



Company Reg no: 01887850

Registered Charity no: 516557

# **BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL**

**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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## **BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company (the Charity) for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, submit the Annual Report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the Charity.

#### **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity Number:	516557
Company Number:	01887850
Principal and Registered Office:	Morcom House, Ledsam Street, Ladywood, Birmingham, B16 8DN

#### **Directors and Trustees:**

The directors of the Charity are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees; or the Council of Management; or the Council.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Chair:	James Larner FCA
Honorary Treasurer:	Dr Alastair Rae
Other Trustees:	Dalbir Johal Ruby Stone (Appointed 22 May 2023)
Honorary President:	Sir John Crabtree OBE, Lord Lieutenant, West Midlands

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Chief Executive:	Chris Bates BA, MA
Director of Finance and Administration:	Vaani Nirantharakumar
Company Secretary:	Vaani Nirantharakumar
Auditor:	Cooper Parry Group Limited Cubo Birmingham 3rd Floor Two Chamberlain Square Birmingham B3 3AX
Bankers: Current Account	Unity Trust Bank pic 9 Brindley Place 4 Oozells Square Birmingham, B1 2HE
Bankers: Savings Account	Aldermore Bank pic 1st Floor, Block B, Western House Lynch Wood Peterborough, PE2 6FZ  Nationwide Building Society Kings Park Road Moulton Park Northampton, NN3 6NW
Website:	<a href="http://www.rathbone.co.uk">www.rathbone.co.uk</a>

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### *Governing Document*

Birmingham Rathbone Society is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Charity is registered with a maximum of 96 members and anyone may become a member on condition of their membership being approved by a majority of the Council of Management. As at 31 March 2024 there

## **BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

were 27 members (27 in 2023), each of whom agrees to contribute £1 in the event of the Charity winding up.

#### **Appointment of Trustees**

As set out in the Articles of Association potential Trustees must be recommended by the Trustees or proposed by a member qualified to vote at any general meeting. New Trustees are appointed at a general meeting unless to fill a casual vacancy where the office will only be held until the following annual general meeting when he or she will be eligible for re-election. At each annual general meeting one third of the Trustees must retire from office but will be eligible for re-election.

The Council appoints a Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer. The office holder must stand down at the end of every two-year period but may offer themselves for re-election. No officer may be re-appointed for more than ten years in aggregate.

#### **Trustee Induction and Training**

New Trustees undergo an induction visit to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law; the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association; the committees and decision-making processes; the business plan and recent financial performance of the Charity. During the induction visit they meet the Chief Executive and the Chair of the Council of Management.

Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

#### **Organisation**

The Council of Management, which currently has no maximum number of members, administers the Charity. The Council meets quarterly and there are sub-committees covering Performance and Services, both of which also meet quarterly, and a Remuneration Committee which meets as and when required.

A Chief Executive is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day to day operations of the Charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for all operational matters across the organisation.

In accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association the Council of Management also appoints a Secretary, which is not an honorary position. No member of the Council may occupy the salaried position of Secretary.

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### **Remuneration of Senior Management Team**

The Charity has a written Salary Review Policy and a longstanding salary grading structure covering all roles across the organisation which was originally set by the Remuneration Sub-Committee and ratified by the Council of Management. The Council of Management reviews staff salaries annually, considering all relevant factors including the current economic climate and the nature of the organisation's contracts, to determine any annual salary percentage increase. Annual pay awards have the effect of adjusting all the grades and pay points on the Birmingham Rathbone Salary Scale and any rate increase is applied consistently across all employees of all staff grades including those of the Senior Management Team.

#### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks the Charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the review; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise.

The key risks and uncertainties that have been identified and are being managed are:

- health and safety of staff and clients generally, and in relation to COVID-19;
- risks in relation to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults;
- uncertainty regarding changes in public policy and the potential impact on public spending;
- ensuring that external quality requirements are met;
- ensuring that contract requirements are met.

