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO**

Trustees

The trustees of Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality – SHINE are the charity's trustees under charity law and directors of the charitable company and throughout the report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Professor Roger Bayston
Michael Brown (Vice Chair)
Geraint Davies (appointed 14th July 2026)
Jenny Goy (Hon. Treasurer)
Surekha Kukadia
Dr Richard Oakley
Professor John Pickard CBE
Joanne Sedgwick
Joe Waggott
Joanne Williams (Chair)
Roanne Woodward

It is confirmed that none of the serving trustees had any beneficial interest in any contract with Shine in the year.

Senior Leadership Team
Chief Executive Kate Steele
Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Service Gill Valentine
Director of Finance Stephen Ellen

Principal Professional Advisers

Auditors

Azets Audit Services
Westpoint
Lynchwood
Peterborough
PE2 6FZ

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank Plc
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Insignis Cash Solutions
St John's Innovation Centre
Cowley Road
Cambridge
CB4 0WS

Solicitors

Greenwoods GRM LLP
Westpoint
Lynchwood
Peterborough
PE2 6FZ

Investment Managers

R.C. Brown Investment Management PLC
1 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6DG

HR

Vero HR
St James House
Flaxley Road
Kingston Park
Peterborough
PE2 9FT

Administrative Details

The full name of the charity is Spina bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality – SHINE. We are commonly known as Shine.

Shine
Spina bifida • Hydrocephalus
Information • Networking • Equality

The registered charity number is 249338 (England and Wales)

The company registration is 00877990

Registered Office: SHINE, Unit 4, The Forum, Minerva Business Park, Peterborough, PE2 6FT

Telephone 01733 555988 • Email firstcontact@shinecharity.org.uk • www.shinecharity.org.uk

Our Commitment to Quality Fundraising

Shine is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and proud to commit to the Regulator's Fundraising Promise.

We are committed to maintaining high standards of fundraising in line with the new Code of Fundraising Practice, which came into effect in November 2025:

- We will be clear, honest, and open.
- We will be respectful.
- We will be fair and reasonable.
- We will be accountable and responsible.

Our approach to fundraising consists of:

- Marketing appeals to individuals who have already expressed an interest in Shine;
- Running charitable events for which participants raise money;
- Encouraging people to participate in other events to raise funds on our behalf;
- Community fundraising; and
- Soliciting donations from corporate partners, charitable trusts, and individual donors.

We also encourage people to remember us in their will with a gift or legacy.

We do not use third-party professional fundraising agencies.

Where people or organisations raise funds in aid of Shine, we request they follow our standards. Shine's fundraising team provides tools and resources to enable supporters to deliver fun, safe, and successful fundraising activities. The trustees are of the view that during the year to 31 March 2026 we have been compliant with these standards, we are aware of an instance where a Shine member organised a fund raising event for Shine in 2024, monies were finally remitted to Shine in 2025 but were £422 less than the amount we believe was raised, this potential fraud has been reported to the authorities.

To protect vulnerable people and other members of the public, Shine has a safeguarding policy, and our fundraising commitment is displayed on our website. We are careful to protect the personal data of supporters and give clear options to stop being contacted by us. As part of our compliance with the code of fundraising practice, we ensure our approach to fundraising is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent and does not aim to solicit donations by pressuring potential supporters.

We take these steps to make sure people have a choice about whether to fundraise for Shine.

Shine and our members are incredibly grateful for the continued dedication and support of our fundraisers. From everyone at Shine, thank you for your ongoing generosity.



Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Spina bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality – SHINE (Shine) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Registration No. 00877990) formed in 1966. Shine is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Registration No. 249338).

The charity owns the entire share capital of Shine (Trading) Limited, registered in England and Wales (No. 01031004). The consolidated accounts include Shine (Trading) Limited (see note 9). The principal activity of the company is to raise funds for charity. The board of directors of Shine trading meets separately and consists of the Chief Executive and two trustees. The trustees are not remunerated for this role.

Objects

The charity's objects are specifically restricted to the relief of people who have spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus or allied or related disorders by providing care, welfare, treatment, education, and integration into society.

