

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY



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 2025

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

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REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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 2025. 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: Ruby Stone (appointed Chair on 25/11/2024)
James Larner FCA (resigned as Chair on 25/11/2024)
Honorary Treasurer: Dr Alastair Rae (resigned 28/10/2024)
James Larner FCA (appointed to role on 28/10/2024)
Other Trustees: Dalbir Johal
Angela Mitchell (appointed 02/09/2024)
Mohammed Akhtar (appointed 01/02/2025)
Honorary President: Sir John Crabtree OBE, Lord Lieutenant, West Midlands

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Chief Executive:	Chris Bates BA, MA
Director of Finance and Administration:	Vaani Nirantharakumar (until February 2025) Sanja Kalik (from May 2025)
Company Secretary:	Vaani Nirantharakumar (resigned 30 June 2025) Sanja Kalik (appointed 30 June 2025)
Auditor:	Cooper Parry Group Limited Cubo Birmingham 4th Floor Two Chamberlain Square Birmingham B3 3AX
Bankers: Current Account	Unity Trust Bank plc Nine Brindley Place 4 Oozells Square Birmingham B1 2HB
Bankers: Savings Accounts	Aldermore Bank plc 1st Floor, Block B, Western House Lynch Wood Peterborough, PE2 6FZ Nationwide Building Society Kings Park Road Moulton Park Northampton NN3 6NW
Website:	www.rathbone.co.uk

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

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 2025 there were 24 members (27 in 2024), 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. The role of Vice-Chair is currently vacant.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees undergo an induction 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 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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

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 organisations 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;
- 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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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 organisations 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.

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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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 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 delivers a contract on behalf of Birmingham City Council (PURE) through UKSPF funding secured from the Regional Mayor's office until the end of March 2026. 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 2024.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

During the year we:

- continued to deliver the PURE contract on behalf of the City Council;
- won a new Home Care Service Framework Agreement with the City Council (5 years to 2029, extendable to 2031);
- continued to deliver a service under the Supported Living Flexible Contract with the City Council (5 years to 2028, extendable to 2030);
- continued to deliver the Vulnerable Adults (accommodation with support for adults with learning disabilities or autism) contract with Birmingham City Council (5 years to 2027, extendable to 2029);
- applied for Additional HMO licences for all eligible properties, under a new requirement of the City Council;
- continued to seek appropriate properties for purchase;
- carried out a programme of improvement to all our properties;
- achieved renewed Matrix standard accreditation through a full review in June 2024
- continued to upgrade our IT infrastructure, replacing the staff laptops and mobile phones;
- continued to improve our measures for data protection, successfully completing the DSPT;
- 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;
- 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);
- continued to improve the environment through a reduction of our carbon footprint; and
- operating to a very high standard of infection control and successfully protecting clients and staff from infection.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Charity measures its success by various criteria, including:

- annual surveys from all clients accessing our services;
- regular client forums encouraging feedback and dialogue;
- 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, Investors in People accreditation and Disability Confident Employer (DWP).

Financial review

Overall, the Charity produced a surplus of £133,466 for the year ended 31 March 2025. This is a result of increased income generation across Home Care, Supported Living, PURE, rental properties and cash deposits coupled with controlled staff costs and prudent financial management, despite high agency and operating lease costs.

The organisation continued to deliver Housing and Supported Living Services and produced a total unrestricted reserve of £2,947,355 as shown in the SOFA.

Principal funding sources

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 UKSPF through the Regional Mayor, assists vulnerable Birmingham residents into employment, education or training using a range of coordinated interventions to help overcome barriers into the employment market.

Public benefit

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.

Fundraising

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

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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 and IiP standards;
- continue to support and develop our staff;
- secure additional contracts/funding for services to vulnerable people with learning disabilities in Birmingham;
- 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 Charity's Trustees decided the minimum free reserves requirement should be the equivalent of six months' expenditure. The Charity's free reserves as at 31 March 2025 were £1,571,120 (2024: £1,431,728). The free reserves are equivalent to 10 months annual expenditure at current levels. In addition to the free reserves £750,000 has been designated by the trustees for further property purchase and £30,000 has been designated for business digital development.

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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Related party transactions

During the year, the charity procured some maintenance services from the spouse of a member of the charity's key management personnel. The total spend in year was £18,138 (2024: £ 28,125). 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.