The organisation has robust safeguarding policies and procedures which incorporate all trustees, staff and volunteers undertaking enhanced DBS checks at least every two years, and safeguarding training for all staff and volunteers. Where possible trustees, staff and volunteers register with DBS Update, which provides an annually updated certificate. The organisation's representatives attend the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board meetings.

The Charity maintains sufficient levels of reserves in accordance with the Trustees' reserves policy and continues to purchase suitable houses and partner with relevant organisations across the city to expand its provision of supported accommodation.

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### Objectives, Strategies, Activities

Birmingham Rathbone is established for charitable purposes only to promote the welfare and advance the education of those children, young people and adults who need special care and attention as a result of the educational difficulties they either experience or have experienced. These difficulties will have usually caused them to attend schools for children with special educational needs or special classes within mainstream schools.

Birmingham Rathbone exists to ensure that people with learning difficulties achieve their full potential and participate fully in the life of the community.

Birmingham Rathbone believes that:

- all people are of equal worth;
- everyone can learn;
- everyone should have equal access to education, training, employment, accommodation, health, leisure and community facilities; and
- everyone should have the opportunity to be part of, and contribute to, the community in which they live.

The main objectives for the year continued to be those as set out in the Charity's Mission Statement to enable people with learning difficulties to achieve their full potential as follows:

- to identify and advocate for the provision of a range of services to enhance the quality of life for people with learning difficulties;
- to protect and safeguard clients;
- to promote and conduct relevant research;
- to provide information and advice for parents, professionals, members, volunteers and a concerned general public;
- to provide and innovate services to meet identified needs; and
- to evaluate the effectiveness of services and, by disseminating the findings, extend knowledge and improve practice.

The Charity's strategies for achieving its main objectives are:

- to form partnerships with a range of relevant organisations;
- to develop and maintain relationships with key statutory agencies;
- to offer flexible solutions to funders ensuring our provision meets the needs of our clients, funders and inspection regimes;
- to engage with the corporate sector for partnership, sponsorship, secondment and funding opportunities;
- to form and support service user constituency groups for consultation and support in their chosen activities;
- to expand provision taking account of demographic changes.

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Birmingham Rathbone offers Supported Living, Accommodation with Support, Home Support (Home Care) and Employment Support (through PURE) to assist people with mild to moderate learning difficulties to live with self-confidence, choice and control over their independence. The main areas of activity during the year were Housing and Supported Living Services. The Charity's services are provided in partnership with Birmingham City Council's Vulnerable Adults Health & Social Care team; the Care Quality Commission; Social Care and Health (City of Birmingham and Sandwell Borough Council), and Housing Associations in Birmingham in a variety of accommodation settings. The Charity also delivers a contract on behalf of Birmingham City Council (PURE) through ESF funding to help vulnerable people into training, education and employment. During this period all ESF funding for UK projects ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 as a result of the UK leaving the EU. However new funding for PURE was secured from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via the Regional Mayors office and January - March 2024 became the mobilisation period for this being applied from April 2024.

A comprehensive needs assessment of clients enables the Charity to tailor its services to the individual's personal needs so that the client can live the way that they want to live in their community setting. Support may concern areas such as health and well-being; budgeting skills; life skills; attaining recognised academic qualifications or seeking meaningful employment. This is regularly updated.

Our Vulnerable Adults with Learning Disabilities service has been awarded the maximum 4 stars for excellence and inspection grades in recent years have achieved A in all five areas of:

- Assessment and Support Planning
- Security, Health and Safety
- Safeguarding and Protection from Abuse
- Fair Access, Diversity and Inclusion
- Client Involvement and Empowerment

Our Home Support and Supported Living Services were awarded Good in all categories by the Care Quality Commission at the last inspection in October 2017.

Our Supported Living Service was graded as silver by Birmingham City Council at review in January 2023.

The Charity continues to search for additional suitable domestic properties to increase accommodation provision for its Housing and Supported Living services.

