

BOARD COMMITTEE ASSURANCE REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BoD)

Committee: Integrated Audit and Governance Committee (IAGC)

Meeting date: 31 October 2025

Chair: Dr Olu Olasode, Non-Executive Director (NED)

Paper Author: Board Support Secretary

Quorate: Yes

Appendices:

Appendix 1: East Kent Hospitals Charity (EKHC) Annual Report and Accounts for 2024/25

Appendix 2: EKHC Auditor Findings Report

Appendix 3: EKHC Management Representation Letter

Declarations of interest made:

No additional declarations of interest were made

The Purpose of the Committee Terms of Reference (ToR) extracts:

The IAGC is the high-level committee with overarching responsibility for risk. The role of the IAGC is to scrutinise and review the Trust's systems of governance, risk management, and internal control. It reports to the Board of Directors (herein shown as the Board) on its work in support of the Annual Report, Quality Report, Annual Governance Statement, specifically commenting on the fitness for purpose of the Board Assurance Framework, the completeness of risk management arrangements, and the robustness of the self-assessment against Care Quality Commission (CQC) regulations.

Assurances received at the Committee meeting:

Internal Audit

Assurances received on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal audit function and counter-fraud arrangements:

Internal Audit – Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Limited Assurance, noting Internal Audit progress report, Healthcare 2024/25 benchmarking of internal audit findings, and emerging risk radar documents. Delivery of audit programme on track. Following four final audit reports issued since last IAGC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctor Payments Follow Up: Minimal progress implementing management actions, implementation of new e-rostering system, improved job planning underway as well as oversight of bank and agency staffing usage. Follow-up audit will be undertaken to ensure effectiveness. Data Quality & Performance Management – Patient Tracking Lists (PTL): Reasonable assurance, PTL user guide and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) validation process requires updating, and improving performance reporting consistency.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Standards (General Medicine & Surgery): Partial assurance, two high priority actions and four medium priority actions outstanding. • Recruitment – IR35 and Contractors: Minimal assurance, seven actions outstanding (four high, three medium) to address lack of ownership and reporting. Chief People Officer (CPO) to provide update at next IAGC meeting on progress to improve and strengthen IR35 process. • Minimal assurance ratings not uncommon, key determinant is Trust's response and progress in addressing identified issues. • The Committee raised concern with recurrence and longevity of some management actions being implemented, particularly those relating to Legal Services and Business Continuity. Emphasised shifting deadlines undermined governance, need for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-based (SMART) actions and timely closure of overdue actions. Reassurance received Legal Services actions will be resolved by 31 December 2025, agreed Quality and Safety Committee to monitor progress. • The Committee noted continued Executive Director oversight of internal audit reports to review, monitor and ensure escalation to implement outstanding actions for timely completion.
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Counter Fraud

Assurances received on the adequacy of the Trust's arrangements for counter fraud and as required by NHS Counter Fraud Authority.

<p>Local Counter Fraud Specialist (LCFS) RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress Report • Counter Fraud – Lessons Learned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee received Limited Assurance, noting the LCFS Progress Report updates on annual work plan, proactive exercises (including recruitment, declarations of interest (DoI), Freedom to Speak Up (FTSU), and reactive counter fraud activities. Positive engagement with proactive exercises and fraud awareness training. • The Committee noted delivery of awareness training sessions, including bespoke training for clinical leads, cyber fraud and ID verification sessions. LCFS working with Trust's Learning and Development team to implement e-learning module with embedded assessments improving fraud awareness and measure effectiveness. • The Committee noted three new fraud referrals received, three cases closed, and five remained ongoing. • The Committee noted eight outstanding management actions, including one high and one medium priority action. Agreed LCFS actions will be reported to Executive Directors alongside Internal Audit management actions to improve visibility, tracking and escalation at Executive level. • The Committee noted Counter Fraud - Lessons Learned report on Trust's performance against Government Functional Standard 013,
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	<p>receiving overall green rating in 2024/25 Counter Fraud Functional Standard Return (CFFSR), with one amber and one red requirement. Improvements planned assessing effectiveness of awareness activities, with the new e-learning package expected to support this. Requirement 12, rated red for three consecutive years, concern remained with delays implementing actions and the need for stronger accountability and realistic deadlines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee raised concern about long-standing investigations, particularly those involving HR disciplinary processes, progress update to timely complete and close these to be provided at next IAGC meeting.
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External Audit

Assurance received on the effectiveness of the external audit process and the work of external auditors.

<p>External Audit Grant Thornton (GT): External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance from the External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update. The Committee noted key outcomes from recent wash-up session held with Finance team following 2024/25 audit, including identified areas for improvement and agreed actions. Commitment from External Audit team to proactively expand early testing in January–March 2026 reducing pressure during year-end period. The Committee received reassurance of strengthening Trust's Finance team's capacity to respond to External Audit requirements and manage upcoming audit effectively. Trust has successfully recruited new Head of Financial Accounts, due to start in January 2026, with experienced interim support in place.
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Financial Reporting

Assurances received on the integrity of the financial statements of the Trust and formal announcements relating to the Trust's financial performance.

<p>Cost Improvement Programme (CIP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIP/Savings and Efficiencies Review of Processes and Controls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance from a CIP/Savings and Efficiencies review of processes and controls report providing update on Grip and Control actions and step-up control efforts to deliver Trust's annual CIP. The Committee noted internal audit currently underway, scheduled to report at next IAGC meeting to assess implementation, impact and effectiveness of key control measures to support CIP delivery. The Committee welcomed audit acknowledging its importance in strengthening financial control and supporting delivery of the Trust's CIP and Financial Sustainability Plan (STP). Concern raised about effectiveness of controls around bank and agency staffing spend and the Vacancy Control Panel (VCP), noting whilst some controls were in place, implementation across Care Groups remained inconsistent. Emphasised need for clear, actionable
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	recommendations to enhance Grip and Control in second half of financial year (FY).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIP update (current position/progress against achieving year-end target) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Limited Assurance from the CIP update report. The Committee noted the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust remained on plan at Month 6 (delivered £20.54m against target of £20.32m), but significant challenges remained for second half of FY (risk-adjusted forecast £50.9m against full-year £80m target); Finance Improvement Programme Board (FIPB), chaired by Chief Executive continues to oversee CIP delivery and governance, including pipeline opportunities, risk mitigation, and transformational proposals; Potential withdrawal of Deficit Support Funding (DSF) for Q3 and Q4, Trust preparing application for Public Dividend Capital (PDC) funding support; Important to maintain Grip and Control measures, particularly around temporary staffing (with associated costs currently around £5.7m per month). The Committee highlighted it was important to align CIP delivery with Trust's broader financial sustainability goals, value for money report, including achieving break-even position. Update on Trust's FSP and business planning submission to be presented at next IAGC meeting.

Governance

Assurances received on the effectiveness of the Trust's system of integrated governance, risk management, and internal control (clinical and non-clinical) across the whole of the organisation's activities that support the achievement of the Trust's objectives.

Quality Governance Progress update report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance from the Quality Governance progress report. The Committee noted the following key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued improvement across Trust and Care Groups, implementation of Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) supporting to significantly reshape investigation processes. Notable achievement lifting of maternity Section 31 notice; Improvements in Legal Services and strengthened regulatory oversight mechanisms; Embedding Care Group Quality Governance Maturity Matrix, enhanced mortality and morbidity (M&M) meeting structures, and improved data alignment with national systems; Good risk management progress, with internal audit confirming reasonable assurance, further training and deep dives embedded across Care Groups; Delay with implementation of InPhase system, requiring continued reliance on legacy systems;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robust policy oversight, with overdue policies actively monitored through the Policy Authorisation Group (PAG). Guidelines compliance remained area of concern, with only 59.6% of sourced guidelines currently in date, work underway to improve this.
East Kent Hospitals Charity (EKHC) Annual Report and Accounts for 2024/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auditor Findings Report Management Representation Letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance from the EKHC 2024/25 Annual Report and Accounts, noting the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounts received unqualified audit opinion from Azets Audit Services with no material findings requiring amendment, and internal controls operating effectively; Previously presented and approved by the Charitable Funds Committee (CFC). The Committee commended the Charity and Finance teams for their professional and efficient preparation of the accounts, the smooth audit process and positive feedback from the auditors. The Committee approved the EKHC Annual Report and Accounts for 2024/25 and recommends to the BoD for approval along with the Management Representation Letter for signature.
League of Friends (LoFs) Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance from the LoFs Governance report. The governance gap (no formal agreements in place) was noted and endorsed the recommendation to initiate internal discussions to clarify Trust's objectives, risks and desired outcomes. Following this to initiate external engagement with LoFs sensitively to introduce formalised relationship guidelines with each LoFs (providing oversight, accountability and standards). The Committee acknowledged the importance of the LoFs and their substantial contributions, including significant income from donations and legacies.

Risk Management and Internal Control

Assurances received on the adequacy of the Trust's internal controls (clinical and financial) and risk management systems, and all risk and control related disclosure statements (in particular the Annual Governance Statement, regular reports on the activities of the Executive Risk Assurance Group, self-certification statements to the Regulator, and Care Quality Commission declarations), together with any accompanying Head of Internal Audit statement, External Auditor opinion or other appropriate independent assurances.

Significant Risk Register (SRR) Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance noting the SRR report and visibility of key risks facing the organisation and the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 44 risks rated 15 and above, increase of one risk; Majority of risks reviewed within last four weeks; Oversight continued through monthly Risk Review Group (RRG) meetings and Board Committees. RRG provided oversight of the Trust subsidiary risks; Two risks recommended for closure and one for de-escalation (pending review at next RRG);
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overdue actions associated with six risks escalated to risk owners for immediate attention, with improvements to reduce overdue actions, continued monthly meetings with Executive leads to ensure scrutiny and progress; Delays with rollout of InPhase Quality Management System, with user testing on hold until data migration problems resolved. The Committee noted the importance of maintaining realistic targets and ensuring visibility of mitigation plans where actions were delayed.
Winter Plan Board Assurance Statement (BAS) 2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance noting the approved 2025/26 Winter Plan BAS (approved by Trust Management Committee (TMC) and BoD, BAS submitted on schedule). BAS confirmed Trust has a live winter plan aligned with national Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) requirements, with appropriate governance, quality and equality impact assessments, and engagement with system partners. The Committee noted the plan was stress-tested during an NHS England (NHSE) hosted exercise and updated incorporating lessons learned. Plan also included actions across prevention, capacity, infection prevention and control (IPC), and leadership domains. Key risks included projected bed deficit of 109 beds at peak demand with mitigations in place.

Board Assurance

Assurances received on the Trust's underlying assurance processes that underpin the achievement of corporate objectives, and compliance with relevant regulatory, legal and code of conduct requirements, any related reporting, and self-certifications.

Board Assurance Framework (BAF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance noting the principle risks in the BAF and the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes since last review; BAF remained in holding position pending finalisation of Trust's overarching strategy, which will inform future revisions and alignment of strategic risks; BAF continued to allocate risks to relevant Board Committees under Trust's 'We Care' strategic objectives and designed to complement the SRR. The Committee raised concern about the static nature of risk scores, with many risks remaining high and little movement toward target scores. Agreed future reports include enhanced commentary on risk movement to reduce risk scores and mitigation effectiveness with expected timelines, reasons for lack of movement to ensure BAF remained a meaningful assurance tool. The Committee agreed the BAF was currently used effectively by Board Committees to drive agendas, it required enhancement to ensure provision of robust assurance to the Board. To improve BAF content and presentation providing a more comprehensive and live document. Also to improve alignment to strategic
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	objectives, clearer articulation of mitigations and progress around risk trajectories, inherent risks, and mitigation effectiveness.
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Other Assurance Functions and Regulatory Compliance

Other significant assurance received, both internal and external to the Trust, that may affect governance of the organisation. These will include, but not be limited to, any review by Department of Health arms-length bodies or Regulators/Inspectors (e.g. Care Quality Commission, NHS Resolution, NHS England/NHS Improvement etc.), and professional bodies with responsibility for the performance of staff or functions (e.g. Royal Colleges, accreditation bodies etc.), and arrangements by which staff within the Trust may raise confidentially concerns over financial control, reporting, clinical quality and patient safety and other matters.

Policy Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance noting the Policy Compliance report and the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust continued to make progress improving oversight and management of policies. As of mid-October 2025, 32 out of 238 policies (13.4%) past their review date, slight increase from previous report. Of these, 11 scheduled for discussion at next PAG meeting and five authorised awaiting final updates; Delays in policy review largely due to staffing changes, lack of prioritisation, and unclear approval pathways. Decision tree drafted clarifying approval routes and mapping of policies to approving Committees underway; Migration from legacy 4policies system to Eolas planned for completion by end of November 2025, with governance information to be recorded in InPhase. The Committee raised concern about several critical policies remaining overdue and requested clarity on timelines and actions being taken to address delays. Reassurance received Executive Director leads being actively chased for updates and some progress had already been made. The Committee highlighted it was important to ensure essential policies were up to date to meet regulatory requirements and mitigate risks to patient safety and legal compliance.
Data Security and Protection Toolkit/Cyber Assessment Framework (DSPT/CAF) 2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Assurance noting progress made with the DSPT/CAF 2025/26 and Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) audit compliance requirements. The Committee noted the following key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust successfully achieved 'Standards Met' rating for 2024/25 DSPT submission, currently preparing evidence for 2025/26; External audit by RSM provisionally scheduled for April 2026 to independently assess compliance with DSPT and CAF; Progress against ICO audit action plan: of the 30 actions identified, 18 closed and 12 remained on track for completion or significant progression by 6 January 2026 deadline. Remaining actions, urgent or high priority being progressed. The Committee raised concern about the gap between policy and practice in respect of compliance with data protection standards



	<p>and received reassurance the Information Governance (IG) team conducted quarterly on-site audits and reviewed incident trends to target departments for follow-up. Emphasised cultural change and shared ownership was key to improving day-to-day compliance, and utilising senior staff walkarounds to support expanding visibility and checklists.</p>
Senior Managers' Training Compliance – Clinical and Corporate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Limited Assurance noting the Senior Managers' Training Compliance report and the follow key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current significant shortfalls in compliance against statutory and mandatory training among senior managers across clinical and corporate divisions, particularly among corporate senior leaders (some subjects falling below 50% completion); IPC training highlighted as key area of concern; All non-compliant senior leaders contacted directly and escalated to CPO, limited engagement and further escalation required. Stressed the need for cultural change to ensure senior leaders took ownership of their responsibilities. Agreed Chief Executive to follow up directly with those non-compliant to ensure immediate action and completion of training to achieve compliance; Report also to be presented to TMC. The Committee agreed to refer this issue to the People & Culture Committee (P&CC) to explore stronger accountability measures, such as linking training completion to eligibility for pay progression. Request a specific action plan and trajectory to improve compliance, particularly within corporate teams that had also shown poor appraisal completion rates.
Freedom of Information (Fol) Act Annual Report 2024/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee received Limited Assurance noting the 2024/25 Fol Act Annual Report and the following key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledged the professionalism and dedication of the small Fol team, led by Policy & Fol Manager and Fol/Policy & Risk Administrator; Trust received 884 Fol requests during reporting period; Compliance rate of 79.1% against statutory 20-day response timeline, below ICO benchmark of 90% for 'adequate' and 95% for 'good'; Volume of requests remained stable, but complexity of requests has increased, placing additional strain on the team; Trust's current manual Fol process and lacked digital case management system, identified as a key barrier to improving efficiency and compliance. Draft business case for system solution has been developed but not yet progressed due to competing priorities and resource constraints. The Committee raised concern about the lack of digital infrastructure and the need for cultural change across the organisation in respect of Fol responsibilities highlighted as a significant factor to improve responsiveness and compliance performance. It was discussed the benefits of benchmarking against other trusts, recognising challenges were common, and examples of best practice could be emulated.



