

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31st March 2026

Company number SC048700

Charity number SC003634

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

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ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)
For the year ended 31 March 2026

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 2026 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 (until 25th May 2026)

Vice-Presidents
Mr G B Archer, DL
Mr I C Adam, CA
Mr D N Dunsire, WS
Mr G M Burnside, WS
Dr N Bryson, MA, MSc, DPhil, FFA

Board of Governors	**Sub-Committees**
Chair	
Mr D N Dunsire, WS (until 31st October 2025)	(R,D)
Mr N R Lanzl, BA, PCIAM (from 31st October 2025)	(R,D)
Vice Chair	
Mr N R Lanzl, BA, PCIAM (until 31st October 2025)	(R,D)
Mrs C G Flockhart BCom (Hons) CA (from 31st October 2025)	(A,D,I)
Honorary Secretary	
Miss L Kerr, WS	(R)
Governors	
Mr D Brown MA(Hons)	(T)
Mr U Cameron, BAcc CA (retired 31st October 2025)	(A,I)
Mrs C Cartwright (appointed 17th March 2026)	(C,T)
Mr J Flett (appointed 19th May 2026)	(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,A)
Dr J J Macrae, DN, MSc, BSc, RGN, MCIPD	(C)
Miss L Masson, BSc	(T)
Mr C Robertson, FCSI	(A,I)
Mr J A Thomlinson (from 20th May 2025 until 6th March 2026)	(T)
Ms S Wright (appointed 18th August 2026)	

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 (until 11th January 2026)
Ms E Boulton, MA (Hons), CA	Director of Finance (until 14th August 2026)
Mr J Heggie, MA (Hons), MInstF(Cert)	Director of Income Generation
Mr S Walker	Director of Operations (until 3rd August 2025)
Dr G Tsiris, MMT, PhD	Director of Education, Research & Creative Arts
Mrs M Murray	Head of Clinical Services
Mrs D Hastings	Head of People and Family Services
Mr R Dys	Head of Facilities and Estates
Mr J Trout	Head of Digital Services
Mrs V Hill	Lead for Quality Development

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 50 George Street London W1U 7DY 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 running a weekly prize draw, the buying and selling of goods, the operation of a café and the provision of beauty and wellbeing services.

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 2026

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 need its care and referral can be made by colleagues from across health and social care as well as from people themselves, 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 732 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 2026.

We were saddened to hear of the death of our President, The Countess of Rosebery, who played a pivotal role in the founding of the Hospice almost 50 years ago. Our sincerest condolences go to all of her family.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Building on our strategy "*Adapting to a Changing World*" which was introduced in October 2020, we launched our next strategic plan in October 2024 '*The strength behind our stories*'. This strategy focuses on ensuring that we provide the best care possible for our communities in a challenging and changing healthcare, political and financial environment. As a society we are getting older and living with more complex conditions. Having adapted our services through previous strategic plans, we remain committed to increasing our community support to reach those who need us. As our population continues to rise, coupled with an ageing population, our services will be required more than ever in coming years.

Our focus for this strategy period will, therefore, be on understanding who our community is, the types of support that best meets their needs and identifying the barriers to accessing this support. We need to attract, retain and develop our workforce to meet these support needs, nurturing talent and cultivating leaders for the future. Finally, as the Hospice approaches its 50th birthday, we look to ensuring the sustainability of the Hospice for the future. We aim to grow diverse charitable income streams while collaborating with the Scottish Government to provide sustainable funding for the Hospice sector. We will commit to reducing our environmental footprint while harnessing developments in digital technology to embrace new opportunities for communication, care provision and efficient working.

Over the last year, we have undertaken a population and demographic review to better understand our community. This has led to three specific workstreams focusing on Future Care Planning, engaging with LGBTQ+ communities to ensure our services are inclusive and supportive and a project

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

implementing a 'stepped' model of bereavement support to help us ensure that people receive the right level of support at the right time and from the right people.

We have worked closely with our teams to introduce a new leadership framework and personal development process, helping us harness the valuable potential within our workforce. We have diversified our income generation model to include a furniture warehouse, a new café bookshop in North Berwick and a new commercial wellbeing service; Manor House Therapies. Finally, we have secured a Head of Digital Services who is leading on the implementation of the Hospice digital strategy and resilience plan.

Moving our IT systems to a fully cloud-based setup using Microsoft Azure has made our organisation stronger and more efficient. It has made managing IT easier and reduced the need for physical hardware. The change also allows us to grow and handle more work without large upfront costs. At the same time, our systems have become more secure and reliable.

Our Microsoft Secure Score is 62.04%, which is 10% higher than the average for organisations of a similar size. This year, we are working towards cybersecurity accreditation, which will demonstrate that we meet high security standards. The high secure score, continuous monitoring, use of two-factor authentication, remote management capability, and work towards accreditation all show that we take security seriously and are committed to keeping our systems and data safe.

The Combined Heat & Power (CHP) system has been successfully set up to work alongside the solar photovoltaics (PV) system, making better use of the electricity generated on site. When solar power is high, the CHP system now reduces its electricity output while still providing the heat needed, avoiding unnecessary operation. This has improved the overall efficiency of the system, typically by around 10–20%, depending on how the site uses energy. It has also helped cut carbon emissions by up to about 10–15%, as more electricity is coming from solar instead of gas. Overall, the project has saved around 25,000 kg of CO_2, which is equivalent to planting approximately 1,556 trees. The system is now more reliable and flexible. Solar panels provide clean electricity during the day, while the CHP system continues to supply energy when solar power is low or unavailable. With improved control and planning, the system now runs more efficiently, reduces costs, and provides a more stable energy supply.



We have supported 1,058 people over the last 12 months across our core clinical services (2024/25: 1,217). In addition, a further 303 people have received support through our Access Team and medical telephone advice service, taking our overall reach to 1,361 people.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

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 have access to specialist symptom advice and support with their wellbeing needs. This team have received, assessed and triaged 390 referrals for In-patient care (2024/25: 393) and 868 referrals for community-based support (2024/25: 984) ensuring patients receive the right care they need as quickly as possible.

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 2025/26, there were 253 admissions to the inpatient unit (2024/25: 294). The average occupancy in 2025/26 was 81% which in an increase on the previous year (2024/25: 74%). The admission breakdown by Integrated Joint Board (IJB) is shown below:

IJB	2025/26 Admissions	2024/25 Admissions
Edinburgh	203	252
East Lothian	32	33
West Lothian	7	8
Midlothian	0	0
Non-Lothian/Undefined	11	1

While the number of patients receiving care in the inpatient unit has decreased, the complexity of needs of those receiving care has increased. This has meant that we have looked after less people for longer who have had significant care needs. We have reviewed and increased our staffing model in response to these changes and are monitoring both the activity and complexity of care as we move forward.

Hospice at Home

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



Our Community Palliative Care Team consists of two multi-professional teams covering the North of Edinburgh. The number of individual people supported by the team was 929, which is a 4.6% decrease on last year (2024/25: 974). These patients received 2,458 visits at home by the Community Palliative Care team (2024/25: 2,707). In addition, 67 community-based patients in East Lothian were supported by the Hospice consultant through home or community hospital visits (2024/25: 103).

Our Virtual Ward team have supported 112 people over the last 12 months (2024/25:158) and carried out 1,500 visits to provide this essential care at home (2024/25: 1,445). Many of these people will, however, have been supported by other hospice community teams over their period of care.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

While the community team home visits may have decreased, a different model of care has been introduced for those who are still able to get out of their homes. Our Outpatient services have supported 223 patients (2024/25: 222) through clinic appointments by our multi-professional team.