#### **Volunteers**

The Charity welcomes the input of volunteers to enhance its activities. The contribution made by volunteers in the year was not significant and no particular activity was reliant on the services of volunteers.

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### Strategic Report

##### Achievements and Performance

During the year we:

- continued to deliver the PURE contract on behalf of the City Council;
- continued to deliver the Home Care Service under the Framework Agreement with the City Council;
- won a new Supported Living Flexible Contract with the City Council (5 years to 2028, extendable to 2030);
- continued to deliver the Supported Living Service under the new Framework Agreement with the City Council;
- continued to deliver the Vulnerable Adults (accommodation with support for adults with learning disabilities or autism) contract with Birmingham City Council;
- successfully completed the transfer from management agreements to leases with Midland Heart on Bill Slater House and both properties in Kingsbury Road;
- continued to seek appropriate properties for purchase;
- carried out a programme of improvement to all our properties;
- reported on our Investor in People standard accreditation through an interim review in February 2024
- continued to upgrade our IT infrastructure, replacing the staff laptops and mobile phones;
- continued to improve our measures for data protection
- continued to develop the skills base of our staff through formal training qualifications and apprenticeships;
- continued to develop our commitment to service user involvement through surveys and feedback; and facilitated client input into the City Council's consultation on future services for vulnerable people;
- continued to develop and maintain relationships with key statutory agencies and funders (e.g. Birmingham City Council; and strategy groups (e.g. the Birmingham Homelessness Partnership Board);
- agreed a partnership with the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel as its chosen charity of the year; and
- all of the above was delivered in the context of the receding Covid-19 pandemic, operating to a very high standard of infection control and successfully protecting clients and staff from infection.

The Charity measures its success by various criteria, including:

- annual surveys from all clients accessing our services;
- regular client forums encouraging feedback and dialogue;

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

- regular monitoring of incidents, accidents, safeguarding, complaints and compliments at management meetings, and reporting on the same at Trustee Board;
- monitoring achievements and financial performance against prescribed outcomes set by funders;
- monitoring achievements and progress against our Business Plan and KPIs;
- an annual anonymous staff feedback survey;
- self-assessment returns including reports to CQC and to Birmingham City Council;
- external quality checks and accreditations e.g. CQC (Good), Vulnerable People (Excellent), Supported Living (Good), Home Support (Good), Matrix Standard for Information, Advice and Guidance and Investors in People accreditation.

The Trustees are of the opinion that throughout the year the Charity complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Charity does not employ any external fundraisers and complies with the Fundraising Regulator's voluntary regulation scheme.

Overall the Charity produced a surplus of £100,356 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The organisation continued to deliver Housing and Supported Living Services and produced a total unrestricted surplus of £100,356 as shown in the SOFA.

The Charity's principal funding continued to be derived from Birmingham City Council and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council for Vulnerable People and Home Support. It also continued delivery of the PURE (Placing vulnerable urban residents into employment) project which, funded by the European Social Fund through Birmingham City Council, assists vulnerable Birmingham residents into employment, education or training using a range of coordinated interventions to help overcome barriers into the employment market.

#### Plans for the Future

In the forthcoming year the Charity's key objectives are to:

- ensure safe working practices for the protection of clients and staff;
- expand supported housing services and home care through developing and delivering our contracts and the Framework Agreement;
- expand Supported Living services through the new Birmingham City Council's Framework Agreement;
- successfully deliver our part of the PURE UKSPF project;
- continue to meet the National Information, Advice and Guidance Standards;
- continue to support and develop our staff;
- secure additional contracts/funding for services to vulnerable people with learning disabilities in Birmingham;

## **BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- continue working towards Investors in Excellence;
- continue to achieve compliance with the Data Security and Protection Toolkit standards;
- continue to extend and deepen our range of partnerships;
- work to extend our delivery to include a wider range of opportunities for people with learning difficulties;
- continue to develop and maintain relationships with relevant statutory agencies and funders, including Birmingham City Council, to remain a key supplier of services; and
- purchase/source new properties to increase our available accommodation to support independent living for people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Charity is constantly reviewing its cost base and implementing efficiencies with a view to maintaining liquid reserves. The Trustees Charity's decided the minimum free reserves requirements should be the equivalent of six months' expenditure. The Charity's free reserves as at 31 March 2024 were £1,431,728 (2023 £1,307,785). The free reserves are equivalent to 9 months annual expenditure at current levels. In addition to the free reserves £750,000 has been designated by the trustees for further property purchase.