Relationships With Other Committees

Assurances from the Committee's review of Chair reports from the Quality and Safety Committee, Finance and Performance Committee and People and Culture Committee to consider findings of significant assurance and the implications on the Trust's governance.

Other items of business

The Committee noted the 2025/26 IAGC Annual Work Programme.

Items referred to the BoD or another Committee for approval, decision or action:

Item	Purpose	Date
The Committee asks the BoD to discuss and NOTE this assurance report from IAGC.	Assurance	To Board on 4 December 2025.
The Committee asks the BoD to NOTE the referral to the People & Culture Committee to monitor action plan and trajectory to improve senior managers statutory and mandatory training compliance across clinical and corporate divisions.	Assurance	To Board on 4 December 2025.
The Committee asks the BoD to APPROVE the EKHC Annual Report and Accounts for 2024/25 and the Management Representation Letter for signature.	Approval	To Board on 4 December 2025.





East Kent Hospitals Charity

2024 2025

Annual Report

Helping your
hospitals go further



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01

Foreword



It is always fantastic to see the energy and commitment from so many staff, volunteers and our corporate donors in raising funds and giving their time for the Charity.

Claudia Sykes, Chair of Charitable Funds Committee

Introduction from Claudia Sykes, Chair of the Charitable Funds Committee

On behalf of the trustees, I am delighted to present the accounts for the East Kent Hospitals Charity for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

The accounts demonstrate the wide range of fundraising activities and support organised through the Charity, all of which contribute directly to supporting East Kent Hospitals. The NHS is facing unprecedented challenges and must make significant financial savings. This means the work of the Charity is more vital than ever.

I sometimes hear challenges on why an NHS trust has a charity – shouldn't everything be funded by the government? Unfortunately, there simply isn't enough funding for everything we would want in the NHS to provide high quality care and support to our patients and staff. The Charity is not there to fund anything which is required under the NHS license but can fund additional services and equipment which help improve our patient and staff experience. There are many examples in the following pages – such as the home dialysis chairs and a sensory room in Padua Ward for children.

All the activities and equipment we fund is initiated by Trust staff – who know best where money can make a difference to patients in their care.

It is always fantastic to see the energy and commitment from so many staff, volunteers and our corporate donors in raising funds and giving their time for the Charity. A huge thank you. It really does make a difference.

I would also like to thank the Charity team for all their hard work this year. It has become harder than ever for all charities to raise funds, as grants have become more competitive and the cost of living challenges mean people and businesses have less time and money to give – the team work with complete dedication and enthusiasm in this challenging environment. Thank you.

Claudia Sykes
Chair of the Charitable Funds Committee

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Fundraising Introduction



We are East Kent Hospitals Charity. We are here to help your hospitals.

We continue to evolve as a charity, and this year we have been able to welcome a fundraising officer to our team, as part of our ambitious three-year strategy to increase our income and visibility across our hospitals and wider East Kent communities.

This year, our fabulous fundraisers have undertaken diverse challenges such as skydives, marathons and ultra violet volleyball matches. We were proud to be chosen as the partner charity for the Boonies Colour Rush event in the autumn of 2024 - offering our supporters a fun and vibrant way to raise funds for the hospitals that they care so much about. We've been overwhelmed with kindness during our seasonal campaigns, most especially in December 2024, and remain incredibly grateful to our business and corporate partners for their donations and support throughout the year.

In 2024/25 we have funded projects worth £764,000 across the wards, departments and sites of the Trust and have been able to share these achievements and celebrations with our followers and colleagues more effectively through our impact reporting survey. We've also been able to improve our marketing opportunities through our gorgeous bank of images, thanks to a grant from NHS Charities Together.

We've faced some challenges too. The ongoing impact of the cost of living crisis and the limited availability of external grants and funds has meant that our income has declined - a trend that is being experienced by so many charities across the country. We have also seen a dramatic increase in applications for our charitable funds, meaning that now, more than ever, we must be mindful as to how our funding can have the greatest impact upon our patients, visitors and colleagues.

It is always humbling to reflect upon our many achievements when compiling our annual report, especially in relation to the enormous effort that our fundraisers undertake for us, uniting in a singular endeavour: helping East Kent Hospitals Charity to enable significant improvements and enhancements to the hospital experience.

From the Fundraising Team

The Role of the Charity

The core mission of the Charity is to enhance the care and treatment of patients and visitors accessing NHS services provided by East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, by raising funds to support the purchase of equipment and facilities which are beyond the scope of government funding.

We achieve this by involving NHS Clinicians and staff to identify and deliver projects that make a vital difference to patients, visitors and staff by:

- Enhancing the quality of patient care
- Improving the environment for patients and visitors
- Supporting NHS staff development to enable them to provide excellent clinical and patient centred care
- Providing financial support for pioneering research that has the potential to impact on the treatment and well-being of patients

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission with regard to the need for public benefit. They are confident that the activities which contribute to the above mission have a clear public benefit.

The Trust provides clinical services within the scope of their NHS requirements and the Charity works hard to enhance these services to benefit the patients and visitors (and therefore the public).

The trustees are aware when making grants, of the distinction between the requirements of the NHS to provide their services and those grants made by the Charity to extend the scope of the service, either through new equipment, advanced technology and improving patient experience through the environment and/or additional activities and facilities which are not the responsibility of the NHS.

Section 13 of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 does not require charities with an income of below £1 million to report on fundraising reporting. However, we are pleased to include these statements and promote openness and transparency.

The following areas are included:

- Fundraising – the Charity does not use professional fundraisers or door-to-door fundraising. All fundraising is carried out by our fundraising team or by supporters of the charity.
- Regulation – the charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and complies with the standards which apply to all fundraising.
- Monitoring fundraisers – The Charity has not worked with any 'on behalf of' fundraisers (including third-party fundraisers, commercial participators and volunteers).
- No fundraising complaints have been received
- All staff members must comply with the NHS Trust policies and mandatory training which includes safeguarding, customer services and information governance training. The Charity is fully aware of the requirements to make sure vulnerable people are protected from unreasonable intrusions on their privacy.

The Charity Team

East Kent Hospitals Charity is managed by a team of six who have fundraising, marketing, or financial responsibilities. They are led by Dee Neligan, Head of Charity, who reports to the Chair of the Board of Trustees.



Danielle Neligan
HEAD OF CHARITY



Jenny Still
CHARITY ACCOUNTANT



Lizzie Warner
MARKETING AND PROJECTS MANAGER



Maddi Austin
MARKETING AND PROJECTS MANAGER



Sam Hill
CHARITY ADMIN OFFICER



Hannah Packman
FUNDRAISING OFFICER

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Fantastic Fundraisers



Charity Football Match for Viking Day



A dad to be who developed the same cancer as his brother raised £2,881.59 for the unit where they were both treated.

Olly Solly was 21 when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma: the same cancer his brother Benjamin had beaten 11 years previously. Both brothers had chemotherapy treatment at the Viking Day Unit at the Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital in Margate, and in June 2024 Olly held a football match in aid of East Kent Hospitals Charity, to benefit the unit.

His friend Sam Murray, also organised the event at Margate Football Club, after his mum also had treatment at the unit.

Olly, from Margate, said: "My consultant told me that if I'd put a pound on Benjamin and I developing the same cancer I would never have to work another day in my life.

"We are both absolutely fine now and the team at the Viking Day Unit were amazing. They were so kind and compassionate and made us all feel as comfortable and supported as possible."

DBL Craft Group

DBL Stitching Group in Dover have been supporters of the charity for many years, and we have been delighted to receive their gorgeous donations of knitted items and crafted items, which are handed to our patients across the Trust.

The hours, cost of materials and skills over the years are tremendous and we are incredibly grateful!



Skydive for Poorly Children

Danielle and Tony jumped out of a plane at 12,000 feet in June 2024, raising £664.38 for East Kent Hospitals Charity.

The best friends, who work at JD Pipes in Ashford, donate toys directly to the children's ward at William Harvey Hospital in Ashford each Christmas with their colleagues, and were inspired to do more to help.

Danielle said: "You can't help be inspired when you visit the hospital and see the children, who are so full of joy at such a difficult time in their young lives.

"The charity is very close to our hearts and we hope to raise as much as possible to help these inspirational children and spread some smiles.

"Tony and I have wanted to do a skydive for a while, and so we decided to combine it with raising money at the same time."

Dee Neligan, head of East Kent Hospitals Charity, said: "JDP Ashford have been incredibly supportive of Padua Ward for the past three years, and donated thousands of pounds worth of toys and games at Christmas.

"We're delighted Danielle and Tony have taken on this additional challenge, which will help bring in extra money to spend on items to make being in hospital more bearable for some of our youngest patients.

"We are very grateful for their continued support."



Goody Bags for Young Patients

Many thanks to the team from the Sophie Foundation, formerly the Top Model Foundation, who donated goody bags for young patients at the QEQM.

Trustee Geoff Cox visited the children's emergency department on his birthday in June 2024, with the latest delivery. They have been supporting child health services with direct donations across the Trust since 2020.

Geoff said: "I couldn't think of a better way to spend my birthday than this."

"Everyone at East Kent Hospitals Charity and the children's emergency department at QEQM does a truly amazing job and we're blessed to be able to do our bit to support their work."

The foundation supports children, and raises money at model awards and fashion shows, including during London Fashion Week.



Horace's Fundraising Dinners

A radio presenter helped raise £500 in memory of his mum, to benefit other cancer patients.

Horace Hotman raises thousands of pounds for local charities through organised fundraising dinners at Da's Thai Diner in Broadstairs, and raffles during his coach trips.

We were thrilled to welcome him to the Viking Day Unit in July 2024, to celebrate a donation of £500.

Horace undertook his fundraising efforts in memory of his mother, who received exceptional care at the Viking Day Unit. Horace extended his gratitude to the owners of Da's Thai Diner for the support of the fundraising, to his friends who helped with raffles and prize donations and to everyone who had attended his events.

He said: 'Without them we couldn't have raised these amounts or make a small difference to people locally.'



Twinkling Stars Fundraiser

A grieving couple raised £918.40 to support other bereaved parents after the loss of their baby daughter.

Lucy Hunt and Ben Hook, from Dunkirk, near Faversham, completed a 10mile sponsored walk for East Kent Hospitals Charity, to be spent on the Twinkling Stars suite at the William Harvey Hospital.

Ben and Lucy, 27, said: "We were so grateful to be able to use the suite and to make some special memories with Evie."

"Having the suite meant we could spend a little bit longer with her and that was so important."

"After her funeral we decided we were going to fundraise and we hope the money benefit other parents who sadly find themselves needing to use it."

Lucy had a healthy pregnancy until the 20 week scan, when clinicians spotted an issue with her cervix. She was admitted to hospital twice while medics tried different interventions but they were unable to prevent her going into labour, and baby Evie was born at 22 weeks and four days.

"The bereavement midwives were absolutely amazing and are still in touch and it means a lot to know they are there if we need support."

Lucy and Ben visited the team to hand over the funds raised from their sponsored walk from Faversham to Whitstable with Lucy's dad, as well as a special light Lucy bought which matched one given to her and Ben as a gift.



Former Nurse Raises Thousands for Dementia

Sue Threadingham began fundraising for East Kent Hospitals Charity's dementia appeal in 2016, after her mother died with dementia, and has raised £12,266.47 to date by selling home-made jams, chutneys, produce and crafts from a stall outside her house in Sellindge, near Ashford - £2,009.48 of which was raised in this financial year alone!

She also visits fairs and events across Kent with her items, which often prove so popular they sell out.

Sue, 75, said: "I have worked for the NHS my whole career and I know the best way to change and improve things is to be proactive and so I decided to do just that and fundraise to help make improvements possible."



New Year's Day Dip



Carrie Merry, chemotherapy matron, healthcare assistant Kerry Tolley, and chemotherapy sister Izzy Cousins braved the freezing waters off Ramsgate to raise money for East Kent Hospitals Charity.

The dip took place on Sunday, 5 January, after bad weather meant it could not go ahead on New Year's Day as planned.

Carrie and Kerry will turn 50 this year and wanted to start their birthday year with a bang, and raise money for cancer patients at the Viking Day Unit at QEOM, where Kerry and Izzy work. Carrie was manager of the unit until she took up her matron role.

Carrie said: "The support we received was amazing and we are so grateful to everyone who has sponsored us.

"It actually wasn't as bad as I thought it would be so now I'm thinking it could be an annual event.

"The idea came from some of our patients who like cold water swimming, and I initially joked that I could join them to start off our 50th birthday year in style, and then suddenly it all became real!

"But we're delighted with how much we raised and we know it will make a real difference to our patients."

The friends had initially hoped to raise £1,000, but have now surpassed £3,000 with online donations and in buckets on the unit and on the beach on the day.

UV Volleyball

A huge thank you to Canterbury Christ Church University Volleyball Team for organising a charity UV volleyball tournament in aid of East Kent Hospitals Charity.

Around 50 students from different sports clubs across Christchurch Uni took part in the glow in the dark event, with a DJ playing throughout.

The event was organised by club president James Baird and they raised £963.57 which will go towards child services.



CCU Cake Sale

The Critical Care Unit at Kent and Canterbury Hospital hosted an extremely successful cake sale, raising £995.50 for their Unit.

Lucy Coombs, Critical Care Sister said: "We were sold out by 13:00 and we had A LOT of cake! I'm still buzzing, it was incredible how busy it was and how lovely everyone was. I really appreciate all the support from you and your colleagues."



Mount Snowdon

A team of five from QEOM maternity unit set themselves the challenge of scaling Mount Snowdon in aid of East Kent Hospitals Charity.

Emma Chapman, Hannah Sloane, Theresa Sloane, Melissa Key and Abigail Burgess, reached the summit in 7 hours. Their remarkable achievement was made even more special as they beat their fundraising target, raising a total of £545 for our maternity services.



04

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Corporate Support



Not only have we been supported by our amazing communities this year, we have also been delighted to work with a number of local and regional businesses who have offered their corporate support.