Governance

Shine is governed by Articles of Association, which were amended in 2018.

Organisational purpose

Shine has a clear, sustainable corporate strategy for 2022 to 2027 consistent with the charity's purpose and an evaluation and monitoring framework to monitor impact and measure outputs.

Shine consults with a wide range of stakeholder groups to determine the priorities for the charity.

Leadership

The trustee board is responsible for the charity's governance and its subsidiary.

Board Integrity

Appointment of trustees

New Articles of Association were adopted by special resolution in 2018, specifying that anyone willing to act as a trustee, and permitted by law to do so, may be appointed by the board of trustees.

A trustee must be a natural person aged 16 years or older; the minimum number of trustees is 3, and the maximum is 16. Trustees are appointed for a term of 3 years; trustees are eligible for reappointment up to two subsequent terms (each of 3 years). No trustee can serve for more than 9 consecutive years unless the trustees consider it is in the best interests of the charity that a particular trustee should continue to serve. Professor Roger Bayston, Michael Brown and Joanne Williams continue to serve as trustees on this basis.

Trustee induction and training

During the recruitment process, the skills and experience are considered with a concerted effort to ensure we are drawing from all sections of society. An initial interview is conducted by members of the senior leadership team. Candidates are then interviewed by a panel drawn from the board of trustees. On rare occasions, exceptional candidates are appointed on the recommendation of the Chief Executive.

New trustees undergo an induction; they are fully appraised for the full range of Shine's services, projects and campaigns and provided with relevant background literature. They receive awareness training, if required, on spina bifida and hydrocephalus. Depending on their specific skills and areas of expertise, they will be put in touch with relevant staff.

Trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Articles of Association, and the Board's decision-making process. They are also informed about Shine's Corporate Plan, key risks, recent financial performance, and prospects for the charity.

Trustees do not receive any renumeration or financial benefit for acting as trustees of Shine; any expenses paid are disclosed in note 11 of the financial statements.

Decision making, risk and control.

The Board of Trustees is the governing body with overall legal responsibility for the charity. The Board sets the strategic direction for Shine. It meets at least four times a year, either in person or virtually.

The minutes of meetings are made available to all trustees on a timely basis. The board regularly reviews operational plans, budgets, performance, and Shine's main risks. The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive, who reports to the Board. The Chief Executive is assisted in day-to-day management by the senior leadership team.

Senior Staff Remuneration Policy

The remuneration of senior staff is set by benchmarking with similar-sized charities, and the market rate required to attract the best people to the job. The pay ratio of the Chief executive to the lowest paid member of staff is 3.78 (3.96 in 2024/25).

Diversity and Inclusion

Shine has a transparent recruitment process, advertising widely and looking at how we can attract a diverse pool of candidates.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding policies and processes were reviewed and updated during 2025/26 with all documentation refreshed and aligned to current legislation and best practice. New policies were introduced during this period with a focus on online safety; existing and new policies were updated and reviewed by trustee safeguarding leads prior to approval.

An annual safeguarding plan is agreed by trustees. The plan is prepared by the Deputy Chief Executive, who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the charity (Gill Valentine), working in conjunction with Joanne Williams and Jenny Goy as trustee leads for safeguarding. Shine's safeguarding structure also includes Deputy Safeguarding Leads and Safeguarding Champions in Northern Ireland, ensuring clear accountability and coverage across services.

Safeguarding training is provided for all staff, trustees, and volunteers. Incidents are reported, assessed, and enacted as appropriate with full consideration given to the requirement to report to the Charity Commission.

GDPR

We continue to monitor and ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), with a designated lead in place to oversee data protection.

Section 172 Statement

The trustees must act in accordance with a set of general duties. These duties are laid out in s172 of the UK Companies Act 2006 which is summarised as follows: A Director of a Company must act in the way that they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the benefit of its members, and in doing so have regard to:

The consequences of any decision in the long term. The main purpose of our reserves policy is to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

The interests of the charity's employees

The need to foster the charity's business relationship with suppliers, customers, and others.