The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates.

#### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future and will be able to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business.

#### **Related party transactions**

During the year, the charity procured maintenance services from the spouse of a member of the charity's key management personnel. The total spend in year was £28,125 (2023; £ 19,295). The procurement of these services is subject to the charity's procurement procedures and overseen by the Board of Trustees, with the member of key management personnel concerned removed from any decision-making processes regarding the use of the supplier.

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Awareness of relevant audit information**

**Disclosure of information to the auditors**

We, the directors of the Company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements as set out above each confirm, as far as we are aware, that

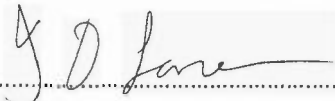
- there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.


Haines Watts Birmingham LLP were reappointed at the Annual General Meeting in October 23.

On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 the audit business of Haines Watt Birmingham LLP was acquired by Cooper Parry Group Limited. Accordingly, Haines Watts Birmingham LLP has resigned as auditors and Cooper Parry Group Limited has been appointed in its place.

This report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 2nd September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman:  James Larner

Treasurer:  Alastair Rae

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purpose of the Company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Council including Strategic Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the Company for the year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures explained and disclosed in the financial statement;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the Company assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE  
SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Birmingham Rathbone Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 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 2024 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 Auditor's 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 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM  
RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (CONTINUED)**

**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 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 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.

**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.

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:

Our assessment focused on key laws and regulations the College has to comply with and areas of the financial statements we assessed as being more susceptible to misstatement. These key laws and regulations included but were not limited to compliance with the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation,

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM  
RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (CONTINUED)**

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (Continues)**

data protection, anti-bribery and employment legislation. We are not responsible for preventing irregularities, including fraud. Our approach to detecting irregularities, including fraud, included, but was not limited to, the following:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Charity and how the Charity is complying with that framework, including agreement of financial statement disclosures to underlying documentation and other evidence;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's control environment and how the Charity has applied relevant control procedures, through discussions with Trustees and other management and by performing walkthrough testing over key areas;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's risk assessment process, including the risk of fraud;
- reviewing meeting minutes of those charged with governance throughout the year; and
- of controls, including testing 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 bias.

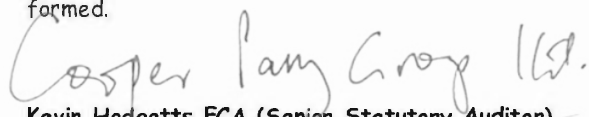
Whilst considering how our audit work addressed the detection of irregularities, we also considered the likelihood of detection of fraud based on our approach. Irregularities arising from fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than those arising from error.

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 is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, 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 Charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Kevin Hodgetts FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**Cooper Parry Group Limited**

Statutory Auditor

Cubo Birmingham

3rd Floor

Two Chamberlain Square

Birmingham

B3 3AX

Date **23 September 2024**

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024  
INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income:					
Donations and legacies	3	209	-	209	552
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living	4	1,871,622	-	1,871,622	1,823,948
Investment income	5	42,279	-	42,279	20,021
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>1,914,110</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,914,110</u>	<u>1,844,521</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living		1,813,754	-	1,813,754	1,749,131
Crisis Support		-	-	-	-
Other grant		-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	6	<u>1,813,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,813,754</u>	<u>1,749,131</u>
Net gains/losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<u>100,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,356</u>	<u>95,390</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<u>100,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,356</u>	<u>95,390</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total Funds Brought Forward		2,713,533	39,093	2,752,626	2,657,235
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>2,813,889</u>	<u>39,093</u>	<u>2,852,982</u>	<u>2,752,625</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
For comparatives see Note 2.