Altruist Sunscreen, founded by East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust consultant dermatologist, Dr Andrew Birnie, generously donated thousands of bottles of hand cream and body lotion for very grateful teams across the Trust. We were thrilled to deliver these across all five hospital sites.



The team at **The Golden Lion** pub at Broad Oak have supported East Kent Hospitals Charity since 2022. During 2024, they focussed their fundraising efforts to support the Twinkling Stars Suite at the William Harvey Hospital. Following a successful year comprising of raffles and pub quizzes, they have raised an amazing £2,000 for the Unit and plan to continue fundraising in 2025.



The Jolly Farmer pub in Manston organised a hugely successful fundraiser over the August bank holiday for the Viking Day Unit at QEQM, raising £2,554.77 in total. Clare and Lee plan to continue to fundraise for the Viking Day Unit, as it is a cause very close to theirs, and their customer's hearts.



We were delighted to be chosen as the Charity of the Year by **Fowler Welch** in Teynham, who raised £2,942.88 for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the William Harvey Hospital. The team at Fowler Welch undertook various fundraising activities during this financial year, including a 10k walk from King George's Park in Sittingbourne- with three dogs in tow!



Luke and the team across the **Garage Coffee** chain raised £1,285.65 charging customers 10p for a take-away cup, with the money going towards the special care baby unit at the Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital in Margate. Luke chose to raise funds for the SCBU in celebration of the care that his little boy Ronnie received in 2023.



“

Being able to support such an impactful project and a fantastic local charity is a real privilege.

”

More patients in critical care will have their last wishes come true thanks to ongoing support from Kent-based construction firm, **Bauvill**.

Bauvill have raised £41,875.50 for East Kent Hospitals Charity to date, with funds going directly to the 3 Wishes Project, a project which aims to bring comfort to patients who die in critical care by granting 'wishes' to patients at the end of their life. Following a cheque presentation in March, we received a further £11,174.20 in April 2024.

Natalie Daly, ward manager for critical care said: "We are so grateful for Bauvill's continued support for the 3 Wishes Project. So far, we have granted 150 'wishes' which range from taking patients in to our garden, providing movie nights, bringing a family pet in to visit, or providing transport to bring people together for those important last hours."

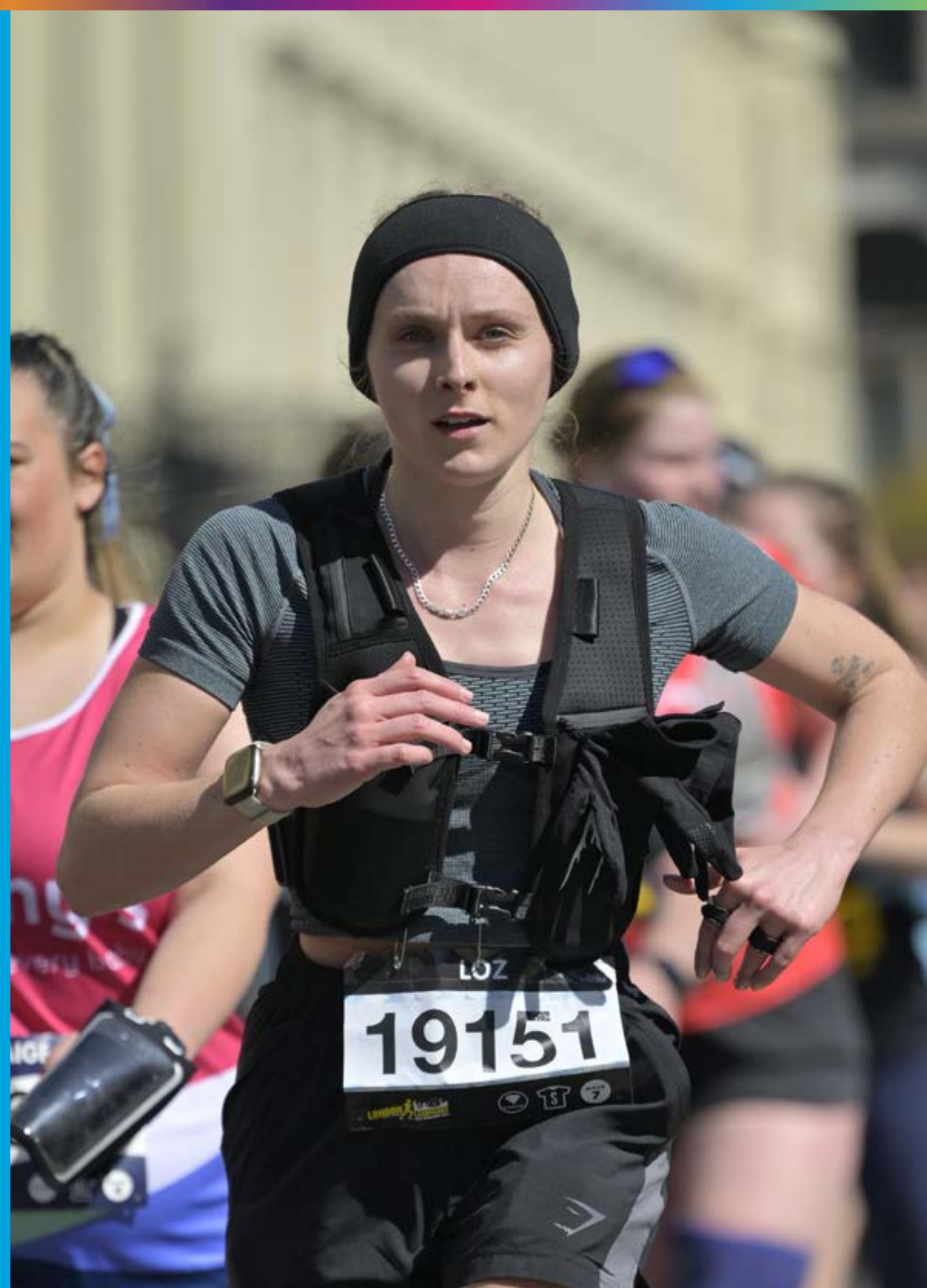
Matt Gurr, Managing Director at Bauvill said: "We are very pleased to continue supporting East Kent Hospitals Charity as one of our nominated charities this year. We have partnered with East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust for a long time now, working alongside clinical teams as we deliver key infrastructure projects where we have witnessed first-hand the selfless care they provide to patients."

"We fundraised this year through a series of fundraiser events such as our annual Charity Gala Ball held at Gillingham Football Club, and our successful Golf Day at Ashford Golf Course. We've also received generous donations from our supply chain and members of staff."

"Being able to support such an impactful project and a fantastic local charity is a real privilege. It doesn't take much for us to help, but we like to think our contributions have a positive impact on patients, their families, and even staff members."

05

Events and Campaigns



Run for Charity Sign Ups



We are so grateful for all donations that we receive, and have been developing our events offering over the last couple of years, to give those who want to support our Charity an opportunity to take part in a lifelong dream, 'bucket list' challenge, or simply to do something different.

We are signed up to the Run For Charity platform, with access to many local, regional and national fundraising event opportunities, giving our supporters a wide variety of choice when they fundraise for us. The platform guarantees us spaces in coveted races that have a limited number of ballot places.

We are so proud of the amazing participants that signed up for one of these events in 2024/2025.

Royal Parks Half

Discharge Coordinator, Ria Sage, raised £656.34 for us in the Royal Parks Half Marathon! Ria completed the race in 2 hours and 36 minutes. She said: "Working at William Harvey Hospital has given me a greater understanding of the needs for the funds, which I know will go to a good cause to help patients during their hospital stay."



London 10K

Senior occupational therapist, Amy Jackson and physiotherapist, Pippa Barnes teamed up for the ASICS London 10K. Together they raised £637.02 to benefit our hospitals.



Inflatable 5K

EKHUFT pharmacy team raised £262.21 with a fun inflatable obstacle course. Kam Sahota, who is lead general and specialist medicine pharmacist, said: "For us it's been a real opportunity to support each other and build the team outside of work while raising money for a great cause."



Rachel Smith

Rachel Smith took part in the Battersea Marathon in November 2024 and the Deal Tri Half Marathon in February 2025 for East Kent Hospitals Charity.

Rachel, a Validation Team Manager based at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Folkestone, was fundraising for cancer services across the Trust and raised £480.65 in total.



Daniel Moles

A massive thank you to Daniel Moles, who raised £1,925.67 for the Thomas Becket Renal Unit at Kent and Canterbury Hospital after completing the Alton Towers Half Marathon!

Daniel ran in memory of his father, John, who sadly passed away in 2024 at the age of 56, after a long battle with diabetes and diabetic kidney disease. For four years, John received dialysis three times a week at the Renal Unit, and Daniel has said his family is incredibly grateful for the care, dignity, and respect John received throughout his treatment.

He said: "Dad was a regular and well-remembered patient at The Thomas Beckett Renal Unit, and received the utmost care, dignity and respect from the team.

"Dialysis was tough, he was increasingly exhausted after his treatment, and spent much time recovering from each session.

"Dad's mobility also deteriorated very quickly meaning he was not able to get out of the hospital ward as often as he would have liked. Despite this, he continued to enjoy time with his family and would often go into the hospital garden with his wife Racheal and sit on the bench and have conversations with other patients and their relatives.

"I knew nothing about kidney disease before my

father's diagnosis, and as his only son I felt a bit useless not being able to help him.

"But the Alton Towers half marathon has given me a way to do that by raising awareness of kidney disease and generating funds that will go to improve the experience of other patients at the hospital."



Boonies

We hosted the Colour Run Obstacle Assault Course Challenge in September 2024, raising £3,651.33 for East Kent Hospitals Charity.

The event was organised by Boonies Outdoors and held at Betteshanger Country Park in Deal on Sunday 29th September. It was the second time that East Kent Hospitals Charity were their official charity partner, having supported the Survival Rewind Challenge in 2023.

The event was a colour run with a twist – participants faced more than 30 obstacles to power through, on an all-weather course situated in the picturesque Kent countryside, through clouds of brightly coloured powder.

The family-friendly assault course was extremely popular and East Kent Hospitals University Trust staff members were among those to sign up. Teams from Padua ward and Child Health took part, with both groups more than doubling their fundraising targets.

Stacey Parker, Bereavement Midwife at William

Harvey Hospital, was team captain for the individual team that fundraised the largest amount. Together they raised £916.20 to be spent on the Twinkling Stars suite at the William Harvey Hospital. This is a dedicated space for parents to spend time with their baby, supported by specialist bereavement midwives, away from the hustle and bustle of the maternity wards.

Beau Mabb, aged 7, took part and raised £162.86 for Padua children's ward at the William Harvey Hospital.

Beau's mum, Kelsey Mabb said: "Beau has always wanted to help others ever since a young age. As a family Padua ward holds a very special place in our hearts, as Beau's cousin has spent a lot of time being treated there due to a lifelong diagnosis."

Head of East Kent Hospitals Charity, Dee Neligan said: "We were thrilled to partner again with Boonies Outdoors and Betteshanger Country Park. The event was expertly organised by Jay Ingram, Director at Boonies Outdoors.

"Brave entrants tackled a number of obstacles, including rope swings, water slides, tunnels and more. I had the pleasure of throwing powdered paint at participants as they ran past one of the many colour stations around the course and it was a joy to see everyone having so much fun.

"We are incredibly lucky to have been supported at the event by so many amazing fundraisers, including staff from our hospitals, who are passionate about supporting the work that we do."

Park Manager for Betteshanger Country Park, Ben Trott said: "As hosting venue and in partnership with Boonies, we are delighted that this event raised important funds for a great charity. The day was full of colour in every way, putting the 'fun' into fundraising!"



Festive Campaign 2024

Impact

December is a highlight for the charity each year as we see a huge effort from our communities to support our hospitals during the festive season. The Charity team also take the opportunity to visit every ward, department and service across the Trust in order to spread festive cheer to our valued colleagues and raise awareness of the charity's purpose and achievements.

We believe that 2024's festive campaign was our most successful to date, considering engagement across our various channels and platforms, the number of direct donations that we received from our wonderful supporters, and the increased amount of financial donations that has grown, year on year.

In 2024 we:

- Visited more than 330 wards, departments and offices, handing out 183 kg of festive sweet treats to staff - approximately the weight of an adult reindeer!
- Provided 18 areas across the Trust with our 'festive fund'- enabling staff to make patient's spaces cheerful and festive.
- Received direct donations from at least 40 different groups, companies and individuals which benefitted patients and wards directly.
- Received £16,190.47 in financial donations from our supporters.



“I would like to thank you all for your generous donations to put some decorations in our department. This really means a lot for our patients, keeps the festive mood and distracts them from the pain of the treatment for cancer.
Abraham Joseph, Clinical Specialist in radiotherapy

SEASONS GREETINGS & Happy New Year

Mailout

We sent our Christmas Cards to over 288 of our donors and supporters of 2024.

We included a newsletter as well as a sustainable Christmas decoration, which we encouraged people to take photos of, and tag us on their social media accounts - in order to increase our visibility.

This also ensured that almost 300 people were made aware of our events offerings for 2025, as well as being thanked for their support.



Social Media

During the festive period we relied heavily on our social media campaign in order to raise awareness of the charity, and the giving opportunities that are available, particularly focussing on our amazon wishlists, which were very popular.

The campaign included native (non-paid) posts on Facebook and Instagram, which comprised 25 native posts and 41 native stories. We also ran paid adverts on Instagram and Facebook with a budget of £800. The paid adverts included a festive themed video and three static ads. These clicked through to our Christmas Appeal landing page to encourage donations and raise awareness.

The social media campaign saw a combined reach of our content to 84,752 people during the period. This is a 2.5% increase from 2023.



WW Martin's Chilly Challenge

To close their year of supporting East Kent Hospitals Charity, WW Martin and their colleagues from Metek undertook their final fundraiser in December 2024, braving the freezing Dover Harbour for their 'Chilly Challenge'- raising an amazing £982.48!



OrbitalNet

The team from OrbitalNet, based in Bekesbourne, selected us as their charity to support for Christmas 2024, donating £1,000! We were delighted to welcome them to the William Harvey Hospital so that we could demonstrate the impact of their donation on the specific areas that they wished to support - the neonatal intensive care unit and Padua ward.



Wye Christmas Countdown

The Race family have organised an annual Christmas Market at the Village Hall in Wye for several years, raising funds for activities and entertainment for the patients in Padua Ward.

Kicking off the festive activities for the charity, we attended the market in November 2024 and were wowed by the beautiful stalls, wonderful cakes and delicious coffee. Many residents of the local community attended the fair, beginning their Christmas shopping and supporting the Race's fundraising.

Thanks to the family's efforts we gratefully received a donation of £2,439.15.



KMFM Give A Gift

We have worked closely with KMFM's Give a Gift campaign since 2022 and were thrilled to be selected once again to receive direct donations of toys, games and other gifts for patients in children's wards across the Trust.

