

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

Registered Company Number: 1900123
Registered Charity Number: 516477



THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

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THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

Officers and Advisers

Governors	Focus:	Mr R Hindle Mr J Montgomery Mr C Gascoigne
	QAC:	Mr C Bradshaw Mr I Richards Prof J Hilbourne (Resigned 31 October 2021) Mrs A J Mcgeeever (Appointed 7 December 2021)
	Members:	Mr G Oakley (Chair) Mr M Quantrill Mr M Billingham (Resigned 6 April 2022) Mrs J Edgerton (Appointed 31 May 2022)
Treasurer		Mr J Dixon
Company Secretary		Nicholas Gee (Appointed 31 May 2022)
External Auditor		Bishop Fleming 1-3 College Yard Worcester WR1 2LB
Principal Bank		Lloyds Bank PLC 36/38 New Street Birmingham B2 4QZ
Investment Managers		Quilter Cheviot Investment Management Two Snowhill Birmingham B4 6GA
Registered Office		49 Court Oak Road Harborne Birmingham B17 9TG

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022

The Governors (who are also Trustees and Directors for the purposes of Charity and Company Law) present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Statement of Recommended Practice and the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

The Charitable Company is also known under its abbreviated name of BRIB.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Company has been established, as a Charity, to advance and promote the education and relief of blind people or those people significantly handicapped by defective vision or threatened by blindness, and of people with other disabilities and special needs by securing the provision of assistance and support and by other charitable means. Furthermore, it provides for facilities for recreation and leisure for the benefit of people with visual impairment and other disabilities. It carries out these objectives primarily by supporting organisations, principally Queen Alexandra College and Focus Birmingham, with the aim of enabling blind and disabled people to lead their lives to the maximum potential, improving the quality of life and encouraging independence.

The support takes the form of grants, the provision of resources, expertise and encouragement to the organisations. The Governors are aware of the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believe that this support, together with their on-going review of the Charity's aims, objectives, future plans and grant making policy satisfies these requirements.

Grant Making Policy

It is the policy of the Governors to make grants only out of accumulated income and following a decision of a meeting of the Board. Grants will be considered out of surplus income available after all expenses have been adequately sourced.

Grants may be made to qualifying individuals or to organisations whose principal purpose is the support of blind people and those significantly handicapped by defective vision or threatened by blindness and other disabilities.

The total amount of grants to be made by the Charity is determined by the Governors based on the level of available distributable reserves and the Charity's financial position. Applications for grants are considered at any meeting of the Board.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Charity received total income for the year of £903,189 (2021: £880,895), and the Governors are pleased to report that £729,499 (2021: £985,384) has been distributed or approved for distribution to its associated Charities.

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

I) RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

Income for this year was £903,189 compared to £880,895 in 2021. The charity was grateful to receive legacies in the year of £18,853, there were none in the previous year. While the majority of rent receivable is distributed to the associated Charities as grants, BRIB continued to benefit from the rent receivable for Oakwood and Beech House.

In furtherance of its objectives, the Charity made grants totalling £164,787 to Focus Birmingham (2021: £285,684) and £564,712 to Queen Alexandra College (2021: £699,700). The Charity did not make any grants to any other Charity during the year (2020: £nil).

The Charity's investment portfolio made a surplus of £110,739 on disposal and revaluation in the year to 31 March 2022, compared with a surplus of £444,012 in 2021.

The Statement of Financial Activities on page 14 shows outgoing resources of £833,048 (2021: £1,101,996) which when combined with income and the increase in the Charity's investment portfolio leads to the total net increase in funds for the year of £180,880 (2021: increase of £222,911).

The Board is satisfied that its activities during the year, principally through its support of its associated charities, served to adequately discharge its charitable objects.

II) FIXED ASSETS

All tangible fixed assets are held for the purpose of carrying out the Charity's main objectives. The Governors believe the market value of the Charity's freehold land and buildings to be more than their net book value, although no independent valuations have been obtained, as it is considered that the cost of obtaining the valuations is out of proportion to the usefulness of the information.

III) INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

The Governors' Investment Policy is to primarily invest in an appropriate mix of real assets, i.e. bonds, UK & international equities, cash, and from time to time, other asset classes, in order to generate the required levels of return for the Charity to achieve its objectives. The mix of asset classes should reduce the volatility which could result from a purely equity-based portfolio.