The impact of the charity's operations on the community and environment

The desirability of the charity in maintaining a reputation for high standards of business is important.

The need to act fairly between members of the charity.

The trustees believe they have completed their duties under s172, taking care to balance competing interests for the overall good of the charity.

Related Parties

The charity collaborates with several local associations. These are independent charities for spina bifida and hydrocephalus and collaboration which may cover a range of activities. The charity also works in partnership with many other bodies, voluntary, statutory, and international, in carrying out work to support service users, undertaking research and disseminating information.

Volunteers

In 2025/26, Shine had 69 registered volunteers (58 in 2024/25) to whom we remain eternally grateful. We recorded 837 volunteer hours, which was a reduction versus 2024/25 (1,212 hours). However, 796 hours in the previous year were provided by 9 volunteers in our charity shop (which closed in December 2024). Therefore, if this shop activity is excluded from the comparative 2025/26 recorded a material increase in both the number of volunteers (69 versus 49) and hours (837 versus 416), our volunteering roles included:

Participating in the health advisory panel

Giving talks and representing Shine

Acting as peer support

Participating in the Youth panel

Supporting our members to grow in confidence and address the challenges of living with the conditions.

Advising on the development of resources

Fulfilling the role of Shine ambassador

Fundraising

Supporting our local groups.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Spina bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality – SHINE for the purposes of company law), are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the situation of the charitable group and of the net income or expenditure of the group for the year.

In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the charity and group's assets and hence taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

As far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information on which the group's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the trustees have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the group's auditors are aware of that information.

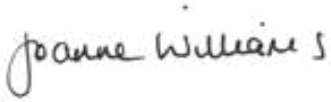
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Appointment of Auditors

The continued appointment of Azets Audit Services Limited was confirmed by the Board of Trustees on the 2nd of December 2025.

By order of the Board of Trustees



Joanne Williams
Chair
8th September 2026

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality - SHINE (the 'charity') and its subsidiary for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Cash Flow Statements and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group and Parent Charitable Company affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and Parent Charitable Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud
Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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



Mr Mark Jackson FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services, Statutory Auditor
Accountants

Westpoint
Lynch Wood
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire
PE2 6FZ

Date: 12/10/2026

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Designated funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	**3**	1,324,289	57,582	409,415	1,791,286	1,806,702
Other trading activities	**4**	512,189	-	-	512,189	592,850
Income from investments	**5**	62,730	-	-	62,730	67,304
Total income		1,899,208	57,582	409,415	2,366,205	2,466,856
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	**6**	770,360	-	-	770,360	756,447
Charitable activities	**7**	1,046,182	99,392	520,040	1,665,614	1,661,778
Total resources expended		1,816,542	99,392	520,040	2,435,974	2,418,225
Net gains/(losses) on investments	**12**	90,605	-	-	90,605	(509)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		173,271	(41,810)	(110,625)	20,836	48,122
Gross transfers between funds		(123,725)	35,982	87,743	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		49,546	(5,828)	(22,882)	20,836	48,122
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes		(339)	-	-	(339)	(38,477)
Net movement in funds		49,207	(5,828)	(22,882)	20,497	9,645
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		1,108,973	575,439	119,700	1,804,112	1,794,472
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		1,158,180	569,611	96,818	1,824,609	1,804,117

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

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Designated funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	**3**	1,119,151	159,522	528,029	1,806,702
Other trading activities	**4**	592,850	-	-	592,850
Income from investments	**5**	67,304	-	-	67,304
Total income		1,779,305	159,522	528,029	2,466,856
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	**6**	756,447	-	-	756,447
Charitable activities	**7**	1,053,716	31,375	576,687	1,661,778
Total resources expended		1,810,163	31,375	576,687	2,418,225
Net gains/(losses) on investments	**12**	(509)	-	-	(509)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		(31,367)	128,147	(48,658)	48,122
Gross transfers between funds		10,335	(63,741)	53,406	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		(21,032)	64,406	4,748	48,122
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes		(38,477)	-	-	(38,477)
Net movement in funds		(59,509)	64,406	4,748	9,645
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		1,168,487	511,033	114,952	1,794,472
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		1,108,978	575,439	119,700	1,804,117