The Give A Gift campaign focusses on spreading joy to young people in hospitals, care facilities, and those facing difficult circumstances across Kent, and KMFM's listeners are encouraged to donate items to their studios for distribution.

Clementine, Play Lead for CADC said: "These will all really help settle children before they go for planned surgeries and calm them in clinics, thank you so much!"



06

Projects





We have funded projects worth £738,000 during 2024-25

Items that we have funded include innovative medical equipment, patient and staff education and welfare and improving the hospital environment.

We are guided and inspired by staff across East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust to implement these projects and initiatives that make such an impact on patients, staff and visitors to our hospitals.

Some inputs are very small indeed - such as the provision of 'bravery stickers' for children accessing care on the wards, or providing lifelike animal teddies to patients living with dementia - but they make a very big difference. We have also been pleased to be able to continue to provide ad hoc items for patients and families accessing the 3 Wishes Project across our Critical Care Units.

Other projects are more complex, and we have detailed a wide range of examples in the following pages. We are so grateful for the support of our fundraisers, donors and communities, whose efforts ensure that we can continue to provide such meaningful projects.

Home Haemo Chairs

Patients who have home dialysis now have a more comfortable experience thanks to our funding of five new dialysis chairs, costing £19,995 in total.

Each chair is electric so easy to recline, and is also height adjustable, and are used by patients for four hours at a time during each treatment.

Renal home therapies manager Paula Debling, who leads care for home dialysis patients with colleague Arlyn Enabore, said: "These chairs have allowed our patients to move from a manual recliner to electric. The manual chairs were difficult to reset after being in the recline position, and the new chairs will be much easier to use and more comfortable."

"We know our patients are going to be delighted with them and are very grateful to East Kent Hospitals Charity for funding them."

East Kent Hospitals' home dialysis service is county-wide, and the team looks after 24 patients who have their treatment at home. They are supported by renal technicians who provide technical back-up and repairs to the machine.

Paula added: "Our patients really are an exceptional bunch of people who have embraced the training we provide and are confident managing their dialysis at home, often with the support of a partner or family member."

"Some people need treatment six times a week, and some choose to dialyse overnight, so the chairs will be particularly appreciated in allowing them somewhere comfortable to rest while they undergo treatment."



Padua Sensory Room

We were thrilled to fund the installation of a new sensory room for children to use in Padua Ward at William Harvey Hospital, costing £12,033.89

The cosy space will provide a safe and calm environment for children to visit if they feel scared, overwhelmed, or just need somewhere a bit quieter to play.

A parent of a regular patient said:

"My little boy Harry has used the sensory room on more than one occasion of our regular visits to the William Harvey hospital. He really enjoys the space it helps keep him calm and relaxed, which is a much-needed distraction for him and myself as a parent. I feel the sensory room is a wonderful feature to the hospital ward which so many children benefit from."

Another parent commented:

"My 12 month old was in a couple of weeks ago and we got to go in briefly. It's a great little space for children who can't walk yet but want to move around."



Pride

During July 2024, we were proud to fund the pledge board, stickers, and t-shirts for the LGBTQIA+ Staff Network, who hosted a number of events across East Kent Hospitals, celebrating Pride.

Costing £980.00, these events sought to raise awareness of the staff network, as well as encourage staff and visitors to make their commitment towards our LGBTQIA+ communities.



TLC Packages

In December 2024, we funded gorgeous TLC packages for parents coming into the neonatal intensive care unit, containing items such as lip balms, hand creams and other useful goodies.

The NICU team were inspired to make an application to us for these packages when considering feedback from families coming through the unit's doors about how their experience could be improved. We granted funding of £400 for this initiative. This is a project that is relatively inexpensive, but makes a big impact.





Khaas Baskets

We were thrilled to celebrate Avneet's 'Khaas basket' project at the MediLead event in July 2024.

The Khaas Basket is filled with special items such as noise cancelling headphones, making the experience of visiting the hospital easier for young patients who have autism. We are proud to have been able to fund this project, costing £158.89 in total, and support Avneet with her innovative idea!

MediLead is the EKHUFT leadership development programme and Dr Avneet Kaur Dhandee spent time on Rainbow Ward as part of her first paediatrics rotation as a newly qualified doctor. Having grown up with a brother who is autistic, she was inspired by her experiences to create a basket of items that would help children on the ward with autism overcome the challenges of visiting a hospital environment.

Phlebotomy Screens

We love to be able fund items to brighten the hospital environment for our visitors, and were delighted to support the phlebotomy team at Kent and Canterbury Hospital with the purchase of a child-friendly privacy screen. The screens, costing £1,386, help younger patients feel less nervous when in the hospital environment.

The colourful screen is one of the ways the team hope to make blood tests less scary for children.

Phlebotomy service manager Liz Bates said: "Blood tests can be frightening experiences for some, so we are trying to make the experience as pleasant as we possibly can. This welcome addition is sure to be a firm favourite with our younger patients."



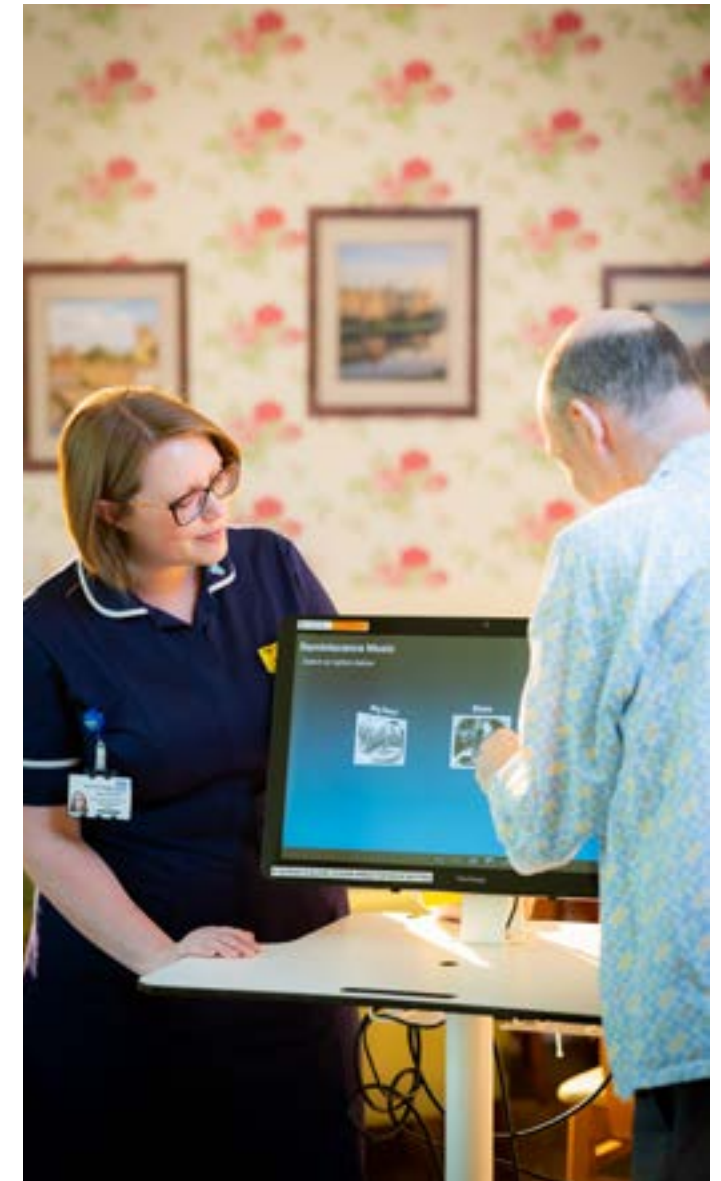
RITAs

In previous years we have invested heavily in Reminiscent Interactive Therapeutic Activities (RITAs), which provide patients - especially those living with dementia - access to games, music, films and other interactive activities, to be enjoyed as a group or on an individual basis.

The RITAs provide distraction and entertainment whilst in hospital, and we know that families enjoy using them with their loved ones. They promote conversation and meaningful interaction during visits.

Staff use the RITAs as an important psychosocial and therapeutic resource when caring for patients, as well as utilising them in participation activities, such as 'tea parties', bingo games and sing-alongs. This encourages patients to take part in enjoyable communal activities, away from the ward environment.

In order to sustain these important devices and ensure that they remain useable a further three years, the Charitable Funds Committee committed £60,000 towards the maintenance of the devices which included uploading new software and content media, extending the licence for the RITAs and ensuring ongoing access to support and training for the devices.



X-ray Aprons

We funded new child-friendly aprons for our colleagues at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, arriving in August 2024.

Costing £1,133.96, the lead-lined aprons are used to allow staff to stay with babies when they have an x-ray. It means they can provide comfort and make sure the baby is in the correct position for the x-ray, avoiding the risk of having to repeat it and exposing them to unnecessary radiation.



Charity – Plans for Future Periods

East Kent Hospitals Charity continues to evolve and respond to the changing charity landscape both regionally and nationally. The end of financial year 2024/25 marks the first year of our charity strategy and we have had numerous successes during this time, detailed within this report. We have implemented, or are progressing, two thirds of our strategic objectives and are looking forward, with enthusiasm, to the coming year and the impact that the charity can have upon the hospital experience across East Kent Hospitals.

We continue to respond with resilience to factors such as the ongoing economic pressures on individual and corporate giving and public attitudes towards the NHS and East Kent Hospitals. Our increased size as a team has provided us with opportunities to have a greater 'reach' across our communities and potential supporters.

2024/25 was a period of change for the charity, and the coming year will focus on our growth. We plan to utilise our learning and knowledge, growing on our previous achievements and moving forward into several different campaigns, such as developing our legacy offerings, revitalising our charity lottery and launching our major appeal - focussing on chemotherapy services. In addition to this we will explore increased corporate support opportunities, increase our grant applications to external funders and identify more fundraising initiatives and prospects that we can avail.

As we step into 2025/26, we are eager and motivated to continue to enable significant improvements and enhancements to our hospitals, observe the noticeable impact that our work has, and celebrate the wonderful support of our donors and fundraisers.



Financial Summary

“ Without this support the work of the Charity to provide additional facilities, support to patients, relatives and staff and enhance the services provided by the Trust would not be possible. ”

The summary

The Charity's main source of income comes from the generosity and efforts of the public who give voluntary donations as a thank you for the care they or their friends and family receive. Donations are through fundraising, in memory of loved ones or legacies.

Without this support the work of the Charity to provide additional facilities, support to patients, relatives and staff and enhance the services provided by the Trust would not be possible.

The following figures provide an overview and are drawn from the full Annual Accounts at the back of this report.

At the end of the financial year the charity's total funds held were £1.7m, of which £1.0m was held in restricted funds and £0.7m in unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds are those which the donor has made a binding restriction on the purpose or location where their monies can be spent. Unrestricted funds reflect the wishes or expectations of the donor by supporting the service or specialty identified.

The charity's remaining funds balance is held in endowment. This fund allows the charity to spend the interest from the fund whilst holding the original value intact (capital value).

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going-concern basis. The trustees have reviewed the charity's plans and have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, cast significant doubt on the charity'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.

Where our income came from

The Charity received a total of £0.5m income for the year; a small increase of £0.01m when compared with 2023/24.

The charity has worked proactively with their Investment managers – Cazenove (part of the Schroders Group) to minimise the impact of volatile markets. 2024/25 saw a net unrealised gain on investments of £0.02m (gain of £0.1m 2023/24).

Investment income received in the year from dividends and interest in respect of funds held with Cazenove was £49k, a reduction of £31k from 2023/24. This represented a total yield of 3.1% for the year against a benchmark performance of 3%.



What we spent our funds on

The Charity spends the funds received in accordance with charity law, its grant making policy and respecting the wishes of the donors.

This year the Charity spent 81% (including support costs) of its total expenditure in providing equipment and supporting the wellbeing of staff and patients of the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

The Charity works hard to ensure that expenditure achieves benefits to the patients and visitors who use the facilities and the services which may not otherwise be possible within the constraint of the Trust's budgets.

Trustees consider each application (those over £25k) on merit and aim to support the patient, staff and visitor's wellbeing, experience and outcomes.

This is achieved through investment in medical equipment that provides technological advances in treatments, and supporting projects that include the equipping and refurbishment of staff and patient spaces. This often involves updating spaces for staff rest and respite, reflective spaces used by patients and their families, or rooms utilised for sensitive consultations - places where the atmosphere and environment leaves a lasting impact on the individual, their experience and wellbeing.

A summary of the categories of grants given to the Trust are listed below;

- Medical equipment £0.39m
- Building and refurbishment £0.08m
- Patient education and welfare £0.14m
- Staff education and welfare £0.12m

Accounting rules (FRS102) require that the governance and administrative costs be included in the value of the grant (charity activity) and therefore the accounts report the value of the grant plus apportioned costs of £109k (see note 3).

The trustees review the costs on an annual basis to ensure that they reflect the requirements to administer the Charity in compliance with current legislation and effective day to day management of the funds.

The Charity is a member of the NHS Charities Together and uses their data to benchmark administration and fundraising costs. This comparison looks at NHS Charities of a similar size and geographical spread.



08

Structure, Governance & Management

The charity exists to raise and receive charity donations and covers the funds given to wards, departments and services provided by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

The East Kent Hospitals Charity is a registered charity (charity number 1076555)*

The charity exists to raise and receive charity donations and covers the funds given to wards, departments and services provided by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust. The following hospitals are the primary sites although outreach and other units and clinics are supported:

- William Harvey Hospital (WHH), Ashford
- Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital (QEQM), Margate
- Kent & Canterbury Hospital (K&CH), Canterbury
- Buckland Hospital (BHD), Dover
- Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH), Folkestone

The objectives of the Charity as stated in the governing document are:

‘The trustees shall hold the trust fund upon trust to apply the income, and at their discretion, so far as may be permissible, the capital, for any charitable purpose relating to the National Health Service’.

At the balance sheet date, 31st March 2025, there were a total of 41 individual funds established under this Umbrella registration. Of those funds 19 are restricted, or special purpose funds and some of these are registered under the Umbrella as subsidiary charities governed by separate objects within the Charities Commission guidelines for fund expenditure. See page 55.

The remaining 22 funds are Unrestricted or Designated Funds created for donations received for use by hospitals, wards and departments to reflect donors’ wishes. These do not form a binding trust.

The major funds within these categories are disclosed in Note 8 in the accounts. The total value of funds held at 31st March 2025 was £1.7m.

The Umbrella registration allows for a single set of consolidated accounts for all the subsidiary charities and funds held under the Umbrella. However, separate accounts for each fund are maintained to enable identification of transactions and balances.

(*The charity was established in April 1999 by Declaration of Trust Deed as East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust Charitable Fund and amended by trustee resolutions and supplemental deeds to incorporate name and structure changes.)

