

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 July 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	944	–	944	–
Charitable activities	5	–	66,732	66,732	144,744
Investment income	6	323,643	–	323,643	237,633
Other income	7	26,142	–	26,142	9,550
Total income		<u>350,729</u>	<u>66,732</u>	<u>417,461</u>	<u>391,927</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Investment management costs	8	43,657	–	43,657	46,143
Expenditure on charitable activities	9,10	412,249	168,820	581,069	448,354
Total expenditure		<u>455,906</u>	<u>168,820</u>	<u>624,726</u>	<u>494,497</u>
Net losses on investments	12	(69,410)	–	(69,410)	(560,292)
Net expenditure		<u>(174,587)</u>	<u>(102,088)</u>	<u>(276,675)</u>	<u>(662,862)</u>
Transfers between funds		123	(123)	–	–
Net movement in funds		<u>(174,464)</u>	<u>(102,211)</u>	<u>(276,675)</u>	<u>(662,862)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		19,625,861	102,211	19,728,072	20,390,934
Total funds carried forward		<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>19,728,072</u>

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

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Statement of Financial Position

31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	16	6,139,538	6,292,592
Investments	17	12,287,559	12,080,023
		<u>18,427,097</u>	<u>18,372,615</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	18	98,480	117,807
Cash at bank and in hand		989,527	1,283,190
		<u>1,088,007</u>	<u>1,400,997</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	63,707	45,540
Net current assets		<u>1,024,300</u>	<u>1,355,457</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>19,728,072</u>
Net assets		<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>19,728,072</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		–	102,211
Unrestricted funds		19,451,397	19,625,861
Total charity funds	21	<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>19,728,072</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 21 May 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Very Rev. Patrick Devlin

Fr P Devlin
Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 July 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in Northern Ireland and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 85 Jordanstown Road, Newtownabbey, BT37 0QE.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

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

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

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

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

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

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

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

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

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

Depreciation

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

School Buildings	-	2% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	33% straight line
Equipment	-	25% straight line

Investments

Unlisted equity investments are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently measured at fair value. If fair value cannot be reliably measured, assets are measured at cost less impairment.

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in income or expenditure.

Investments in associates

Investments in associates accounted for in accordance with the cost model are recorded at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

Investments in associates accounted for in accordance with the fair value model are initially recorded at the transaction price. At each reporting date, the investments are measured at fair value, with changes in fair value taken through income or expenditure. Where it is impracticable to measure fair value reliably without undue cost or effort, the cost model will be adopted.

Dividends and other distributions received from the investment are recognised as income without regard to whether the distributions are from accumulated profits of the associate arising before or after the date of acquisition.

Investments in joint ventures

Investments in jointly controlled entities accounted for in accordance with the cost model are recorded at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Investments in joint ventures *(continued)*

Investments in jointly controlled entities accounted for in accordance with the fair value model are initially recorded at the transaction price. At each reporting date, the investments are measured at fair value, with changes in fair value taken through income or expenditure. Where it is impracticable to measure fair value reliably without undue cost or effort, the cost model will be adopted.

Dividends and other distributions received from the investment are recognised as income without regard to whether the distributions are from accumulated profits of the joint venture arising before or after the date of acquisition.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

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

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

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

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

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

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations				
Donations	944	944	—	—

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Sensory Learning Support Income Education Authority	—	—	—
	—	66,732	66,732
	—	66,732	66,732

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

5. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Sensory Learning Support Income	–	23,280	23,280
Education Authority	31,565	89,899	121,464
	<u>31,565</u>	<u>113,179</u>	<u>144,744</u>

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	3,040	3,040	2,606	2,606
NICIFC dividends	70,855	70,855	68,904	68,904
Brewin Dolphin portfolio dividends	230,859	230,859	148,738	148,738
Investec portfolio dividends	18,889	18,889	17,385	17,385
	<u>323,643</u>	<u>323,643</u>	<u>237,633</u>	<u>237,633</u>

7. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Ground Rent	–	–	448	448
Miscellaneous	14	14	602	602
DENI	15,939	15,939	–	–
Sense Boarding House	10,189	10,189	8,500	8,500
	<u>26,142</u>	<u>26,142</u>	<u>9,550</u>	<u>9,550</u>

8. Investment management costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Brewin Dolphin management fee	37,133	37,133	39,101	39,101
Investec management fee	6,524	6,524	7,042	7,042
	<u>43,657</u>	<u>43,657</u>	<u>46,143</u>	<u>46,143</u>

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Promote Education of Deaf and Blind	401,289	168,820	570,109
Support costs	10,960	–	10,960
	<u>412,249</u>	<u>168,820</u>	<u>581,069</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Promote Education of Deaf and Blind	303,810	74,039	377,849
Support costs	70,505	–	70,505
	<u>374,315</u>	<u>74,039</u>	<u>448,354</u>

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Promote Education of Deaf and Blind	570,109	3,368	573,477	441,616
Governance costs	–	7,592	7,592	6,738
	<u>570,109</u>	<u>10,960</u>	<u>581,069</u>	<u>448,354</u>

11. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of Support Costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
General office	3,122	3,122	63,583
Finance costs	246	246	184
Governance costs	7,592	7,592	6,738
	<u>10,960</u>	<u>10,960</u>	<u>70,505</u>

12. Net losses on investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Gains/(losses) on listed investments	(69,410)	(69,410)	(560,292)	(560,292)

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

13. Auditors remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	7,592	6,738

14. Staff costs

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	57,940	–
Social security costs	6,142	–
Employer contributions to pension plans	872	–
	<u>64,954</u>	<u>–</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 1 (2022: Nil).

The Society has one direct employee and makes contributions to school wages and salaries

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment in the year (2022:£Nil). One trustee was reimbursed for the cost of attending a conference during the year, totalling £195. (2022:£Nil).

16. Tangible fixed assets

	Land	School	Motor	Equipment	Total
	£	Buildings	vehicles	£	£
		£	£		
Cost					
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	<u>314,036</u>	<u>7,652,698</u>	<u>11,725</u>	<u>318,005</u>	<u>8,296,464</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2022	–	1,674,142	11,725	318,005	2,003,872
Charge for the year	–	153,054	–	–	153,054
At 31 July 2023	<u>–</u>	<u>1,827,196</u>	<u>11,725</u>	<u>318,005</u>	<u>2,156,926</u>
Carrying amount					
At 31 July 2023	<u>314,036</u>	<u>5,825,502</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>6,139,538</u>
At 31 July 2022	<u>314,036</u>	<u>5,978,556</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>6,292,592</u>

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

17. Investments

	Other investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 August 2022	12,080,023
Additions	3,004,147
Disposals	(2,683,544)
Fair value movements	(69,410)
Other movements	(43,657)
At 31 July 2023	<u>12,287,559</u>
Impairment	
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	—
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2023	<u>12,287,559</u>
At 31 July 2022	<u>12,080,023</u>

All investments shown above are held at valuation.

18. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	5,939	4,590
Prepayments and accrued income	—	8,762
Other debtors	92,541	104,455
	<u>98,480</u>	<u>117,807</u>

19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	40,929	22,065
Other creditors	22,778	23,475
	<u>63,707</u>	<u>45,540</u>

20. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £872 (2022: £Nil).

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

21. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 Aug 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Jul 2023 £
General funds	19,142,158	350,729	(455,906)	123	(69,410)	18,967,694
Teachers & Sign Language Assistant costs	483,703	–	–	–	–	483,703
	<u>19,625,861</u>	<u>350,729</u>	<u>(455,906)</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>(69,410)</u>	<u>19,451,397</u>
	At 1 Aug 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Jul 2022 £
General funds	19,844,160	278,748	(420,458)	–	(560,292)	19,142,158
Teachers & Sign Language Assistant costs	483,703	–	–	–	–	483,703
	<u>20,327,863</u>	<u>278,748</u>	<u>(420,458)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(560,292)</u>	<u>19,625,861</u>

Unrestricted funds are freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. The trustees have further categorised funds, within unrestricted fund as follows:

a) General funds

These funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the Society. In addition to the expenditure on ongoing school activities such funds may be held in order to finance bursaries and working capital. The Trustees have currently set a target of 12 months operating costs to be held as general reserves to meet the ongoing needs of the Society. Operating costs are those incurred annually as set out in the audited financial statements excluding which is a non-cash expense and covered through designated reserves.

b) Designated funds

Designated funds are amounts set aside from unrestricted funds which have been 'earmarked' for particular projects.

Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 July 2023

21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 Aug 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Jul 2023 £
Sensory Learning Support Education Authority	102,211	–	(102,088)	(123)	–	–
	–	66,732	(66,732)	–	–	–
	<u>102,211</u>	<u>66,732</u>	<u>(168,820)</u>	<u>(123)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>

	At 1 Aug 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 Jul 2022 £
Sensory Learning Support Education Authority	63,071	23,688	15,452	–	–	102,211
	–	89,491	(89,491)	–	–	–
	<u>63,071</u>	<u>113,179</u>	<u>(74,039)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>102,211</u>

Restricted funds are amounts to be used for the specified purposes as laid out by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of overhead and support costs. The Trustees have no control over these funds other than ensuring they are spent for the purposes intended by the donors and therefore no target level has been set.

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	6,139,538	–	6,139,538
Investments	12,287,559	–	12,287,559
Current assets	1,088,007	–	1,088,007
Creditors less than 1 year	(63,707)	–	(63,707)
Net assets	<u>19,451,397</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>19,451,397</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	6,292,592	–	6,292,592
Investments	12,080,023	–	12,080,023
Current assets	1,275,311	125,686	1,400,997
Creditors less than 1 year	(22,065)	(23,475)	(45,540)
Net assets	<u>19,625,861</u>	<u>102,211</u>	<u>19,728,072</u>