The Notes on pages 18 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Tangible assets	11	632,160	655,748
Investments	12	4	4
Total Fixed Assets		<u>632,164</u>	<u>655,752</u>
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Debtors	13	262,233	258,128
Cash at bank and in hand		2,078,168	1,997,748
Total Current Assets		<u>2,340,401</u>	<u>2,255,876</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(119,584)	(159,002)
Net current assets		<u>2,220,817</u>	<u>2,096,874</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		2,852,982	2,752,626
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Net Assets	21	<u>2,852,982</u>	<u>2,752,626</u>
<b>Charity Funds:</b>			
Unrestricted Funds	21	2,813,889	2,713,533
Restricted Income Funds	21	39,093	39,093
		<u>2,852,982</u>	<u>2,752,626</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Council of Management on 2nd Sept 24 and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman James Larner Treasurer Alastair Rae

The Notes on pages 18 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	22	69,118	23,037
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		42,281	20,021
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(30,977)	(34,117)
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</i>		<u>80,420</u>	<u>8,941</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:			
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</i>			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,997,748	1,988,807
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March</i>		<u>2,078,168</u>	<u>1,997,748</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents consists of</b>			
Cash at Bank and in Hand at 31 March		<u>2,078,168</u>	<u>1,997,748</u>

The Notes on pages 18 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

## 1. Accounting Policies

### Basis of Accounting

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

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

The Charity has taken advantage of section 402 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not produced group accounts on the basis that both of its subsidiary companies are immaterial.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on the going concern basis, which the Trustees consider to be appropriate in the context of the Charity's ability to meet its obligations as they fall due, in the period of twelve months following the date of approval of these financial statements. In this consideration, the Trustees have taken into account the Charity's asset position, the level and profile of its liabilities and the Charity's ability to determine the level of charitable services delivered. If the Charity were unable to continue to operate, adjustments would have to be made to reduce the value of the assets to their recoverable amount and to provide for any further liabilities that might arise.

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are funds for which the donor has specifically restricted the purpose for which they can be used. The amount remaining in the funds represents the monies still remaining for future expenditure, or funds represented by assets purchased partly or fully from restricted funds.

When a time-limited restriction on an asset has expired or been released or where funds received for restricted purposes are expended on the purchase of assets over which there is no further restriction the cost of the asset is shown as a transfer to the unrestricted funds.

**Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted Funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

**Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

All income is allocated to the general fund unless otherwise restricted by the donor. No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Report of the Council.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Charitable activities represent the costs incurred directly in providing the services of the Charity including direct staff and other direct costs.

Support costs comprise central administration costs in support of the Charity's activities and are allocated on the basis of full time equivalent staff numbers in each activity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

#### **Pension Costs**

Contributions in respect of the Charity's Group Personal Pension Scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are payable to the Scheme.

#### **Operating Leases**

Rentals applicable to operating leases, where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged against income as incurred.

#### **Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Assets with a cost of less than £1,500 are not capitalised as immaterial.

The Charity enjoys the use of a considerable amount of equipment provided by various funding agencies in addition to that acquired from its own resources. Grants received for such equipment are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of receipt.

Depreciation is provided with the intention of writing off the costs of tangible fixed assets over their useful lives. The provision is calculated as follows:

Office Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings;	20%-33% straight-line
Motor Vehicles;	20% straight-line
Freehold Buildings;	2 - 4% straight-line
Leasehold Land and Buildings;	evenly over the remaining lease period

#### **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.

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. Prior Year Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
Income:				
Donations and legacies	3	552		552
Charitable Activities:				
Housing and Supported Living	4	1,823,948	-	1,823,948
Investment income	5	20,021	-	20,021
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>1,844,521</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,844,521</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities:				
Housing and Supported Living		<u>1,749,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,749,130</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	6	<u>1,749,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,749,130</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		95,391	-	95,391
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<u>95,391</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,391</u>
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total Funds Brought Forward		2,618,142	39,093	2,657,235
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>2,713,533</u>	<u>39,093</u>	<u>2,752,626</u>

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b>3. Donations</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Unrestricted Donations	<u>209</u>	<u>552</u>

There were no donations from Trustees during the year (2023 £Nil).

