St Columba's Hospice Care

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31st March 2025

Company number SC048700

Charity number SC00363

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONTENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Governors' Report (Incorporating the Strategic Report)	2
Independent Auditor's Report	17
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities	21
Charity Statement of Financial Activities	22
Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets	23
Consolidated and Charity Statement of Cash Flows	24
Notes to the Accounts	25

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Governors are pleased to present their report together with the consolidated accounts of the charity and its subsidiary companies for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The accounts comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of recommended practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Hospice issues two documents: this one, the Annual Report and Accounts, complies with statutory requirements for such a document and will be of most interest to those readers who would like information on how the Hospice has discharged its responsibilities during the year just passed and the associated activities and finances. A second one, the Impact Report, reflects on our achievements for the past year and looks forward with details on the Hospice's plans for the future and may be of more interest to the general reader.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

President
The Countess of Rosebery
Vice-Presidents
Mr G B Archer, DL
Mr G M Burnside, WS
Mr I C Adam, CA
Dr N Bryson, MA, MSc, DPhil, FFA

Board of Governors	Sub-Committees
Chair	
Mr D N Dunsire, WS	(R,D)
Vice Chair	
Mr N R Lanzl, BA, PCIAM	(A,I,R,D)
Honorary Secretary	
Miss L Kerr, WS (sabbatical from 16th February 2024 to 18th March 2025)	(I,R)
Governors	
Mr D Brown MA(Hons)	(T)
Mr U Cameron, BAcc CA	(A,I)
Mrs A Cowie, MSc, BA, Dip HE, RGN, RCNT, RNT (resigned 5th December 2024)	(A, E)
Mrs C G Flockhart BCom (Hons) CA	(A, I)
Prof A M Keel, CBE, MBChB, FRCP, FRCPath, FRCPE, FRCSE, MFPH, FRCGP	(E)
Dr S L Keir, MB, BChir, MD, FRCPE	(R,C)
Mr E M C Mackay (appointed 20th May 2025)	(E)
Mr J G Macrae, CA, CPFA (resigned 1st November 2024)	(A,I,D)
Dr J J Macrae, DN, MSc, BSc, RGN, MCIPD (appointed 18th March 2025)	(C)
Miss L Masson, BSc	(T)
Mrs L M Selman, BSc (Hons), FFA (resigned 1st November 2024)	(A,I)
Mr C Robertson, FCSI (appointed 21st May 2024)	(A,I)
Mr J A Thomlinson (appointed 20th May 2025)	(T)

Note designating membership of sub-committees			
A	Audit and Risk Committee	T	St Columba's Trading Ltd
I	Investment Committee	D	St Columba's Hospice (2007) Ltd
R	Remuneration & Nominations Committee	E	Education & Research Committee
C	Clinical Governance		

Senior Leadership Committee

Mrs J Stone, MSc, RGN, RNT	Chief Executive Officer
Dr D J F Brown, MBChB, MRCP, MD	Medical Director
Mrs D Partington, MSc, BSc, DipHE, PGCert	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Ms E Boulton, MA (Hons), CA	Director of Finance
Mr J Heggie, MA (Hons), MInstF(Cert)	Director of Income Generation
Mr S Walker	Director of Operations (retired 3rd August 2025)
Dr G Tsiris, MMT, PhD	Director of Education, Research & Creative Arts

Company number	SC048700
Charity number	SC003634
Registered Office	Challenger Lodge Boswall Road Edinburgh EH5 3RW Telephone 0131 551 1381
Principal Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc 36 St Andrew Square Edinburgh EH2 2AD
Solicitors	Lindsays Caledonian Exchange 19A Canning Street Edinburgh EH3 8HE
Auditor	Saffery LLP Floor4, 9 Haymarket Square Edinburgh EH3 8RY
Investment Managers	Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU Royal London Asset Management Ltd 55 Gracechurch Street London EC3V 0RL

Subsidiary Undertakings
St Columba's Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company. The company's principal activities are the administration of a weekly prize draw, the operation of a hair and beauty salon, the operation of a cafe and the sale of merchandise.

St Columba's Hospice (2007) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company. Its principal activity was to design and build a new hospice for St Columba's Hospice Care. On 1 April 2019 the company became dormant.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

OBJECTIVES

St Columba's Hospice Care is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee and, in terms of its Memorandum and Articles, its principal objective is to promote the relief of suffering by:

- establishing and maintaining hospice inpatient, community and supportive care services
- promoting evidence-based practice and research into palliative care and the education and training of medical, nursing and allied health professionals in this area
- encouraging the provision of spiritual and pastoral support for all connected to the Hospice's activities, whether as patients, families, volunteers or staff.

Our services offer care to patients irrespective of their diagnosis and encompass any advanced life-limiting disease. The purpose of hospice care is to improve the quality of life of those in our care, whilst extending support to their families and carers. The Hospice is open to all who may be in need of its care and referral can be made by colleagues from across health and social care as well as from people who need our support. There is no charge made for any of our clinical services. The Hospice is an independent Scottish charity with a fully integrated team of professional, support and administrative staff, who are supported by approximately 643 volunteers who are involved in all departments throughout the Hospice, our community and our charity shops.

The Hospice has always recognised that it has a responsibility to share its knowledge and experience with professional colleagues. Placements within the Hospice are arranged and an external education programme is organised for students, doctors, nurses, clergy and allied health professionals. In addition, the Hospice is a well-recognised research-active University hospice contributing to new knowledge in palliative care.

STRATEGIC REPORT

The Governors are pleased to present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

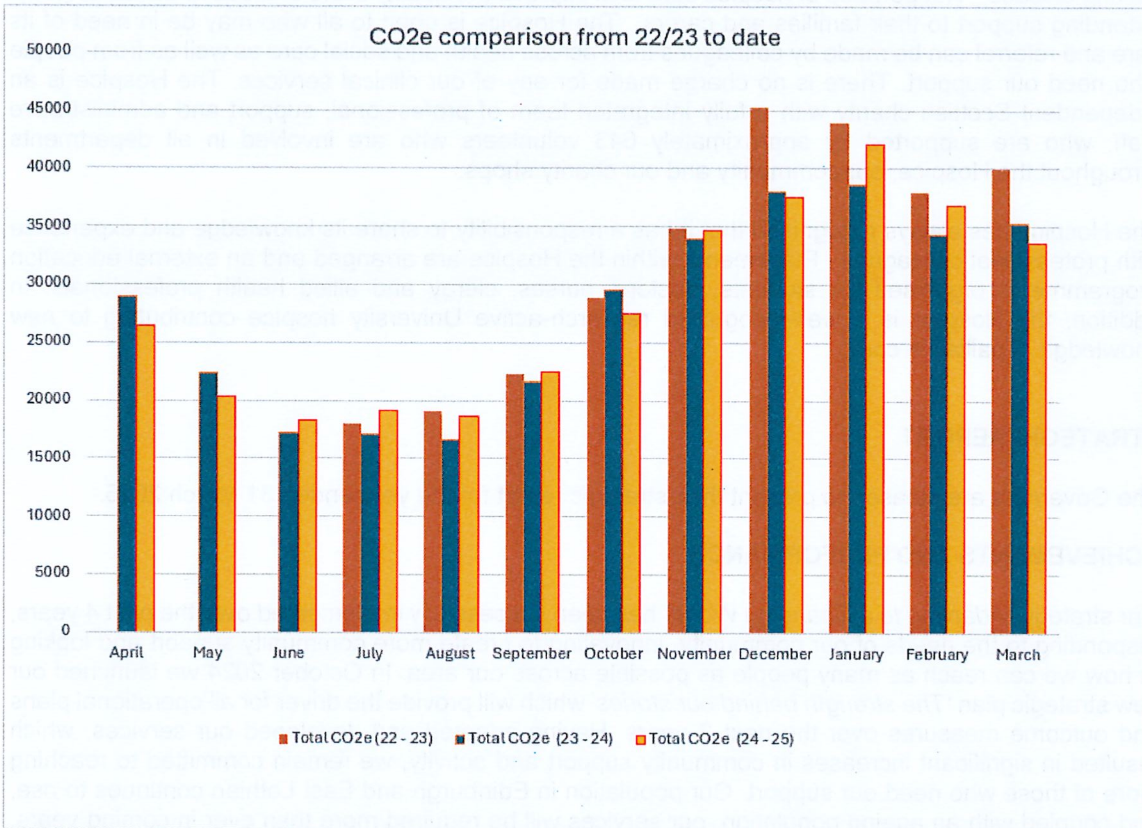
Our strategy "*Adapting to a Changing World*" has been successfully implemented over the past 4 years, responding to the needs of our community, innovating to create more community support and looking at how we can reach as many people as possible across our area. In October 2024 we launched our new strategic plan '*The strength behind our stories*' which will provide the driver for all operational plans and outcome measures over the next 3 years. Having adapted and developed our services, which resulted in significant increases in community support and activity, we remain committed to reaching more of those who need our support. Our population in Edinburgh and East Lothian continues to rise, and coupled with an ageing population, our services will be required more than ever in coming years. Once again, a volatile financial landscape and a projected annual deficit budget required fundamental decisions about how to resource our services. We continue to campaign for sustainable and consistent statutory funding of hospice services through a national funding framework. In the meantime, we have secured a funding contract with NHS Lothian for 5 years, providing more financial stability for the immediate future and a commitment from Scottish Government for recurrent additional funding towards pay awards.

Over the last year, we continued to hold culture workshops with our team, ensuring their voices were heard and valued, and that hospice values are reflected in the day-to-day experience of our workforce. We have evaluated and further developed our 'shared leadership' model through establishing our strategic priority groups. The main aim being to provide a fresh perspective in leadership by merging teams and bringing leaders together with a common purpose, in line with the Hospice strategy. This has improved communication, enhanced integrated working and will help to develop future leaders. A key outcome of this work has been the creation of two new roles; Head of Nursing and Head of Patient and Family Services. These roles are pivotal in providing leadership and support in embedding the new models of care.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

Embracing technology as a communication tool over recent years has resulted in a model of hybrid working for staff and provided a greater choice and flexibility for those who use our services. This year, we have implemented an integrated HR, payroll and rota system enhancing efficiency of staff management, reducing potential payroll errors and improving staff experience through a simple accessible app.