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

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

BALANCE SHEETS

AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	Group 2026 £	Charity 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**14**	30,582	8,262	-	-
Investments	**15**	954,038	954,041	847,083	847,086
		984,620	962,303	847,083	847,086
Current assets					
Debtors	**17**	545,082	484,060	265,165	234,528
Cash at bank and in hand		564,545	550,617	905,322	891,066
		1,109,627	1,034,677	1,170,487	1,125,594
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**18**	(257,241)	(182,958)	(188,917)	(167,011)
Net current assets		852,386	851,719	981,570	958,583
Total assets less current liabilities		1,837,006	1,814,022	1,828,653	1,805,669
Net assets excluding pension liability		1,837,006	1,814,022	1,828,653	1,805,669
Defined benefit pension liability	**19**	(12,397)	(12,397)	(24,536)	(24,536)
Net assets		1,824,609	1,801,625	1,804,117	1,781,133
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**20**	96,818	96,818	119,700	119,700
Unrestricted funds - general					
Designated funds	**22**	569,611	547,291	575,439	575,439
General unrestricted funds		1,158,180	1,157,516	1,108,978	1,085,994
		1,727,791	1,704,807	1,684,417	1,661,433
		1,824,609	1,801,625	1,804,117	1,781,133

As permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the charitable company has not presented its own statement of financial activities and related notes. The charitable company's surplus for the year was £20,497 (2025 - surplus for the year of £9,645).

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 08/09/2026 and are signed on its behalf by:

Joanne Williams

.....

Mrs J Williams
Trustee

D. Goy

.....

Mrs J Goy
Trustee

Company Registration No. 00877990

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	**27**		(341,439)		(47,532)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(35,982)		-	
Interest and income from investments		36,644		67,304	
Net cash generated from investing activities			662		67,304
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(340,777)		19,772
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			905,322		885,550
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			564,545		905,322

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

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1 Accounting policies

Company information

Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality - SHINE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Unit 4, The Forum, Minerva Business Park, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE2 6FT, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements 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 Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The consolidated accounts incorporate the results of the charity and of its wholly owned subsidiary.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Grant income is recognised according to the terms of each individual agreement.

All other income is dealt with on an accruals basis.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Direct expenditure is analysed and charged to the department incurring the cost. Expenditure is included when incurred, the majority of costs being directly attributable to specific activities. Costs that can not be directly attributable to particular headings, are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Premises and other overheads have been allocated on a head count basis.

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the governance arrangements of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. Assets over £1,000 in value are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the straight line basis at the following rates:

Fixtures and fittings	20%
Equipment	20%
Software and website	20 - 33%

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits repayable on demand and overdrafts. Deposits are repayable on demand if they are in practice available within 24 hours without a penalty. Liquid resources comprise assets held as a readily disposable store of value.

1.9 Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value, the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in net income/(expenditure) in the period in which it arises.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee.

1.12 Retirement benefits

For employees choosing to participate, the charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme providing benefits additional to those from the State. The assets are held in a separately administered scheme. The pensions cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the pension scheme in respect of the year.

Previously, the charity were part of a separately administered defined benefit scheme and is still required to make contributions to fund a deficit in the scheme.

The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit method, and is based on actuarial advice.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Remeasurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

1.13 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Designated funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	848,091	15,533	1,706	865,330	846,660
Legacies receivable	476,198	42,049	-	518,247	347,013
Grants receivable	-	-	407,709	407,709	613,029
	1,324,289	57,582	409,415	1,791,286	1,806,702
For the year ended 31 March 2025	1,119,151	159,522	528,029		1,806,702