Our Care at Home team supported 74 people in Edinburgh (2024/25: 206) with 971 visits and 55 people in East Lothian (2024/25: 88) with 1,406 visits. Due to the continued drop in demand, we have taken the difficult decision to close our Care at Home service. This decision was not driven by financial considerations, nor does it reflect the quality, professionalism or commitment of the Care at Home team. Their work has made a significant difference to patients and families across Edinburgh and East Lothian, and we are deeply grateful for the compassion and care they have provided. The decision has been made in the context of changes across the wider health and social care system. In recent years, NHS provision of community-based and end-of-life care has expanded significantly across Edinburgh and East Lothian. As a result, there is now substantial overlap between NHS services and our Care at Home service. While the need for palliative and end-of-life care is expected to continue to rise, the way care is delivered locally has changed. Continuing to operate a parallel service would increasingly duplicate provision and would not represent the most effective use of our charitable resources.

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 this service as well as maximising accessibility and efficiency of service delivery. In 2025/2026 the team received 253 adult referrals (2024/25: 298), a decrease of 15.1%. The team delivered a total of 1,509 individual sessions (2024/25: 1,540), a 2% decrease and there were another 267 group attendees (2024/25: 268) and a 0.4% decrease on last year's activity. These statistics should be read against a backdrop of a period of high referral numbers, peaking in 2023, and now returning to 2021 levels.

Our Children and Families Service saw a slight decrease in individual referrals 2025/26: 144, (2024/25: 170) however there was an increase (18.6%) in the number of sessions provided 2025/26: 964 compared to (2024/25: 813). The team also facilitated three bereavement groups and four family days with 186 adults and children in attendance.

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 an incredible 1,129 people in 2025/26 compared to (2024/25: 256) an increase in reach of 341% across schools and other settings. We continue to lead on the Bereavement Charter for Schools work across Scotland.

Following a full service review, our social wellbeing activities now sit under our Compassionate Communities Service, alongside Compassionate Gardeners and Compassionate Neighbours. These services are supported by our volunteers who offer their time, kindness, and companionship to people who may be socially isolated, lonely and who can benefit from one of our many activities. Over the last 12 months, our team has supported 3,637 one-to-one interactions with people in our community through our compassionate neighbours and gardeners' initiative; an increase of 9.9% since last year (2024/25: 3,309) and our compassionate wellbeing provision received 115 referrals with 1,272 attendances and 608 individuals supported.

In 2025/26, 277 people benefited from complementary therapy sessions, a decrease of 18.3% from (2024/25: 339). There were 605 sessions of complementary therapy provided in 2025/26, a decrease of 16.2% compared to (2024/25: 722). These numbers reflect changes of staff within the team.

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 therapists and community artists also lead several collaborative projects and initiatives to support the local community, promoting healthier attitudes towards change and loss, and building caring capacity.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

The team 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).

Education, Research and Learning

As a University Hospice, we continue to work in partnership with Queen Margaret University (QMU) as well as other higher education institutions. We have hosted diverse student placements across disciplines, contributed to teaching and applied for collaborative research grants. We established our first Honorary Research Fellow role with QMU, followed by an additional one in partnership with the University of Edinburgh.

The team have published peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters and have presented in conferences nationally and internationally promoting the advancement of best practice and research in palliative care. We have hosted international educational visits and knowledge exchange activities. We have also organised regular education events (e.g. seminars and education visits) as part of our Learning Framework and our external facing Education programme.

The Practice Development and Quality teams have integrated to form the Learning, Quality and Practice Development team. This integrated approach brings together patient safety, quality assurance, governance and learning. The team works closely with the Quality Development Lead to strengthen assurance while supporting learning and development across the organisation.

ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

At the centre of our current 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 is not, we will target our energies on reaching marginalised groups.

Working in partnership with our NHS colleagues through the commissioning process, we will identify the best models of care for our population, thereby ensuring maximum uptake in service provision.

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 are delivering a values-based leadership development programme for new managers and all 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.

We plan to expand our retail income through securing additional charity shops across Lothian. We will also be embedding our new social enterprise model 'Manor House Therapies' in our adjacent building No17, offering massage, relaxation, beauty therapies and counselling.

ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (cont'd)

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

As part of our digital strategy, we are harnessing technology to enhance the patient experience of care. We are upgrading our nurse call system in the ward and our patient falls monitoring equipment. We also plan to review our electronic patient records system to ensure maximum effectiveness.

Working directly with our communities we plan to implement a suite of public health published 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. We will embrace research and educational opportunities with Queen Margaret University and the University of Edinburgh. 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

Nick Lanzl was appointed as Chair of the Board in October 2025 with Carol Flockhart as Vice-Chair and Lynsey Kerr as Honorary Secretary.

Uilleam Cameron, Alan Tomlinson and David Dunsire retired from the Board during the period. David Dunsire, who was our previous Chair, joined the Board in 2014, became Chair in 2020 and gave many years of invaluable service to the Hospice. The Board would like to thank them all and wish them luck for all their pursuits in the future. The Board are delighted that Eric Mackay and Claire Cartwright were appointed to the Board during the financial year, followed by James Flett in May 2026.

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 Governors (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.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (cont'd)

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 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 Medical Director, Director of Income Generation, Director of Finance, Director of Education, Research and Creative Arts, Head of Clinical Services, Head of People and Family Services, Head of Facilities and Estates, Head of Digital Services and Lead for Quality Development. The Senior Leadership Committee provide reports to the five meetings of the Board of Governors each year. In addition, there are Clinical Governance, Audit and Risk, Education and Research, Investment, Remuneration and Nomination Committees and the Trading Board which meet throughout the year. 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 with the aim of increasing 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.

The ongoing cost of living pressure has impacted on our workforce however the decision to mirror the NHS pay rates as of April 2025 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:

	2026	2025
Full-time	**96**	92
Part-time	**159**	162
	255	254
Full-time equivalent	**199**	198

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. Corporate risks concerning the business comprise of compliance risks, financial risks, strategic risks, and reputational risks. These risks are discussed and reported at the Audit and Risk Committee.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINITIES

Risk	Mitigation
Impact of inflation and energy price increases on costs	Increases in pay rates are carefully discussed and applied in line with maintaining suitable recruitment. The challenge of this has been escalated to the Scottish Government who have agreed for some additional funding on a recurrent basis to help address this and ensure pay parity with NHS colleagues. Contracts with utility suppliers are reviewed 2-3 yearly and the best fixed tariff secured. The additional investment in solar panels will generate savings in electricity and the upgrade in Combined Heat & Power (CHP) unit will offset some additional energy costs. We consider this a moderate level risk.
The Hospice's ability to achieve a break-even position	Due to the significant pay increases and rises in overhead costs over the past 3 years the annual budgeted deficit remains high. Without development of significant income streams it remains a high risk that services will require cutting to reach a break-even position. Plans are in place to increase diversification of income, and some additional funding has been secured from Scottish Government, but the risk remains high.
Reduction in investment income and capital losses in the investment portfolio	While the investment portfolio value has recovered post covid, markets remain 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 in response to global events. 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. An independent review of the investment managers demonstrated competence and growth similar to their peers and while this raised no immediate concerns with the Investment Committee, performance will be monitored by the committee informally annually.

Risk	Mitigation
Reduction in legacy income	While there can be variances in legacy income year-on-year the Hospice has increased its 5-year average on legacy income retaining a very significant income stream. In addition, we are participating in a UK wide campaign raising awareness of hospice care and leaving a legacy. It is projected this will increase legacy income over the next 10 years and we consider this a moderate level risk.
The Hospice's ability to comply with food safety standards	Following a significant review of systems, processes and staff skills within the kitchen a new leadership structure is now in place and progressing well. Policies have been agreed in-house and assurance approved with an external auditor. A full review of kitchen risk assessments in line with the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) food management system was completed showing a much-improved picture with agreed menus, recipes, stock control and signage all in place and monitored daily by the Head Chef. Further improvement will continue but the risk is significantly mitigated and is considered a moderate level risk.
Failure to attract, manage, develop and retain staff at all levels	Currently we can attract new staff to most positions across the Hospice. There are occasions and specific roles where this has been more challenging. Overall, the situation has improved from previous years. Recruitment of the best staff is very much tied to competitive salaries and terms and conditions which has placed a significant financial burden on the Hospice. A significant part of the current strategic plan is development of our people strategy which focuses on maximising potential, retention and development of our existing staff as well as ensuring we recruit competitively. We consider this a moderate level risk.
Information and data management and security	As an organisation we are heavily reliant on IT to deliver all our services. This increases the risk of cyber-attack while increasing the impact any downtime would have. We have recruited a Head of Digital Services who has developed a Digital Strategy which includes improving our cyber security and resilience. Most of our systems are now cloud-based with 2 factor authentication in place when accessing off site. We consider this a moderate level risk but monitor this closely.
Risk of reputational damage	While reputational damage can occur, the reputation of the Hospice across the local community is strong. In addition, the hospice sector has a good relationship with the local and national press. We cannot however, control individual posts on social media and therefore monitor those proactively to address any concerns raised early on. While this will always remain a risk, we are proactive in responding to concerns as early as possible and addressing complaints in an open and transparent manner in order to prevent negative publicity and consider this a moderate level risk.

SECTION 172(1) STATEMENT

The Governors are required to outline how they have met the requirements of S172(1) of the Companies Act 2006 in acting to promote the success of the charity to achieve its charitable purposes. This includes having regard to the interests of its stakeholders, volunteers, employees and the wider community.

The Governors, who, for the purposes of company law, are also the directors of the charitable company, act in good faith to promote the success of St Columba's Hospice Care. The Governors are mindful of their decision making and how decisions may affect the course of the organisation in the long-term.

This is particularly relevant when making decisions about new projects or staffing. In 2024, the Governors approved a three-year organisational strategy for 2024-27 "The strength behind our stories" and this Annual Report and Accounts gives updates on progress against the first 18 months of that strategy.

Our supporters, including members of the public, volunteers, donors, trusts and corporate partners, help us raise funds we need to deliver our services. We work closely with our suppliers and our dedicated colleagues, who are vital in us progressing towards our goals. We set out below how the charity engages with its different stakeholders to better achieve its charitable objectives.

Employees

Our success is underpinned by the wellbeing and performance of our colleagues, who are fundamental to everything we achieve. We received a gold award for our most recent Investors in People (IIP) review, and a silver award for Investors in Wellbeing. A key strategic priority of our 2024-27 strategy is "To support and continue to grow an exceptional and committed team". We engage with our colleagues in many ways including:

- An innovative Shared Leadership approach
- Hospice Connections sessions
- Staff forums
- Cascade of information from the Senior Leadership Committee
- Staff voices group
- Our fortnightly Grapevine email
- Our dedicated staff portal
- Regular team meetings

We have developed an online learning and development platform to enhance learning opportunities and meet mandatory training requirements. We have also invested in Insights training for key staff to support individual and team development and created a new leadership development framework which is being rolled out in 2026.

As part of Investors in People (IIP) we use staff surveys to get the views of colleagues, which helps us to become a more equitable, diverse and inclusive organisation.

Our newly updated Performance Development Plan focuses on the performance and development of our colleagues as part of a 6 monthly discussion between colleagues and team leaders and the formulation of meaningful and achievable goals.

We have a staff nominations and awards process at the end of each year. Colleagues contribute to the content and vote for their colleagues.

We have an environmental group and a LGBTQ+ network along with a package of enhanced employee health and welfare benefits.

SECTION 172(1) STATEMENT (cont'd)

Scottish Government and NHS Scotland

We 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. Working in partnership with Marie Curie Hospice Edinburgh, through the commissioning process, we have identified the best models of care for our population, thereby ensuring maximum uptake in service provision and effective use of charitable money.

In partnership with the other Scottish hospices, we 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.

Working directly with our communities we plan to implement a suite of public health published 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 continue to embrace research and educational opportunities with Queen Margaret University and the University of Edinburgh. The opportunity to share learning and knowledge to the wider professional world will be implemented through our coordination and contributions at conferences and within publications.

Members of the Public and Volunteers

Our volunteers are incredible, and we couldn't deliver our vision and mission without them. This year our volunteers gave us 60,649 hours of their time – that's almost 6.9 years. We are proud that so many of our volunteers have previously experienced our care and support – choosing to support others in the way that they were supported through their own palliative care experience.

Volunteers continue to be an integral part of our workforce and provide vital support in all aspects of the Charity's work, from the Board of Governors, through our clinical services, to retail, to education. We remain focused in our efforts to open access to volunteering opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds. We know how important it is for those with varied experience to be able to shape the development of the opportunities we offer.

We are particularly proud of our compassionate communities' programme which delivers support and companionship through partnering volunteers with our community-based patients. The introduction of our volunteer led compassionate gardeners and compassionate wellbeing groups has further engaged hospice care with our local communities through our amazing volunteers.

Donors, trusts and corporate partners

Our donors, trusts and corporate partners are fundamental to our charitable work. Here's how we engage with them:

- We collaborate regularly with our corporate partners through online and face-to-face meetings and co-create campaigns and activities.
- We regularly review our partnerships to understand the levels of performance, impact and satisfaction.
- We share major events and milestones with our donors and supporters. We report on the impact we're making thanks to their support through impact reports, email communications and our annual report and accounts.
- We host cultivation events, such as our annual summer thank you event, to give our donors, trusts and corporate partners an opportunity to meet key members of our staff, Governors and each other.

SECTION 172(1) STATEMENT (cont'd)

- We host donor-specific thank you events for our events, community, philanthropic, and long term supporters to show them the impact of their support.
- We have a clear thanking process for all supporters based on the type and level of support and their relationship with us.
- We have a clear and quick escalation and resolution process if any of our donors, partners or trusts are dissatisfied with their relationship with us.

Customers and suppliers

We have built good relationships with our suppliers and strive to work in partnership with them to secure value for money for the Hospice and in turn pay to agreed terms. We value the support of our customers and the purchases that they make in our shops, cafés and trading activities which continue to support our charitable objectives. We also work closely with our bankers and investment managers to deliver the best financial returns so that we can deliver results for everyone in our care.

Environment and Community

As described in our Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) section of the annual report on page 15, we understand the importance of a safe, cohesive, and green environment. Much has been achieved already but we are working to continue to reduce our carbon footprint.

We work hard to ensure that our Hospice is community focussed in everything we do. Working in partnership to meet the needs of our community is one of the key strategic priorities in our 2024-27 strategy.

High standards of business conduct

As a charitable company, it is important that we uphold high standards of conduct. This applies to the way we run the charity, the way our staff and volunteers present themselves, and how we interact with the public and other stakeholders. We have in place a range of policies and processes that promote corporate responsibility and ethical behaviour. Areas covered include fundraising, gifts and anti-bribery, conflicts of interest, safeguarding, bullying and harassment, and whistleblowing. Policies are reviewed periodically.

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (SECR)

Summary report

As a large charitable company, St Columba's Hospice Care is required to make disclosures under the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting framework. All of St Columba's Hospice Care operations are based in the UK, and the figures below represent the operations of the group.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions (in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents CO2e)

	Units	2025/26	2024/25
Energy consumption used to calculate the below emissions	**KWh**	1,621,770	1,870,059
Emissions from gas consumption (Scope 1)	tCO2e	219.7	240.9
Emissions from fuel consumption for transport from company owned vehicles (Scope 1)	tCO2e	16.5	6.6
Total Scope 1 – Direct emissions	**tCO2e**	**236.2**	**247.5**
Emissions from purchased electricity consumption including transport (Scope 2)	tCO2e	73.1	94.4
Total Scope 2 – Energy Indirect	**tCO2e**	**73.1**	**94.4**
Emissions from waste disposal	tCO2e	62.5	72.8
Emissions from employee-owned vehicles whilst undertaking activities for St Columba's Hospice Care (Scope 3)	tCO2e	7.2	10.8
Total Scope 3 – Other Indirect	**tCO2e**	**69.7**	**83.6**
Total Gross emissions	**tCO2e**	**379.0**	**425.5**
Staff FTE		**199**	**198**
Intensity Ratio	**tCO2e/per staff FTE**	**1.90**	**2.15**

Intensity measurement

The intensity ratio has been calculated as total gross emissions in metric tonnes per staff full time equivalents (FTE) and includes all the energy usage and emissions stated within the values reported above and in accordance with the methodology applied.

Quantification and reporting methodology

The HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines including Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting guidance published in March 2019 has been followed. Carbon emissions have been calculated in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard using the latest Department for Energy Security and Net zero emissions conversion factors.

The base year is April 2024 to March 2025 in order to present comparatives. The first mandatory year is April 2025 to March 2026.

Energy efficiency actions

One of our strategic priorities for 2024-27 is to develop a sustainable business model. Within this, a key strategic goal is "to create an environmentally responsible culture by empowering our teams with the skills to manage energy use, waste, transport, ventilation and procurement to reduce our carbon footprint".

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (SECR) (Cont'd)

In the period covered by the strategy to date the Hospice has continued to invest in energy efficiency initiatives by

- Installing an additional 225 solar panels on the roof of the Hospice Building which allows us to export excess electricity to the grid
- Modifying our Combined Heat & Power (CHP) unit to make it 30-40% more efficient in supplying electricity and hot water
- Zoning heating across the building and lowering temperatures where possible
- Replacing printers with more energy efficient versions and working to change staff behaviour to minimise use
- Expansion of the Hospice electric car fleet including a new Patient Transport vehicle
- Replacement of lights in our charity shops with energy efficient bulbs

The result of this ongoing investment can be seen by the 11% drop in total gross emissions and a 0.25 reduction in the intensity ratio. Future areas of focus are working towards zero waste in our catering kitchen and considering opportunities for recycling clinical supplies.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income

During the financial year ended 31 March 2026, the total income of the group was £11.32m. This represents a decrease of £0.76m or 6.3% compared with the previous year (2024/25: £12.08m). The previous period recorded exceptionally high levels of legacy income, £2.07m above the current year. Legacy income has averaged £2.70m over the last 10 years therefore 2025/26 is much more in line with typical levels. This large variance underlines how much volatility is associated with this source of income. Excluding legacies, underlying income levels grew year on year with a £0.45m (30.5%) rise in donations and a £0.58m (27.5%) rise in other trading income. The latter was driven by a £0.26m rise in charity shop and Iona Cafe income, combined with a rise in income from fundraising events of £0.17m and Trading company activities of £0.24m but offset by a £0.09m fall in income from a staff secondment to NHS Lothian.

The funding from NHS Lothian remained static this year at £2.72m (2024/25: £2.72m) despite a 4.25% pay rise which mirrored that given under the NHS Agenda for Change. During the year however an additional £0.50m was received from the Scottish Government and this has been confirmed to be recurring funding.

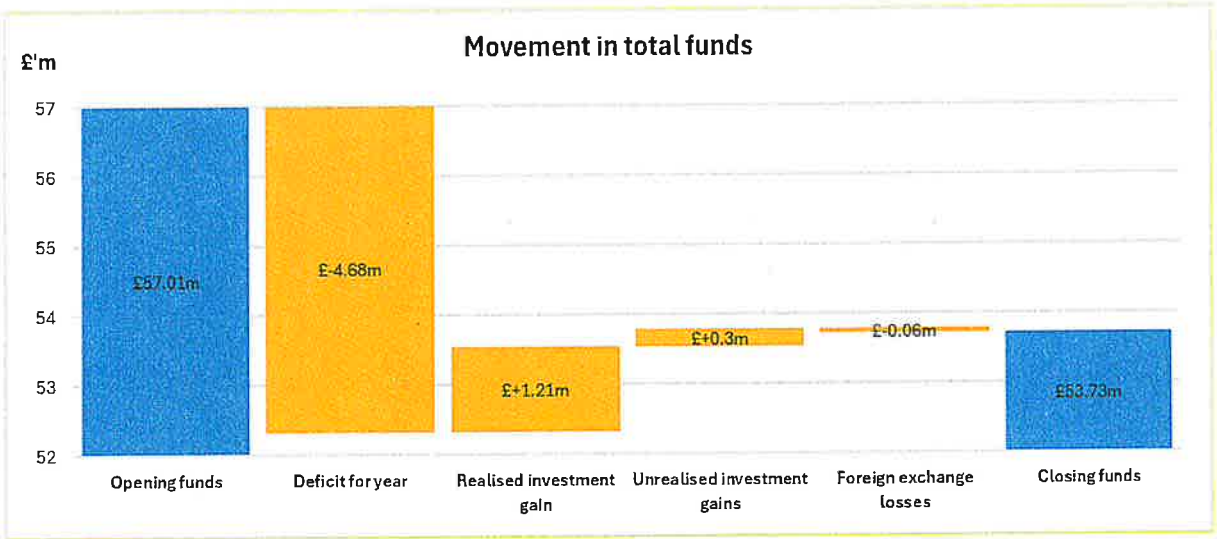
Investment income fell by £0.23m compared to 2024/25 reflecting lower interest rates and a reduction in dividend income.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was £16.00m representing an increase of 10.8% or £1.56m compared to the previous year (2024/25: £14.44m). Staff costs drove £1.09m of the increase due to a combination of the 4.25% pay increment, higher employer NIC costs and new roles within income generation activities. Other expenditure rose by £0.47m due to inflationary pressures and the expansion of new commercial and retail activities.

Net Movement in Funds

The net movement of funds, after taking account of movements on investment values, was a deficit of £3.29m (2024/25: deficit of £1.92m). The investment gains for the year were £1.46m compared with £0.36m in the previous year. Investment gains and losses are stated as a combination of realised and unrealised movements. In addition, foreign exchanges losses of £0.06m (2024/25: gain of £0.08m) gave a net gain of £1.39m in the current year.



FINANCIAL REVIEW (cont'd)

The net expenditure, before losses or gains on investments, of £4.68m (2024/25: £2.36m) 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 slightly better than expected however, due to additional legacy income recognised in the year.

RESERVES AND RESERVES POLICY

Total group funds have decreased by £3.29m and at the year-end stood at £53.73m (2025: £57.01m) comprising: six restricted funds; two 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 four years, the operational deficit has been further compounded by the effects of high inflation and associated pay increases and 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 budget estimates due to market volatility. Excluding investment gains the operational deficit was £4.68m.

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 to the funding 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;

RESERVES AND RESERVES POLICY (cont'd)

- the purchase of new specialist equipment;
- the development of the Hospice at Home service;
- 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;
- donations for staff wellbeing;
- funding of the in-patient unit;
- funding of improvements to the new café and bookshop in North Berwick and the refurbishment of Manor House Therapies.

There were £0.47m of new donations to the existing funds and six of the funds have now been fully spent such that there are six 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 £11.14m (2025: £11.87m).

The designated Investment Income and Growth Fund £34.09m (2025: £35.14m) 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 £4.04m (2025: £3.79m) of unrealised investment gains and the value of this fund will fluctuate considerably depending on the performance of the investment portfolio. In 2025/26, 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.

At the start of the year, there were two other designated funds which were created by the Board in previous years.

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

These 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 were used to fund additional posts in existing services in Edinburgh and to create new posts in East Lothian. Both funds were exhausted during the year 2025/26.

Unrestricted funds

The general unrestricted fund £8.43m (2025: £9.63m) represents the 'free reserves' of the group and is held in the form of cash deposits, working capital 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 2026, £1.50m was held on fixed term deposit with Royal Bank of Scotland to provide funding for 2026/27.

Investment Value
The value of the Hospice investments as at 31st March 2026 was £39.42m (2025: £41.77m), being split £34.09m (2025: £35.14m) in the investment portfolio and £5.33m (2025: £6.63m) in the cash portfolio.

Investment Performance
For the year to 31st March 2026, the performance of the investment portfolio was +5.2% (2024/25: +2.7%) in comparison to the market benchmark +14.9% (2024/25: +4.8%). Over the longer term, the portfolio has achieved a five-year annualised return of +4.1% (2024/25: +8.6%) which is below the target return of +9.9% (CPI+4.5%) (2024/25: +10.0%) and the benchmark return of +8.6% (2024/25: +11.8%) and also the Charity Peer Group Index return of +4.7% (2024/25: + 7.3%). Performance data for portfolio return and Charity Peer group Index return are quoted net of costs.

The majority of 2025/26 saw strong growth in global equity markets. However much of this was concentrated in stocks which do not typically meet the Sarasin investment criteria which is focussed on quality growth. Performance in Q4, was -2.2%, impacted by US and Israeli actions in the Gulf and the subsequent rise in oil prices and closure of the Strait of Hormuz. By the end of March investment gains had fallen to £1.4m from a high point of £2.3m at 31st December 2025.

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 2026, the income earned on the investment and cash portfolios was £0.90m (2024/25: £1.13m) with £0.66m (2024/25: £0.75m) generated by the investment portfolio.

In the current year, the cash portfolio held in the Royal London short term investments made a £5k unrealised gain (2024/25: £24k unrealised loss); and generated £114k of income (2024/25: £189k). 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 2.59%- 3.55% 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 during 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

Saffery LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office 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 N Lanzl
Chair
Dated: 18th August 2026

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 2026 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 2026 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 22, 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: 24 August 2026

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 2026

	Notes	2026 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2026 Total £	2025 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	466,264	4,062,867	4,529,131	163,716	5,984,308	6,148,024
Other trading activities	3	-	2,662,833	2,662,833	-	2,087,897	2,087,897
Government Grants	4	-	506,275	506,275	-	-	-
Income from charitable activities							
NHS Lothian		-	2,718,718	2,718,718	-	2,715,702	2,715,702
Education and research		-	3,498	3,498	-	1,905	1,905
Investment income	5	-	900,262	900,262	-	1,127,964	1,127,964
Total income		466,264	10,854,453	11,320,717	163,716	11,917,776	12,081,492
Expenditure on:							
Costs of raising funds							
Raising funds		44,732	3,883,447	3,928,179	-	2,626,775	2,626,775
Investment management costs		-	192,195	192,195	-	185,137	185,137
Cost of charitable activities							
Inpatient Care		57,534	5,622,803	5,680,337	850	5,254,601	5,255,451
Hospice at Home		196,518	3,905,028	4,101,546	87,395	4,197,444	4,284,839
Patient & Family Support Services		61,730	1,364,871	1,426,601	80,701	1,358,800	1,439,501
Education, Research & Learning		12,672	659,422	672,094	-	648,099	648,099
Total expenditure	6	373,186	15,627,766	16,000,952	168,946	14,270,856	14,439,802
Net expenditure before gains on investments		93,078	(4,773,313)	(4,680,235)	(5,230)	(2,353,080)	(2,358,310)
Net gains on investments		-	1,458,143	1,458,143	-	360,743	360,743
Net income/(expenditure)		93,078	(3,315,170)	(3,222,092)	(5,230)	(1,992,337)	(1,997,567)
Transfers between funds		(138,391)	138,391	-	-	-	-
Other recognised (losses)/gains:							
Foreign exchange (losses)/gains		-	(63,796)	(63,796)	-	76,432	76,432
Net movement in funds		(45,313)	(3,240,575)	(3,285,888)	(5,230)	(1,915,905)	(1,921,135)
Total funds brought forward		107,541	56,904,762	57,012,303	112,771	58,820,667	58,933,438
Total funds carried forward	15 & 16	62,228	53,664,187	53,726,415	107,541	56,904,762	57,012,303

All incoming revenues and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 31 to 48 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 2026

	Notes	2026 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2026 Total £	2025 Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	466,264	4,062,867	4,529,131	163,716	5,984,308	6,148,024
Other trading activities	3	-	2,363,431	2,363,431	-	1,815,208	1,815,208
Government Grants	4	-	506,275	506,275	-	-	-
Income from charitable activities							
NHS Lothian		-	2,718,718	2,718,718	-	2,715,702	2,715,702
Education and research		-	3,498	3,498	-	1,905	1,905
Investment income	5	-	899,897	899,897	-	1,127,536	1,127,536
Total income		466,264	10,554,686	11,020,950	163,716	11,644,659	11,808,375
Expenditure on:							
Costs of raising funds							
Raising funds		44,732	3,559,369	3,604,101	-	2,349,971	2,349,971
Investment management costs		-	192,195	192,195	-	185,137	185,137
Cost of charitable activities							
Inpatient Care		57,534	5,622,803	5,680,337	850	5,254,601	5,255,451
Hospice at Home		196,518	3,905,028	4,101,546	87,395	4,197,444	4,284,839
Patient & Family Support Services		61,730	1,364,871	1,426,601	80,701	1,358,800	1,439,501
Education, Research & Learning		12,672	659,422	672,094	-	648,099	648,099
Total expenditure	6	373,186	15,303,688	15,676,874	168,946	13,994,052	14,162,998
Net expenditure before gains on investments		93,078	(4,749,002)	(4,655,924)	(5,230)	(2,349,393)	(2,354,623)
Net gains on investments		-	1,458,143	1,458,143	-	360,743	360,743
Net income/(expenditure)		93,078	(3,290,859)	(3,197,781)	(5,230)	(1,988,650)	(1,993,880)
Transfers between funds		(138,391)	138,391	-	-	-	-
Other recognised (losses)/gains:							
Foreign exchange (losses)/gains		-	(63,796)	(63,796)	-	76,432	76,432
Net movement in funds		(45,313)	(3,216,264)	(3,261,577)	(5,230)	(1,912,218)	(1,917,448)
Total funds brought forward		107,541	56,814,241	56,921,782	112,771	58,726,459	58,839,230
Total funds carried forward	15 & 16	62,228	53,597,977	53,660,205	107,541	56,814,241	56,921,782

All incoming revenues and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 31 to 48 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY BALANCE SHEETS

As at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible Assets	9	11,142,875	11,866,517	11,125,057	11,846,582
Investments	10	39,423,837	41,774,631	39,433,937	41,784,731
		50,566,712	53,641,148	50,558,994	53,631,313
Current Assets:					
Stocks		81,737	66,455	-	-
Debtors	11	2,067,773	2,493,110	2,193,989	2,526,985
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12	2,089,640	1,622,471	1,924,229	1,517,621
		4,239,150	4,182,036	4,118,218	4,044,606
Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,079,447)	(810,881)	(1,017,007)	(754,137)
Net Current Assets		3,159,703	3,371,155	3,101,211	3,290,469
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		53,726,415	57,012,303	53,660,205	56,921,782
Total Net Assets		53,726,415	57,012,303	53,660,205	56,921,782
The Funds of the Charity:					
Restricted Funds:	15				
Income		62,228	107,541	62,228	107,541
Unrestricted Funds:	16				
Designated		45,232,015	47,269,898	45,214,197	47,249,963
General		8,432,172	9,634,864	8,383,780	9,564,278
		53,726,415	57,012,303	53,660,205	56,921,782

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

Governor – Mr N R Lanzl

Governor – Mrs C G Flockhart

Date : 18 August 2026

Company number SC048700

The notes on pages 31 to 48 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE

CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash used in operating activities	22	(3,938,122)	(2,307,213)	(3,998,318)	(2,287,644)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		900,262	1,127,964	899,897	1,127,536
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(240,112)	(856,505)	(240,112)	(835,335)
Proceeds from sale of investments		16,549,721	20,494,120	16,549,721	20,494,120
Purchase of investments		(13,894,020)	(18,752,038)	(13,894,020)	(18,752,038)
Net cash provided by investing activities		3,315,851	2,013,541	3,315,486	2,034,283
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(622,271)	(293,672)	(682,832)	(253,361)
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		(63,796)	76,432	(63,796)	76,432
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		9,374,481	9,591,721	9,269,631	9,446,560
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	12	8,688,414	9,374,481	8,523,003	9,269,631

The notes on pages 31 to 48 form part of these Accounts.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
For the year ended 31 March 2026

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.

1. Accounting policies (cont'd)

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 15 and 16.

For the year ended 31 March 2026

2. Donations and Legacies

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Unrestricted				
Donations	1,464,564	1,315,643	1,464,564	1,315,643
Legacies	2,598,303	4,668,665	2,598,303	4,668,665
	4,062,867	5,984,308	4,062,867	5,984,308
Restricted				
Donations	466,264	163,716	466,264	163,716
	4,529,131	6,148,024	4,529,131	6,148,024

Included within donations are donations-in-kind amounting to £19,653 (2024/25: £11,754)

3. Other Trading Activities

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Fundraising events	449,706	284,113	449,706	284,113
Operation of shops (including Iona café)	1,424,180	1,160,044	1,424,180	1,160,044
St. Columba's Trading Limited	715,808	477,418	416,406	204,729
Other income	73,139	166,322	73,139	166,322
	2,662,833	2,087,897	2,363,431	1,815,208

4. Government grants

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Scottish Government Funding	496,275	-	496,275	-
HM Government Plug in Grant	10,000	-	10,000	-
	506,275	-	506,275	-

5. Investment Income

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Unrestricted				
Listed Investments	659,040	749,302	659,040	749,302
Short Term Liquid Investments	217,023	348,154	217,023	348,154
Bank Interest	24,199	30,508	23,834	30,080
	900,262	1,127,964	899,897	1,127,536

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2026

6. 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 2026

Cost of Raising Funds:	Alloc. %	Management & Admin £	Facilities & Property £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Total Support Costs £	Costs Directly Allocated £	Total £
Fundraising Costs	19%	223,263	414,860	187,771	21,450	847,344	3,080,835	3,928,179
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	192,195	192,195
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	38%	439,683	817,003	365,619	42,242	1,664,547	4,015,790	5,680,337
Hospice at Home	28%	328,502	610,411	273,166	31,561	1,243,640	2,857,906	4,101,546
Patient & Family Support Services	10%	113,673	211,224	94,525	10,921	430,343	996,258	1,426,601
Education, Research & Learning	5%	51,318	95,357	42,673	4,930	194,278	477,816	672,094
	100%	1,156,439	2,148,855	963,754	111,104	4,380,152	11,620,800	16,000,952

Group 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	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

For the year ended 31 March 2026

6. Total Expenditure (cont'd)

Charity 2026

		Management & Admin	Facilities & Property	Depreciation	Governance	Total Support Costs	Costs Directly Allocated	Total
Cost of Raising Funds:	Alloc. %	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising Costs	19%	223,263	414,860	185,654	21,450	845,227	2,758,874	3,604,101
Investment Management	0%	-	-	-	-	-	192,195	192,195
Cost of Charitable Activities:								
Inpatient Care	38%	439,683	817,003	365,619	42,242	1,664,547	4,015,790	5,680,337
Hospice at Home	28%	328,502	610,411	273,166	31,561	1,243,640	2,857,906	4,101,546
Patient & Family Support Services	10%	113,673	211,224	94,525	10,921	430,343	996,258	1,426,601
Education, Research & Learning	5%	51,318	95,357	42,673	4,930	194,278	477,816	672,094
	100%	1,156,439	2,148,855	961,637	111,104	4,378,035	11,298,839	15,676,874

Charity 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	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

6(a). Governance costs

Group and Charity	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Staff costs	73,615	76,046
Audit fees	25,400	24,200
Legal and professional fees	12,089	5,301
	111,104	105,547

7. Net expenditure

This is stated after charging:	Group **2026**	2025	Charity **2026**	2025
	£	£	£	£
Auditor's remuneration:				
Audit fee with respect to audit of St Columba's Hospice Care consolidated and charity only accounts	20,950	19,950	20,950	19,950
Audit fee with respect to audits of subsidiary undertakings	4,450	4,250	-	-
VAT advisory and tax compliance services	8,710	1,950	7,500	800
Depreciation	963,754	918,243	961,637	917,008
Operating lease payments recognised as an expense	289,001	154,348	289,001	154,348

For the year ended 31 March 2026

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

Group and Charity	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	8,983,634	8,435,707
Social security costs	1,160,401	863,853
Pension costs	1,417,687	1,304,255
	11,561,722	10,603,815

The average number of employees during the year was:

	2026	2025
Full-time	96	92
Part-time	159	162
	255	254
Full-time Equivalent	199	198

£Nil remuneration (2024/25: £Nil) and £Nil expenses (2024/25: £Nil) were paid to the Governors.

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

	2026	2025
Between £60,000 and £69,999	6	5
Between £70,000 and £79,999	2	2
Between £80,000 and £89,999	1	2
Between £90,000 and £99,999	3	2
Between £110,000 and £119,999	-	1
Between £160,000 and £169,999	1	1
	13	13

Pension costs for the above employees were £212,775 (2024/25: £213,289).

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 (until January 2026), Director of Finance, Director of Income Generation, Director of Operations (until August 2025), Director of Education, Research & Creative Arts, Head of Clinical Services, Head of People and Family Services, Head of Facilities and Estates, Head of Digital Services and Lead for Quality Development. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Hospice were £921,088 (2024/25: £830,373).

For the year ended 31 March 2026

9. Tangible assets

Group	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Furniture & Equipment £	Leasehold Improvements £	Total £
Cost:					
At 1 April 2025	22,064,888	57,863	1,311,509	136,442	23,570,702
Additions	-	158,256	81,856	-	240,112
Disposals	-	-	(61,995)	-	(61,995)
At 31 March 2026	22,064,888	216,119	1,331,370	136,442	23,748,819
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2025	10,616,353	40,421	1,004,970	42,441	11,704,185
Amount provided in year	872,421	17,225	60,826	13,282	963,754
Disposals	-	-	(61,995)	-	(61,995)
At 31 March 2026	11,488,774	57,646	1,003,801	55,723	12,605,944
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2026	10,576,114	158,473	327,569	80,719	11,142,875
At 31 March 2025	11,448,535	17,442	306,539	94,001	11,866,517

Charity	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Furniture & Equipment £	Leasehold Improvements £	Total £
Cost:					
At 1 April 2025	22,064,888	57,863	1,311,509	115,272	23,549,532
Additions	-	158,256	81,856	-	240,112
Disposals	-	-	(61,995)	-	(61,995)
At 31 March 2026	22,064,888	216,119	1,331,370	115,272	23,727,649
Depreciation:					
At 1 April 2025	10,616,353	40,421	1,004,970	41,206	11,702,950
Amount provided in year	872,421	17,225	60,826	11,165	961,637
Disposals	-	-	(61,995)	-	(61,995)
At 31 March 2026	11,488,774	57,646	1,003,801	52,371	12,602,592
Net book value:					
At 31 March 2026	10,576,114	158,473	327,569	62,901	11,125,057
At 31 March 2025	11,448,535	17,442	306,539	74,066	11,846,582

10. Investments

Group	Short term liquid investments £	Listed Investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
Opening Portfolio valuation at 1 April 2025	6,633,059	35,141,572	41,774,631
Less: Investment cash balance at 1 April 2025	-	(1,118,951)	(1,118,951)
Opening market value at 1 April 2025	6,633,059	34,022,621	40,655,680
Additions at cost	8,000,000	13,894,020	21,894,020
Disposals	(9,303,673)	(16,938,637)	(26,242,310)
Unrealised gain on revaluation	5,311	1,847,059	1,852,370
Closing market value at 31 March 2026	5,334,697	32,825,063	38,159,760
Investment cash balance at 31 March 2026	-	1,264,077	1,264,077
Closing portfolio value at 31 March 2026	5,334,697	34,089,140	39,423,837

Charity	Short term liquid investments £	Listed Investments £	Subsidiaries £	Total £
Total investments as above:	5,334,697	34,089,140	-	39,423,837
Investments in subsidiaries:	-	-	10,100	10,100
At 31 March 2026	5,334,697	34,089,140	10,100	39,433,937
At 31 March 2025	6,633,059	35,141,572	10,100	41,784,731

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

For the year ended 31 March 2026

10. 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 operation of a cafe, the provision of beauty and wellbeing services and the running of a weekly prize draw. Profits are passed on to the Hospice by gift aid. In the year to 31 March 2026 the company had turnover of £715,808 (2024/25: £477,418), expenditure of £727,721 (2024/25: £359,568) and generated a loss before tax of £11,913 (2024/25: profit of £117,850). At 31 March 2026, the aggregate amount of assets, liabilities and funds was £76,210 (2025: £100,521).

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 2026 the aggregate amount of assets, liabilities and funds was £100 (2025: £100).

11. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
VAT receivable	93,308	88,001	81,681	76,307
Legacy debtors	1,467,928	2,002,501	1,467,928	2,002,501
Other debtors	506,537	402,608	495,366	401,922
Amounts due from group companies	-	-	149,014	46,255
	2,067,773	2,493,110	2,193,989	2,526,985

12. Cash & Cash Equivalents

Group	At 1 April 2025	Cashflows	Foreign Exchange Movement	At 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£
Interest bearing deposit and current accounts	1,518,981	535,795	-	2,054,776
Cash	103,490	(68,626)	-	34,864
Cash at bank and in hand	1,622,471	467,169	-	2,089,640
Short term liquid investments	6,633,059	(1,298,362)	-	5,334,697
Cash on deposit within listed investments	1,118,951	208,922	(63,796)	1,264,077
	9,374,481	(622,271)	(63,796)	8,688,414

For the year ended 31 March 2026

12. Cash & Cash Equivalents (cont'd)

Charity	At 1 April 2025 £	Cashflows £	Foreign Exchange Movement £	At 31 March 2026 £
Interest bearing deposit and current accounts	1,415,250	474,611	-	1,889,861
Cash	102,371	(68,003)	-	34,368
Cash at bank and in hand	1,517,621	406,608	-	1,924,229
Short term liquid investments	6,633,059	(1,298,362)	-	5,334,697
Cash on deposit within listed investments	1,118,951	208,922	(63,796)	1,264,077
	9,269,631	(682,832)	(63,796)	8,523,003

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2026 £	2025 £	Charity 2026 £	2025 £
Trade creditors	165,185	30,629	155,499	22,944
Other taxes and social security	244,708	212,392	244,708	212,392
Other creditors and accruals	523,351	502,036	517,691	496,636
Deferred income (Note 14)	146,203	65,824	99,009	22,065
Amounts owed to group companies	-	-	100	100
	1,079,447	810,881	1,017,007	754,137

14. Deferred Income

Deferred income comprises funds received in respect of fundraising events which took place after the year end, alongside multiple year funding received during 2025/26 for clinical services provision specified for 2026/27. 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 2024	55,679	15,025
Amount released to income	(54,698)	(14,044)
Amount deferred in year	64,843	21,084
Balance as at 31 March 2025	65,824	22,065
Amount released to income	(60,930)	(17,171)
Amount deferred in year	141,309	94,115
Balance as at 31 March 2026	146,203	99,009

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Restricted Funds

Group and Charity	At 1 April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Income Funds					
Children & Family Bereavement	5,780	52,622	(53,122)	-	5,280
Arts	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Music Therapy	1,500	1,500	(3,000)	-	-
Specialist Equipment	18,416	2,000	-	-	20,416
Hospice At Home Service	-	251,118	(193,780)	(57,338)	-
Nurse Training	8,117	-	(2,220)	-	5,897
Staff Training	33,131	-	(12,519)	-	20,612
Patient Transport	38,000	43,053	-	(81,053)	-
Non-clinical Community fund	1,597	245	(269)	-	1,573
Staff Wellbeing	1,000	2,450	(3,450)	-	-
Inpatient Care	-	55,760	(55,760)	-	-
Property Improvements	-	52,516	(44,066)	-	8,450
	107,541	466,264	(373,186)	(138,391)	62,228

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	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

Transfers of £138,391 relate to the acquisition of three electric vehicles during 2025/26, which on purchase were transferred to the designated Fixed Asset fund, with the donor restrictions having been fully satisfied.

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. 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 Patient & Family Support Services Fund was also used to fund the core posts in the team.

The Arts fund was used to partially fund a community artist and a drama therapist. This fund is now fully depleted.

The Music Therapy funds were used to fund posts to develop patient wellbeing and a music therapist for the Hospice. Additional matched funding was received from Queen Margaret University in 2025/26 to fund an environmental music therapy project. This fund is now fully depleted.

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 planned in 2026/27. Funds received during 2025/26 for the purchase of beds will be utilised for specialist mattresses.

The Hospice at Home Service fund was originally used to contribute to the development of the Care at Home, Community Services and Virtual Ward including staff costs and uniforms. Income received in 2025/26 related to the funding of Virtual Ward and two new electric vehicles for the teams. The purchase of these vehicles is shown as a transfer from restricted funds into the designated Fixed Asset fund.

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, acupuncture training and more general leadership and Health & Safety training.

The Patient Transport Vehicle Fund had been used, in previous years, for the purchase and running costs of a second hand vehicle to collect patients. At the end of 2025/26, a further grant was combined with the remaining £38,000 balance of the funds to purchase a new electric vehicle, shown as a transfer from restricted funds into the designated Fixed Asset fund.

The Non-clinical Community fund includes funding for the Hospice Community Gardens programme. This will be utilised in 2026/27.

The Staff Wellbeing fund is a specific bequest to fund activities for staff and was used in 2025/26 for staff counselling along with the annual staff BBQ and Christmas lunches.

The Inpatient Care fund was used to fund clinical and medical staff salaries within the Inpatient unit. In addition there was a donation of bedding for the unit during 2025/26.

Property Improvements relate to grants received for the refurbishment of buildings for the new commercial activities opened in 2025/26: Westgate café and bookshop and Manor House Therapies.

ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE CARE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2026

16. Analysis of Charitable Funds: Unrestricted Funds

Group 2026	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	11,866,517	-	(963,754)	-	240,112	11,142,875
Investment Income & Growth	35,141,572	659,040	(186,508)	1,389,036	(2,914,000)	34,089,140
Expansion of Hospice at Home	158,145	-	(158,145)	-	-	-
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	103,664	-	(103,664)	-	-	-
	47,269,898	659,040	(1,412,071)	1,389,036	(2,673,888)	45,232,015
General fund	9,634,864	10,195,413	(14,215,695)	5,311	2,812,279	8,432,172
	56,904,762	10,854,453	(15,627,766)	1,394,347	138,391	53,664,187

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

Charity 2026	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
Designated Funds						
Fixed Asset fund	11,846,582	-	(961,637)	-	240,112	11,125,057
Investment Income & Growth	35,141,572	659,040	(186,508)	1,389,036	(2,914,000)	34,089,140
Expansion of Hospice at Home	158,145	-	(158,145)	-	-	-
Expansion of Patient & Family Support Services	103,664	-	(103,664)	-	-	-
	47,249,963	659,040	(1,409,954)	1,389,036	(2,673,888)	45,214,197
General fund	9,564,278	9,895,646	(13,893,734)	5,311	2,812,279	8,383,780
	56,814,241	10,554,686	(15,303,688)	1,394,347	138,391	53,597,977

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

For the year ended 31 March 2026

16. 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.

Transfers of £138,391 from restricted funds, relate to the acquisition of three electric vehicles during 2025/26, which on purchase were transferred to the designated Fixed Asset fund, with the donor restrictions having been fully satisfied.

The Investment Income and Growth fund £34.1m (2025: £35.1m) 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 £4.0m (2025: £3.8m) of unrealised investment gains and the value of this fund will fluctuate considerably depending on the performance of the investment portfolio.

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 were used to fund additional posts in existing services in Edinburgh and to create new posts in East Lothian. The funds were depleted during 2025/26.

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

17. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Group 2026	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,142,875	-	11,142,875
Investments	-	34,089,140	5,334,697	39,423,837
Cash at bank and in hand	130,758	-	1,958,882	2,089,640
Other net current assets	(68,530)	-	1,138,593	1,070,063
	62,228	45,232,015	8,432,172	53,726,415

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

Charity 2026	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,125,057	-	11,125,057
Investments	-	34,089,140	5,344,797	39,433,937
Cash at bank and in hand	130,758	-	1,793,471	1,924,229
Other net current assets	(68,530)	-	1,245,512	1,176,982
	62,228	45,214,197	8,383,780	53,660,205

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

For the year ended 31 March 2026

18. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2026 the group and charity were committed to making payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Group and Charity	Lands and Buildings 2026 £	2025 £	Other 2026 £	2025 £
Minimum payments due:				
Within one year	264,154	171,562	22,494	14,706
Between two and five years	573,690	484,168	33,049	9,691
	837,844	655,730	55,543	24,397

19. Pensions

Staff are automatically enrolled into a defined contribution scheme unless eligible to join the National Health Service scheme. This Group Personal Pension scheme is administered by Royal London. 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 £680,041 (2024/25: £649,478). The amount outstanding in respect of the Royal London fund was £76,877 (2025: £77,325). Employee contributions vary between 3% to 8% and Hospice contributions between 6% to 20% depending on age and date of joining the scheme.

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 8 comprises the Hospice's contributions (being 22.5% since 1 April 2024) to the National Health Service scheme. The amount outstanding in respect of the National Health Service scheme was £92,350 (2025: £81,497). Employee contribution rates for employees within the National Health Service Scheme ranged from 5.7% to 12.7%. In the prior year employee contribution rates ranged from to 5.7% to 13.7% in the first half of the year and following changes to the contribution structure by the Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA), 5.7% to 12.7% in the second half. These salary bands are applied based on 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 2025 and 2026. 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 2026

20. Related party transactions

Mr D N Dunsire (retired 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 £17,203 during the 2026 financial year (2024/25: £20,768) in connection with legal advice. There were amounts payable to Lindsays of £5,469 (2025: £nil) at the balance sheet date.

During the year the Hospice charged management fees, including salaries and rent, totalling £416,606 (2024/25: £82,192) and received £nil (2024/25: £121,537) in donations from the subsidiary St Columba's Trading Limited. At the balance sheet date a balance of £149,014 (2025: £46,255) was due to the Hospice.

21. Charitable Company status

The Hospice is a charitable company which is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. At 31st March 2026 the charitable company had 30 (2025: 28) members each guaranteeing £1.00 to the charitable company's assets if it should be wound up.

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

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period	(3,222,092)	(1,997,567)	(3,197,781)	(1,993,880)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	963,754	918,243	961,637	917,008
Gains on investments	(1,458,143)	(360,743)	(1,458,143)	(360,743)
Dividends and interest from investments	(900,262)	(1,127,964)	(899,897)	(1,127,536)
Increase in stocks	(15,282)	(31,118)	-	-
Decrease in debtors	425,337	182,815	332,996	166,538
Increase in creditors	268,566	109,121	262,870	110,969
Net cash outflow	(3,938,122)	(2,307,213)	(3,998,318)	(2,287,644)

23. Financial assets at fair value through net income

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	**2026**	2025
	£	£	**£**	£
Financial assets held at fair value through net income				
	39,423,837	41,774,631	39,423,837	41,774,631

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.

24. Subsequent events

No further subsequent events requiring disclosure have been identified.