Over the past 12 months we have reduced our carbon footprint by 6% through a number of measures including installing a significant amount of solar panels and upgrading our Combined Heat and Power Unit ensuring maximum efficiency of the electricity and gas used to power our heat and water. Our overall gas, electricity and water use has also reduced.



Data covers the period from July 2022 to March 2025

We have continued to face significant financial challenges with a difficult environment for income generation, costs escalating due to matching the exceptionally high salary increase for NHS staff, the cost of living and energy crisis and volatile investment markets. The Hospice was budgeting for a deficit as part of its strategy to use reserves to maximise services. Although in practice, we returned an increase in voluntary income (including events) of 18% over the last 2 years, salary increases over the same period have increased total expenditure by 23%. To address this the Hospice has explored social enterprise opportunities, with the opening of our first hair and nail salon, with plans to expand this model of income generation over the next 3 years. In addition, the expansion of our retail charity shops has demonstrated significant income generation opportunities for the future.

We have supported 1,217 people over the past 12 months across our core clinical services (2023/24: 1,235). In addition, a further 345 people have received support through our therapeutic wellbeing service, taking our overall reach to 1,562 people.

The first point of contact is the Access team who triage and respond to all referrals received and proactively support people and their care providers during their transition into our care by ensuring they

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

have access to specialist symptom advice and support with their wellbeing needs. Due to staff changes we have taken the opportunity to review and redesign the support model moving the specialist symptom support and advice to the Hospice at Home team, leaving the Access Team to focus on efficient triaging of referrals. The Access Team costs are allocated as direct costs across the clinical charitable activities of Inpatient Care, Hospice at Home and Patient and Family Support Services.

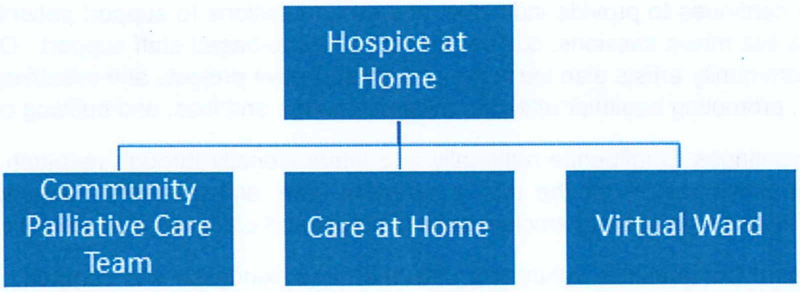
Inpatient Care

We provide a 15-bed inpatient model of care with a mixture of single and shared rooms on one floor (Cedar Ward). In 2024/25, there were 294 admissions to the inpatient unit. This is a similar number of admissions compared to the previous year (2023/24: 283). The average occupancy in 2024/25 was 74% (2023/24: 73%).

Our patient transport vehicle continues to support the admission and discharge of patients: 72 admissions from hospital (2023/24: 60), 58 admissions from home (2023/24: 41) and 23 discharges to home or other care settings (2023/24: 22).

Hospice at Home

All our community services now work collaboratively under the service title of 'Hospice at Home'.



In 2024/25 Hospice at Home supported 373 people at the end of their lives to remain in their own homes or homely setting when they died (2023/24: 395). In addition, they supported a further 178 people at home until they died in an acute hospital (2023/24: 91) and 57 people who died in a community hospital setting (2023/24: 41).

Our Community Palliative Care Team consists of two multi-professional teams covering the North of Edinburgh. The number of individual people who the team supported was 943, an 8% difference on last year (2023/24: 870).

Our Virtual Ward team have also supported 156 people over the 12 months (2023/24: 160). Many of these people will, however, have been supported by both teams over their period of care. This model of care has since been replicated by Marie Curie ensuring access to this level of care across Lothian.

Our Care at Home team supported 206 people in Edinburgh (2023/24: 200) with 2,568 visits and 88 people in East Lothian (2023/24: 80) with 2,443 visits. The difference between the number of people supported and number of visits in both locations can be explained through the rural nature of East Lothian and the reduced local availability of other services to support.

Patient and Family Support Services

Our Counselling and Bereavement services continue to offer a blended model of virtual and face to face support, ensuring choice for those who access their service as well as maximising accessibility and

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

efficiency of service delivery. In 2024/25, the team have received 298 adult referrals (2023/24: 252) and provided a total of 1,540 individual sessions (2023/24: 1,239) and a further 268 group attendances (2023/24: 214). Combined activity is 1,808 which is a 25% increase in activity.

Our Children and Families team received a similar number of referrals this year (2024/25: 170; 2023/24: 175) however there was a decrease of 20% in the number of sessions provided (2024/25: 813; 2023/24: 1,035). This is due to the induction and support of a new staff member. In addition, the team have facilitated two bereavement groups with 21 attendances (13 children/young people, 8 adults) and facilitated two Family days with 12 adults and 19 children attending across these. The team continue to influence across Lothian and nationally through schools' projects, collaborations with other hospices, professional education and networking at local and national level including participating in public education events which reached 256 people in schools and other settings.

The Wellbeing Service was launched in 2022, and in 2024 an evaluation was carried out. This evidenced that most engagement comes from social groups. Following the review all specialist clinical wellbeing activities have now been embedded into our rehabilitation team and our social wellbeing activities sit under Compassionate Communities.

In 2024/25, 339 people benefited from complementary therapy sessions (2023/24: 293) an increase of 15.7%.

Our arts service continues to provide individual and group sessions to support patients, families and carers as well as live music sessions, cultural events, and arts-based staff support. Our team of arts therapists and community artists also leads several collaborative projects and initiatives to support the local community, promoting healthier attitudes towards change and loss, and building caring capacity.

The team also continues to influence nationally and internationally through research and education events (the annual symposium for the arts in palliative care, and quarterly international talks) and dissemination of knowledge (journal articles, book chapters and conference presentations).

Our Compassionate Communities volunteers offer their time, kindness and company to local people who may be socially isolated, lonely or have a life limiting condition. They recently introduced a specific model of support through gardening which was recognised nationally, with one volunteer being awarded the Hospice UK National Gardens Scheme Award for his work. Over the last 12 months, our team has supported 3,309 one to one interactions with people in our community; an increase of 21% since last year (2023/24: 2,739).

Education, Research and Learning

As a University Hospice, we continue to work in partnership with Queen Margaret University as well as other higher education institutions such as University of Edinburgh and Napier University. In addition, we have supported students from Edinburgh College through their complementary therapy courses. We have applied for numerous collaborative research grants. We have continued to publish articles in refereed journals and book chapters across nursing, medicine, social work and the arts in palliative care thereby influencing practice in a national and international context.

Our practice development team has introduced an innovative learning framework to enhance and promote organisational-wide learning. Their work is closely inter-linked with the education and research team, developing an outward facing programme, including hosting international educational visits and knowledge exchange activities. Over the past 12 months we have supported visits from leaders in hospice and palliative care provision sharing experiences and innovations including from Norway, Greece, Czech Republic, Poland and across the UK.

ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

At the centre of our new strategy '*The Strength behind our Stories*' is a commitment to reach more of those who need our support. To achieve this, we have set three strategic priorities:

- to work in partnership to meet the needs of our community
- to support and continue to grow an exceptional and committed team
- to develop a sustainable business model.

The strategic priorities will guide us to 2027, marking 50 years of St Columba's Hospice Care, ensuring this care is sustainable and accessible to all. Through identifying who our local communities are, who is accessing services and more importantly, who isn't, we will target our energies on reaching marginalised groups.

Understanding the impact our services have on the people we support is fundamental to our success. Through the development of a bespoke evaluation framework, with patient stories at its heart, we aim to articulate the positive impact we have as well as areas for learning and development. In addition, the stories will help articulate what hospice care is to the wider population. To support this, we will be launching a leadership framework supported by bespoke training for new managers and leaders across the organisation.

We will continue to campaign for sustainable funding for hospices nationally in the context of a volatile political landscape. This includes a changing political leadership in both Scotland and the UK. This year there will also be the launch of a new national palliative care strategy, a proposed 'Right to Palliative Care' bill and a second stage debate on the Assisted Dying Bill.

We plan to expand our retail income through opening a second-hand furniture warehouse in Edinburgh with further expansion to our East Lothian warehouse hub in the future. We are opening our first café bookshop in North Berwick harnessing the goodwill of the local community through volunteer support. We will also be expanding our social enterprise model through opening a wellbeing centre 'Manor House Therapies' in our adjacent building No17, offering massage, relaxation, beauty therapies and counselling.

In partnership with the Scottish Hospices, we have recruited a national fundraiser role who will lead on securing national corporate support, bringing in income previously unavailable to small independent hospices.

Over the past 12 months we have introduced greater cyber security as well as single point sign-on to ease access for staff. Our marketing and communications activity will continue to evolve and develop considering new channels and preferences. Harnessing digital technology will widen access to our services, while aiding efficiency and effectiveness in how we work. We plan to develop our digital strategy further led by a new digital lead post.

We plan to enhance the HR system by the introduction of an online recruitment module. This will release staff time as well as streamlining the whole recruitment experience for new staff.

We continue to work alongside our NHS Lothian colleagues through innovative partnerships including with the NHS Data Analytics team for our clinical reporting and through a secondment of a dietician to support our teams through a program of education and policy development activities.

We have seconded our senior social worker into a two-year project to raise awareness, skills and confidence in future care planning both within the Hospice team and in our wider community.