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.

Coopers Parry Group Ltd were reappointed at the Annual General Meeting in October 2024.

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 8 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman: 

Ruby Stone

Treasurer: 

James Larner

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Birmingham Rathbone Society (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 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 2025 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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, 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;

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

- 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
- performing audit testing to address the risk of management override 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

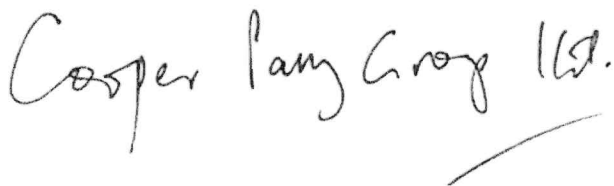
Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed 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. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31
MARCH 2025**

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cooper Parry Group Ltd." with a horizontal line underneath.

Nichola Venables (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
Cooper Parry Group Limited
Statutory Auditor
Cubo Birmingham
4th Floor
Two Chamberlain Square
Birmingham
B3 3AX

Date: 22 September 2025

BIRMINGHAM RATHBONE SOCIETY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income:					
Donations and legacies	2	16	-	16	209
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living	3	2,034,201	-	2,034,201	1,871,622
Investment income	4	50,371	-	50,371	42,279
Total Income		<u>2,084,588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,084,588</u>	<u>1,914,110</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living		1,951,122	-	1,951,122	1,813,754
Total Expenditure	5	<u>1,951,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,951,122</u>	<u>1,813,754</u>
Net gains/losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		133,466	-	133,466	100,356
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		<u>133,466</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>133,466</u>	<u>100,356</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total Funds Brought Forward		2,813,889	39,093	2,852,982	2,752,626
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>2,947,355</u>	<u>39,093</u>	<u>2,986,448</u>	<u>2,852,982</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The Notes on pages 20 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Non-current assets			
Tangible assets	10	596,235	632,160
Investments	11	4	4
Total Fixed Assets		<u>596,239</u>	<u>632,164</u>
Current assets:			
Debtors	12	346,831	262,233
Cash at bank and in hand		2,130,422	2,078,168
Total Current Assets		<u>2,477,253</u>	<u>2,340,401</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(87,044)	(119,584)
Net current assets		<u>2,390,209</u>	<u>2,220,817</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		2,986,448	2,852,982
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Net Assets	20	<u><u>2,986,448</u></u>	<u><u>2,852,982</u></u>
Charity Funds:			
Unrestricted Funds	20	2,947,355	2,813,889
Restricted Income Funds	20	39,093	39,093
		<u><u>2,986,448</u></u>	<u><u>2,852,982</u></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 8 September 2025 and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman:  Treasurer: 
Ruby Stone James Larner

The Notes on pages 20 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<i>Cash flows from operating activities:</i>			
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	21	7,325	69,118
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		50,371	42,281
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(5,442)	(30,977)
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</i>		<u>52,254</u>	<u>80,420</u>
<i>Cash flows from financing activities:</i>			
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</i>			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		2,078,168	1,997,748
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March</i>		<u>2,130,422</u>	<u>2,078,168</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consists of			
Cash at Bank and in Hand at 31 March		<u>2,130,422</u>	<u>2,078,168</u>

The Notes on pages 20 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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
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Freehold Buildings;	2 - 4% straight-line
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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.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2. Donations	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted Donations	16	209

There were no donations from Trustees during the year (2024: £Nil).

3. Income from charitable activities	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted Income:		
Housing and Supported Living:		
Birmingham City Council Supporting People/Vulnerable Adults	506,431	557,268
Income from Housing	646,242	592,255
Sandwell MBC/City of Birmingham Social Care and Health	727,666	677,000
Birmingham City Council ESF funded PURE project	153,862	45,099
Other income		
	2,034,201	1,871,622

4. Investment Income	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank Interest	50,371	42,279

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Direct Staff Costs 2025 £	Other Direct Costs 2025 £	Allocated Support Costs 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable Activities:					
Housing and Supported Living	940,831	816,471	193,820	1,951,122	1,813,754
Total Resources Expended	<u>940,831</u>	<u>816,471</u>	<u>193,820</u>	<u>1,951,122</u>	<u>1,813,754</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 (2024: £ Nil) from restricted funds.