The contact address is:

East Kent Hospitals Charity
Level 3 Trust Offices,
Kent & Canterbury Hospital,
Ethelbert Road, Canterbury,
Kent CT1 3NG
Telephone: 01227 868748

The Trustees

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) is the Corporate Trustee, empowered by the NHS Act 2006. The Board of Directors effectively adopts the role of trustee as defined by the Charity Commission.

Individual members of the Board are not trustees under Charity Law, but act as agents on behalf of the Corporate Trustee. The Council of Governors is responsible for the appointment of the Chairman and Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) and approving the appointment of the Chief Executive. The council of Governors are elected and appointed to post. For further details visit www.ekhuft.nhs.uk.

None of the trustees have received reimbursements or remuneration from the Charity for either their work or expenses incurred in this financial year whilst undertaking their responsibilities for the Charity.

The following Trust Directors and Non-Executive Directors were/are members of the Charitable Funds Committee during the reported period and are considered to be the key management personnel for the charity:

Charitable Funds Committee - Executive Directors

Angela van der Lem
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER



November 2024
- Present

2/2 meetings
attended

Tim Glenn
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER



November 2023 -
November 2024

2/2 meetings
attended

Ben Stevens
CHIEF STRATEGY
& PARTNERSHIPS
OFFICER



March 2023- Present

4/4 meetings
attended

Charitable Funds Committee - Non-Executive Directors

Richard Oirschott
NON-EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



March 2023 - Present

4/4 meetings
attended

Claudia Sykes
CHAIR OF CFC/ NON-
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



March 2023- Present

4/4 meetings
attended



Administrative Structure: Charitable Funds Committee

Acting for the Corporate Trustee, the Charitable Funds Committee (CFC) was established as a separate committee in August 2008 to provide a dedicated team to manage the affairs of the Charity independently from the business of the Trust, whilst still linking closely with its strategic objectives.

It is responsible for the management of the Charitable Fund under the Terms of Reference which are reviewed annually and updated where required to meet the changing needs of the Charity. The CFC meets routinely (quarterly) and additional meetings are held if required.

All new members of the CFC attend an induction course for charity trustees within 6 months of appointment unless they have proven knowledge and experience as a trustee. Delegated signatories are provided with guidelines and information regarding the Charity to ensure they understand their responsibilities.

The CFC review the Charity's affairs as outlined below:

- Performance and management of investments
- Financial matters relating to cash management
- Charity Policies
- Management of properties
- Review grant allocations to achieve objectives
- Approval of Grants over £25k as per the Scheme of Delegation
- Recommendation of grants over £100k to the Board of Directors
- Approve Strategy
- Agree administration, fundraising and audit budget

The recommendations of the CFC are taken to the next available Board of Directors meeting for ratification. Members are required to disclose all relevant interests at the start of meetings and withdraw from decisions when a conflict of interest arises.

Officers

The Charity has 5.2 whole time equivalent (wte) staff employed by the Trust in accordance with the NHS Agenda for Change terms and conditions. Staff costs are recharged to the Charity as per budget agreed annually by the Charitable Funds Committee. Professional services and advisors are appointed by the Charity as required.

1.0 wte staff are responsible for the daily administration of the funds including applications, all financial transactions and procedures, policies and financial reporting to the CFC including the production of the Annual Accounts and Report.

The remaining 4.2 wte are employed as Fundraisers to the Charity, responsible for the management of all aspects of fundraising for the Charity including supporting internal and external fundraisers, overseeing and arranging fundraising events, volunteers and the marketing.

Advisors

Investment Managers

Schroder & Co Ltd
T/as Cazenove Capital
12 Moorgate
London
EC2R 6DA

Bankers

Lloyds Banking Group
2 City Place
Beehive Ring Road
Gatwick
RH6 0PA

Auditors

Azets Audit Services
Ashford Commercial Quarter
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NHS Charities Together (formally Association of NHS Charities)

East Kent Hospitals Charity is an active member of the NHS Charities Together whose role is to support, and to be the voice, of all NHS Charities in England and Wales.

The principal aim of the Association is to promote the effective working of NHS Charities, collect donations made to the NHS and distribute to members via grants.

Being a member offers our Charity a wide range of support, networking and information services as well as adopting best practice across the sector.

To find out more please visit:
www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk

09

Objectives & Activities

Grant Making Policy

The Charity makes grants from its unrestricted and restricted funds. A Scheme of Delegation is maintained for the authorisation of grants and signatories are aligned to The Trust delegated signatories.

The staff are made aware of the Trust's Standing Financial Instructions and Orders which are also applicable to the Charitable Funds. All signatories receive a monthly financial statement of all the charity's funds.

Grants are made for specific purposes and projects under an application process. All application over £25k are reviewed by the Charitable Funds Committee (CFC) to ensure that they meet the objectives of the Charity.

The CFC review the applications for quality, value for money and patient benefit. Where any expenditure is considered inappropriate feedback is provided to the applicant.

No fund is permitted to operate in an overdrawn position and although an application may be approved this may be subject to the ward or department securing the fundraising to support all or part of the project.

Risk statement

During the year the trustees continued to review the major risks to the Charity. The Charity uses the Trust procedures and processes. These systems undergo annual audit and risk reviews and action plans to mitigate the risks.

The significant areas of risk have been identified as:

- Fall in investment capital and returns
- Reduction in income levels
- Reconfiguration of NHS services

The trustees have mitigated these risks by:

- Retaining expert investment managers
- Maintaining a diversified low risk portfolio
- Review performance against benchmarks
- Utilise cash holdings in Short Term Deposits to maximise returns and diversify investment opportunities
- Reviewing the investment in Fundraising and analysing major and specific appeals and projects to identify effectiveness of approach and performance
- Working with the Trust to understand the changes in strategic approach to delivery of services.

In the trustees' opinion all appropriate action has been taken to ensure the risks are mitigated.

Investment Powers

The investment powers are stated in the Declaration of Trust which provides for the following:

"To invest the trust fund and any part thereof in the purchase of or at interest upon the security of such stocks, funds, securities or other investments of whatsoever nature and where so ever situate as the trustees in their discretion think fit but so that the trustees:

- a) shall exercise such power with the care that a prudent person of business would in making investments for a person for whom he felt morally obliged to provide;
- b) shall not make any speculative or hazardous investment (and, for the avoidance of doubt, this power to invest does not extend to the laying out of money on the acquisition of futures and traded options);
- c) shall not have power under this clause to engage in trading ventures; and
- d) shall have regard to the need for diversification of investments in the circumstances of the Charity and to the suitability of proposed investments."

Investment Objective

The investment objective is to seek to maximise the total return from the fund consistent with a relatively low degree of risk. The target is to achieve a 3% return annually.

Trustees have directed the investment managers to take an ethical approach to the portfolio and that no investments should be made in the shares of tobacco producing companies and will also avoid investment in companies that have more than 10% of their turnover in:

- Alcohol Manufacture
- Armaments
- Gambling
- Pornography

The ethical restrictions are not considered to be so restrictive as to be likely to impact on long term performance.

Investment Performance

The investment managers were granted discretionary management powers under contract in January 2013.

The total value of the investment portfolio at 31 March 2025 was £1.6m (excluding cash of £41k).

2024/25 saw an unrealised gain on investments held of £0.02m. Dividends for 2024/25 were £49k.

The CFC monitored and reviewed the performance of the investment managers on a quarterly basis as part of the Finance Report.

The investment managers are required to meet with the trustees at least once in any one financial year, to explain any deviation from the anticipated rate of return in order that investment opportunities can be maximised. Investment managers are asked to explain exceptional losses and proposed recovery plans.

There is an annual review of the investment policy within the Charity Management Document to ensure that returns are maximised at medium to low risk. Unless the donor has expressed a specific request regarding investment, the investment of funds is in accordance with the Trustees Investment Act 1961.

Reserves Policy

The trustees recognise their obligation to ensure that income received by the Charity should be spent effectively and promptly in accordance with the funds' objects.

It is however considered prudent that a minimum reserve of £0.3m should be held to cover contingencies, particularly stock market fluctuations, commitments where conditions have been met (£0.3m 2023/24).

Charity Reserves as defined under SORP 2019 are those funds which become available to the charity to be spent at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the charity's objectives, excluding funds which are spent or committed or could only be realised through the disposal of fixed assets. These are therefore classified as 'free'.

Definition of Funds

Restricted Funds

Funds which are subject to specific trusts e.g. terms of will.

Endowment Funds

Funds which are to be held as capital and only the income generated can be expended. In 2024/25 £22k of endowment funds were transferred by the Trustees to restricted funds, to ensure funds are utilised whilst still meeting the original purpose. See note 8 for further details.

Designated Funds

Funds held for specific wards or services or a particular hospital in consideration of donors wishes. They do not form any binding Trust and can be transferred to general purpose funds at the discretion of the trustees.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees, or designated in consideration of donors wishes.

The trustees have reviewed Reserves Policy and have determined that it is necessary to retain reserves over the longer term to:

- Reduce the impact of risks from the external environment should the levels of income reduce significantly
- Continue their programme of support to the Trust.
- Hold sufficient reserves to ensure the charity can cover its ongoing operational costs to process outstanding commitments.
- Meet the cost of closure or transfer of the charity's affairs should the need ever arise

At the 31st March 2025 the reserves were identified as below:

Total Endowment Funds £0.0m
Total Restricted Funds £1.0m

Total Unrestricted funds £0.7m
Less property funds (0.16m)
Freely available reserves £0.54m

The level of reserves held at 31 March 2025 is £0.24m higher than the minimum requirement of £0.3m set out in the policy.

The majority of donations received are for specific wards and services and are held as designated to the Care Group or individual ward or department in recognition of the donor's wishes.

Objects

The East Kent Hospitals Charity is registered with the Charity Commission (England and Wales) as an ‘umbrella’ charity under registration number 1076555.

Under the terms of the governing document, the trustees can use the unrestricted funds to ‘hold the trust fund upon trust to apply the income, and at their discretion, so far as may be permissible, the capital, for any charitable purpose relating to the NHS’.

The restricted funds have individual specified purposes that govern their use, in conjunction with the objects of the umbrella Charity. Some of these are registered with the Charity Commission as subsidiary charities of the Umbrella Charity. See Note 8.2 page 84.

Fund Structure

Where a donation is received under a legally binding trust, for example under the terms of a will, the funds are classified as restricted. Where the restriction is removed, either by the spending of original funds, or where no binding agreement is held, funds are re-classified as unrestricted and placed into general purpose funds or a fund that achieves the donor’s wishes.

The trustees periodically review balances held in designated funds to determine whether these funds are likely to be committed in the near future and the extent to which there is a continuing need identified for any particular fund(s). In the event that the need no longer exists, those funds will be redirected to the appropriate Care Group General Fund.

Further rationalisation is undertaken for individual funds that are not considered financially viable, or have the same objective as another fund. These funds will also be redirected to General Purposes or amalgamated with a similar fund.

The dissolution of special purpose funds is managed under Clause I in the governing documents, without the need for referral to the Charity Commission.

A continuing programme of rationalisation of funds is maintained to support the objectives of the Charity. Where funds have been received without forming a binding Trust they are designated to the appropriate Divisional Fund which is responsible for delivering the service and are classified as unrestricted.

10 Our Funds



Care Group Funds

The following funds are held as general-purpose funds for the wards and services managed under the clinical care group and are classified as unrestricted.

Urgent and Emergency Care incorporates the following specialties
Medicine & A&E

General & Specialist Medicine
Respiratory, Diabetes, General Medicine, Neurological Services, Cardiology, Renal, Tissue Viability, Gastroenterology Stroke , Health Care of Older People and integrated discharge team.

Surgery & Anaesthetics Services
Anaesthetics, Critical Care, Pain Services General Surgery, Urology

Upper Surgery – Head & Neck and Dermatology
Head and Neck, ENT, Maxillofacial, Ophthalmology, Breast Surgery & Dermatology.

Cancer Services
Cancer, Oncology and Blood Diseases and Haemophilia

Women's Services and Children's Services
Maternity, Child Health & Women's Health

Clinical Support Services
Pathology, Radiology Pharmacy, Audiology Therapies, Outpatients and Infection prevention & control

Registered Restricted Funds

The Charity holds funds for general purposes to benefit the specific NHS hospitals received through legacies and other binding agreements.

Buckland Hospital – Registration 1076555/5
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital – Registration 1076555/6
Royal Victoria Hospital – Registration 1076555/2
William Harvey Hospital – Registration 1076555/4
Kent & Canterbury Hospital - Registration 1076555/7

Other Restricted funds are held for specific purposes and/or wards and departments with the NHS Trust:

Special Care Baby Unit – William Harvey Hospital Registration 1076555/1

Renal Unit Fund – Kent and Canterbury Hospital Registration 1076555/43

Chest Clinic – Kent and Canterbury Hospital Registration 1076555/18

Lesley Court Fund – Kent and Canterbury Hospital Registration 1076555/15

P Hall Legacy HCOOP – Kent and Canterbury Hospital Registration 1076555/12

The Trustee's Annual Report is approved and signed on behalf of the Corporate Trustee on xx November 2025 by

Tracey Fletcher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Angela van der Lem
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER



Statement

Under charity law, the trustee is responsible for preparing a Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The trustee is required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the trustee:

- Selects suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Makes judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- States whether the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- States whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Assesses the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- Uses the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The trustee is required to act in accordance with the trust deed of the charity, within the framework of trust law. It is responsible for keeping accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustee to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132(1) of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. It is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the trustees;



Tracey Fletcher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: XX November 2025



Angela van der Lem
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Date: XX November 2025

11 Statement of Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements

Independent Auditors Report

Independent auditor's report to the corporate trustee of East Kent Hospitals Charitable Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Kent Hospitals Charitable Fund (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 charity 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

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the trustee's conclusions, we considered the inherent risks associated with the charity's business model, we assessed and challenged the reasonableness of estimates made by the corporate trustee and the related disclosures and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period. 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 charity'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.

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

The responsibilities of the corporate trustee with respect to going concern are described in the 'Responsibilities of the corporate trustee for the financial statements' section of this report.

Other information

The corporate trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustee's Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the Trustee's Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- The charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the corporate trustee for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements set out on page 67, the corporate trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the corporate trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 corporate trustee either intends to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the

Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charity and determined that the most significant which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those related to the reporting frameworks (The Charities Act 2011, the Charities SORP and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102; 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' Ireland'(United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice);
- We enquired of management and the chair of the Charitable Funds Committee concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
 - the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
 - the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non compliance with laws and regulations.
- We enquired of management, the chair of the Charitable Funds Committee and internal audit as to whether they were aware of any instances of non compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risk of management override of controls and the risk of revenue recognition associated with voluntary income. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to:
 - Management override of controls, and in particular journal entries with characteristics we identified as high or elevated risk
 - Improper revenue recognition relating to voluntary income
 - Potential management bias in determining accounting estimates, especially in relation to the valuation of the Charity's investment properties.
- Our audit procedures involved:
 - Identifying and testing unusual journals made during the year and at the accounts production stage for appropriateness and corroboration;
 - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of investment property valuations;
 - Evaluating the rationale for any changes in accounting policies, estimates or significant unusual transactions; and
 - Testing on a sample basis, donation and legacy income and gifts in kind and associated receivables to supporting documentation.