<b>4. Income from charitable activities</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted Income:</b>		
<b>Housing and Supported Living:</b>		
Birmingham City Council Supporting People/Vulnerable Adults	557,268	650,106
Income from Housing	592,255	546,551
Sandwell MBC/City of Birmingham Social Care and Health	677,000	568,774
Birmingham City Council ESF funded PURE project	45,099	58,517
Other income		
	<u>1,871,622</u>	<u>1,823,948</u>

<b>5. Investment Income</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank Interest	<u>42,279</u>	<u>20,021</u>

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	Direct Staff Costs 2024 £	Other Direct Costs 2024 £	Allocated Support Costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living	887,954	720,115	205,685	1,813,754	1,749,130
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<u>887,954</u>	<u>720,115</u>	<u>205,685</u>	<u>1,813,754</u>	<u>1,749,130</u>

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of full time equivalent staff numbers in each activity subject to available funding.

Charitable Activities: Includes expenditure of £Nil (2023 £ Nil) from restricted funds.

**7. Support Costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff Costs (management, finance, IT, personnel, quality and administration)	159,770	163,797
Head Office Premises Costs	4,885	4,586
Administration and Overheads	30,216	39,681
Governance Fees	10,814	9,879
	<u>205,685</u>	<u>217,943</u>

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b>8. Net Income</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net Income is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of assets	54,564	50,761
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Operating lease rentals:		
Hire of equipment	-	-
Land and buildings	82,755	52,741
Auditors' remuneration:		
Audit services	10,775	9,875
Trustees' remuneration and expenses	-	-

**9. Employees' Information**

The average number and full time equivalent persons employed during the year was:

	2024		2023	
	No	FTE	No	FTE
Housing and Supported Living	30	28	33	30
General Administration and Finance	4	3	4	3
	<u>34</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>33</u>

**Staff Costs**

	2024		2023	
	£		£	
Wages and salaries	915,942		955,579	
Social security costs	82,544		89,005	
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	49,238		52,949	
Redundancy and termination costs	-		29,375	
	<u>1,047,724</u>		<u>1,126,908</u>	

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**10. Costs of Key Management Personnel**

For employees earning over £60,000 per annum  
excluding pension contributions:

	2024 No	2023 No
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	2024 £	2023 £
Total amounts paid to Defined Contribution Schemes	<u>5,032</u>	<u>5,032</u>
	2024 No	2023 No
Staff to whom retirement benefits are accruing under Defined Contribution Schemes	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

None of the Trustees have been paid any remuneration, received expenses or received other benefits (2023: £Nil)

The total employee benefits of the Charity's key management personnel, comprising the Trustees and the Senior Management Team, was £ 232,956 (2023: £228,814).

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office Equipment Fixtures & Fittings £	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	269,422	847,554	1,116,976
Additions	-	30,977	30,977
Disposals	-	-	-
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>269,422</u>	<u>878,531</u>	<u>1,147,953</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	237,274	223,954	461,228
Charge for year	22,908	31,656	54,564
Disposals	-	-	-
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>260,182</u>	<u>255,610</u>	<u>515,792</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>9,240</u>	<u>622,921</u>	<u>632,161</u>
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>32,148</u>	<u>623,600</u>	<u>655,748</u>

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

<b>12. Investments</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Investment in wholly owned Subsidiaries	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
2 Ordinary shares in Rathbone Europe Limited	2	2
2 Ordinary shares in Rathbone West Midlands Ltd	2	2
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Name	Activity of Subsidiary	Capital and Reserves	
		2024	2023
		£	£
Rathbone West Midlands Ltd	Dormant	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Rathbone Europe Limited	Dormant	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

<b>13. Debtors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Trade debtors	206,823	208,060
Prepayments	51,425	47,814
Other debtors	3,985	2,254
	<u>262,233</u>	<u>258,128</u>

<b>14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Trade creditors	61,482	76,216
Other taxation & social security costs	19,245	19,214
Accruals	37,206	49,481
Deferred Income (note 15)	1,651	14,091
	<u>119,584</u>	<u>159,002</u>

## BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15. Deferred Income	2024	2023
	£	£
At 1 April	14,091	16,588
Income received and released during the financial year:		
Rental Income	(2,833)	(1,397)
Housing and Supported living	(2,494)	(2,027)
Vulnerable Adults	(7,112)	927
At 31 March	<u>1,652</u>	<u>14,091</u>

#### 16. Pension Scheme Commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of this scheme are invested separately from those of the Charity in independently administered funds. The overall scheme, being sponsored by Birmingham Rathbone Society, is based upon the Charity's undertaking to contribute 6.4% (2023: 6.4%) of qualifying employees' basic remuneration and the legal minimum under auto enrolment rules for other staff. The total amount of outstanding contributions at the year end was £5,256 (2023: £nil)

#### 17. Constitution

The Charity is incorporated in England and Wales and is limited by guarantee. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

#### 18. Corporation Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

#### 19. Related Parties

During the year, the charity procured maintenance services from the spouse of a member of the charity's key management personnel. The total spend in this year was £28,125 (2023: £19,295). The procurement of these services is subject to the charity's procurement procedures and overseen by the Board of Trustees, with the member of key management personnel concerned removed from any decision making process regarding use of the supplier.

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**20. Leases**

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than one year	82,547	82,755
Later than one and not later than five years	118,427	3,750
	<u>200,974</u>	<u>86,505</u>

**21. Analysis of Funds**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
<b>Representation of Fund Balances</b>				
Non-Current assets	632,165	-	632,165	655,752
Cash at Bank and in Hand	2,039,075	39,093	2,078,168	1,997,748
Net Current Assets/(liabilities)	142,649	-	142,649	99,126
Total Net Assets	<u>2,813,889</u>	<u>39,093</u>	<u>2,852,982</u>	<u>2,752,626</u>

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**21. Analysis of Funds (continued)**

	1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expend- iture £	Transfer Funds £	31 March 2024 £
<b>Restricted Funds:</b>					
Thursday Club	389	-	-	-	389
Donations for Cromer Road Development	32,938	-	-	-	32,938
Umberslade Road Centre Funding	5,766	-	-	-	5,766
Other sundry restricted donations	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>39,093</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,093</b>
Unrestricted Funds - general	1,963,533	1,914,110	(1,813,754)	-	2,063,889
Unrestricted Funds - designated	750,000	-	-	-	750,000
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>2,752,626</b>	<b>1,914,110</b>	<b>(1,813,754)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,852,982</b>

**Restricted Funds**

The Thursday Club fund is the remainder of a donation restricted to supporting a social club for people with learning difficulties and is expended on the costs of undertaking relevant social activities.

The Umberslade Road Centre fund consists of monies for improvements and equipment relating to town gardens and for the work previously undertaken at the Charity's Umberslade Road Garden Centre.

Donations for Cromer Road development were restricted for specific renovations at the Charity's former leasehold learning centre.

**Unrestricted Funds**

The trustees have designated £750,000 for the purchase of properties which are to be used in the delivery of charitable activities.

**BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**22. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</i>	100,356	95,391
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	54,564	50,761
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(42,279)	(20,021)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(4,105)	(121,743)
Increase/ (Decrease) in creditors	(39,418)	18,648
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	<u>69,118</u>	<u>23,036</u>