Following a review by the Governors in 2014, the Investment Management Service has been carried out by Quilter Cheviot since July 2015. The Governors believe the investments continue to meet their requirements in terms of suitability.

The portfolio is managed on a discretionary basis by a leading firm of investment managers. A sub-committee of the Governors meets regularly with the investment managers and is charged with monitoring the performance against agreed benchmarks and ensuring that the portfolio is managed in line with the Statement of Investment Principles that the Board has approved.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW (Continued)

III) INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

In the year to 31st March 2022, the total return on the portfolio was 6.47%. Towards the end of 2021, we saw financial markets begin to take inflation and potential interest rate rises more seriously. This is significant, as interest rate rises and higher inflation are typically negative for equities, particularly those towards the growthier end of the spectrum. Amid these fears, performance suffered and these issues continued into 2022. At the beginning of the year, there was a market rotation away from growth stocks which have performed well over the last few years, and towards value orientated stocks as the likelihood of tightening monetary policy continued to increase. Adding to this, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine has added further to the uncertainty in markets and there has been a significant increase in volatility. The portfolio generally holds a slight bias towards higher quality, more growth oriented companies which largely explains recent falls in the portfolio value. Over the long term, however, we still feel that maintaining exposure to these areas will provide the most attractive opportunities.

The Governors' investment policy takes account of ethical considerations and does not allow specific investment in the tobacco industry. Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) is an important part of Quilter's investment process and they regularly engage with both individual companies and external fund managers in relation to factors such as climate change, employee rights and board remuneration.

IV) RESERVES POLICY

During the year the Governors performed a review of the reserves policy. This review resulted in the creation of a minimum free reserves target and the removal of the 'Investment Reserve' designated fund. Whilst both serve the same purpose, which is to maintain resources invested in marketable securities to ensure there are sufficient funds to generate income from which BRIB's on-going activities will be funded and thus maintaining a sustainable charity, it has now been recognised that a designated fund was not the appropriate accounting treatment. Designated funds should be monies set aside by governors for an essential spend. It was never the intention to spend these funds and therefore the introduction of a free reserves target was deemed more appropriate.

Following the review, at 31 March 2022 the reserves of the Charity consisted of £2,038,232 (2021 £3,594,356) unrestricted designated funds, £2,514,530 (2021 £778,525) unrestricted general funds, and £1,000 (2021: £nil) restricted funds. The Governors have assessed that the minimum level of reserves it should keep invested in marketable securities is £1,702,500. It is felt that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to generate enough income to support the ongoing activities of the charity. This leaves £812,030 funds available for distribution, (referred to as free reserves in note 13 to the accounts). It is at the Governors discretion to distribute the full value of these free reserves providing the distribution would carry out the objects of the Charity. However, it is the aim of the Governors to manage the financial resources of the Charity so as to permit the two associated Charities (Focus Birmingham and Queen Alexandra College) to enjoy the property facilities on the Harborne site and to support financially the activities of these two Charities where appropriate and feasible. Further support of blind, partially sighted and disabled people, as governed by BRIB's constitution, may also be made available.

Further to the above aims, the Governors intend to maintain all the resources invested in Fixed Assets and those earmarked to cover staff indemnities as designated reserves and not make them available for discretionary distribution.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW (Continued)

IV) RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

The Governors continue to assess the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the organisation and are satisfied that systems are either in place or are being developed to mitigate exposure to the major risks. An annual review of the Charity's risk register occurs, with particular emphasis on the risks revolving around the principal assets of the Charity, which generate the income from which the Charity exercises its grant powers.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company, which is limited by guarantee (No 1900123), is registered as a Charity (No 516477) with the Charity Commission and entered in the Central Register of Charities. The Company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. On 1 April 1985 it took over the activities, assets, liabilities and funds of the unincorporated Charity of the same name which had existed since 1846. On 31 December 1997 the operations of Queen Alexandra College and Focus Birmingham were transferred to their new charitable companies. The Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind (BRIB) retained freehold property and investments and the income from these is distributed by grants to these charities and others working with visually impaired people and people with other disabilities.

The administration of the Charity is effected by a Board of Governors who are both Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Company. The Board is made up of nine Governors, three of whom are appointed by Focus Birmingham, three by Queen Alexandra College and three by the members of BRIB. The Board of Governors set out the general policies of the Charity, which are implemented by the honorary officers. The Governors and honorary officers (Company Secretary and Treasurer) are the Key Management Personnel of the Charity. All serve without remuneration. The financial records were maintained by Queen Alexandra College during the year under a service level agreement.

CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS

Principal connected organisations are as follows:

I) QUEEN ALEXANDRA COLLEGE (QAC)

This Charity was established in 1997 to take over the further education and training for work operations of BRIB on 31 December 1997. It has been granted a long lease by BRIB on part of its Harborne site and benefits from funding commitments made by BRIB. It has the right to appoint one third of the Governors of BRIB and no decisions can be made by BRIB Governors unless at least one QAC representative is present and votes in favour. During the year it paid rent of £627,700 (2021: £627,700) to the Charity and received grants of £564,712 (2021: £699,700).

II) FOCUS BIRMINGHAM

This Charity was established in 1997 to take over, on 31 December 1997, the provision and promotion of services to blind or partially sighted people in the community, the operations previously being called BRIB Vision Services. It also has been granted a long lease by BRIB on part of its Harborne site and benefits from funding commitments made by BRIB. It has the same representation and voting rights on BRIB's board of Governors as Queen Alexandra College. During the year it paid rent of £164,690 (2021: £164,690) to the Charity and received grants of £164,787 (2021: £285,684).

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022**

CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS (Continued)

III) NEW OUTLOOK HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

The housing association operates housing and care facilities for blind and partially sighted people, largely built on land owned by BRIB.

During the year it paid £25,460 to the Charity in respect of rent and new Tenancy Registrations (2021: £24,000).

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Details of the Charity's advisors, current Governors and statutory information are set out on page 2 of these Financial Statements; the following were Governors during the year and unless otherwise indicated, served for the full year.

Appointed by Focus Birmingham

Mr. R Hindle
Mr J Montgomery
Mr C Gascoigne

Appointed by Queen Alexandra College

Mr. C Bradshaw
Mr I Richards
Prof J. Hilbourne (Resigned 31 October 2021)
Mrs A J Mcgeever (Appointed 7 December 2021)

Elected by Members

Mr. M Billingham (Resigned 6 April 2022)
Mr. G Oakley
Mr. M Quantrill
Mrs J Edgerton (Appointed 31 May 2022)

None of the Governors has any beneficial interest in the charitable Company and all served without remuneration.

Governors recognise the need for training and have a Training Policy comprising induction arrangements for future new Governors and on-going training for existing Governors. As part of this all Governors have received a pack of briefing material recommended by the Charity Commission.

The Charity paid £1,019 in the year for £1,000,000 of Directors and Officers insurance cover (2021: £728).

FUTURE PLANS

The Charity has set a budget for 2022-23; activities will remain similar to previous years.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

We are required under Charity and Company law to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view we are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed and give details of any departures; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue.

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
GOVERNORS' REPORT (continued)
31 March 2022**

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

We are responsible for keeping accounting records which enable us to ascertain with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law. We are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

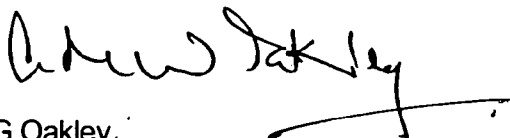
So far as each of the Governors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined in the Companies Act 2006) of which the Company's auditor is unaware, and each of the Governors has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Governors to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information (as defined) and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITOR

During the year, following a competitive tendering process, Bishop Fleming we appointed as external auditors. They have agreed to offer themselves for re-appointment as auditors at the annual general meeting.

The Governors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Governors



G Oakley
Chairman
Registered Office
49 Court Oak Road
Harborne B17 9TG
6 July 2022

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of The Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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 Auditors' 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.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 require 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 Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes 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 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.

AUDITORS' 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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The procedures undertaken in order to identify and assess risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, are as follows:

- We have considered the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and Charity's performance;
- We have considered the results of our enquiries of management and those charged with governance about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

- For any matters identified we have obtained and reviewed the Charity's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We have considered the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud, which include incorrect recognition of income and accounting estimates, and these were identified as the greatest potential area for fraud.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We identified and obtained an understanding of the laws and regulations that are of significance to the Charity by discussions with Trustees and by updating our understanding of the sector in which the Charity operated in. Laws and regulations that are of direct significance to the Charity and of which non compliance could result in material misstatement are the Charities Act, Charities SORP and tax legislation.

In addition, we have considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Documenting and validating the control environment for income and carrying out walkthrough testing;
- Undertaking substantive sample-based testing or proof in total calculations on all material income streams to ensure income has been recognised appropriately and accurately;
- Enquiring of management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading and reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; and assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from an error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

USE OF OUR REPORT

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 Auditors' 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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Andrew Wood FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Bishop Fleming LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

1-3 College Yard

Worcester

WR1 2LB

Date: 27th September 2022

Bishop Fleming LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including the Income and Expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income					
Donations and Legacies	3	21,162	1,000	22,162	2,036
Charitable Activities					
Rent and Tenancy Registrations		817,870	-	817,870	816,390
Investment Income	4	63,157	-	63,157	62,469
Total Income		902,189	1,000	903,189	880,895
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	5	16,713	-	16,713	16,105
Charitable Activities	6	816,335	-	816,335	1,085,891
Total Expenditure		833,048	-	833,048	1,101,996
Net Gains/ (losses) on Investment Assets		110,739	-	110,739	444,012
Net movement in funds		179,880	1,000	180,880	222,911
Balances @ 1 st April 2021		4,372,882	-	4,372,882	4,149,971
Balances @ 31 st March 2022		4,552,762	1,000	4,553,762	4,372,882

2022 comparatives analysed between restricted and unrestricted funds are at note 20.

	Unrestricted Funds	
Income and Expenditure, Net of Historical Costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Net Movement in Funds (above)	180,880	222,911
(Less) /add unrealised losses/(gains) on investments	27,998	(406,521)
Difference between historical cost, depreciation charge and the actual depreciation charge of the year calculated on the revalued amount.	1,080	1,080
Historical Cost (Deficit) / Surplus for the year	209,958	(182,530)

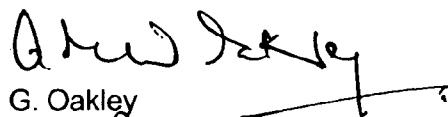
The deficit for the year for Companies Act 2006 purposes is £209,958 (2021: surplus of £182,530).
All amounts relate to continuing operations.

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND (Company No 1900123)
BALANCE SHEET as of 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	8		2,015,044		2,071,168
Investments	9		<u>2,526,114</u>		<u>2,468,819</u>
			4,541,158		4,539,987
Current Assets					
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	4,554		708	
Cash at Bank and In Hand		<u>23,302</u>		<u>66,105</u>	
		27,856		66,813	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(15,252)</u>		<u>(233,918)</u>	
			12,604		(167,105)
Net Current (Liabilities)/ Assets			<u>4,553,762</u>		<u>4,372,882</u>
Total Net Assets			<u><u>4,553,762</u></u>		<u><u>4,372,882</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity:					
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	13		2,514,530		778,525
Revaluation Reserve	14		624,040		625,120
Designated Funds	14		1,414,192		2,969,236
Restricted Funds	15		<u>1,000</u>		
			4,553,762		4,372,882

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 27 were approved by the Governors, authorised for issue on 6 July 2022, and signed on their behalf by:



G. Oakley



C. Bradshaw

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

	Note	2021 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net Cash from Operating Activities	1	(159,404)	(2,244)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividend income		63,156	62,465
Interest received		1	4
Proceeds from sale of investments		432,997	670,380
Purchase of Investments		(444,007)	(636,802)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	2	<u>(107,257)</u>	<u>93,803</u>

Notes to the Statement of Cash Flow

1. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to Net Cash flow from Operating Activities	2021 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	180,880	222,911
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	56,124	81,425
(Gains) / losses on investments	(110,739)	(444,012)
Bank Interest Receivable and Investment Income	<u>(63,157)</u>	<u>(62,469)</u>
	63,108	(202,145)
Increase in Debtors	(3,846)	4,432
Decrease in Creditors and Deferred Income	<u>(218,666)</u>	<u>195,469</u>
Net Cash Outflow from Operating Activities	<u>(159,404)</u>	<u>(2,244)</u>

2. Analysis of Change in Net Funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Cash Flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash in Hand	66,105	(42,803)	23,302
Held as part of investment portfolio	143,086	(64,455)	78,631
	<u>209,191</u>	<u>(107,258)</u>	<u>101,933</u>

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of assets and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. These financial statements comply with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015). In addition:

- (1) BRIB is considered to be a public benefit entity.
- (2) The financial statements have been prepared under a going concern basis, and there are no material concerns in this regard.
- (3) BRIB is a Company limited by guarantee (1900123), incorporated in England and Wales with a registered office at 49, Court Oak Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9TG.

(b) Uses of Estimates and Judgements

When preparing the financial statements, management makes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions about the recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

The Governors are of the opinion that there are no significant key areas of management judgement and estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements.

(c) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are recorded at cost or valuation. Tangible assets which have been donated to BRIB are recorded at their current use valuation at the time of acquisition.

Expenditure of less than £1,000 on plant, furniture, fixtures and fittings is charged as resources expended in the year of acquisition.

Fixed assets funded by specific donation are capitalised and depreciated in line with the normal depreciation rates shown below. Specific donations to acquire such assets are brought into the statement of financial activities when receivable and included in restricted funds. Depreciation on the value of such assets is charged against restricted funds.

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

Land	No depreciation
Freehold Property	Straight line basis over the expected useful life of individual buildings, as determined by property advisers (between 15 and 50 years).

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(d) Income

Income is included in the financial statements on an accruals basis. Income from legacies is accrued when the receipt of the legacy is probable and the amount to be received can be reliably estimated.

(e) Grants

Grants received towards specific projects are taken to income during the period in which they are receivable. Grants payable are recognised as expenditure when the commitment is entered into. Where such a grant is to be paid over by instalments, the outstanding balance is disclosed as a liability.

(f) Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. The cost of irrecoverable Value Added Tax is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

(g) Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date less provision for any permanent diminution in value occurring after the balance sheet date.

Any gain or loss on disposal or revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

(h) Funds

Restricted Funds

These consist of monies received by the Charity for specific purposes less expenditure to date.

Unrestricted Funds

General Reserve

The general reserve represents the free reserves target which is the minimum level of reserves the Governors have assessed should be ring-fenced and retained invested in marketable securities.

Free Reserve

This fund represents the permitted distributable element of the unrestricted funds.

Designated Funds

These funds, which have been set aside from the general fund, equate to the net book value of those tangible assets which are not represented by restricted funds together with such other sums as may be determined by the Governors from time to time.

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

(i) Voluntary Help

No financial value has been attributed to the voluntary help received by the Charity during the year.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(j) Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2. CHARITABLE STATUS

The Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind is a registered Charity and is exempt from Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022 £	2021 £
General Fund		
Legacies	18,853	-
Grants, Donations and Events	3,309	2,036
	22,162	2,036

£1,000 (2021 £nil) of the legacies received has been treated as restricted income due to the legacy receipt coming with a request that the funds be spent on the library at Queen Alexandra College.

4. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Listed Fixed Asset Investments	63,156	62,465
Short Term Deposits	1	4
	63,157	66,393

5. COST OF RAISING FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Investment Management Fees	16,713	16,105

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
	£	£
General Fund		
Grants to Queen Alexandra College	564,712	699,700
Grants to Focus Birmingham	164,787	285,684
Administration and Financial Services	30,712	19,082
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	760,211	1,004,466
Designated Funds		
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	56,124	74,419
Restricted Funds		
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	-	7,006
Total	<hr/>	<hr/>
	816,335	1,085,891

Administration and Financial Services costs include Governance costs of £11,928 (2021: £7,800).

Auditors Remuneration:	2022	2021
External audit services:	10,200	7,800
Other services:	1,500	-

7. GOVERNORS AND HONORARY OFFICERS

The Governors and honorary officers (Company Secretary and Treasurer) are the Key Management Personnel of the Charity. No remuneration was paid to any Governor or honorary officer. (2021: Nil). During the year no expenses were claimed by any Governor or honorary officer (2021: Nil). All expenses are incurred wholly and exclusively in carrying out their duties as Governors of the Charity and are in accordance with the Articles of Association.

The Charity paid £1,019 in the year for £1,000,000 of Directors & Officers insurance cover (2021: £728).

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

8. FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land £	Freehold Buildings £	Total £
Cost or Valuation			
1 April 2021	760,000	4,572,889	5,332,889
Disposals	-	-	-
31 March 2022	<u>760,000</u>	<u>4,572,889</u>	<u>5,332,889</u>
Depreciation			
1 April 2021	-	3,261,721	3,261,721
Provided in the Year	-	56,124	56,124
31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>3,317,845</u>	<u>3,317,845</u>
Net Book Values			
31 March 2022	<u>760,000</u>	<u>1,255,044</u>	<u>2,015,044</u>
31 March 2021	<u>760,000</u>	<u>1,311,168</u>	<u>2,071,168</u>

The freehold land and buildings are the subject of long leases to Focus Birmingham and Queen Alexandra College.

When the Company was incorporated in 1985, the existing assets of the unincorporated Charity were taken over and freehold land and buildings and short leaseholds were subsequently professionally revalued.

As the assets comprise the prime properties for the main Charities which BRIB supports it is not considered necessary or appropriate to have the properties revalued at the current time.

If freehold land and buildings had not been revalued, they would be stated at the following amounts:

	2022 £	2021 £
Historical Cost	3,993,888	3,993,888
Depreciation based on historical cost	(2,602,885)	(2,547,841)
Historical net book value	<u>1,391,003</u>	<u>1,446,047</u>

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

9. INVESTMENTS

**Listed Investments
Unrestricted Fund**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Balance @ 1 April 2021	2,468,819	1,982,734
Less: Cash held as part of portfolio	(143,086)	(67,434)
Market Value @ 1 April 2021	<u>2,325,733</u>	<u>1,915,300</u>
Add: Purchases	444,007	636,802
Less: Sales	(432,997)	(670,380)
Gains/ (Losses) on disposal or revaluation	110,741	444,012
Market Value @ 31 March 2022	<u>2,447,484</u>	<u>2,325,733</u>
Cash held as part of portfolio	<u>78,631</u>	<u>143,086</u>
Total Investments	<u>2,526,115</u>	<u>2,468,819</u>

At 31 March 2022 the charity held shares in HSBC ETFS PLC with a value of £49,342. These shares represent 5.25% of the portfolio. In 2021 there were no investments with a value in excess of 5% of the total value of the portfolio.

The market value of investments at 31 March 2022 is represented by the following:

Investments Listed on a Recognised Stock Exchange

	2022	2021
	Total	Total
	£	£
Fixed Interest	255,470	291,947
Alternative Assets	1,751,885	393,883
Equities	440,129	1,639,904
Total	<u>2,447,484</u>	<u>2,325,734</u>

10. DEBTORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	160	-
Associated Organisations	526	526
Accrued Income	3,613	-
Prepayments	255	182
	<u>4,554</u>	<u>708</u>

THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022

11. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Associated Organisations	-	221,847
Accruals	15,251	12,071
	<u>15,251</u>	<u>233,918</u>

12. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund Balances at 31 March 2022` are represented by:			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,015,044	-	2,015,044
Investments	2,526,114	-	2,526,114
Current Assets	26,856	1,000	27,856
Current Liabilities	(15,251)	-	(15,251)
	<u>4,552,762</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>4,553,762</u>

13. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	General Reserve £	Free ¹ Reserve £	Designated Funds Note 14 £	2022 Total £
As at 1 April 2021	778,525		3,594,356	4,372,881
Movement in the Year	236,005		(56,124)	179,881
Transfer between funds	687,970	812,030	(1,500,000)	-
As at 31 March 2022	<u>1,702,500</u>	<u>812,030</u>	<u>2,038,232</u>	<u>4,552,762</u>

During the year the Governors performed a review of the reserves policy. This review resulted in the creation of a minimum free reserves target (general reserve) and the removal of the 'Investment Reserve' designated fund. Whilst both serve the same purpose, which is to maintain resources invested in marketable securities to ensure there are sufficient funds to generate income from which BRIB's on-going activities will be funded and thus maintaining a sustainable charity, it has now been recognised that a designated fund was not the appropriate accounting treatment.

This review resulted in a transfer of £1.5m from the designated funds to the general unrestricted funds.

¹ Available to distribute

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

14. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Fixed Asset Reserve £	Revaluation Reserve £	Investment Reserve £	Staff Indemnities £	Total £
Balance at 1 April 2021	1,446,048	625,120	1,500,000	23,188	3,594,356
Movement in the year	(55,044)	(1,080)	(1,500,000)	-	(1,556,124)
Balance at 31 March 2022	<u>1,391,004</u>	<u>624,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,188</u>	<u>2,038,232</u>

The Fixed Asset Reserve represents together with the revaluation reserve, the net book value of fixed assets purchased from unrestricted funds.

The Revaluation Reserve arose from the revaluation of freehold land and buildings in 1985 and is shown separately as required by Company Law.

The brought forward Investment Reserve represented the minimum value of investments to be maintained by the Charity. Following a review of the reserves policy Governors have transferred this designated fund to the general fund and revised the reserves policy to reflect this amount in the free reserves target instead.

Staff Indemnities represent the potential liability that would fall to the Charity should any employee of Focus Birmingham and Queen Alexandra College, whose employment transferred from the Charity in 1997, suffer redundancy.

15. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	QAC Library Fund £
Balance at 1 April 2021	
Movement in the year	1,000
Balance at 31 March 2022	<u>1,000</u>

During the year BRIB received a legacy of £1,000 that was bequeathed with a request that the funds be spent on the Library at Queen Alexandra College. This grant will be distributed by way of a grant in the next financial period.

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

16. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no capital commitments contracted up to 31 March 2022 (2021: £nil).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no other financial commitments contracted up to 31 March 2022 (2021: £nil).

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2022 (2021: £nil).

19. CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS

Principal connected organisations are as follows:

Queen Alexandra College (QAC)

This Charity was established in 1997 to take over the further education and training for work operations of BRIB on 31 December 1997. It has been granted a long lease by BRIB on part of its Harborne site and benefits from funding commitments made by BRIB. It has the right to appoint one third of the Governors of BRIB and no decisions can be made by BRIB Governors unless at least one QAC representative is present and votes in favour. During the year it paid rent of £627,700 (2021: £627,700) to the Charity and received grants of £564,712 (2021: £699,700). At 31 March 2021, BRIB owed QAC £Nil including an approved grant of £100,000 (2021: BRIB owed QAC £100,847).

Focus Birmingham

This Charity was established in 1997 to take over, on 31 December 1997, the provision and promotion of services to blind or partially sighted people in the community, the operations previously being called BRIB Vision Services. It also has been granted a long lease by BRIB on part of its Harborne site and benefits from funding commitments made by BRIB. It has the same representation and voting rights on BRIB's board of Governors as Queen Alexandra College. During the year it paid rent of £164,690 (2021: 164,690) to the Charity and received grants of £164,787 (2021: £285,684). At 31 March 2021, BRIB owed Focus £Nil, (2021 BRIB owed Focus £121,000).

New Outlook Housing Association Limited

The housing association operates housing and care facilities for blind and partially sighted people, largely built on land owned by BRIB. During the year it paid £25,460 to the Charity in respect of rent and new Tenancy Registrations (2021: £24,000). At 31 March 2022 New Outlook owed BRIB £526 (2021: New Outlook owed BRIB £526).

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

20. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (2021)

The Statement of Financial Activity for 2021 is analysed between Unrestricted and Restricted Funds as follows:

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Income				
Donations and Legacies	3	2,036	-	2,036
Charitable Activities				
Rent and Tenancy Registrations		816,390	-	816,390
Investment Income	4	62,469	-	62,469
Total Income		880,895	-	880,895
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	5	16,105	-	16,105
Charitable Activities	6	1,078,885	7,006	1,085,891
Total Expenditure		1,094,990	7,006	1,101,996
Net Gains/ (losses) on Investment Assets		444,012	-	444,012
Net movement in funds		229,917	(7,006)	222,911
Balances @ 1 st April 2020		4,142,965	7,006	4,149,971
Balances @ 31 st March 2021		4,372,882	-	4,372,882

**THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2022**

21. OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2022 the future minimum lease payments due to the Charity under non-cancellable operating leases in BRIB's role as a lessor are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Expiry date:		
Due within 1 year:		
Land and buildings	67,380	67,380
Between 2 and 5 years:		
Land and buildings	96,000	96,000
More than 5 years:		
Land and buildings	1,634,000	1,634,000

For the majority of BRIB's lease income, under the Transfer of Operations Agreement the Charity is committed to making a grant to QAC/ Focus equal to the rent receivable. The future minimum lease payments above are only for the element of the leases to QAC and Focus where the Charity is not committed to making a matching grant.

22. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no post balance sheet events that affect these accounts.