Over the next 12 months we plan to scope the potential for introducing a small number of 'nurse led' inpatient beds as part of our models of care. This is an exciting opportunity to widen our service offer, maximise the use of our inpatient beds and to provide development opportunities for our inpatient team.

ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (cont'd)

Working directly with our communities we plan to develop and implement a suite of public health materials to support locally based conversations about death, dying and bereavement. This will hopefully contribute to a society that views death as a normal part of life.

We will continue to work in partnership with our health and social care colleagues across Lothian and nationally to share expertise and resources, providing person centred support. In particular, we will embrace research and educational opportunities with Queen Margaret University and the University of Edinburgh. We have committed to involvement in two international research studies specifically relating to the impact of cancer on the individual towards the end of life. The opportunity to share learning and knowledge to the wider professional world will be embraced through our coordination and contributions at conferences and within publications.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Governors, who are all non-executive directors of St Columba's Hospice Care, are responsible for ensuring that the Hospice continues to provide care of a high quality at a reasonable cost and free at the point of delivery, that it complies with all relevant legislation and that the assets of the Hospice are well managed and wholly applied to the pursuit of the Hospice's charitable objectives.

Board of Governors

David Dunsire remains appointed as Chair of the Board with Nick Lanzl as Vice-Chair and Lynsey Kerr as Honorary Secretary.

Grant Macrae, Linda Selman and Audrey Cowie retired after many years on the Board. The Board would like to thank them for all their years of invaluable service to the Hospice and wish them luck for all their pursuits in the future. The Board are delighted that Charles Robertson and Jacqueline Macrae were appointed to the Board during 2024/25 and Alan Thomlinson and Eric Mackay in May 2025.

Governor Induction and Training

The recruitment of Hospice Governors (subject to a maximum of 20) is solely the responsibility of the Board of Governors itself. The Governors' policy is to seek to include on the Board senior representatives of the major professional areas involved in the work of the Hospice (including medicine, nursing and education), together with representatives of the local community and relevant areas of legal, financial and business expertise.

An induction programme on the work of the Hospice is provided to new Governors, together with general information on the role and responsibilities of charitable trustees (including the Scottish legislative framework). New Governors are invited to meet with each of the senior managers within the Hospice to explore in more depth their areas of work and the strategic objectives they are working towards. Personal support, assistance and encouragement to each newly appointed Governor is provided by a more experienced Governor, on a one-to-one basis, during the first twelve months in office by way of a Governor mentoring scheme. Several team engagement events are now offered to all Governors to facilitate a deeper understanding of how the Hospice works.

Annually, the Governors receive training and updates on charity law, governance and any other related topic. In addition, at each board meeting there is a spotlight presentation on a Hospice service by the team lead. This enhances the engagement of the Board with the teams on the ground.

Management

The Board appoints a Chief Executive to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority from the Board for all operational

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (cont'd)

matters including finance, employment and clinical activity within terms of delegation approved by the Governors. The Chief Executive is supported in her operational role by a Senior Leadership Committee consisting of the Deputy CEO, Medical Director, Director of Income Generation, Director of Finance, Director of Education, Research and Creative Arts and Director of Operations. The Senior Leadership Committee provide reports to the five meetings of the Board of Governors each year. In addition, there are Audit and Risk, Education and Research, Investment, Remuneration and Nomination Committees and the Trading Board which meet throughout the year. In addition, the Board has established a new committee, Clinical Governance. This committee is chaired by a Board member with support from other Board members and the Hospice senior leadership team. The Board also holds two strategy events per year to review the current strategic plan and focus on the priorities for the future.

The Advisory Group for Income Growth, established in 2023, continues to discuss, develop and steer a strategy that will increase income for St Columba's Hospice Care. The group considers growth potential across all key areas of Hospice income, which includes voluntary income, shops, trading income, statutory funding and business development.

Remuneration

All Governors give their time freely and no Governor received remuneration in the year. One Governor received reimbursement of £99 of expenses in 2023/24 however there were no claims in 2024/25. The Honorary Secretary was on sabbatical until March 2025. In her absence, her duties were being covered by other members of the team at Lindsays LLP.

The recent financial crisis has impacted on our workforce however the decision to mirror the NHS pay rates as of April 2024 has sustained staff recruitment and should assure retention potential going forward.

The Hospice has committed to paying staff at least the Living Wage as set annually by the UK Living Wage Foundation. The Living Wage rate is endorsed by The Scottish Poverty Alliance, an initiative founded by The Scottish Government, working in partnership with the UK Living Wage Foundation.

All staff are currently paid under the Hospice pay scales except for the Senior Leadership Committee and one other manager who have 'spot' salaries, and whose remuneration is reviewed and determined by the Remuneration and Nominations Committee on an annual basis. The Medical Director's remuneration is linked to the equivalent NHS Scotland pay band for equivalent posts in the health service. The Remuneration and Nominations Committee considers the pay of senior staff annually. In view of the nature of the charity, the Governors benchmark against comparable salary information from other similar-sized hospices, private industry and the public sector.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
Full-time	92	89
Part-time	162	150
	254	239
Full-time equivalent	198	189

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (cont'd)

Risk management

In the exercise of their responsibilities the Governors place a high degree of importance on the Hospice's system of internal control. The Hospice's Risk Management Strategy involves the identification of the major risks to which the Hospice is exposed and the procedures to be followed in controlling and monitoring these risks.

A risk management review process is in place to identify major risks and to review the systems to minimise these risks. The Audit and Risk Committee, consisting of several Hospice Governors and senior leaders, monitors the risk management process and reports its findings to the Board of Governors. The risk management process is designed to enable the Board of Governors to conclude whether the major risks to which the Hospice is exposed have been identified and reviewed, and systems established to mitigate these risks.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINITIES

Risk	Mitigation
Impact of inflation and energy price increases on costs	Payroll is the Hospice's largest cost representing more than 78% of costs. The Hospice has matched the NHS pay rates from April 2024, to recruit and retain staff but this has also added significantly to expenditure going forward. The rising cost of utilities, goods and services has also impacted on the Hospice expenditure. The Hospice is carefully budgeting and developing new income streams in order to continue the expenditure required to provide the current level of services. Additional funding is being discussed with NHS Lothian and the Scottish Government, and the Board has established a new Advisory Group on Income Growth.
The Hospice's ability to achieve a break-even position	While NHS Lothian has increased their contribution to the running costs of the Hospice, the gap between statutory funding and expenditure continues to grow. We are working in partnership with hospices across Scotland and the Scottish Government to develop a sustainable statutory funding framework to support our charitable activities. While there remains a real inability to achieve an operating break-even position at the moment, there are sufficient reserves to maintain the current level of service provision for 2-3 years without impact. Without additional income over the next few years there will be necessary reduction in services which would have a major impact on our community.
Reduction in investment income and capital losses in the investment portfolio	Investment markets can be volatile and therefore this risk remains high on the risk register. The investment portfolio is invested globally for the long term. The investment fund has seen significant gains and losses in the past few years. The charity reserves are retained to cover such periods of loss and will continue to be maintained at sufficient levels to ensure charitable activities can continue with confidence despite periods when investment markets fall.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income

During the financial year ended 31 March 2025, the total income of the group was £12.08m. This represents an increase of £2.39m or 24.7% compared with the previous year (2023/24: £9.69m) largely driven by a £1.90m (44.8%) rise in voluntary income and a £0.49m (30.7%) rise in trading income. Voluntary income has two main components: donations and legacies. Donations have increased by 16.5% to £1.48m (2023/24: £1.27m) whilst legacy income has increased by 56.7% to £4.67m (2023/24: £2.98m). Legacy income has averaged £2.50m over the last 15 years so this year is exceptionally high but it also shows how much volatility is associated with this source of income. Other trading activity income increased by £0.49m to £2.09m (2023/24: £1.60m). Of this, charity shops and Iona Cafe income increased by £0.24m, income from fundraising events by £0.10m and the remainder was due to a one-off medical staff secondment.

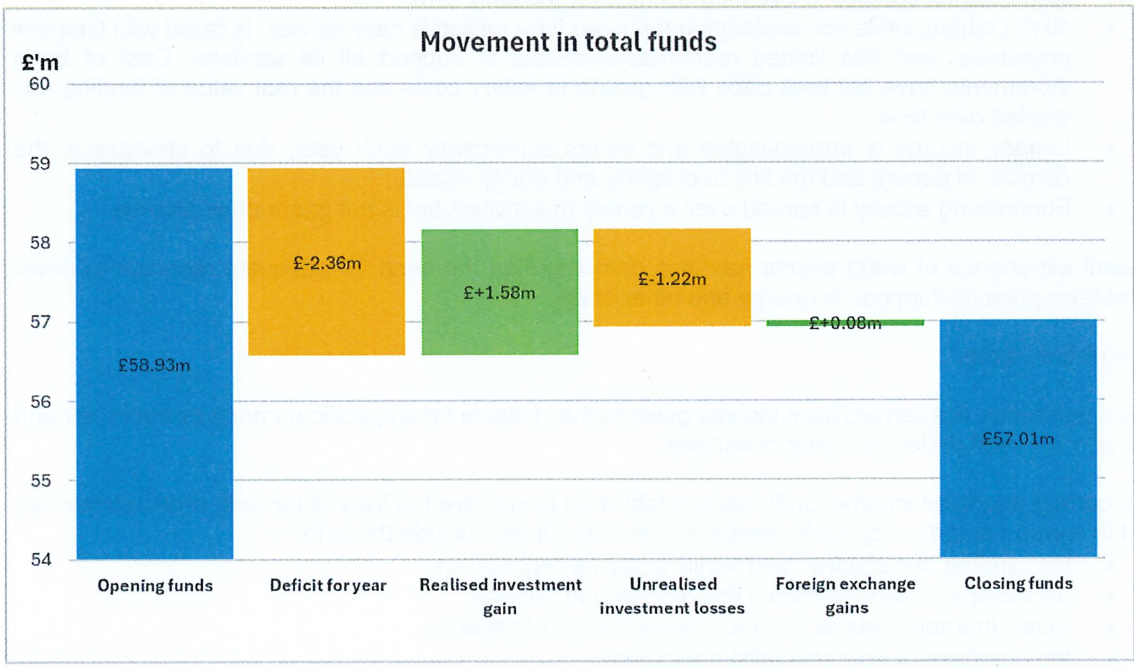
The funding from NHS Lothian has remained static this year at £2.72m (2023/24: £2.72m) despite a 5.5% pay rise which mirrored that given under the NHS Agenda for Change. In real terms NHS funding has not matched increased costs for many years.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was £14.44m representing an increase of 11.9% or £1.53m compared to the previous year (2023/24: £12.91m). Staff costs were higher than expected due to a combination of the 5.5% pay increment which added £0.55m, new roles within income generation activities and the filling of existing vacancies which had lowered costs by £0.71m in the prior year. Other expenditure was largely in line with cost increases and planned service development around new trading activities.

Net Movement in Funds

The net movement of funds, after taking account of movements on investment values, was a deficit of £1.92m (2023/24: surplus of £0.59m). The investment gains for the year are £0.36m compared with £3.64m in the previous year. Investment gains and losses are stated as a combination of realised and unrealised movements. In addition, foreign exchanges gains of £0.1m also increased the funds in the current year.



FINANCIAL REVIEW (cont'd)

The net expenditure, before losses or gains on investments, of £2.36m (2023/24: £3.22m) gives the operational deficit on day-to-day activities. This deficit was budgeted for as part of the current strategy to fund the deficit from reserves (as outlined below in the Hospice Reserves policy). The final outturn was better than expected, however, due to the exceptional levels of legacy income recognised in the year.

RESERVES AND RESERVES POLICY

Total group funds have decreased by £1.92m and at the year-end stood at £57.0m (2024: £58.9m) comprising: ten restricted funds; four designated funds; and one general reserve.

St Columba's Hospice Care plans to continue to provide a palliative care service for patients in the Edinburgh and Lothian area. The requirement for this service has been reaffirmed by Lothian Health Board.

The previous strategy involved the expansion of services into the community and as a result the Hospice made the deliberate decision to operate with a deficit budget and to use accumulated reserves to fund this expansion in the short term. In the last three years, the operational deficit has been further compounded by the effects of high inflation and associated pay increases. Current forecasting indicates that this is likely to continue over the period of the current strategy from 2024-2027. This will have the effect of reducing the current level of reserves but will be partly mitigated by plans to develop additional ongoing income streams to support the delivery of core services into the future. Higher than anticipated legacies have produced a smaller deficit than budgeted in the current year however investment gains have been lower than predicted due to market volatility. Excluding investment gains the operational deficit was £2.36m.

Given this, the Governors consider it prudent to have a sufficient level of reserves going forward to ensure the medium and long term strategic objectives of the organisation can be met. Certain income streams are subject to elevated levels of uncertainty and are difficult to forecast:

- Investment gains and losses can vary significantly in a specific year as a result of volatility in stock market conditions even if growing over the long term.
- NHS Lothian, while acknowledging the need for a palliative care service, is faced with financial pressures, and has limited resources available to support all its services. Cost of living increments have not kept pace with growth in salary costs and the real value of funding has eroded over time.
- Legacy income is unpredictable and varies significantly each year, due to changes in the number of donors and the link to property and equity values.
- Fundraising activity is spread over a variety of activities but is not guaranteed income.

Recent experience of world events has also demonstrated the need for adequate reserves to cover short term price fluctuations in energy and other costs.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are derived from income given to the Hospice for a specific purpose by the donor and can only be used under particular conditions.

The current restricted income funds were established to improve the lives of patients and their families and to support and develop staff members. Restricted funds include those for: -

- the running of a children and family bereavement service;
- art therapy posts to enhance the wellbeing of patients;
- music therapy posts to enhance the wellbeing of patients;
- the purchase of new specialist equipment;
- the development of the Hospice at Home service;

RESERVES AND RESERVES POLICY (cont'd)

- the provision of nurse training and development;
- the provision of training and development of all staff;
- the purchase and running of a patient transport vehicle;
- funding of non-clinical community projects including gardening;
- staff wellbeing.

There were £164k of new donations to the existing funds and two of the funds have now been fully spent such that there are eight funds to carry forward to next year.

Designated Funds

Designated funds are those unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the Governors for an essential spend or future purpose. The designated Fixed Asset Fund, which represents the carrying value of the Hospice buildings and other fixed assets, now stands at £11.9m (2024: £11.9m).

The designated Investment Income and Growth Fund £35.1m (2024: £36.2m) represents the value of the investment portfolio. The fund, designated by the Governors, is held in investments in order to retain its real value through capital growth and to generate income and gains to fund services each year. This is a key part of the Hospice funding model. The Governors review the value of the Investment Income and Growth Fund regularly, in light of circumstances, to balance investing in services and maintaining security of operations. It should be noted that the fund includes £3.8m (2024: £5.0m) of unrealised investment gains and the value of this fund will fluctuate considerably depending on the performance of the investment portfolio. In 2024/25, the fund has reduced as a result of cash withdrawals to fund services although this has been partially offset by investment gains during the year.

There are three other designated funds which were created by the Board in previous years.

- Expansion of Hospice at Home.
- Expansion of Patient & Family support services.
- Arts Strategy.

The first two funds were created by the Board in order to expand Community and Family support services to meet the increasing needs in Edinburgh and to expand the Care at Home service in East Lothian. These funds are being used to fund additional posts in existing services in Edinburgh and to create new posts in East Lothian. The Arts Strategy fund has facilitated the recruitment of core staff to lead an in-house arts programme including art, writing, music, and complementary therapy. This fund was exhausted during the year 2023/24.

Unrestricted funds

The general unrestricted fund £9.6m (2024: £9.8m) represents the 'free reserves' of the group and is held in the form of cash deposits and a cash portfolio of short-term investments. The 'free reserves' will be used to provide support for any deficit in short term funding of the Hospice.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The investments of the Hospice comprise an investment portfolio and a cash portfolio. The aim of the investment portfolio is to maintain its real value and provide funds to support the Hospice, through achieving a blend of capital and income growth. The cash portfolio provides further cashflow to fund services as the value and timing of legacy, fundraising and contract income can vary each month.

INVESTMENT POLICY (cont'd)

The Hospice has no material investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions. The main risk to the Hospice from financial instruments is from investing in markets and for the potential of capital values to fall. The Hospice recognises this risk and, taking a long-term view, can tolerate periods of weakness. The Hospice manages these, and other such investment risks, by retaining professional advisors and operating an investment policy that provides for a high degree of diversification across investment asset classes that are quoted on recognised stock exchanges.

The investment portfolio is managed by Sarasin & Partners (Sarasin) whose objectives during the reporting period were to provide a total return in excess of the Consumer Price Index +4.5% over a rolling five-year period and to maintain the 'real' value of the Hospice's investment portfolio after allowing for the contribution to the Hospice's expenditure. The portfolio is managed on a total return basis to maximise the investment returns to the Hospice. Cash disbursements based on 3% of the average value of the portfolio over the past 5 years are paid monthly to the Hospice to fund services as the investment income is reinvested. The investment managers have significant expertise in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investing and aim to select investments which are likely to have a positive long term impact on society and the environment which hopefully will generate positive returns. All portfolio investments are given an ESG score. Sarasin engage with investors, seek change in company behaviour and actively participate in public policy debate to shape the investment landscape.

The investment portfolio is managed as a segregated portfolio with an agreed investable range of 60% - 85% in Equities, 5% - 25% in Fixed Interest, 0% - 10% in Commercial Property, 0% - 10% in Alternatives and 0 - 10% in Cash. Additionally, there are to be no direct investments in companies whose main business is to produce or manufacture tobacco.

The cash portfolio consists of Royal Bank of Scotland fixed term deposits and a portfolio managed by Royal London Asset Management Ltd. The Royal London Asset Management Ltd cash is divided between 3 funds, namely, Short Term Money Market; Cash Plus Fund and Enhanced Cash Plus Fund. The Short Term Money Market holds cash, money market instruments, short dated government securities and covered bonds with average maturity dates of 2-3 months. The Cash Plus Fund is similar but has longer average maturity dates of 3-4 months. The Enhanced Cash Plus fund also includes corporate bonds and has longer maturity dates averaging 8 months. At the end of March 2025, £3.75m was also held on fixed term deposit with Royal Bank of Scotland to provide funding for 2025/26.

Investment Value

The value of the Hospice investments as at 31st March 2025 was £41.8m (2024: £44.0m), being split £35.1m (2024: £36.2m) in the investment portfolio and £6.6m (2024: £7.8m) in the cash portfolio.

Investment Performance

For the year to 31st March 2025, the performance of the investment portfolio was +2.7% (2023/24: +13.4%) in comparison to the market benchmark +4.8% (2023/24: +17.5%). Over the longer term, the portfolio has achieved a five-year annualised return of +8.6% (2023/24: +6.9%) which is below the target return of +10.0% (CPI+4.5%) (2023/24: +9.1%) and the benchmark return of +11.8% (2023/24: +9.6%) but above the Charity Peer Group Index return of +7.3% (2023/24: + 5.0%). Performance data for portfolio return and Charity Peer group Index return are quoted net of costs.

The majority of the year saw strong growth with investment gains sitting at £1.8m at the end of December. Much of this was driven by the strength of US technology stocks which dominated the market. Performance in Q4, was -3.4%, impacted by a fall in investor confidence over US policies and trade tariffs and a mixed economic outlook which could mean higher inflation and lower growth. By the end of March investment gains had fallen to £0.4m.

This volatility highlights the need for investment gains and losses to be excluded from day-to-day budgeting. It also shows the importance of following a long-term investment strategy, backed up by

INVESTMENT POLICY (cont'd)

maintaining sufficient cash reserves to cover any cash requirements in the short term such that cash need not be realised when investments have fallen.

For the twelve months to 31st March 2025, the income earned on the investment and cash portfolios was £1.13m (2023/24: £1.13m) with £0.75m (2023/24: £0.79m) generated by the investment portfolio.

In the current year, the cash portfolio held in the Royal London short term investments made a £24k unrealised loss (2023/24: £26k gain); and generated £189k of income (2023/24: £158k). The Royal London investments are split into 3 funds, each with the objective of achieving a total return over a rolling 12-month period and outperforming the Bank of England Sterling Overnight Interbank Average (SONIA). This objective was achieved for all 3 funds during the 12-month period. The fixed term deposits with Royal Bank of Scotland have earned interest at between 3.31%- 4.62% during the year.

The Investment Committee of the Hospice meets with the investment managers at least twice a year to discuss performance and investment requirements. With markets being so volatile, there has been increased dialogue and analysis with the managers. As part of good governance, an external review of the investment managers was carried out in 2023/24 and the Investment Committee agreed to remain with Sarasin whilst keeping performance under close review.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of St Columba's Hospice Care for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report (incorporating the Strategic Report) and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the Governors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and of the results of the group for that period. In preparing these accounts, the Governors are required to:

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

The Governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the group and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITOR

After a competitive tendering process, Saffery LLP were appointed as auditor at the 2024 Annual General Meeting for a 3 year period. Saffery have expressed their willingness to remain as auditor and will therefore be proposed for reappointment at the Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with 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), Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

THE GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT) HAS BEEN APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Mr D N Dunsire, WS
Chair
Dated: 19th August 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND THE GOVERNORS OF ST COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Columba's Hospice Care (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the charity statement of financial activities, the consolidated and charity balance sheets, the consolidated and charity statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 affairs of the group and the parent charitable company as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's 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, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group or the parent 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. 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.

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' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report and Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper and adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 16, 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 the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent 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

We have been appointed as auditors under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the group and parent 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 specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are detailed below.

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:
We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company by discussions with trustees and updating our understanding of the sectors in which the group and parent charitable company operate.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company include The Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and guidance issued by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Audit response to risks identified:
We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the parent charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the parent charitable company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 parent charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the parent charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the parent charitable company's members and 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 parent charitable company, the parent charitable company's members and trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

....

Kenneth McDowell
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Statutory Auditors

Level 4, 9 Haymarket Square
Edinburgh
EH3 8RY

Date: 21 August 2025

Saffery LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	163,716	5,984,308	6,148,024	129,213	4,115,828	4,245,041
Other trading activities	3	-	2,087,897	2,087,897	-	1,597,149	1,597,149
Income from charitable activities							
NHS Lothian		-	2,715,702	2,715,702	-	2,715,702	2,715,702
Education and research		-	1,905	1,905	-	2,175	2,175
Investment income	4	-	1,127,964	1,127,964	-	1,127,502	1,127,502
Total income		163,716	11,917,776	12,081,492	129,213	9,558,356	9,687,569
Expenditure on:							
Costs of raising funds							
Raising funds		-	2,626,775	2,626,775	363	2,077,773	2,078,136
Investment management costs		-	185,137	185,137	-	174,777	174,777
Cost of charitable activities							
Inpatient Care		850	5,254,601	5,255,451	35,138	4,859,548	4,894,686
Hospice at Home		87,395	4,197,444	4,284,839	32,981	3,751,448	3,784,429
Patient & Family Support Services		80,701	1,358,800	1,439,501	146,460	1,261,159	1,407,619
Education, Research & Learning		-	648,099	648,099	6,967	563,241	570,208
Total expenditure	5	168,946	14,270,856	14,439,802	221,909	12,687,946	12,909,855
Net expenditure before gains on investments		(5,230)	(2,353,080)	(2,358,310)	(92,696)	(3,129,590)	(3,222,286)
Net gains on investments		-	360,743	360,743	-	3,644,493	3,644,493
Net (expenditure)/income		(5,230)	(1,992,337)	(1,997,567)	(92,696)	514,903	422,207
Other recognised gains/(losses):							
Foreign exchange gains		-	76,432	76,432	-	170,792	170,792
Net movement in funds		(5,230)	(1,915,905)	(1,921,135)	(92,696)	685,695	592,999
Total funds brought forward		112,771	58,820,667	58,933,438	205,467	58,134,972	58,340,439
Total funds carried forward	14 & 15	107,541	56,904,762	57,012,303	112,771	58,820,667	58,933,438

All incoming revenues and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 25 to 42 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	2025 Total	2024 Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	2024 Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	163,716	5,984,308	6,148,024	129,213	4,115,828	4,245,041
Other trading activities	3	-	1,815,208	1,815,208	-	1,276,541	1,276,541
Income from charitable activities							
NHS Lothian		-	2,715,702	2,715,702	-	2,715,702	2,715,702
Education and research		-	1,905	1,905	-	2,175	2,175
Investment income	4	-	1,127,536	1,127,536	-	1,127,135	1,127,135
Total income		163,716	11,644,659	11,808,375	129,213	9,237,381	9,366,594
Expenditure on:							
Costs of raising funds							
Raising funds		-	2,349,971	2,349,971	363	1,791,439	1,791,802
Investment management costs		-	185,137	185,137	-	174,777	174,777
Cost of charitable activities							
Inpatient Care		850	5,254,601	5,255,451	35,138	4,859,548	4,894,686
Hospice at Home		87,395	4,197,444	4,284,839	32,981	3,751,448	3,784,429
Patient & Family Support Services		80,701	1,358,800	1,439,501	146,460	1,261,159	1,407,619
Education, Research & Learning		-	648,099	648,099	6,967	563,241	570,208
Total expenditure	5	168,946	13,994,052	14,162,998	221,909	12,401,612	12,623,521
Net expenditure before gains on investments		(5,230)	(2,349,393)	(2,354,623)	(92,696)	(3,164,231)	(3,256,927)
Net gains on investments		-	360,743	360,743	-	3,644,493	3,644,493
Net (expenditure)/income		(5,230)	(1,988,650)	(1,993,880)	(92,696)	480,262	387,566
Other recognised (losses)/gains:							
Foreign exchange gains		-	76,432	76,432	-	170,792	170,792
Net movement in funds		(5,230)	(1,912,218)	(1,917,448)	(92,696)	651,054	558,358
Total funds brought forward		112,771	58,726,459	58,839,230	205,467	58,075,405	58,280,872
Total funds carried forward	14 & 15	107,541	56,814,241	56,921,782	112,771	58,726,459	58,839,230

All incoming revenues and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 25 to 42 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY BALANCE SHEETS

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	**Group 2025 £**	Group 2024 £	**Charity 2025 £**	Charity 2024 £
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible Assets	8	11,866,517	11,928,255	11,846,582	11,928,255
Investments	9	41,774,631	43,961,399	41,784,731	43,971,499
		53,641,148	55,889,654	53,631,313	55,899,754
Current Assets:					
Stocks		66,455	35,337	-	-
Debtors	10	2,493,110	2,675,925	2,526,985	2,693,523
Cash at Bank and in Hand	11	1,622,471	1,034,282	1,517,621	889,121
		4,182,036	3,745,544	4,044,606	3,582,644
Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(810,881)	(701,760)	(754,137)	(643,168)
Net Current Assets		3,371,155	3,043,784	3,290,469	2,939,476
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		57,012,303	58,933,438	56,921,782	58,839,230
Total Net Assets		57,012,303	58,933,438	56,921,782	58,839,230
The Funds of the Charity:					
Restricted Funds:	14				
Income		107,541	112,771	107,541	112,771
Unrestricted Funds:	15				
Designated		47,269,898	49,020,772	47,249,963	49,020,772
General		9,634,864	9,799,895	9,564,278	9,705,687
		57,012,303	58,933,438	56,921,782	58,839,230

Approved by the Board of Governors and signed on its behalf by:

Governor – Mr D N Dunsire

Governor – Mrs C G Flockhart Carol Flockhart

Date : 19 August 2025

Company number SC048700

The notes on pages 25 to 42 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(2,307,213)	(4,751,782)	(2,287,644)	(4,792,803)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		1,127,964	1,127,502	1,127,536	1,127,135
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(856,505)	(85,415)	(835,335)	(85,415)
Proceeds from sale of investments		20,494,120	24,787,773	20,494,120	24,787,773
Purchase of investments		(18,752,038)	(20,275,406)	(18,752,038)	(20,275,406)
Net cash provided by investing activities		2,013,541	5,554,454	2,034,283	5,554,087
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(293,672)	802,672	(253,361)	761,284
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		76,432	170,792	76,432	170,792
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		9,591,721	8,618,257	9,446,560	8,514,484
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	11	9,374,481	9,591,721	9,269,631	9,446,560

The notes on pages 25 to 42 form part of these Accounts.

1. Accounting policies

General information

St. Columba's Hospice Care is a charitable company limited by guarantee and the contribution of members to the liability of the charitable company is restricted by the Memorandum and Articles of Association to a maximum of £1. The charitable company is registered in Scotland with registration number SC048700. The address of its registered office is Challenger Lodge, Boswall Road, Edinburgh, EH5 3RW.

The principal activity of the charitable company and the group in the year under review was the operation of a hospice as described in the Governors' Report.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (the Charities SORP), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006.

St. Columba's Hospice Care meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

These financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (GBP) as that is the currency in which the majority of the charity's and group's transactions are denominated.

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires trustees to exercise their judgements in the process of applying the accounting policies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual outcomes in the future could differ from such estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are the timing of the recognition of legacy income in accordance with the Charities SORP, and the estimate of the useful lives of fixed assets.

Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Governors have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The most significant area of uncertainty that affects the carrying value of assets held by the Hospice is the performance of investment markets (see the investments note for more information). The Governors are satisfied that investments are appropriately managed and that risks associated with investment markets have been mitigated to a reasonable extent, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of subsidiary undertakings are consolidated from the date of acquisition on a line by line basis.

1. Accounting policies (cont'd)

Recognition of Income
Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

In accordance with this policy, legacies are included on the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Hospice that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Voluntary contributions are recognised upon receipt and Health Board income is accounted for in line with the agreement.

Donated goods are measured at fair value except where it is impractical to measure reliably the fair value of donated items. Where it is impractical to measure the fair value of goods donated, the donated goods are recognised in income when they are sold.

Dividends and interest are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account in the year in which they are receivable.

Recognition and allocation of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise: the costs of commercial trading, including the activities of St. Columba's Hospice Trading Limited, and their associated support costs; costs of the fundraising department and associated support costs; the direct cost of holding events to raise funds; and investment management costs.

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of inpatient care, community services, patient and family support services and other educational, research and learning activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities account on an accruals basis. Certain expenditure is directly attributable to restricted and designated funds and has been included in those cost categories. Some costs are apportioned between funds as considered appropriate by the Governors. Otherwise costs are attributed to the general fund. Expenditure on the governance of the Hospice, including external audit, legal advice and an allocation of administrative salaries, is included in the governance costs category.

Operating lease rentals are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

1. Accounting policies (cont'd)

Fixed Assets and Depreciation
Individual items over £5,000 are capitalised as fixed assets.

Depreciation is provided on buildings at 4 per cent of the cost per annum, on furniture at 20 per cent of the cost per annum and equipment at either 10 or 20 per cent of the cost per annum depending on the type and useful economic life of equipment, on computer equipment at 33.3 per cent of the cost per annum and on motor vehicles at 25 per cent of the cost per annum. Depreciation on leasehold fixtures and fittings is provided at 25 per cent per annum or the period of the lease if less than 4 years. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the period of the lease. An impairment review is carried out when there is an indication that impairment has occurred.

Investments
All investments are carried at their fair value and are shown at the bid price. Investments in equities and fixed income securities are all traded in quoted public markets. Holdings in pooled unit trusts are displayed at the bid price. Asset purchases and sales are recognised at the date of trade at cost. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The Hospice permits the use of derivatives only for the use of Efficient Portfolio Management (EPM), namely for managing the non-sterling currency exposure, as well as writing Put options on a limited basis over part of the equity element, to try and limit downside risk. The use of index options will only occur when it is judicious to do so, namely that the cost of buying portfolio insurance is cheap, and the portfolio's exposure to equities is relatively high. The two main forms of financial risk to the Charity are shorter term capital volatility and the need for the Hospice to cover operational costs and not be a forced seller of more volatile assets at an inopportune moment, and over the longer term, inflation.

All gains and losses are taken to the statement of financial activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening carrying value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair values at the year end and their carrying value.

Inventories
Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to sell.

Debtors
Other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discount.

Creditors and Provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Hospice has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments
The Hospice 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.

Volunteers
The financial value of the participation of volunteers in the day-to-day running of the Hospice and in fundraising is not recognised.

Pensions

Payments to defined contribution pension schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds	-	these funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Governors
Designated funds	-	these funds are set aside by the Governors out of unrestricted general funds for a specific future purpose or purposes.
Restricted funds	-	these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The nature and purpose of each fund and a description of transfers between funds is explained in notes 14 and 15.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

2. Donations and Legacies

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Unrestricted				
Donations	1,315,643	1,137,907	1,315,643	1,137,907
Legacies	4,668,665	2,977,921	4,668,665	2,977,921
	5,984,308	4,115,828	5,984,308	4,115,828
Restricted				
Donations	163,716	129,213	163,716	129,213
	6,148,024	4,245,041	6,148,024	4,245,041

Included within donations are donations-in-kind amounting to £11,754 (2023/24: nil)

3. Other Trading Activities

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Fundraising events	284,113	187,630	284,113	187,630
Operation of shops (including Iona café)	1,160,044	921,106	1,160,044	921,106
St. Columba's Trading Limited	477,418	439,541	204,729	118,933
Other income	166,322	48,872	166,322	48,872
	2,087,897	1,597,149	1,815,208	1,276,541

4. Investment Income

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Unrestricted				
Listed Investments	749,302	792,584	749,302	792,584
Short Term Liquid Investments	348,154	309,544	348,154	309,544
Bank Interest	30,508	25,374	30,080	25,007
	1,127,964	1,127,502	1,127,536	1,127,135

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5. Total Expenditure

Total support costs for the year, and their allocation to the activity cost categories disclosed in the Statement of Financial Activities, are set out below. Support costs have been allocated in direct proportion to the staff costs incurred for each category, shown as the allocation percentages (Alloc. %).

Group 2025

		Management & Admin	Facilities & Property	Depreciation	Governance	Total Support Costs	Costs Directly Allocated	Total
Cost of Raising Funds:	**Alloc. %**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fundraising Costs	13%	152,412	252,304	124,436	14,180	543,332	2,083,443	2,626,775
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	185,137	185,137
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	39%	438,328	725,615	354,320	40,782	1,559,045	3,696,406	5,255,451
Hospice at Home	32%	367,795	608,853	297,305	34,220	1,308,173	2,976,666	4,284,839
Patient & Family Support Services	11%	122,786	203,261	99,253	11,424	436,724	1,002,777	1,439,501
Education, Research & Learning	5%	53,107	87,914	42,929	4,941	188,891	459,208	648,099
	100%	1,134,428	1,877,947	918,243	105,547	4,036,165	10,403,637	14,439,802

Group 2024

		Management & Admin	Facilities & Property	Depreciation	Governance	Total Support Costs	Costs Directly Allocated	Total
Cost of Raising Funds:	**Alloc. %**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fundraising Costs	12%	132,770	206,358	104,787	12,913	456,828	1,621,308	2,078,136
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	174,777	174,777
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	40%	454,135	705,838	358,421	44,167	1,562,561	3,332,125	4,894,686
Hospice at Home	32%	359,397	558,593	283,650	34,953	1,236,593	2,547,836	3,784,429
Patient & Family Support Services	12%	133,457	207,426	105,330	12,979	459,192	948,427	1,407,619
Education, Research & Learning	4%	51,215	79,601	40,421	4,981	176,218	393,990	570,208
	100%	1,130,974	1,757,816	892,609	109,993	3,891,392	9,018,463	12,909,855

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5. Total Expenditure (cont'd)

Charity 2025

Cost of Raising Funds:	Alloc. %	Management & Admin £	Facilities & Property £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Total Support Costs £	Costs Directly Allocated £	Total £
Fundraising Costs	13%	152,412	252,304	123,201	14,180	542,097	1,807,874	2,349,971
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	185,137	185,137
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	39%	438,328	725,615	354,320	40,782	1,559,045	3,696,406	5,255,451
Hospice at Home	32%	367,795	608,853	297,305	34,220	1,308,173	2,976,666	4,284,839
Patient & Family Support Services	11%	122,786	203,261	99,253	11,424	436,724	1,002,777	1,439,501
Education, Research & Learning	5%	53,107	87,914	42,929	4,941	188,891	459,208	648,099
	100%	1,134,428	1,877,947	917,008	105,547	4,034,930	10,128,068	14,162,998

Charity 2024

Cost of Raising Funds:	Alloc. %	Management & Admin £	Facilities & Property £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Total Support Costs £	Costs Directly Allocated £	Total £
Fundraising Costs	12%	132,770	206,358	104,787	12,913	456,828	1,334,974	1,791,802
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	174,777	174,777
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	40%	454,135	705,838	358,421	44,167	1,562,561	3,332,125	4,894,686
Hospice at Home	32%	359,397	558,593	283,650	34,953	1,236,593	2,547,836	3,784,429
Patient & Family Support Services	12%	133,457	207,426	105,330	12,979	459,192	948,427	1,407,619
Education, Research & Learning	4%	51,215	79,601	40,421	4,981	176,218	393,990	570,208
	100%	1,130,974	1,757,816	892,609	109,993	3,891,392	8,732,129	12,623,521

5(a). Governance costs

Group and Charity	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	76,046	69,930
Audit fees	24,200	23,100
Legal and professional fees	5,301	16,963
	105,547	109,993

6. Net expenditure

This is stated after charging:	Group 2025 £	2024 £	Charity 2025 £	2024 £
Auditor's remuneration:				
Audit fee with respect to audit of St Columba's Hospice Care consolidated and charity only accounts	19,950	19,635	19,950	19,635
Audit fee with respect to audits of subsidiary undertakings	4,250	3,465	-	-
VAT advisory and tax compliance services	1,950	965	800	-
Depreciation	918,243	892,609	917,008	892,609
Operating lease payments recognised as an expense	154,348	97,391	154,348	97,391

For the year ended 31 March 2025

7. Analysis of staff costs, Governor remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Group and Charity	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	8,435,707	7,489,281
Social security costs	863,853	751,275
Pension costs	1,304,255	1,138,230
	10,603,815	9,378,786

The average number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
Full-time	92	89
Part-time	162	150
	254	239
Full-time Equivalent	198	189

Nil remuneration (2023/24: £Nil) and nil expenses (2023/24: £99) were paid to the Governors.

The number of employees whose emoluments were above £60,000 for the year were:

	2025	2024
Between £60,000 and £69,999	5	2
Between £70,000 and £79,999	2	1
Between £80,000 and £89,999	2	3
Between £90,000 and £99,999	2	1
Between £110,000 and £119,999	1	1
Between £150,000 and £159,999	-	1
Between £160,000 and £169,999	1	-
	13	9

Pension costs for the above employees were £213,289 (2023/24: £138,325).

During the year, the key management personnel of the Hospice comprised the Governors and the Senior Leadership Committee, which includes the Chief Executive Officer, Medical Director, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Director of Finance, Director of Income Generation, Director of Operations and Director of Eduction, Research & Creative Arts. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Hospice were £830,373 (2023/24: £805,663).

For the year ended 31 March 2025

8. Tangible assets

Group	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Furniture & Equipment £	Leasehold Improvements £	Total £
Cost:					
At 1 April 2024	21,519,588	51,565	1,163,977	85,140	22,820,270
Additions	545,300	6,298	253,605	51,302	856,505
Disposals	-	-	(106,073)	-	(106,073)
At 31 March 2025	22,064,888	57,863	1,311,509	136,442	23,570,702
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2024	9,756,648	30,824	1,073,143	31,400	10,892,015
Amount provided in year	859,705	9,597	37,900	11,041	918,243
Disposals	-	-	(106,073)	-	(106,073)
At 31 March 2025	10,616,353	40,421	1,004,970	42,441	11,704,185
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2025	11,448,535	17,442	306,539	94,001	11,866,517
At 31 March 2024	11,762,940	20,741	90,834	53,740	11,928,255

Charity	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Furniture & Equipment £	Leasehold Improvements £	Total £
Cost:					
At 1 April 2024	21,519,588	51,565	1,163,977	85,140	22,820,270
Additions	545,300	6,298	253,605	30,132	835,335
Disposals	-	-	(106,073)	-	(106,073)
At 31 March 2025	22,064,888	57,863	1,311,509	115,272	23,549,532
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2024	9,756,648	30,824	1,073,143	31,400	10,892,015
Amount provided in year	859,705	9,597	37,900	9,806	917,008
Disposals	-	-	(106,073)	-	(106,073)
At 31 March 2025	10,616,353	40,421	1,004,970	41,206	11,702,950
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2025	11,448,535	17,442	306,539	74,066	11,846,582
At 31 March 2024	11,762,940	20,741	90,834	53,740	11,928,255

9. Investments

Group	Short term liquid investments £	Listed Investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
Opening Portfolio valuation at 1 April 2024	7,810,571	36,150,828	43,961,399
Less: Investment cash balance at 1 April 2024	-	(746,868)	(746,868)
Opening market value at 1 April 2024	7,810,571	35,403,960	43,214,531
Additions at cost	11,650,000	18,752,038	30,402,038
Disposals	(12,803,845)	(20,440,838)	(33,244,683)
Unrealised (loss)/gain on revaluation	(23,667)	307,461	283,794
Closing market value at 31 March 2025	6,633,059	34,022,621	40,655,680
Investment cash balance at 31 March 2025	-	1,118,951	1,118,951
Closing portfolio value at 31 March 2025	6,633,059	35,141,572	41,774,631

Charity	Short term liquid investments £	Listed Investments £	Subsidiaries £	Total £
Total investments as above:	6,633,059	35,141,572	-	41,774,631
Investments in subsidiaries:	-	-	10,100	10,100
At 31 March 2025	6,633,059	35,141,572	10,100	41,784,731
At 31 March 2024	7,810,571	36,150,828	10,100	43,971,499

The short term liquid investments represent the cash portfolio held with Royal London and Royal Bank of Scotland fixed term deposits.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

9. Investments (cont'd)

Details of the subsidiary undertakings, which are registered in Scotland and also have a 31 March accounting year-end, are as follows: -

Name	Principal Activity	Proportion of ordinary shares held
St Columba's Trading Limited	Fundraising activities	100%
St Columba's Hospice (2007) Limited	Property design-and-build services, used for construction of new hospice building. As of 1 April 2019 the company became dormant.	100%

St. Columba's Trading Limited (registered company number SC169588) generates profit through the sale of goods, the hair and beauty salon and the running of a weekly prize draw. All profits are passed on to the Hospice by gift aid. In the year to 31 March 2025 the company had turnover of £477,418 (2023/24: £439,541), expenditure of £359,568 (2023/24: £305,293) and generated a profit before tax of £117,850 (2023/24: £134,248). At 31 March 2025, the aggregate amount of assets, liabilities and funds was £100,521 (2024: £104,208).

St. Columba's Hospice (2007) Limited (registered company number SC335221) provided services to the Hospice. The company has been dormant since 1 April 2019. At 31 March 2025 the aggregate amount of assets, liabilities and funds was £100 (2024: £100).

10. Debtors

	Group 2025 £	2024 £	Charity 2025 £	2024 £
VAT receivable	88,001	86,473	76,307	81,203
Legacy debtors	2,002,501	2,182,000	2,002,501	2,182,000
Other debtors	402,608	407,452	401,922	407,012
Amounts due from group companies	-	-	46,255	23,308
	2,493,110	2,675,925	2,526,985	2,693,523

11. Cash & Cash Equivalents

Group	At 1 April 2024 £	Cashflows £	Foreign Exchange Movement £	At 31 March 2025 £
Interest bearing deposit and current accounts	1,009,800	509,181	-	1,518,981
Cash	24,482	79,008	-	103,490
Cash at bank and in hand	1,034,282	588,189	-	1,622,471
Short term liquid investments	7,810,571	(1,177,512)	-	6,633,059
Cash on deposit within listed investments	746,868	295,651	76,432	1,118,951
	9,591,721	(293,672)	76,432	9,374,481

For the year ended 31 March 2025

11. Cash & Cash Equivalents (cont'd)

Charity	At 1 April 2024 £	Cashflows £	Foreign Exchange Movement £	At 31 March 2025 £
Interest bearing deposit and current accounts	864,639	550,611	-	1,415,250
Cash	24,482	77,889	-	102,371
Cash at bank and in hand	889,121	628,500	-	1,517,621
Short term liquid investments	7,810,571	(1,177,512)	-	6,633,059
Cash on deposit within listed investments	746,868	295,651	76,432	1,118,951
	9,446,560	(253,361)	76,432	9,269,631

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2025 £	2024 £	Charity 2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	30,629	93,361	22,944	79,753
Other taxes and social security	212,392	193,636	212,392	193,636
Other creditors and accruals	502,036	359,084	496,636	354,654
Deferred income (Note 13)	65,824	55,679	22,065	15,025
Amounts owed to group companies	-	-	100	100
	810,881	701,760	754,137	643,168

13. Deferred Income

Deferred income comprises funds received in respect of fundraising events which took place after the year end. In addition, income has been deferred for prize draw monies received in advance and deposits received for hair and beauty salon treatments.

	Group £	Charity £
Balance as at 1 April 2023	51,875	12,839
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(51,875)	(12,839)
Amount deferred in year	55,679	15,025
Balance as at 31 March 2024	55,679	15,025
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(54,698)	(14,044)
Amount deferred in year	64,843	21,084
Balance as at 31 March 2025	65,824	22,065

For the year ended 31 March 2025

14. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Restricted Funds

Group and Charity	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Income Funds				
Children & Family Bereavement	5,310	60,300	(59,830)	5,780
Arts	-	15,376	(15,376)	-
Music Therapy	6,892	-	(5,392)	1,500
Specialist Equipment	15,916	2,500	-	18,416
Hospice At Home Service	-	82,840	(82,840)	-
Nurse Training	13,522	-	(5,405)	8,117
Staff Training	33,131	-	-	33,131
Patient Transport	38,000	-	-	38,000
Non-clinical Community fund	-	1,700	(103)	1,597
Staff Wellbeing	-	1,000	-	1,000
	112,771	163,716	(168,946)	107,541

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Income Funds				
Children & Family Bereavement	47,553	81,080	(123,323)	5,310
Playlist for Life	1,756	-	(1,756)	-
Music Therapy	11,776	-	(4,884)	6,892
Specialist Equipment	15,916	-	-	15,916
Hospice At Home Service	-	32,000	(32,000)	-
Nurse Training	16,389	-	(2,867)	13,522
Staff Training	39,958	-	(6,827)	33,131
Patient Transport	69,031	-	(31,031)	38,000
Garden Improvements	3,088	-	(3,088)	-
Patient Wellbeing	-	16,133	(16,133)	-
	205,467	129,213	(221,909)	112,771

14. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Restricted Funds (cont'd)

The Children & Family Bereavement Fund funds the service which works with children facing or experiencing loss through bereavement, and employs a number of models including working with families, peer groups, local schools and community groups to empower them with knowledge and skills to support children and one another. The spend this year represents core funding of the team as well as bereavement packs for children. The designated Children & Family Bereavement Fund is also used to fund the core posts in the team.

The Arts fund was used to partially fund a community artist and a dramatherapist during 2024/25. This fund is now fully depleted.

The Playlist for Life fund was to buy equipment to create and listen to music playlists. This was fully depleted in 2023/24.

The Music Therapy funds were used to fund posts to develop patient wellbeing and a music therapist for the Hospice. These are now depleted and the remaining funds will be matched by Queen Margaret University in 2025/26 to fund an environmental music therapy project.

The Specialist Equipment fund is earmarked to enhance patient safety and will now be part of the developing Digital Strategy for Clinical Services, with expenditure in H2 2025/26.

The Hospice at Home Service fund was used to contribute to the development of the Care at Home, Community Services and Virtual Ward including staff costs and uniforms.

The Nurse Training fund includes the McConnell family fund and is being used to fund nurses to undertake academic training modules at Queen Margaret University.

The Staff Training fund includes the Croom family fund. The fund is being used for ongoing SVQ training.

The Patient Transport Vehicle Fund has been used for the purchase and running costs of a second hand vehicle to collect patients. The vehicle is now operational and the remaining £38,000 balance of the funds have been ringfenced to purchase a new electric vehicle when the existing vehicle reaches the end of its life.

The Non-clinical Community fund includes funding for the Hopice Community Gardens programme. This will be utilised in 2025/26.

The Staff Wellbeing fund is a specific bequest to fund activities for staff and will be used in 2025/26 for the annual staff BBQ.

The Garden Improvements fund was created in 2022/23 to purchase a greenhouse, extend the garden area beside the Iona café and generally improve the grounds for patients and family. This has now been fully spent.

The Patient Wellbeing Fund was created in 2023/24 and was used to fund a new Complementary therapist post. This fund is now fully depleted.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

15. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Unrestricted Funds

Group 2025	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Other gains/(losses)	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	11,928,255	-	(918,243)	-	856,505	11,866,517
Investment Income & Growth	36,150,828	749,302	(177,401)	460,843	(2,042,000)	35,141,572
Expansion of Hospice at Home	596,140	-	(473,705)	-	35,710	158,145
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	345,549	-	(206,175)	-	(35,710)	103,664
	49,020,772	749,302	(1,775,524)	460,843	(1,185,495)	47,269,898
General fund	9,799,895	11,168,474	(12,495,332)	(23,668)	1,185,495	9,634,864
	58,820,667	11,917,776	(14,270,856)	437,175	-	56,904,762

Group 2024	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Other gains	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	12,735,449	-	(892,609)	-	85,415	11,928,255
Investment Income & Growth	36,271,834	792,584	(178,381)	3,789,116	(4,524,325)	36,150,828
Expansion of Hospice at Home	1,065,436	-	(469,296)	-	-	596,140
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	502,601	-	(157,052)	-	-	345,549
Art Strategy	36,140	-	(36,140)	-	-	-
	50,611,460	792,584	(1,733,478)	3,789,116	(4,438,910)	49,020,772
General fund	7,523,512	8,765,772	(10,954,468)	26,169	4,438,910	9,799,895
	58,134,972	9,558,356	(12,687,946)	3,815,285	-	58,820,667

Charity 2025	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Other gains/(losses)	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	11,928,255	-	(917,008)	-	835,335	11,846,582
Investment Income & Growth	36,150,828	749,302	(177,401)	460,843	(2,042,000)	35,141,572
Expansion of Hospice at Home	596,140	-	(473,705)	-	35,710	158,145
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	345,549	-	(206,175)	-	(35,710)	103,664
	49,020,772	749,302	(1,774,289)	460,843	(1,206,665)	47,249,963
General fund	9,705,687	10,895,357	(12,219,763)	(23,668)	1,206,665	9,564,278
	58,726,459	11,644,659	(13,994,052)	437,175	-	56,814,241

Charity 2024	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Other gains	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	12,735,449	-	(892,609)	-	85,415	11,928,255
Investment Income & Growth	36,271,834	792,584	(178,381)	3,789,116	(4,524,325)	36,150,828
Expansion of Hospice at Home	1,065,436	-	(469,296)	-	-	596,140
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	502,601	-	(157,052)	-	-	345,549
Art Strategy	36,140	-	(36,140)	-	-	-
	50,611,460	792,584	(1,733,478)	3,789,116	(4,438,910)	49,020,772
General fund	7,463,945	8,444,797	(10,668,134)	26,169	4,438,910	9,705,687
	58,075,405	9,237,381	(12,401,612)	3,815,285	-	58,726,459

For the year ended 31 March 2025

15. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Unrestricted Funds (cont'd)

The Fixed Asset fund is a designated fund representing the current net book value of the Hospice's fixed assets. This is the historical purchase price offset by depreciation.

The Investment Income and Growth fund £35.1m (2024: £36.2m) represents the value of the investment portfolio. The fund, designated by the Governors, is held in investments in order to retain its real value through capital growth and to generate income and gains to fund core services each year. This is a key part of the Hospice funding model. The Governors review the value of the Investment Income and Growth Fund regularly, in light of circumstances, to balance investing in services and maintaining security of operations. It should be noted that the fund includes £3.8m (2024: £5.0m) of unrealised investment gains and the value of this fund will fluctuate considerably depending on the performance of the investment portfolio.

St. Columba's Hospice Care had designated £50,000 per year for 5 years for the implementation of the Art Strategy. The Art Strategy funds have facilitated the recruitment of core staff to lead an in-house arts programme including art, writing, music and complementary therapy. This strategy holds wellbeing at its core and recognises patients as individuals, with stories to tell, meaningful lives to live, and the potential for creativity. This fund was exhausted in 2023/24.

Two designated funds were created in August 2021 by the Board in order to expand Hospice at Home and Patient & Family Support Services to meet the increasing needs in Edinburgh and expand the Care at Home service in East Lothian. The funds are being used to fund additional posts in existing services in Edinburgh and to create new posts in East Lothian. The funds will be depleted during 2025/26.

The General fund represents the 'free reserves' of the charity after allowing for all designated funds.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

16. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Group 2025	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,866,517	-	11,866,517
Investments	-	35,403,381	6,371,250	41,774,631
Cash at bank and in hand	107,541	-	1,514,930	1,622,471
Other net current assets	-	-	1,748,684	1,748,684
	107,541	47,269,898	9,634,864	57,012,303

Group 2024	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,928,255	-	11,928,255
Investments	-	37,092,517	6,868,882	43,961,399
Cash at bank and in hand	112,771	-	921,511	1,034,282
Other net current assets	-	-	2,009,502	2,009,502
	112,771	49,020,772	9,799,895	58,933,438

Charity 2025	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,846,582	-	11,846,582
Investments	-	35,403,381	6,381,350	41,784,731
Cash at bank and in hand	107,541	-	1,410,080	1,517,621
Other net current assets	-	-	1,772,848	1,772,848
	107,541	47,249,963	9,564,278	56,921,782

Charity 2024	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,928,255	-	11,928,255
Investments	-	37,092,517	6,878,982	43,971,499
Cash at bank and in hand	112,771	-	776,350	889,121
Other net current assets	-	-	2,050,355	2,050,355
	112,771	49,020,772	9,705,687	58,839,230

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

17. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2025 the group and charity were committed to making payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Group and Charity	Lands and Buildings 2025	2024	Other 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Minimum payments due:				
Within one year	171,562	97,555	14,706	14,532
Between two and five years	484,168	279,414	9,691	23,181
	655,730	376,969	24,397	37,713

18. Pensions

Staff have been automatically enrolled into a new defined contribution scheme from 1 April 2014 unless eligible to join the National Health Service scheme. This scheme is administered by Royal London and the scheme is available to new employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Hospice in an independently administered fund and the charge for the year amounted to £649,478 (2023/24: £588,217). The amount outstanding in respect of the Royal London fund was £77,325 (2024: £68,778). Employee contributions vary between 3% to 8% and Hospice contributions between 6% to 20% depending on age.

Being an "admitted body", the Hospice participates in defined benefit schemes operated by the National Health Service and, prior to the 31 August 2019, the Lothian Pension Fund. The National Health Service scheme is not funded but benefits from statutory protection. The balance of the pension cost charge as shown in note 7 comprises the Hospice's contributions (being 22.5% and 20.9% prior to the 1 April 2024) to the National Health Service scheme. The amount outstanding in respect of the National Health Service scheme was £81,497 (2024: £65,610). Employee contribution rates for employees within the National Health Service Scheme ranged from 5.7% to 13.7% in the first half of the year and 5.7% to 12.7% in the second half. In the prior year employee contribution rates ranged from to 5.2% to 14.7% in the first half of the year and following changes to the contribution structure by the Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA), 5.7% to 13.7% in the second half. Prior to the changes in 2023/24, contributions related to whole-time equivalent pay, which was amended to actual pensionable pay.

The Hospice closed the Lothian Pension Fund to new entrants as at 31 March 2015. During 2019 & 2020, the Governors consulted with the employees participating in the Lothian Pension Fund about closing the pension scheme in order to limit the increasing pension liabilities and move towards harmonising pension arrangements. The Board of Governors took the decision to close the Lothian Pension scheme with effect from 31 August 2019. There are therefore no figures for 2024 and 2025. An actuarial calculation of the pension deficit on cessation was £3.1m and the Hospice agreed a repayment plan over 5 years with an initial £1m payment followed by £526k per annum. This has now been fully paid, with the final contribution made in February 2024.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

19. Related party transactions

Mr D N Dunsire (Governor and Chair) was a consultant with Lindsays between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2022. Miss L Kerr (Governor and Honorary Secretary) has been a Partner with Lindsays since 1 April 2019.

Lindsays invoiced the group £20,768 during the 2025 financial year (2023/24: £17,843) in connection with legal advice. There were amounts payable to Lindsays of £nil (2024: £nil) at the balance sheet date.

During the year the Hospice charged management fees, including rent, totalling £82,192 (2023/24: £23,230) and received £121,537 (2023/24: £94,857) in donations from the subsidiary St Columba's Trading Limited. At the balance sheet date a balance of £46,255 (2024: £23,308) was due to the Hospice.

20. Charitable Company status

The Hospice is a charitable company which is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. At 31st March 2025 the charitable company had 28 (2024: 28) members each guaranteeing £1.00 to the charitable company's assets if it should be wound up.

21. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	Group		**Charity**	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period	(1,997,567)	422,207	(1,993,880)	387,566
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	918,243	892,609	917,008	892,609
Gains on investments	(360,743)	(3,644,493)	(360,743)	(3,644,493)
Dividends and interest from investments	(1,127,964)	(1,127,502)	(1,127,536)	(1,127,135)
Pension contributions	-	(526,000)	-	(526,000)
Increase in stocks	(31,118)	(18,100)	-	-
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	182,815	(721,755)	166,538	(741,848)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	109,121	(28,748)	110,969	(33,502)
Net cash outflow	(2,307,213)	(4,751,782)	(2,287,644)	(4,792,803)

22. Financial assets at fair value through net income

	Group		**Charity**	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Financial assets held at fair value through net income	41,774,631	43,961,399	41,774,631	43,961,399

Financial assets held at fair value through net income includes the investment portfolio and the cash portfolio held with Royal London and Royal Bank of Scotland fixed term deposits.

23. Subsequent events

No further subsequent events requiring disclosure have been identified.