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

3 Donations and legacies (Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Designated funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts					
Individuals	503,790	-	1,706	505,496	391,884
Trusts	207,273	15,533	-	222,806	174,140
Corporate donors	99,428	-	-	99,428	83,457
Local associations	-	-	-	-	159,522
Health Trusts	37,600	-	-	37,600	37,657
	848,091	15,533	1,706	865,330	846,660
Grants receivable for core activities					
National Lottery Community fund Northern Ireland Shining Opportunities	-	-	99,793	99,793	99,974
National Lottery Community fund Cymru People & Places	-	-	94,723	94,723	112,520
Early Intervention (Community lottery & others)	-	-	57,188	57,188	185,927
Tropical Health and Education Trust	-	-	34,857	34,857	27,736
The Henry Smith Charity	-	-	-	-	60,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	-	25,000
BBC Children in Need	-	-	21,000	21,000	15,000
Peter Harrison Foundation	-	-	-	-	21,000
The Eveson Trust	-	-	-	-	12,500
Other	-	-	100,148	100,148	53,372
	-	-	407,709	407,709	613,029

4 Other trading activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Income of trading subsidiary	510,779	579,800
Donations sold through shops	-	12,413
Publications and attendance fees	1,410	637
	512,189	592,850

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

5 Income from investments

	2026 £	2025 £
Income from listed investments	26,090	23,339
Interest receivable	36,640	43,965
	62,730	67,304

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

6 Raising funds

	2026 £	2025 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Direct staff costs	299,464	273,817
Other fundraising direct costs	72,245	62,195
Support costs (see note 8)	73,108	77,643
Fundraising and publicity	444,817	413,655

	Shine (Trading) Limited £	Shops £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Trading costs				
Direct staff costs	206,374	-	206,374	224,000
Other direct operational costs	40,082	-	40,082	20,510
Support costs (see note 8)	77,014	2,073	79,087	98,282
Trading costs	323,470	2,073	325,543	342,792
			770,360	756,447

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

7 Charitable activities

	Enabling babies and children to achieve their potential	Empowering young people	Adults of all ages to have choices and opportunities	A connected community	Preventing Spina Bifida	Changing experiences of pregnancies	Transforming attitudes	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	198,600	206,290	213,428	430,345	52,010	43,658	124,721	1,269,052	1,280,557
Other direct costs	27,385	28,446	29,429	59,341	7,172	6,020	17,198	174,991	182,295
	225,985	234,736	242,857	489,686	59,182	49,678	141,919	1,444,043	1,462,852
Share of support costs (see note 8)	30,117	31,283	32,365	65,260	7,887	6,621	18,913	192,446	170,000
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	4,558	4,734	4,898	9,877	1,194	1,002	2,862	29,125	28,926
	260,660	270,753	280,120	564,823	68,263	57,301	163,694	1,665,614	1,661,778
Analysis by fund									
Unrestricted funds - general								1,046,182	1,053,716
Unrestricted funds - designated								99,392	31,375
Restricted funds								520,040	576,687
								1,665,614	1,661,778

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

8 Support and governance costs

Support costs	Fundraising and publicity £	Trading costs £	Charitable activities £	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	19,664	20,591	36,180	76,435	82,696
IT costs	12,716	18,720	46,178	77,614	82,489
Premises costs	30,247	6,641	42,942	79,830	85,225
Other support costs	12,554	31,062	67,146	110,762	95,515
	75,181	77,014	192,446	344,641	345,925

Governance costs	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	13,125	12,971
Audit fees	14,206	15,214
Other governance costs	1,794	741
	29,125	28,926

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

9 Commercial operations in trading subsidiary

The charity has one wholly owned trading subsidiary undertaking, Shine (Trading) Limited which sells balloons for virtual balloon races. The company gift aids virtually all its taxable profits to Shine. A summary of its trading results is shown below. Audited accounts have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Shine (Trading) Ltd Profit & Loss Account	**2026 £**	**2025 £**
Turnover	510,778	579,800
Cost of sales	(195,063)	(193,867)
Gross profit	315,715	385,933
Administration expenses	(69,094)	(65,286)
Operating profit	246,621	320,647
Amount payable by gift aid to Shine	(246,621)	(320,647)
Profit on ordinary activities	-	-

Shine (Trading) Ltd Balance Sheet	**2026 £**	**2025 £**
Current assets	161,450	130,896
Current liabilities	(160,783)	(107,909)
Net current assets	667	22,987
Total net assets	22,987	22,987
Aggregate share capital and reserves	22,987	22,987