6. Support Costs	2025 £	2024 £
Staff Costs (management, finance, IT, personnel, quality and administration)	162,270	159,770
Head Office Premises Costs	4,899	4,885
Administration and Overheads	15,576	30,216
Governance Fees	11,075	10,814
	<u>193,820</u>	<u>205,685</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7. Net Income	2025	2024
	£	£
Net Income is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of assets	41,368	54,564
Operating lease rentals:		
Land and buildings	82,547	82,755
Auditors' remuneration:		
Audit services	13,290	10,775
Trustees' remuneration and expenses	-	-

8. Employees' Information

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

	2025		2024	
	No	FTE	No	FTE
Housing and Supported Living	31	27	30	28
General Administration and Finance	4	3	4	3
	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>31</u>

Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	963,152	915,942
Social security costs	88,490	82,544
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	51,460	49,238
	<u>1,103,102</u>	<u>1,047,724</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

9. Costs of Key Management Personnel

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

	2025	2024
	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

None of the Trustees have been paid any remuneration, received expenses or received other benefits (2024: £Nil).

The total employee benefits of the Charity's key management personnel, comprising the Trustees and the Senior Management Team, was £ 234,099 (2024: £232,956).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10. Tangible Fixed Assets	Office Equipment Fixtures & Fittings £	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	269,422	878,531	1,147,953
Additions	5,442		5,442
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>274,864</u>	<u>878,531</u>	<u>1,153,395</u>
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	260,182	255,610	515,792
Charge for year	9,712	31,656	41,368
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>269,894</u>	<u>287,266</u>	<u>557,160</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2025	<u>4,970</u>	<u>591,265</u>	<u>596,235</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>9,240</u>	<u>622,921</u>	<u>632,161</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11. Investments		2025	2024
Investment in wholly owned Subsidiaries		£	£
Cost			
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	
		2025	2024
		£	£
Rathbone West Midlands Ltd	Dormant	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Rathbone Europe Limited	Dormant	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
12. Debtors		2025	2024
		£	£
Trade debtors		300,663	206,823
Prepayments		42,732	51,425
Other debtors		3,436	3,985
		<u>346,831</u>	<u>262,233</u>
13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2025	2024
		£	£
Trade creditors		55,546	61,482
Other taxation & social security costs		20,267	19,245
Accruals		10,826	37,206
Deferred Income (note 14)		405	1,651
		<u>87,044</u>	<u>119,584</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14. Deferred Income	2025	2024
	£	£
At 1 April	1,652	14,091
Income received and released during the financial year:		
Rental Income	-	(2,833)
Housing and Supported living	-	(2,494)
Vulnerable Adults	(1,246)	(7,112)
At 31 March	406	1,652

15. 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% (2024: 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 £nil (2024: £5,256).

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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 £18,318 (2024: £28,125). 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19. Leases

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Not later than one year	84,238	82,547
Later than one and not later than five years	35,880	118,427
	<u>120,118</u>	<u>200,974</u>

20. Analysis of Funds

Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
2025	2025	2025	2024
£	£	£	£

Representation of Fund Balances

Non-Current assets	596,235	-	596,235	632,165
Cash at Bank and in Hand	2,091,329	39,093	2,130,422	2,078,168
Net Current Assets/(liabilities)	259,791	-	259,791	142,649
Total Net Assets	<u>2,947,355</u>	<u>39,093</u>	<u>2,986,448</u>	<u>2,852,982</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20. Analysis of Funds (continued)

	1 April 2024	Income	Expend- iture	Transfer Funds	31 March 2025
Restricted Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
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	-	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	39,093	-	-	-	39,093
Unrestricted Funds - general	2,063,889	2,084,588	(1,951,122)	(30,000)	2,167,355
Unrestricted Funds - designated property fund	750,000	-	-	-	750,000
Unrestricted Funds - designated business digital development fund	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
Total Funds	2,852,982	2,084,588	(1,951,122)	-	2,986,448

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.

The trustees have designated £30,000 for business digital development.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
<i>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</i>	133,466	100,356
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	41,368	54,564
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(50,371)	(42,279)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(84,598)	(4,105)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	(32,540)	(39,418)
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	<u><u>7,325</u></u>	<u><u>69,118</u></u>

22. Agency arrangements

The charity undertakes a managerial support role at four properties managed under housing agreements. Under these arrangements, the charity has collected and paid out £81,542 (2024: £87,248).