These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. However, detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as those irregularities that result from fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

- Assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
 - knowledge of the sector in which the charity operates; and
 - understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the charity
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
 - the charity's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
 - the charity's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the charity corporate trustee to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's corporate trustee, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's corporate trustee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its corporate trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services

Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants

Ashford

XX November 2025

Azets Audit Services is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

Income from	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024/25	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023/24
	2	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Donations and legacies		201	245	0	446	232	181	0	413
Investment income		29	39	1	69	42	48	1	91
Total Income		230	284	1	515	274	229	1	504
Expenditure	3								
Raising funds	3.1	(75)	(103)	(1)	(179)	(74)	(81)	(1)	(156)
Charitable Activities	3.2								
Medical equipment		(93)	(298)	(1)	(392)	(56)	(111)	(1)	(168)
Building and refurbishment		(8)	(71)	0	(79)	(80)	(55)	0	(135)
Patient Education and welfare		(87)	(56)	0	(143)	(109)	(38)	0	(147)
Staff education and welfare		(50)	(74)	0	(124)	(74)	(6)	0	(80)
Audit Fees		(9)	(17)	0	(26)	(9)	(15)	0	(24)
Total expenditure on Charitable Activities		(247)	(516)	(1)	(764)	(328)	(225)	(1)	(554)
Total expenditure		(322)	(619)	(2)	(943)	(402)	(306)	(2)	(710)
Net gains on investments	5	50	17	1	68	35	65	1	101
Transfers between funds	8	0	22	(22)	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		(42)	(296)	(22)	(360)	(93)	(12)	(0)	(105)
Fund balances brought forward		736	1,326	22	2,084	829	1,338	22	2,189
Fund balances carried forward		694	1,030	0	1,724	736	1,326	22	2,084

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements. All transactions are derived from continuing activities.

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Statement of Financial Activities

14 Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024/25	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023/24
		£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Fixed Assets	5								
Investments - Cazenove portfolio		480	1,075	0	1,555	499	1,041	22	1,562
Properties		160	0	0	160	113	0	0	113
Total Fixed Assets		640	1,075	0	1,715	612	1,041	22	1,675
Debtors due over one year	6	75	0	0	75	66	0	0	66
Current Assets									
Debtors due within one year	6	0	12	0	12	0	28	0	28
Cash held in investment portfolio	11	12	29	0	41	6	14	0	20
Cash at bank and in hand	11	34	76	0	110	161	335	0	496
Total Current Assets		46	117	0	163	167	377	0	544
Liabilities									
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(67)	(162)	0	(229)	(109)	(92)	0	(201)
Total Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		(21)	(45)	0	(66)	58	285	0	343
Total Net Assets		694	1,030	0	1,724	736	1,326	22	2,084
Funds of the Charity	8								
Endowment Funds	8.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	22
Restricted	8.2	0	1,030	0	1,030	0	1,326	0	1,326
Unrestricted	8.3	694	0	0	694	736	0	0	736
Total Funds		694	1,030	0	1,724	736	1,326	22	2,084

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on XX November 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Tracey Fletcher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Angela van der Lem
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

15 Cash Flow

Cashflow as at 31 March 2025

Cash Flows from operating activities:	2024/25	2023/24
	£000's	£000's
Net cash used in operating activities	(462)	(886)
Cash flows from investing activities:-		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	69	91
Proceeds from sale of investments	481	1,672
Purchase of investments	(459)	(724)
Charges applied to investments	6	8
Net cash provided by investing activities	97	1,047
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(365)	161
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	516	355
Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the reporting period	151	516
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(360)	(105)
Adjustments for:-		
Gains on investments	(68)	(101)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(69)	(91)
Decrease in debtors	(7)	20
Increase in creditors	28	(609)
Net cash used in operating activities	(462)	(886)

Principal accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective date 1 January 2019, as per the October 2019 Charities SORP and the Charities Act 2011.

East Kent Hospitals Charity represents a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's' ability to continue as a going concern and uncertainties affecting the current year's accounts. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis after consideration by the Corporate Trustee that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Such consideration includes a review of committed income and expenditures, cash flows and reserves.

The Corporate Trustee does not consider that there are any sources of estimation

uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

In future years, the key risks are a fall in investment and voluntary income. Arrangements are in place to mitigate those risks (see the risk statement and reserve policy sections).

1.2 Income: Donations, grants, legacies and gifts in kind

All income is recognised once the charity has evidence of entitlement and it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income will only be deferred where terms and conditions have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the Charity can meet the terms and conditions within its control.

Where there are terms or conditions attached to the income (particularly grants) then these must be met before the income is recognised as the entitlement will not be evidenced, or where there is uncertainty that the conditions can be met, then the income is not recognised in the year. It is not the Charity's policy to defer income even where a pre-condition for use is imposed. Legacies are accounted for

as income once the charity has evidence of entitlement and it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Receipt is probable when:

- Confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that probate has been granted
- The executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and
- All conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled or are within the charity's control
- Where the amount of the legacy can be reliably estimated.
- Legacies which are subject to a life interest party are not recognised.

Where a reliable estimate cannot be identified, then the legacy is shown as a contingent asset.

Incoming resources from Capital Endowments are placed into an income fund when received. Income will be placed into funds in accordance with donors' wishes, but without forming a binding trust, unless a signed document is received and approved by trustees.

Gifts in kind are valued at a reasonable estimate of their value to the Charity. Gifts donated for resale are included as income either

when they are sold or at the estimated resale value after deduction of the cost to sell the goods

1.3 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category of expense shown in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Expenditure is recognised when the following criteria are met:

- There is a present legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party – primarily to the Trust in furtherance of the charitable objectives
- It is more likely than not that a transfer of benefits (usually a cash payment) will be required in settlement
- The amount of the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. The trustees have control over the amount and timing of grant payments and are usually given with the condition that an item or service has been purchased. Conditions have to be met before the liability is recognised.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those costs which do not relate directly to a single activity. These include some staff costs, costs of

administration, internal and external audit costs and IT support. These costs include recharges of appropriate proportions of the staff costs and overheads from East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and the East Kent Finance Consortium and are apportioned on an average fund balance monthly across all funds. See note 1.1 and note 3.

Fundraising costs:

The costs of generating funds are the costs associated with generating income for the charity. This will include the costs associated with investment managers, administration costs for management of investment properties and other promotional and fundraising events including any trading activities and for the salaries of the fundraisers as agreed with the Trust.

Charitable activities:

Expenditures are given as grants made to third parties (including NHS bodies) in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the funds. They are accounted for on an accruals basis, in full, as liabilities of the Charity when approved by the trustees and accepted by the beneficiaries. See note 3.

Analysis of grants:

The Charity does not make grants to individuals. All grants are made to the Trust to provide for the care of NHS patients in furtherance of its charitable aims. The total cost of making grants, including support costs, is disclosed on the face of the statement of financial activities and further

analysis in relation to activity is provided in note 3.

Recognition of liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as and when an obligation arises to transfer economic benefits as a result of past transactions or events.

1.4 Fixed assets: Investments fixed assets

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument. Investments held by the trustees' investment managers are initially recognised at their transaction value and are subsequently measured at their fair (market) value as at the balance sheet date as reported by the Investment Managers (Schroders T/as Cazenove). The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. Quoted stocks and shares are included in the balance sheet at the current market value. The trustees recognise that the main form of financial risk for the charity is the volatility in equity and other investment markets which are subject to global economic conditions and the investors' responses to global incidents. To minimise risk the trustees have identified that longer term investment produces a more stable return than short term investments and holds a mixed portfolio to alleviate any single area of instability.

1.5. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the

Charity's accounting policies, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from those estimates and the estimates and underlying assumptions are continually reviewed. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The valuation of Investment property and investment portfolio are the most significant estimates within the accounts that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment of the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. The estimate is based upon the professional judgement of the Charity's valuer (as detailed in note 1.6) and investment managers (Cazenove).

1.6 Investment properties

Property assets are not depreciated but are shown at market value. Valuations are generally carried out annually by an appropriate professional. Valuation gains and losses are recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities with the balance sheet reflecting the market value at 31st March 2025. A valuation has been completed by Montagu Evans professional valuers as at 31 March 2025 and

in the opinion of the trustees, the valuation remains materially accurate at 31 March 2025. The valuation is based on market value of similar residential properties adjusted to reflect the age of the tenant. This method reflects the restriction placed on the property bequeathed to the charity which prevents realisation.

Income and expenditure in respect of investment properties are reflected in the appropriate category in the Statement of Financial Activities. See notes 2 and 3.1.

1.7 Realised gains and losses

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening market value (or date of purchase if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between market value at the year end and opening market value (or date of purchase if later).

Investment income and gains/losses are allocated monthly according to the average fund balance, to the appropriate fund and included within the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash held in the bank and in hand is used to meet the day to day running costs of the charity as they fall due. Cash equivalents are short term liquid investments usually held for a period of 3 months' notice interest bearing savings accounts. Cash held within the investment portfolio is identified in the balance sheet as reported by the investment managers.

1.9 Pensions

All the charity's staff as referenced in note 10 are employed by East Kent Hospitals University NHS

Foundation Trust, with the cost of their employment being cross-charged to East Kent Hospitals Charity and are covered by the provisions of the NHS Pensions Scheme.

1.10 Irrecoverable VAT

Any irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.11 Tax

East Kent Hospitals Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax.

1.12 Funds

The funds are classified in the accounts in three categories, Restricted, Unrestricted and Endowment Funds. Restricted Funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor and/or the Corporate Trustee at the inception of the fund. Unrestricted funds are those which the Corporate Trustee is free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives. Unrestricted funds include designated funds which are not legally restricted but which the Corporate Trustee has chosen to earmark for set purposes.

Endowment funds are funds where the capital is held in perpetuity to generate income for charitable purposes and cannot itself be spent. The

income earned on these funds will be categorised as restricted or unrestricted according to the restrictions imposed by the donor.

1.13 Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities that qualify as basic financial Instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of investments which are subsequently measured at fair value. A financial asset is derecognised when it is settled, or when the contractual rights to the cashflows expire. If substantially all the risks and rewards are transferred, the financial asset is derecognised. If substantially all the risks and rewards are retained, the financial asset is not derecognised. A financial liability is derecognised only when it is cancelled, expired or discharged.

1.14 Support, facilities and service costs

Support, facilities and service costs are those costs which do not relate directly to a single activity. These include some staff costs, facilities and costs of administration, costs of fundraising, internal and external audit costs and IT support. These costs include recharges of appropriate proportions of the staff costs and overheads from East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and are apportioned on an average fund balance monthly across all funds.

1.15 Recognition and valuation of Donated Goods

Donated goods, facilities and

services are recognised when the trustees have evidence of entitlement and it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

1.16 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the trustee considers to be appropriate for the following reasons:

- the business model of the charity is such but its charitable activities are limited to those which it has sufficient funds from the excess of funding received over the costs of administering the charity.
- the trustee has reviewed the cash flow forecast for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements which indicate that the charity will have sufficient funds to meet its liability.



2. Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024/25	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Donations from Individuals	131	4	0	135	160	6	0	166
Donations from groups/orgs	13	0	0	13	17	1	0	18
Grants NHS Charities Direct	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	35
Grants Other	0	164	0	164	5	54	0	59
Corporate donations	18	0	0	18	2	5	0	7
Legacies	39	77	0	116	13	115	0	128
Other income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Donations and Legacies	201	245	0	446	232	181	0	413
Investment								
Dividends from investment portfolio	17	32	0	49	28	46	1	75
Bank Interest	12	7	1	20	14	2	0	16
Total Investment income	29	39	1	69	42	48	1	91
Total income	230	284	1	515	274	229	1	504

3. Expenditure

	Unrestricted Activity	Support Costs	Restricted Activity	Support Costs	Endowment Activity	Total 2024/25	Unrestricted Activity	Support Costs	Restricted Activity	Support Costs	Endowment Activity	Total 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's		£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's		£000's
Raising Funds (note 3.1)												
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Fundraising salaries	52	0	97	0	1	150	40	0	70	0	1	111
Fundraising general	11	0	0	0	0	11	27	0	4	0	0	31
Investment - portfolio	0	0	6	0	0	6	1	0	7	0	0	8
Investment - properties	12	0	0	0	0	12	5	0	0	0	0	5
Total	75	0	103	0	1	179	74	0	81	0	1	156
Charitable Activities (note 3.2)												
Medical Equipment	82	11	265	33	1	392	51	5	82	29	1	168
Building & refurbishment	7	1	63	8	0	79	73	7	41	14	0	135
Patient education & welfare	77	10	50	6	0	143	99	10	28	10	0	147
Staff education & welfare	44	6	66	8	0	124	67	7	5	1	0	80
Audit Fee	0	9	0	17	0	26	0	9	0	15	0	24
Total	210	37	444	72	1	764	290	38	156	69	1	554
Total Expenditure	285	37	547	72	2	943	364	38	237	69	2	710

Support Costs £109k for 2024/25 (£108k 2023/24) include governance costs £41k for staff pay (£38k 2023/24), charity membership and registration fees £2k (£2k 2023/24), and internal audit fees £1k (£1k 2023/24). The remainder of support costs are for staff pay and non-pay overheads to support charitable activities.

The fee for statutory audit completed by Azets Audit Services was £26k (including VAT) for a full audit opinion in 2024/25 (£24k completed by Azets Audit Services for a full opinion 2023/24).

4. Net Movement in Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024/25	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Net resources of general donations and fundraising	(121)	(352)	(24)	(497)	(169)	(125)	(2)	(296)
Net gain from fundraising events	0	0	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)
Net gain from investment portfolio/bank	29	39	1	69	42	48	1	91
Gains & losses on investment assets	50	17	1	68	35	65	1	101
Net movement in funds	(42)	(296)	(22)	(360)	(93)	(12)	0	(105)

5. Analysis of Fixed Asset Investments

2024/25 Investments	Portfolio	Invested Properties	Total fixed assets
	£000's	£000's	£000's
Market value at 1st April 2024	1,562	113	1,675
Less: Disposals at carrying value	(481)	0	(481)
add: Acquisitions - less cash	459	0	459
Net gain/loss on revaluation and sale	21	47	68
Charges applied to capital	(6)	0	(6)
Market value at 31 March 2025	1,555	160	1,715

2023/24 Investments	Portfolio	Invested Properties	Total fixed assets
	£000's	£000's	£000's
Market value at 1st April 2023	2,465	104	2,569
Less: Disposals at carrying value	(1,653)	0	(1,653)
add: Acquisitions - less cash	658	0	658
Net gain/loss on revaluation and sale	92	9	101
Charges applied to capital	0	0	0
Market value at 31 March 2024	1,562	113	1,675

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
	£000's	£000's
Uk Equities	229	225
Int equities	787	747
Other assets	243	266
Bonds	296	324
Total Portfolio	1,555	1,562

Material Investments held as part of Portfolio	31 March 2025
	£000's
Charities Property Fund	120
Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond	93
SPDR S&P 500 UCITS ETF	114
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	204
SUTL Cazenove Charity UCITS Fund	164

Material Investments held as part of Portfolio	31 March 2024
	£000's
Charities Property Fund	171
Schroder Stirling Corporate Bond Fund	94
Fidelity Global Dividend Fund	83
JPM US Equity Income Fund	115
Vanguard S&P 500 UCITS ETF	197
SUTL Cazenove Charity UCITS Fund	156

6. Analysis of Debtors

			31st March 2025			31st March 2024
Accrued Income	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Amounts falling due within one year:						
Prepayments	0	11	11	0	18	18
Other Debtors	0	1	1	0	10	10
Amounts falling due over one year:						
Loan for property maintenance	75	0	75	66	0	66
Total debtors	75	12	87	66	28	94

Debtors are monies due to the Charity which have been identified but not yet received.