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was:

	2026 Number	2025 Number
Services	34	34
Fundraising and publicity	9	8
Shops	-	1
Administration	3	3
Shine (Trading) Limited	5	6
	51	52

Employment costs	2026 £	2025 £
Wages and salaries	1,610,212	1,643,674
Redundancy costs	1,935	18,877
Social security costs	189,841	150,508
Other pension costs	55,699	55,339
Other staff related benefits	5,419	5,140
	1,863,106	1,873,538

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2026 Number	2025 Number
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Pension contributions for higher paid employees were £11,026 (2025 - £12,475).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

11 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

In respect of attending meetings of committees, travel expenses amounting to £1,794 (2025 - £741) have been reimbursed to 8 (2025 - 5) members of the Board of Trustees.

At the year end, £nil (2025 - £nil) of the above expenses are unpaid and included as a creditor.

The accounts include a charge of £2,400 (2025 - £2,413) to provide the Trustees with indemnity insurance.

12 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Revaluation of investments	73,555	(14,986)
Gain/(loss) on sale of investments	17,050	14,477
	90,605	(509)

13 Taxation

Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality - SHINE is a registered charity. It only applies its funds in accordance with its charitable objectives, and is not trading with a view to making distributable profits, therefore corporation tax is not chargeable.

The trading subsidiary has gifted its profits to Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, Information, Networking, Equality - SHINE under Gift Aid therefore no corporation tax is payable

14 Tangible fixed assets

Group	Equipment £	Software and website £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	11,830	25,757	37,587
Additions	-	35,982	35,982
At 31 March 2026	11,830	61,739	73,569
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2025	11,830	31,031	37,587
Depreciation charged in the year	-	5,400	5,400
At 31 March 2026	11,830	36,431	42,987
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2026	-	30,582	30,582
At 31 March 2025	-	-	-

Charity	Equipment £	Software and website £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	9,191	18,728	27,919
Additions	-	9,720	9,720
At 31 March 2026	9,191	28,448	37,639
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2025	9,191	18,728	27,919
Depreciation charged in the year	-	1,458	1,458
At 31 March 2026	9,191	20,186	29,377
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2026	-	8,262	8,262
At 31 March 2025	-	-	-

The charity owns a freehold interest in some land that is leased to another charity at a peppercorn rent and used in furtherance of the charitable objects. The lease ends in 2084 and no value is included in the accounts for the property.

15 Fixed asset investments

	Group 2026 £	Charity 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £
Investments in subsidiaries	-	3	-	3
Listed investments	954,038	954,038	847,083	847,083
	954,038	954,041	847,083	847,086

Movements in fixed asset investments

Group and Charity	2026 £	2025 £
Cost or valuation		
At 31 March 2025	824,929	815,987
Additions within portfolio	49,285	84,344
Disposals within portfolio	(108,802)	(63,496)
Valuation changes	89,314	(11,906)
	854,726	824,929
Cash held for investment	99,315	22,154
At 31 March 2026	954,041	847,083

16 Financial instruments

	Group 2026 £	Charity 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £
Carrying amount of financial assets				
Trade debtors	143,385	13,575	120,631	8,786
Accrued income	330,000	330,000	39,299	39,299
Amounts due from subsidiary undertakings	-	86,500	-	86,003
Bank and cash	564,545	550,617	905,322	891,066
Measured at cost	1,037,930	980,692	1,065,252	1,025,154
Fixed asset investments	954,038	954,041	847,083	847,086
Measured at market value	954,038	954,041	847,083	847,086

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

16 Financial instruments	Group	Charity	Group (Continued)	Charity (Continued)
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Trade creditors	22,392	22,234	25,268	25,039
Accruals and deferred income	146,798	88,022	87,127	79,194
Other creditors	39,642	38,612	31,091	29,849
Other taxation and social security	48,409	34,089	45,431	32,929
Measured at cost	257,241	182,957	188,917	167,011

17 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	Group 2026 £	Charity 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £
Trade debtors	143,385	14,490	120,631	8,786
Amounts due from subsidiary undertakings	-	86,500	-	86,003
Prepayments and accrued income	401,697	383,070	144,534	139,739
	545,082	484,060	265,165	234,528

The net amount owed by the subsidiary includes amounts owing for gift aid receivable and payment for services provided.

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2026 £	Charity 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £
Other taxation and social security	48,409	34,089	45,431	32,929
Trade creditors	22,392	22,234	25,268	25,039
Other creditors	39,642	38,612	31,091	29,849
Accruals and deferred income	146,798	88,022	87,127	79,194
	257,241	182,957	188,917	167,011

19 Retirement benefit schemes

SHINE participates in The Pension Trust's Growth Plan (The Plan), a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 521 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK.

It is not possible for the charity to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

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

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

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2023. This actuarial valuation showed assets of £514.9m, liabilities of £531.0m and a deficit of £16.1m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees and the participating employers have agreed that additional contributions will be paid to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028:	£2,100,000 per annum (payable monthly)

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 March 2028 applies.
Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the charity has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

19 Retirement benefit schemes **(Continued)**

Present values of provision

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Present value of provision	26,009	38,148	16,884

An amount of £13,612 (2025 - £13,612) is included within short term creditors and £12,397 (2025 - £24,536) in long term liabilities.

Reconciliation of opening and closing provisions

	Year Ending 31 March 2026	Year Ending 31 March 2025
Provision at start of period	38,148	16,884
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	1,492	445
Deficit contribution paid	(13,612)	(17,214)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(19)	242
Provision at end of period	26,009	38,148

Income and expenditure impact

	Year Ending 31 March 2026	Year Ending 31 March 2025
Interest expense	1,492	445
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(19)	242
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	1,473	38,478

19 Retirement benefit schemes **(Continued)**

Assumptions

	31 March 2026 % per annum	31 March 2025 % per annum	31 March 2024 % per annum
Rate of discount	4.92	4.84	5.31

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

Deficit contributions schedule

Year ending	31 March 2026	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Year 1	13,612	13,612	17,214
Year 2	13,612	13,612	-
Year 3	-	13,612	-

The charity must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the charity's balance sheet liability.

The Plan is closed to new entrants and there were no active members of the scheme during the year.

The Scheme has identified a potential issue in respect of the calculation of benefits paid and has instigated a review. The outcome of the review is unknown and the potential financial impact of the review if an issue is identified is unknown. A potential liability may arise, but no provision is included in these accounts as the amount cannot be quantified.

SPINA BIFIDA, HYDROCEPHALUS, INFORMATION, NETWORKING, EQUALITY - SHINE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

20 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

		Movement in funds				Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Fund – Early intervention programme across England	50,511	185,927	(205,744)	7,227	37,921	57,188	(116,491)	21,382	-
National Lottery Community fund Northern Ireland Shining Opportunities	31,962	99,974	(99,057)	(480)	32,399	99,793	(94,375)	-	37,817
International Projects: Continence care and management project (Nigeria)	9,525	27,736	(36,427)	-	834	35,355	(36,716)	527	-
Coop Grant	1,793	-	(1,340)	-	453	-	-	-	453
National Lottery Community fund: Cymru People & Places	8,180	112,520	(134,845)	26,958	12,813	94,723	(134,694)	52,913	25,755
National Lottery Community fund: Youth Project	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Regional Projects "Here for you"	4,999	57,000	(48,362)	-	13,637	51,250	(52,145)	-	12,742
Welfare Grants	15	-	-	-	15	736	(434)	-	317
Support Groups	3,141	-	(188)	-	2,953	1,206	(204)	-	3,955
North West Yorkshire Support	-	-	-	-	-	24,664	(21,100)	-	3,564
NPH Coordinator	1,000	1,000	(2,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spinal Stimulation	3,826	13,250	(32,769)	15,693	-	22,500	(31,807)	9,307	-
BBC Children in Need Continence Support	-	18,000	(14,245)	4,008	7,763	21,000	(25,614)	3,614	6,763
Awards for All Pain and Wellbeing	-	12,622	(1,710)	-	10,912	-	(6,460)	-	4,452
	114,952	528,029	(576,687)	53,406	119,700	409,415	(520,040)	87,743	96,818

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

21 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the group's activities.

	At 1 April 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Interest in land and property and other fixed assets	-	-	(5,400)	35,982	30,582
Florence Bartle fund	34,731	-	(13,519)	-	21,212
Services in Gloucestershire	6,719	-	(4,595)	-	2,124
Digital Development	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Research	30,423	42,049	-	-	72,472
North East Service Fund	139,333	-	(19,777)	-	119,556
Surrey Service Fund	1,440	-	(1,440)	-	-
East Anglian SDW	75,000	-	-	(75,000)	-
National Lottery Community Fund: Youth Project	-	-	-	75,000	75,000
Deputy Health Manager	132,683	-	(6,890)	-	125,793
Education Officer	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Physio service (Spinal Stimulation)	9,307	-	(9,307)	-	-
Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus	70,803	15,533	(38,464)	-	47,872
	575,439	57,582	(99,392)	35,982	569,611

The designated funds comprise:

- the group and charity's interest in land and property and other fixed assets, net of the outstanding mortgage.

- the Florence Bartle fund which is part of a legacy that is to be spent on the relief of Spina Bifida in Cornwall and the South West.

- the services in Gloucestershire is for work specifically in those areas.

- the digital development fund that is to develop a long-term IT/digital strategy to aid in future-proofing Shine's approaches to technology and automation.

- the research fund that is to improve access to health and care services in line with Shine's strategic goals.

- the service funds that are to fund new posts as detailed above.

- the North East and Surrey Service Funds are for work specifically in those areas.

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2026 £
General funds	1,108,973	1,899,208	(1,816,542)	(123,725)	90,266	1,158,180

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2026	Designated funds 2026	Restricted funds 2026	Total 2026	Unrestricted funds 2025	Designated funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
Group	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2026 are represented by:								
Tangible assets	-	30,582	-	30,582	-	-	-	-
Investments	954,038	-	-	954,038	847,083	-	-	847,083
Current assets/(liabilities)	216,539	539,029	96,818	852,386	286,431	575,439	119,700	981,570
Provisions and pensions	(12,397)	-	-	(12,397)	(24,536)	-	-	(24,536)
	1,158,180	569,611	96,818	1,824,609	1,108,978	575,439	119,700	1,804,117
Charity								
Fund balances at 31 March 2026 are represented by:								
Tangible assets	-	8,262	-	8,262	-	-	-	-
Investments	954,041	-	-	954,041	847,086	-	-	847,086
Current assets/(liabilities)	215,872	539,029	96,818	851,719	263,444	575,439	119,700	958,583
Provisions and pensions	(12,397)	-	-	(12,397)	(24,536)	-	-	(24,536)
	1,157,516	547,291	96,818	1,801,625	1,085,994	575,439	119,700	1,781,133

24 Operating lease commitments

Group and Charity

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Within one year	25,797	45,460
Between two and five years	14,382	28,783
	40,179	74,243

25 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel, who on a full time equivalent basis are the 2.6 (2025 - 2.6) members of the senior management team, is as follows.

	2026 £	2025 £
Aggregate compensation including pension contributions	198,031	190,093

Transactions with related parties

Owing to the nature of the charity's operations, some of the Trustees may themselves, or may have family members that access services from the charity. Consequently there will be transactions between those Trustees or their family members. These are on the same basis as other service users of the charity.

26 Control

No one individual has overall control of the charity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

27 Cash generated from operations	2026 £	2025 £
Surplus for the year	20,497	9,645
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(62,730)	(67,304)
Investment management fees recognised in statement of financial activities	9,735	(9,854)
Gain/(loss) on pension revaluation	339	-
Gain on disposal of investments	(17,050)	(14,477)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(73,555)	14,986
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	5,400	-
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(279,917)	(12,949)
Increase in creditors	67,981	10,797
Increase/(decrease) in pension liability	(12,139)	21,624
Cash absorbed by operations	(341,439)	(47,532)

28 Analysis of changes in net funds

The group and charity had no debt during the year.



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