The Charity has a long term arrangement for upkeep of a property which is held in Trust in equal shares with the Margate Civic Society.

The Charity pays for maintenance and insurance and charges against the estate at agreed rate of interest on funds expended which will be recovered from the estate on distribution, which is subject to a life tenancy and interest.

7. Analysis of Creditors

			31st March 2025			31st March 2024
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Amounts falling due within one year:						
Trade creditors	9	0	9	1	0	1
Audit	9	17	26	9	15	24
East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust	49	145	194	99	77	176
Total creditors falling due within one year:	67	162	229	109	92	201

Creditors are amounts owed by the charity. They are measured at the amount that the charity expects to have to pay to settle the debt.

8. Details of Funds 2024/25

8.1 Analysis of Funds

Endowment Funds	Balance 31st Mar 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers**	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2025
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
KCH Longbotham	22	1	(2)	(22)	1	0
Total	22	1	(2)	(22)	1	0

8.2 Restricted Funds

	Balance 31st Mar 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers**	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2025
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
QEQM General Purposes	497	88	(288)	0	6	303
KCH Mermikedes ITU	95	3	(23)	0	1	76
WHH Celia Blakey Unit	198	8	(65)	0	2	143
Ophthalmology fund	196	29	0	0	0	225
WHH General purposes	14	88	(18)	0	1	85
KCH Renal Fund	133	5	(51)	0	1	88
Others*	193	63	(174)	22	6	110
Total	1,326	284	(619)	22	17	1,030

8.3 Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 31st Mar 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers**	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2025
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
QEQM Property Fund	177	9	(13)	0	47	220
EKHT Cancer Services	7	19	(37)	197	0	186
EKHT Surgery & Anaesthetics	64	7	(19)	0	1	53
Others*	488	195	(253)	(197)	2	235
Total	736	230	(322)	0	50	694

* All other funds are those where the balance at 31 March 2025 was below £50k.
** £22k of endowment funds were transferred by the trustees to a restricted fund for KCH. This ensures the funds are utilised and meet the original purpose of the endowment which was to support KCH site.
** £197k of unrestricted funds held for Viking Day Unit (cancer) at QEQM has been moved by the trustees to the EKHT Cancer Services fund to consolidate the funds in line with the Trust's care group structure.

8.4 Details of Material Funds

Endowment Funds	
Name of Fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
KCH Longbotham	Promoting any charitable purpose related to Kent & Canterbury Hospital services as trustees see fit
Restricted Funds	
Name of fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
QEQM General Purpose	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Ophthalmology Fund	Purchase of Ophthalmology screening system
KCH Mermikedes ITU	ITU Charitable purposes relating to Intensive Care Unit Kent & Canterbury Hospital
WHH Celia Blakey Unit	Charitable purposes relating to cancer care at Celia Blakey Unit William Harvey Hospital
KCH Renal Fund	Any charitable purpose relating to renal care at Kent & Canterbury Hospital
WHH General Purposes	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for William Harvey Hospital
Designated Funds	
Name of fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
QEQM Property Fund	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital
EKHT Cancer Services	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS & purchase of equipment & staff training
EKHT Surgery & Anaesthetics	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS & purchase of equipment & staff training



Details of Funds 2023/24

8.5 Analysis of Funds

Endowment Funds	Balance 31st Mar 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2024
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
KCH Longbotham	22	1	(2)	0	1	22
Total	22	1	(2)	0	1	22

8.6 Restricted Funds

	Balance 31st Mar 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2024
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
QEQM General Purposes	550	36	(115)	0	26	497
KCH Mermikedes ITU	105	4	(19)	0	5	95
WHH Celia Blakey Unit	205	11	(27)	0	10	199
Ophthalmology fund	196	0	0	0	0	196
Buckland Fund	52	2	(7)	0	3	50
KCH Renal Fund	45	95	(14)	0	7	133
Others*	185	81	(124)	0	14	156
Total	1,338	229	(306)	0	65	1,326

8.7 Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 31st Mar 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains & Losses	Balance 31st Mar 2024
Name of fund	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
EKHT Umbrella General Fund	108	98	(165)	0	3	44
QEQM Property Fund	160	13	(5)	0	9	177
WHH Neonatal Fund	41	32	(7)	0	3	69
QEQM Viking Day Oncology Fund	185	21	(25)	0	10	191
EKHT Surgery & Anaesthetics	62	6	(8)	0	4	64
Others*	273	104	(192)	0	6	191
Total	829	274	(402)	0	35	736

* All other funds are those where the balance at 31 March 2024 was below £50k.

8.8 Details of Material Funds

Endowment Funds	
Name of Fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
KCH Longbotham	Promoting any charitable purpose related to Kent & Canterbury Hospital services as trustees see fit
Restricted Funds	
Name of fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
QEQM General Purpose	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Ophthalmology Fund	Purchase of Ophthalmology screening system
KCH Mermikedes ITU	ITU Charitable purposes relating to Intensive Care Unit Kent & Canterbury Hospital
WHH Celia Blakey Unit	Charitable purposes relating to cancer care at Celia Blakey Unit William Harvey Hospital
KCH Renal Fund	Any charitable purpose relating to renal care at Kent & Canterbury Hospital
Buckland Fund	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for Buckland Hospital
Designated Funds	
Name of fund	Description of the nature and purpose of each fund
EKHT Umbrella General Fund	Any Charitable purpose realating to East Kent Hospitals
QEQM Property Fund	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS wholly or mainly for Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital
WHH Neonatal Fund	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS & purchase of equipment & staff training
QEQM Viking Day Oncology Fund	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS & purchase of equipment & staff training
EKHT Surgery & Anaesthetics	Any Charitable purpose relating to NHS & purchase of equipment & staff training

9. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024/25 Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Fixed assets	640	1,075	0	1,715
Cash and current investments	46	105	0	151
Other current assets/liabilities	8	(150)	0	(142)
Total	694	1,030	0	1,724

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024/25 Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Fixed assets	612	1,041	22	1,675
Cash and current investments	167	349	0	516
Other current assets/liabilities	(43)	(64)	0	(107)
Total	736	1,326	22	2,084

10. Staff Costs

	31st Mar 2025	31st Mar 2024
	Total £000's	Total £000's
Salaries & Wages	180	149
Social Security Costs	18	16
Pension	20	16
Total Staff Costs	218	181

	31st Mar 2025	31st Mar 2024
	Total £000's	Total £000's
Average Number of Employees:		
Raising Funds	4.2	2.6
Charitable Activities	1.0	1.5
Total	5.2	4.1

No members of staff received emoluments exceeding £60k (2023/24 nil). All staff members are employees of EKHUFT and their salaries are apportioned to the Charity based on the portion of their time contributing to the activities of the Charity.

Staff members belong to the NHS Pension Scheme which is an unfunded defined benefit scheme which is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The recharge from East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust to the Charity includes the contributions to that scheme. For more information on the NHS Pension Scheme refer to the East Kent Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust annual report and accounts.

As Corporate Trustee, members of East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust Board the give their time freely and receive no remuneration for the work that they undertake in relation to East Kent Hospitals Charity. The Board of Trustees are deemed to be the Key Management Personnel.

11. Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	31st Mar 2025	31st Mar 2024
	Total £000's	Total £000's
Cash in hand	110	496
Cash held in investment portfolio	41	20
Total	151	516

Additional Notes

12. Meeting Fund Objectives

The trustees review all unrestricted and restricted funds to ensure that they are still needed and that any restrictions attached to the funds can be met through appropriate charitable activities.

13. Related Party Transactions

During the year none of the trustees or members of the key management staff or parties related to them has undertaken any material transactions with the East Kent Hospitals Charity.

The Charity has made revenue and capital payments to the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust where the trustees are also members of the Trust Board. The charity had a creditor of £0.2m as at 31/03/2025 (£0.2m 31/03/2024) and expenditure of £0.7m for 2024/25 (£0.5m 2023/24). Staff costs of £0.2m (£0.2m 2023/24).

14. Charity Tax

East Kent Hospitals Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. (The charity met the same tax definition in 2023/24).

15. Events after the End of The Reporting Period

There have been no events after the reporting period.





East Kent Hospitals Charity
Registered Charity Number 1076555



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

East Kent Hospitals Charity
Level 3 Trust Offices,
Kent & Canterbury Hospital,
Ethelbert Road, Canterbury,
Kent CT1 3NG
Tel: (01227) 868748

Email: ekh-tr.fundraising@nhs.net



Audit findings report

East Kent Hospitals Charity

Year ended 31 March 2025



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Strictly Private & Confidential

The Board of Trustees
East Kent Hospitals Charity
Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Trust Offices
Ethelbert Road
Canterbury
CT1 3NG

Our ref: MW/TI/C-10016361

8 October 2025

Dear Sirs

**East Kent Hospitals Charity
Audit findings for the year ended 31 March 2025**

This Audit Findings Report highlights the significant findings arising from the audit for the benefit of those charged with governance. We appreciate that you may be aware of some of the matters contained in this report, however as required by International Standard on Auditing (UK) 260 we are communicating them to you formally.

As auditor we are responsible for performing the audit, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs UK)), which is directed towards forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities, including those in respect of the preparation of financial statements.

There is more detail in respect of the responsibilities of the auditor and those charged with governance within our engagement letter. Our standard terms and conditions can be found at <https://www.azets.co.uk/terms-of-business>.

The contents of this report relate only to those matters which came to our attention during the conduct of our normal audit procedures which are designed primarily for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. We do not accept any responsibility for any loss occasioned to any third party acting or refraining from acting on the basis of the content of this report, as this report was not prepared for, nor intended for, any other purpose.

We would like to take this opportunity to record our appreciation for the kind assistance provided by your team during our audit. If we can be of any further assistance, please contact Michelle Wilkes.

Yours faithfully

Azets Audit Services Limited

Azets Audit Services

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1. Executive summary

Audit overview

This table summarises the significant matters arising from the statutory audit of East Kent Hospitals Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 for those charged with governance.

Audit opinion	<p>We do not propose any modifications to our audit opinion which is unqualified.</p> <p>We have no matters to report regarding the adoption of the going concern basis or inadequate disclosures relating to material uncertainties.</p> <p>Our audit work is substantially complete and there are currently no matters which would require modification of our audit report, subject to the outstanding matters below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipt of signed management letter of representation • Receipt of signed financial statements • Receipt of going concern assessment • Receipt of final PBSE information
Key findings on audit risks and other matters	<p>We have reported our significant audit findings on pages 2-4.</p> <p>There were no audit adjustments made which impact the overall profit figure submitted for audit.</p> <p>We are pleased to report that the audit progressed well from our perspective and in accordance with the agreed timetable.</p>
Audit adjustments	<p>We are required to communicate all potential adjustments, other than those considered to be clearly trivial, to management and to request that management corrects them.</p> <p>Presentational and reclassification adjustments were proposed and accepted by management.</p> <p>The aggregate impact of unadjusted misstatements on the profit and loss account, were they to be processed, would result in a combined decrease to the profit of approximately £1,830 which is immaterial to the financial statements.</p> <p>All unadjusted differences are collectively and individually under materiality.</p>
Accounting systems and internal controls	<p>We have applied our risk based methodology to your audit. This approach requires us to document, evaluate and assess your business processes and internal controls relating to the financial reporting process.</p> <p>Our audit is not designed to test all internal controls or identify all areas of control weakness. However, where, as part of our testing, we identify any control weaknesses, we have reported these to you on page 8. No material weaknesses or significant deficiencies were noted.</p>

2. Significant audit findings

This section of our report includes a summary of significant audit findings relating to significant risk areas identified at planning and other risk areas that required special consideration or arose during the course of the audit.

Significant risk areas identified at planning

Significant risks are risks that require special audit consideration and include identified risks of material misstatement that:

- our risk assessment procedures identified as being close to the upper range of the spectrum of inherent risk due to their nature and a combination of the likelihood and potential magnitude of misstatement; or
- are required to be treated as significant risks due to requirements of ISAs (UK), for example in relation to management override of internal controls.

Significant risks at the financial statement level

The below table summarises conclusions in relation to significant risks of material misstatement identified at the financial statement level. These risks are considered to have a pervasive impact on the financial statements as a whole and potentially affect many assertions for classes of transaction, account balances and disclosures.

Risk	Audit approach	Conclusions
<p>Management override of controls</p> <p>Management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of management's ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively.</p> <p>Although the level of risk of management override of controls will vary from entity to entity, the risk is nevertheless present in all entities. Due to the unpredictable way in which such override could occur, it is a risk of material misstatement due to fraud and thus a significant risk</p> <p>Risk of material misstatement: High</p>	<p>Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of accounting estimates, judgements and decisions made by management. • Testing of journal entries, using Data Analytics software. • Review of any unusual significant transactions. 	<p>No unusual transactions were noted from the review of adjustments, including journals.</p>

Risk	Audit approach	Conclusions
<p>Going concern</p> <p>When preparing the financial statements, the management of the entity shall make an assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.</p> <p>In assessing whether the going concern assumption is appropriate, management takes into account all available information about the future, which is at least, but is not limited to, twelve months from the date of the financial statements.</p> <p>Risk of material misstatement: Low</p>	<p>Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserves at the year-end will be reviewed for adequacy for future plans. Budgets will be reviewed for the 12 months following the date the accounts are signed. Future commitments will be reviewed to ensure sufficient reserves cover future operating requirements. 	<p>No issues were identified from review of the Charity's going concern assessment.</p>

Significant risks at the assertion level for classes of transaction, account balances and disclosures

The below table summarises conclusions in relation to significant risks of material misstatement identified at the assertion level for classes of transaction, account balances and disclosures are as follows:

Risk	Audit approach	Conclusions
<p>Fraud in revenue recognition</p> <p>Material misstatement due to fraudulent financial reporting relating to revenue recognition is a presumed risk in ISA 240 (The Auditor's Responsibilities Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial Statements).</p> <p>Risk of material misstatement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completeness (Medium) - Occurrence (Medium) 	<p>Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and testing of revenue recognition policies against the SORP. Detailed transaction testing on material revenue streams from source documentation. 	<p>No issues were noted from audit procedures undertaken in relation to revenue recognition.</p>
<p>Existence and recognition of income</p> <p>Material misstatement due to error in the recognition and cut off applied for certain income streams of the entity, including restricted income.</p> <p>Risk of material misstatement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Occurrence (Medium) - Accuracy (Medium) - Cut off (Medium) 	<p>Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and testing of revenue recognition policies against the SORP. Detailed transaction testing on material revenue streams from source documentation. Cut off testing reviewing records and transactions either side of the year end. 	<p>No issues were noted in relation to the treatment of restricted income.</p> <p>No issues were noted regarding the existence and recognition of donations and any associated gift aid.</p> <p>No issues were noted in relation to legacies received during and after the period under review.</p>

Tracking of grant payable commitments

We need to consider if grant payable commitments have been correctly recorded, tracked, and disclosed in the financial statements. There is a risk of error in terms of authorisation of grants payable and cut off applied.

Risk of material misstatement:

- Presentation and disclosure **(Medium)**
- Cut off **(Medium)**

Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included:

- Review and testing of authorisation of grants payable.
- Detailed transaction testing on material grant payable items from source documentation.
- Cut off testing reviewing records and transactions either side of the year end.

No issues were noted from detailed review of Charity's records in relation to grant commitments.

Other identified risks

Other identified risks are those which although not considered to be significant will require specific consideration during the audit.

Risk	Audit approach	
Estimates As estimates are a judgemental area of the accounts there is a presumed risk that the figures could be manipulated and make the accounts materially misstated. The key accounting estimates used by the trust are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valuation of investment portfolio - Investment property valuation 	Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain trustees review of estimation techniques • Agree year-end balances to investment reports; and • Review investment and property valuations to third party valuations. 	No issues were noted from audit procedures undertaken in relation to estimates.
Related party transactions Under ISA 550 there is a presumed risk that related party transactions may be inaccurate or understated within the financial statements.	Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions with management identifying related parties; • Charity Commission search of trusteeships; and • Review of nominal ledger for any potential related party transactions. 	No issues were noted from audit procedures undertaken in relation to related party transactions.
Laws and regulations There are a number of laws and regulations specific to the charity to which it must abide	Procedures performed to mitigate risks of material misstatement in this area included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of correspondence with regulators and solicitors for any non-compliance. 	No issues were noted from audit procedures undertaken in relation to laws and regulations.

3. Going concern

As auditors, we are required to “obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern assumption in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and to conclude whether there is a material uncertainty about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern” (ISA (UK) 570).

Management's assessment of going concern

East Kent Hospitals Charity has prepared its financial statements on the going concern basis. Management believe that the financial statements should be prepared on the going concern basis on the grounds that existing cash reserves or current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the charity's needs.

Management's assessment covers a period of at least 12 months from expected date of approval of the accounts

Audit work performed

ISA 570 (revised) specifies mandatory procedures that we are required to carry out on going concern.

Our audit procedures performed include:

- Review of meeting minutes
- Review of management's procedures for assessing going concern
- Review of balance sheet liquidity & solvency
- Review of compliance with key laws and regulations

Disclosures

We have reviewed the disclosures set out in the financial statements.

Conclusion

We concur with management's assessment that it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis and there are no material uncertainties relating to going concern which should be disclosed in the financial statements.

4. Audit communication

Materiality

Whilst our audit procedures are designed to identify misstatements which are material to our audit opinion, we also report to those charged with governance and management any uncorrected misstatements of lower value errors to the extent that our audit identifies these.

Under ISA (UK) 260 'Communication with those charged with governance', we are obliged to report uncorrected omissions or misstatements other than those which are 'clearly trivial' to those charged with governance. ISA (UK) 260 defines 'clearly trivial' as matters that are clearly inconsequential, whether taken individually or in aggregate and whether judged by any quantitative or qualitative criteria.

An omission or misstatement is regarded as material if it would reasonably influence the users of the financial statements. The assessment of what is material is a matter of professional judgement and is affected by our assessment of the risk profile of the business and the needs of the users.

Accounting policies

The accounting policies used in preparing the financial statements are unchanged from the prior year. These have been deemed appropriate for the audited period.

Presentation and disclosures

Our work included a review of the adequacy of disclosures in the financial statements and consideration of the appropriateness of the accounting policies and estimation techniques adopted by the entity. We identified a number of reclassification adjustments and some minor presentational issues in the financial statements, and these have all been amended by management.

Overall, we found the disclosed accounting policies, significant accounting estimates and the overall disclosures and presentation to be appropriate.

Fraud and suspected fraud

We have discussed the risk of fraud with management. We have not been made aware of any incidents in the period nor have any incidents come to our attention as a result of our audit testing.

Our work as auditor is not intended to identify any instances of fraud of a non-material nature and should not be relied upon for this purpose. In the event that the trustees wish to obtain enhanced assurance with regard to the effectiveness of internal control in preventing and detecting fraud we should be happy to provide additional services.

Written representations

We will present the final letter of representation to the Board to sign at the same time as the financial statements are approved.

Related parties

We are not aware of any related party transactions which have not been disclosed.

5. Unadjusted misstatements



Unadjusted audit differences

Our summary of unadjusted audit differences is presented below. We have discussed these with management and confirmed that all unadjusted differences are collectively and individually under materiality.

No	Detail	Assets	Liabilities	Equity	Profit / (loss)
		Dr / (Cr) £	Dr / (Cr) £	Dr / (Cr) £	Dr / (Cr) £
Details of unadjusted audit differences					
1	Additional wages to be reimbursed from Trust	-	(1,830)	-	1,830
Total		-	(1,830)	-	1,830

6. Internal controls

Control environment

The purpose of the audit was for us to express an opinion on the financial statements. The audit included consideration of internal controls relevant to the preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. Our audit is, therefore, not designed to identify all control weaknesses and the matters reported below are limited to those deficiencies that we have identified during the audit.

Follow up on prior year control recommendations

As part of our audit process, we have specifically followed up on control weaknesses and recommendations either raised in last year's report or carried forward from prior reports.

Control weaknesses and recommendations

Control weaknesses and recommendations identified from our current year work are summarised below. The control weaknesses are categorised into three risk ratings as shown in the key.

Key

- 1. Significant deficiency
- 2. Other deficiency
- 3. Other observations

Table of control weaknesses and recommendations

Risk rating	Control weakness identified	Implication	Recommendation	Management Response
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1	No control weaknesses to bring to your attention.			
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7. Independence and ethics



In accordance with our profession’s ethical requirements and further to our audit planning letter issued confirming audit arrangements there are no further matters to bring to your attention in relation to our integrity, objectivity, and independence.

We confirm that Azets Audit Services and the engagement team complied with the FRC’s Ethical Standard.

We confirm that all threats to our independence have been properly addressed through appropriate safeguards and that we are independent and able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

Audit and non-audit services

The following services were provided in the year to 31 March 2024.

Audit services	Fees 2025 £	Fees 2024 £
Audit of charity	£22,050 + VAT	£20,000 + VAT

8. Emerging issues

Charities SORP 2026 Consultation:

The draft consultation for the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2026 was released in April 2025. The highly anticipated three tier reporting was formally announced. This draft also includes significant changes to align with updated financial reporting standards, FRS 102, particularly in relation to income recognition and lease accounting. The consultation period ended 20 June 2025 so we await the outcome of the consultation.

UK & Ireland Accounting Standards

On 27 March 2024 the FRC issued revisions to its suite of UK and Irish GAAP Accounting Standards. The effective date for most of these revisions is periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026, with the most significant changes in the areas of lease accounting and income recognition. This represents a step toward the accounting requirements already implemented through IFRS, with some simplifications to the on-balance sheet lessee model and five-stage income recognition process.

How do new requirements differ from the current UK GAAP accounting for leases?

In its revisions to FRS 102, published on 27 March 2024, the FRC has replaced Section 20 Leases with revised requirements that provide an on-balance sheet lease accounting model based on that in IFRS 16 Leases. Due to the presence of leases in most businesses, these changes will be relevant to a wide range of accounts preparers and users of FRS 102 accounts hence will have a significant impact.

Revisions effectively remove the distinction between operating and finance leases for lessees. This will lead to the recognition of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability on balance sheet (with corresponding depreciation and interest charges). This differs from current FRS 102 (and current and future FRS 105) which spread the cost of operating lease payments over the life of the lease, with only finance leases being accounted for in a similar fashion to the new model by lessees.

These revisions will impact EBITDA and balance sheet ratios for affected businesses and hence will have wide-reaching implications for areas such as loan and other covenants, accounting and audit exemption qualification, distributable profits calculations, bonus and earn-out calculations. Relevant entities will need to identify relevant contracts and leases, make key judgements, calculate, process and disclose the impact of these changes.

What are the key changes in the revised FRS 102 and FRS 105 relating to revenue?

In its revisions to FRS 102 and 105 the FRC is replacing existing requirements relating to revenue from contracts with customers with a five-step model that requires the identification of contractual performance obligations arising from goods or services promised to a customer and the amount of consideration to which the entity will be entitled in exchange. These changes will require all businesses to assess the impact of this five-step-model, albeit a minority are expected to see accounting policy changes as a result of new standard implementation.

What is the five-step model?

The objective of this model is for an entity to recognise revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The five steps are provided below.

Step 1 – Identify the contract(s) with a customer

Step 2 – Identify the performance obligations in the contract

Step 3 – Determine the transaction price

Step 4 – Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract

Step 5 – Recognise revenue when (or as) the entity satisfies a performance obligation

As noted above, these changes apply to all UK GAAP reporting entities and hence an assessment of impact will be needed across the board – it is only expected that a minority of businesses will see accounting policy revisions as a result of these changes, though.

Code of Fundraising Practice

The Fundraising Regulator issued a new Code of Fundraising Practice which will come into effect on 1 November 2025. This updated code is designed to be clearer, more flexible, and better suited to modern fundraising practices. It includes a principles based approach to help fundraisers apply high standards across various activities.

Charity Commission Annual Return

At the end of May 2025, the Charity Commission released new guidance for the Annual Return. The guide gives details of what questions will be asked. Whilst there are no significant changes to the questions, the guide provides reasons why they are collecting information from the questions introduced in 2023.

Filing accounts by Software only

Companies House have advised that as part of their journey to modernise and digitise filing routes, all accounts must be filed using commercial software from 1 April 2027. Their web and paper routes will be closed for accounts filings. This change will allow more efficient and secure filings for companies and will be a critical step towards improving the quality of the data on the register. Software-only accounts filing will create a single, cost-effective, sustainable and traceable way to file.

[Changes to accounts - Changes to UK company law](#)

AV AZETS

25/103.5 – APPENDIX 3

Azets Audit Services Limited
5th Floor Ashford Commercial Quarter
1 Dover Place
Ashford
Kent
TN23 1FN

Re: East Kent Hospitals Charity

To whom it may concern

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as we consider necessary in connection with your audit of the charity's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate and are sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can make each of the following representations. All representations are made to the best of our knowledge and belief.

GENERAL

1. We have fulfilled my responsibility/our responsibilities as trustees as set out in the terms of your engagement letter dated 30 June 2025, under the Charities Act 2011 for preparing financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you.
2. All the transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records.
3. All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit. We have provided you with unrestricted access to all appropriate persons within the charity, and with all other records and related information requested, including minutes of all management and trustee meetings.

ADJUSTMENTS & DISCLOSURES

4. The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
5. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. (See Audit Findings Report for further details).
6. We have reviewed and approved all audit adjustments made in the financial statements. (See Audit Findings Report for further details)
7. [We have reviewed and approved all disclosures made in the financial statements and we are not aware of any other matters which require disclosure in order to comply with the requirements of applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

INTERNAL CONTROL AND FRAUD

8. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error, and we believe that we have appropriately fulfilled these responsibilities. [We have disclosed to you the results of our risk assessment that the financial statements may be misstated as a result of fraud.
9. [We have disclosed to you all instances of known or suspected fraud affecting the charity involving management, employees who have a significant role in internal control or others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
10. We have also disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the charity's financial statements communicated by current or former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

11. The charity has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the charity's assets except for those that are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
12. There were no changes in fixed assets during the period ended 31 March 2025 other than those disclosed in the accounts.
13. We have reviewed the residual values attached to fixed assets and confirm they are still appropriate and reasonable reflections of these assets condition and usage.

25/103.5 – APPENDIX 3

14. All actual liabilities, contingent liabilities and guarantees given to third parties have been recorded or disclosed as appropriate.
15. We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and, where relevant, the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
16. We confirm that all bank accounts have been disclosed to you and are included within the financial statements.
17. We confirm that the charity has not contracted for any capital expenditure other than as disclosed in the financial statements.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

18. The methods, data and significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures, are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement and disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.

LOANS AND ARRANGEMENTS

19. The charitable company has not granted any advances or credits to, or made guarantees on behalf of, directors other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

LEGAL CLAIMS

20. We have disclosed to you all claims in connection with litigation that have been, or are expected to be, received and such matters, as appropriate, have been properly accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

21. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements and disclosures, including non-compliance matters:
 - a. Involving financial impropriety;
 - b. Related to laws or regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the charity's financial statements;
 - c. Related to laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the operations of the charity's business, its ability to continue in business, or to avoid material penalties; and
 - d. Involving management, or employees who have significant roles in internal control, or others.
22. We are unaware of any known or probable instances of non-compliance with the requirements of regulatory or governmental authorities, including their financial reporting requirements, and there have been no communications from regulatory agencies or government representatives concerning investigations or allegations of non-compliance, other than those already disclosed.

RELATED PARTIES

23. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements. We have disclosed to you all relevant information concerning such relationships and transactions and we confirm that such information is complete. We are not aware of any other matters which require disclosure in order to comply with legislative and accounting standards requirements.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

24. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements which require adjustment or disclosure have been properly accounted for and disclosed.

GOING CONCERN

25. We believe that the charity's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that existing cash reserves will be more than adequate for the charity's needs.
26. We also confirm our plans for future action(s) required to enable the charity to continue as a going concern are feasible.
27. We have considered a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

28. All grants, donations and other income, the receipt of which is subject to specific terms or conditions, have been notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms or conditions in the application of such income.

SPECIFIC REPRESENTATIONS

29. We confirm the following specific representations made to you during the course of your audit relating to¹:
- a. All transactions with the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust are at arm's length
 - b. The allocation of restricted and designated funds is in agreement with each donor's respective wishes
 - c. VAT on purchases is repaid to the University Trust to the extent not claimable by the Trust

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO THE AUDITOR

30. We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditor and confirm that so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information needed by you in connection with preparing your audit report of which you are unaware.
31. Each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information.

Yours faithfully

.....

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Trustees

Date:
