HospiceUK

Annual Report

2025 - 26

Audited annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2026

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Company No.2751549

Hospice care for all, for now and forever

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A message from our CEO...



The UK's charitable hospice movement is cherished as one of this country's proudest achievements. Exceptional quality care delivered by organisations rooted in communities across the land, at the time when patients and their families need it most.

But these wonderful institutions are collectively facing the toughest challenges in their history, making unprecedented cuts to frontline services.

Our role at Hospice UK is to promote and protect hospice care for all. That critical mission has driven our team every day over the past year. I'm so proud of the campaigns, projects, programmes and events you'll read about in this report: their collective impact has been powerful and clear.

Whether through our campaigning, our programme of conferences and events, the grant funding we provide for hospices to strengthen their services, or through our first-of-its-kind national legacy marketing campaign, the impact of Hospice UK's work is to create a strong, and united hospice community. One that our workforce is proud to feel part of. One that the public feels motivated to support. One that politicians know they must act to protect.

We must seize this moment and push for reform.

Our campaigning this year has won short-term funding boosts from government, alongside tantalising promises of long-term reform. It has been a great personal privilege to see first-hand the impact of this additional funding at our member hospices. The voices calling for more support for hospice and palliative care have never been louder nor more united across the 4 nations. The case for change has never been stronger.

But our task now is to make sure that our hard-earned political goodwill pays off in the long run. Nothing short of root and branch reform of hospice funding and commissioning will do. Our four-point plan unveiled in England - and its equivalents in the nations - is designed to deliver this.

Attempts to legalise Assisted Dying have contributed to the spotlight like never before on the importance of hospices as experts on death and dying, and the contribution we make to end of life and palliative care.

Our challenge is to rally our wonderful community – our members, our donors, our partners - to harness this energy and focus towards our goal. And we'll do that together. With the highest levels of support and satisfaction among our members that we've ever seen, it's through our collective efforts that hospices will overcome the challenges they face and approach the coming years with optimism.

Toby Porter,

Chief Executive, Hospice UK

Our impact in numbers...

£9.4m
additional support for Scottish hospices announced in Scottish Government's 2026-27 budget

£125m
additional capital funding delivered to hospices in England over two years

87%
of people who responded to our membership satisfaction survey said they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the support we provide

4,388
hospice staff members connected through our online networks and communities of practice

398
hospice colleagues in the UK benefited from professional development and training grants

£80m
funding for children's hospices in England over three years, working in partnership with Together for Short Lives

18m
adults saw our national hospice legacy campaign TV advert

Participating hospices saw a **400%** increase in legacy enquiries

£750k+
awarded in 387 direct grants to hospices across our projects and programmes

£7.3m
additional government funding for hospices in Wales provided for 2025-26

Why Hospice UK's work matters...

"We're proud to be renewing our Compassionate Employers Membership for the sixth consecutive year. This journey has helped embed empathy and care at the heart of our culture."

Kaitlyn Klapperich
Northern Trust, Compassionate Employers member



"Hospice UK's role as a membership body is invaluable. Through campaigning for fairer funding, it gives hospices a strong, credible national voice. Its funding, development and learning opportunities are equally vital, supporting the development of the sector."

Gareth Pierce
CEO of Forget Me Not Children's Hospice

"[Without the grant] I might not be where I am now on my professional development journey. It's been amazing because it has helped underpin my knowledge and skills, as well as enhancing my practise and my communication skills."

Gemma Stead
Palliative Care Nurse Specialist at Queenscourt Hospice, Southport and recipient of Professional Development Grant from the Wolfson Foundation





"Being a supporter of Hospice UK is a truly rewarding experience. From the beginning it has felt like more than just a partnership, by supporting Hospice UK players of Postcode Lottery we are helping to ensure that everyone gets the end of life care and compassion they deserve."

Lindsay Coulton
Health & Wellbeing Advisor, Postcode Lottery

"The National Garden Scheme has supported Hospice UK since 1996 donating over £8 million in that time to support over 200 hospices in the UK that provide care for people facing terminal and life shortening illnesses, and their families. We are thrilled to be celebrating 30 years of our partnership this year."

Richard Claxton
Chief Executive, National Garden Scheme

"Hospice UK has played an invaluable role in bringing together the collective expertise of the hospice sector and using that strength to shape policy and campaign nationally. The fair funding work and legacy campaign are brilliant examples of how collective action enables hospices to achieve far greater impact together."

Steph Edusei,
CEO of St Oswald's Hospice

"It has been an unforgettable experience and one my husband and I will cherish. It was a real privilege to raise funds for Hospice UK and the incredible work you and others do. Thank you for the opportunity to do our bit."

Kieran O'Flaherty
Hospice UK London Marathon runner



One clear mission, three driving priorities



Who we are

Hospice care eases the physical and emotional pain of death and dying, letting people focus on living, right until the end.

But too many people miss out on this essential care.

Hospice UK is the national champion for hospice care. We represent a community of more than 200 hospices from across the UK, delivering services to adults and children.

We fight to ensure hospices can be there for everyone who needs them, now and long into the future.

Our vision:

Hospice care for all, for now and forever.

Our mission:

To promote and protect hospice care for all.

Strategic priorities

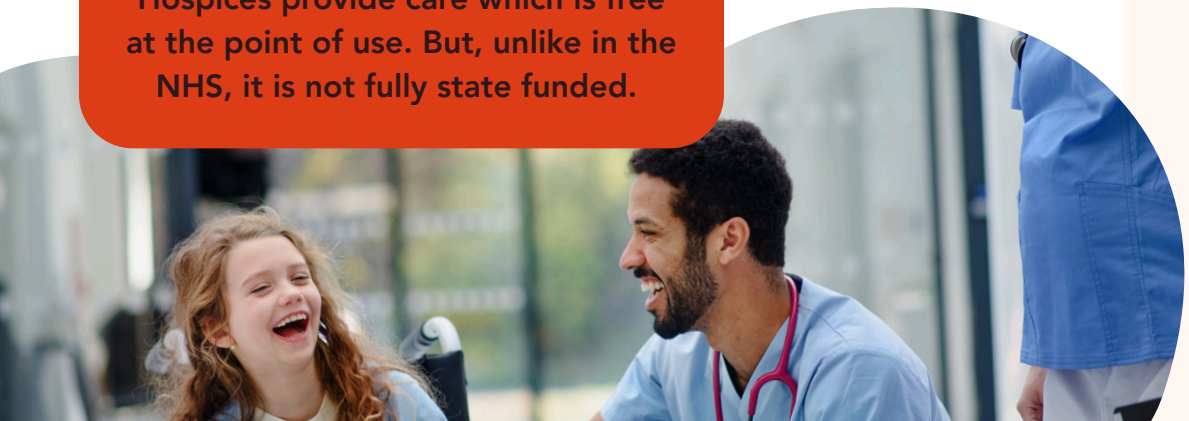
Every year, our hospices care for **310,000 people** living with life-limiting conditions or facing the end of their life.

They provide bereavement, counselling and practical support to 90,000 of those dear to them. Demand for their care is increasing.

By 2040, around 130,000 more people will die each year in the UK than today.

More children with complex needs are surviving beyond infancy and into young adulthood, and medical and social complexity is increasing with age.

Hospices provide care which is free at the point of use. But, unlike in the NHS, it is not fully state funded.



While hospices receive some government funding, more than £1.3 billion of the £1.8 billion they need each year comes from generous donors.

The cost of providing hospice services is going up, while ever more people need palliative care.

By working collaboratively with hospices and other partners, our aim with our new five-year strategy, published this year, is to secure hospice care for all who need it.

Our three strategic priorities are:

To achieve sustainability for the hospice sector

To improve equity of access to hospice care

To enhance quality care

Public benefit

We have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, we consider how our planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives we have set.

We are here to support the hospice and palliative and end of life care sector improve people's end of life experience in the UK.

Hospice care is free for however long it is needed, and whether provided in someone's home, at the hospice or elsewhere in the community.

The following sections give an overview of our activities undertaken this year to meet our charitable objectives.



Making sure hospices thrive into the future

Securing vital income for hospices

Hospice UK continually works hard to make sure our members' voice is heard – and **it's clear we are cutting through.**

Priority one: to achieve sustainability

In Scotland, after a successful lobbying campaign in partnership with the Scottish Hospice Leadership Group, **we secured an additional £9.4m** state funding for Scotland's hospices, negotiated up from an initial £6.5m.

And within this year, following our joint lobbying with members in Wales, we also secured **an additional £7.3m** in funding, topped up from an initially committed £3m.

The Welsh government has also published **a new National Service Specification and National Commissioning Approach for Hospices** following years of campaigning by Hospice UK in partnership with Hospices Cymru.

These are hard-earned achievements with cross party support for hospice and palliative care in Scotland and Wales stronger than ever before.

In England, Hospice UK has also been leading the call for urgent reform.

In October we unveiled **our four-point plan for fair funding** for hospices as the sector began recording devastating deficits across the country.

Since then, we've seen **11,000 people** write letters to their MP, **170 MPs** come along to our pop-up event in Westminster and **over 100 MPs** sign our open letter to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

Crucially this lobbying has led to inquiries by both the Public Accounts Committee and Health and Social Care Select Committee.

The resulting parliamentary reports have delivered the same stark warning:

The evidence is clear, the way hospices are funded is not fit for purpose and the government must act.

An extension to the successful capital grants programme, taking the total delivered to hospices over two years to **£125m** has been welcomed by the sector following sustained lobbying by Hospice UK.

The programme has transformed the care environment for patients and their families, funding new medical equipment and upgrades to vital infrastructure such as heating systems.

But this alone will not pull hospices back from the financial brink.

The Modern Service Framework announced by Stephen Kinnock at our conference must deliver real reform and change the trajectory of travel for hospices on the cliff edge.

Building a better end of life & palliative care system

Influencing local decision makers

Hospices are at the heart of the vision set out by governments across the UK to shift care out of hospital and into communities.

But in complicated local health systems it can be hard for hospices to make their case heard.

That's why this year we published our first-of-its-kind commissioning pack.

The pack is an essential resource that hospices can use in their local negotiations with health commissioners providing a standard model of hospice care for the first time, and guidance for commissioners on best practice hospice commissioning.

Taking this work further, we are now developing a costing model, to understand more consistently the costs of hospice services and assist Governments and commissioners to standardise what they pay for them.







Keeping hospice care in the spotlight

4200+

pieces of media coverage to support our campaign work

170

MPs briefed at our Hospice Care Week event in October 2025

64

face-to-face meetings with MSPs

10.4M

people reached through our Instagram and Facebook channels

17

MLAs attended launch of our report about access to care in rural communities at Stormont

18M+

people saw our TV ad 'This is Hospice Care'

"Our wards hadn't seen significant upgrades in over a decade, and the refurbishment means our facilities are now contemporary and truly meet the needs of the people who need us.

The funding has enabled us to make our spaces more welcoming and homely for all those staying with us, as well as their families, friends and carers."

Katie Grace

Clinical Team Lead and Matron at St Christopher's Hospice, speaking about the impact of their DHSC grant





'There is so much more we need to do to support our hospice movement, and to make sure that we have really high-quality end of life care for everyone in every part of the country.

What [St Francis hospice] has proven, and the Public Accounts Committee in Parliament is also clear about, is that's not just better for patients and their families most importantly, it's also better value for taxpayers' money.'

Wes Streeting

Former Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, (speaking at the opening of St Francis Hospice ward, refurbished with the government capital grant secured by Hospice UK and topped up by £25m this year)

Supporting our workforce

More than **13,000 clinical and care staff** working in the hospice sector deliver incredible care every day.

Vitally they are supported by thousands more working in fundraising and support roles, as well as nearly **90,000 volunteers** who so generously support patients and families at the most difficult of times.

Hospice UK works closely with our hospice workforce to support, connect and upskill these amazing professionals/

We continue to scale up this work, in recognition of the vital role that a sustainable, healthy and happy workforce will always play in hospice care.

Our Resilience-Based Clinical Supervision and Education Networks bring together hundreds of hospice members, keeping colleagues up to date on best practice, and equipped to deal with the emotional challenges of hospice care.

Our Volunteer to Career programme, delivered with Helpforce, helped hospice volunteers to explore careers in health and care.

And wider opportunities for aspiring hospice colleagues are now able to be advertised on Hospice UK's refreshed Jobs Board – connecting hospice professionals with opportunities across the hospice sector.



Spotlight:
A lasting legacy



This is Hospice Care – that's the simple message of our national legacy advertising campaign, now in its second year. Our flagship TV ad, funded collectively by our members, was beamed into living rooms across the country, showing **more than 18m adults** the power of hospice care, and why it matters.

The brand response ad, developed with creative agency RAW London, is the **single most viewed piece of marketing about hospice care in the sector's history.**

It's changing perceptions, building awareness, and encouraging people to consider leaving a gift in their will to their local hospice. Legacy giving is one of the most important streams of income for the UK's hospices – but is also one of the most competitive spaces in the charity sector.

The campaign symbolises the power of Hospice UK – to bring together around 150 hospices to collectively do something powerful on the national stage. And locally, hospices have mobilised around the campaign with everything from bus ads to billboards, and shop displays to radio. A big thank you to everyone who has taken part.

The campaign is working. We saw a 900%+ increase in visits to local hospice gifts in wills pages, nearly 1,000 legacy gift enquiries made…and were awarded a Cannes Silver Dolphin and a Silver Drum Award to boot!

Priority two: to improve equity of access

Making sure everyone gets the care they need

Reaching groups who are missing out on support

Research from one of our members, Marie Curie, shows that nearly one in three people die with an unmet need for palliative care. And for certain groups, whether because of their diagnosis or background, accessing care can be particularly difficult.

Hospice UK's work is making a difference for these people – giving hospices the practical and financial support, training and confidence to meet their needs.

Our pioneering **Neurological Conditions Programme** aims to make long term improvements to care for people with progressive neurological conditions.

So far, it has provided grant funding to 11 hospices to strengthen their care for this group.

Furthermore, the knowledge and expertise from these projects will be shared widely with both patients and professionals, leaving a lasting impact across the whole hospice community.

"The Hospice UK grant has had a transformational impact, enabling Nightingale House Hospice to employ a dedicated link nurse. This has led to a marked increase in earlier referrals, helping people to live well with their disease. The programme helps us to challenge the misconception that a hospice is just a place to die.'

Tracy Thomas
Director of Clinical Services, Wrexham, who received a grant as part of our programme on progressive neurological conditions

People from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds also often experience poorer health outcomes. But in hospice care, the evidence and data behind this is patchy – making it harder to solve the problem.

Our newly launched programme, with grant funding for 13 hospices, will support our members to understand the challenge more fully. It will help design solutions so that people experiencing financial hardship get the high-quality care they need.

Thank you to the generous support of the Saint Elizabeth Foundation, without which this work would not be possible.

"This programme matters because access to hospice care is not equal. We want to change that by building the evidence and supporting hospices to expand access, so more people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage can receive the care they need, when they need it."

Preeti Kathrecha
Technical Advisor, Socio-Economic Disadvantage



Taking action to bring care closer to home

Nearly two thirds of people living rurally said that they or the person they cared for with a life-limiting condition did not receive the care and support they needed.

Getting high-quality palliative and end of life care is more difficult for those living in remote, rural and island communities. That's why this year we launched a landmark research project to plug a critical knowledge gap in this area.

People living in rural communities told us they too often face a difficult choice: stay at home or get the care they need. Families spoke of impossible travel distances, poor transport and a lack of staff increasing pressure on unpaid family carers.

> "When we needed care, it wasn't there for us. I feel very let down. Do people in cities experience this? No, they don't."
>
> **Carer living in a rural community**

Our landmark report laid new ground - making key recommendations for hospice providers, wider health systems, and governments across the UK - to tackle these unacceptable barriers and share innovation and learning.

We discussed the report's findings with nearly 30 politicians at four parliamentary events in each nation and shared key learning with hundreds of people working across hospice and palliative care and across the wider health care sector. The report and its recommendations now form part of our ongoing campaign work to strengthen hospice, palliative and end of life care provision.



Being there for people during difficult times

Hospice UK's Compassionate Employers programme and Dying Matters campaign help communities dealing with death, dying and bereavement.

Support for people in the workplace can be patchy but when done well has a positive impact on wellbeing. Compassionate Employers helps employers with this crucial challenge, reaching more than 2,000 employees directly. The programme has grown further this year, with 21 organisations now taking part.

In one example, our 'Caring with Confidence' partnership with Dignity Funeral Directors has delivered training to over 200 funeral staff providing grief education in care homes and communities across the UK.

Additionally, we will extend our support to our member hospices with the launch of a brand-new Hospice Healthcare Hub coming in summer 2026.



And in May for Dying Matters Awareness Week, we continued our support with a focus on 'the culture of dying matters', exploring how different faiths and cultures talk about death, dying and bereavement. An incredible 270 events took place across England and Wales.

Find out more: Watch our popular video featuring hospice volunteers Berna, Pauline, and Lawrence - produced for Dying Matters Awareness Week.

Identifying crucial data and evidence



In a sector made up of independent organisations, collecting and aggregating accurate data and evidence on who benefits from our services - and who is missing out - is a critical task.

Thanks to teams at Hospice UK, more and more hospices are returning information on who they support and via what type of services and workforce.

As a result, we now have a more detailed picture than ever before of hospice services at a national level. This has been a game changer in our goal to improve equity, and crucial lobbying work to secure better government support for the sector.

Hospices provided palliative and end of life care to 310,000 people in 2024 - 25

There were 13,250 whole time equivalent clinical and care staff working in the hospice sector, a reduction from 14,000 in 2023

Hospices made 790,000 generalist community visits and 590,000 specialist palliative care community visits in the year 2024-5.

450 hospice inpatient beds were out of use

There were 610,000 occupied bed days in the year 2024-5, equating to around 1670 inpatient beds across the UK.

150,000 fewer specialist home visits took place than last year, due to funding and staffing pressures

Priority three: to enhance quality care

Driving the delivery of individualised quality care

Pioneering new work in hospice care provision

Transitioning from children to adult hospice care services can be a daunting experience for many young people with life-limiting conditions and Hospice UK has long supported hospice members within this area. This year we were proud to build on this work even further and refresh our programme to improve young people's experiences.

With young people at its heart, the co-designed programme will establish four centres of learning across the UK making a vital difference to patients and their families.

The programme will gather and share best practice, collate data on the need for services and grow a community of practice with further training and resources for professionals.

"The Hospice UK transitions programme has been a huge opportunity for us to improve our services for young people. It's helped us to think really carefully about how we consult and engage with people who use our services, so that we can make sure they are as tailored as possible to their needs. We're working more with partners, too, to make sure young people's journey through the healthcare system is as smooth as possible."

Tracy Jones
Director of Family Wellbeing & Outreach Services,
Ty Hafan Children's Hospice

Equipping members with new resources, skills and knowledge

This year, with support from the Masonic Charitable Foundation, the National Garden Scheme, and The Wolfson Foundation, just under 400 colleagues across the hospice sector received career enhancing support through our professional development grants.

The grants support hospice staff to join courses, conferences and study days, stay up to date with best practice and make sure hospice patients and families get the best care possible.



Creating spaces to listen, share and learn

Our community is strengthened by the opportunity to support and learn from each other.

More than eight in ten hospice members attended at least one of our four conferences – our flagship national conference in November, our fundraising leaders conference, our clinical and workforce leaders conference, and our technology leaders conference.

A prime example is our **National Conference** in 2025, with more than 1,000 people gathering in Liverpool, among the agenda a keynote speech from Minister for Care for England Stephen Kinnock MP and dozens of sessions spanning clinical care, fundraising, wellbeing and assisted dying.

Delegates said they left fizzing with ideas of how to improve practice at their hospice with new connections made.

Our specialist conferences too offer precious time to connect and learn in a fast-changing landscape. Across the year colleagues learned how to harness the power of AI, the importance of equity and inclusion in fundraising and marketing and how best to actively support the wellbeing of colleagues in frontline clinical roles.

All this would not be possible without the generous support of nearly 90 exhibitors and sponsors.

"Working with Hospice UK has been an exceptional experience for our team. Exhibiting at their National Conference gave us a unique opportunity to connect with decision makers and learn about the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of care. We are proud to support Hospice UK's mission."

Adrian Button (L.ISP)
DHead of Sales & Marketing UK & EU, HSF Health Plan



96% of Hospice UK members attended at least of one of our Community of Practice or Network meetings.

Connecting online as well as in person is vital for colleagues with busy day jobs. Our many networks and communities of practice are widely valued, giving spaces to talk, learn and share experiences.

Our Big Conversations series alone brought more than 1,800 attendees together to talk about issues affecting our sector with 100% of attendees telling us the sessions either met or exceeded their expectations.

Shaping the sector

We also regularly engage with, learn from and influence academic thought leaders and researchers in the wider field of palliative and end of life care.

Whether through attendance and speaking opportunities at external conferences, regular meetings with the co-lead of the NIHR-funded policy research unit, membership of numerous research studies' advisory boards and our quarterly Evidence into Practice community meetings.

A new Member Data Portal

This year we also launched a vital new resource - our Member Data Portal - thanks to generous funding from the Linder Foundation. The portal makes it easier for hospices to submit their data for us to analyse, as well as providing a platform for them to track their own services over time.

Being heard in the assisted dying debate

Bills to legalise assisted dying in the UK have been high on the political agenda this year and Hospice UK has been guiding and supporting hospices throughout this time. We have worked hard to influence the proposed legislation in order to protect and preserve hospice care, regardless of an individual hospice's stance on the issue

While both the Holyrood and Westminster Bills have now failed to pass, we secured significant backing from those proposing the Bills for this work, rallying huge cross-party support from Politicians on all sides who are agreed that whatever the outcome, hospice funding must be reformed.

Thanks to generous support from the **Sir Halley Steward Charitable Trust**, we produced a suite of resources aimed to support hospices to prepare their staff, volunteers and wider community for a potential change in the law.

Spotlight:
Taking hospice care to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show



Gardens are one of the most precious features of hospices – bringing peace, calm and joy to everyone. In celebration of these special spaces, in May 2025 we took a specially designed hospice garden to the world-famous RHS Chelsea Flower Show!

Fully funded by Project Giving Back, and designed by Tom Hoblyn, the garden brought international attention to the hospice movement, and the special touches which make it what it is. The garden was specially designed for patients approaching end of life, their families, and the staff looking after them.

It was visited by tens of thousands of guests – including David Beckham, Joanna Lumley, Jennifer Saunders, Tom Allen, Jo Brand and many other famous names, and we were extremely proud to host Their Majesties The King and Queen.

Millions watched the prime-time BBC coverage, gaining a little more understanding of why our hospices are so important to support.

Together we make it all possible

Hospices are amongst the most cherished and widely supported charities in the UK, and as the champion of this movement, we are proud and privileged to rally such a fantastic community of donors and supporters to our cause.

We were thrilled this year to win Fundraising Team of the Year at the Third Sector Awards, recognising a truly incredible year working with individuals, companies, trusts and foundations who so kindly and generously support our vital work.



Our corporate partners

In the second year of our partnership with Postcode Lottery, we not only received an incredible £620,000 in funding, but also worked together to produce a beautiful flagship short film about the power of hospice care for Hospice Care Week in October.

The National Garden Scheme remains our longest-standing major supporter and generously awarded us a further £450,000 this year, taking our total funding over the lifetime of our partnership to £8 million. Together we shine a spotlight on the power of hospice gardens, showcased by our fantastic Garden of Compassion at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

Elsewhere, we were excited to work with Jo Brand on a BBC Radio 4 Appeal this year. Jo shared the moving story of Sam, Rob and their five children, and the vital support they received from Dorothy House hospice. We were thrilled to raise nearly £40,000 from many generous Radio 4 listeners.



Heading into next year, we are delighted to welcome a raft of new supporters, including Allica Bank, Blue Diamond Garden Centres, Brooks MacDonald, H&H, Leigh Day and Nilfisk Ltd.

And we couldn't deliver our conferences and other member-support initiatives without the generosity of our exhibitors and sponsors.

We'd like to thank all of our corporate partners:

- The National Garden Scheme
- Players of Postcode Lottery
- The Co-Operative Bank
- Coventry Building Society
- Lottoland
- Tyl by NatWest
- Celebration Day
- Aspire Pharma
- Screwfix Foundation

Thank you all for your support especially:

- Crowe LLP
- Everywhen
- HSF Health Plan
- Insignis Cash
- Local Hospice Lottery
- MDDUS
- Microsoft Elevate
- PIB Insurance Brokers
- RBC Brewin Dolphin
- Sayer Vincent
- The Care Database
- Wild in Art

Incredible individuals

Every year we are humbled to benefit from a wave of support from individuals across the country who go above and beyond to support our work to protect and promote hospice care.

Whether it's the 167 runners who raised nearly £450,000 by running the TCS London Marathon, or the dozens of others who threw themselves into running, leg waxing, baking…or even the primary school who got together to climb the equivalent of Mount Everest.

Thank you, your support means everything.

With support from the Big Give, we ran our most successful Christmas appeal ever, raising more than £60,000. And we are hugely grateful to the 18 individuals who remembered Hospice UK with a gift in their will, raising £2.4 million. Thank you to all of you.

We'd also like to extend our sincere thanks to all our individual major donors and Ambassadors for their significant support over the past year.

A special thank you too to the London Fundraising Committee, led by Merrill Powell.



Trusts and foundations

We are privileged to benefit from the generous support from a range of institutional and major donors, without whom, much of our work to support hospices would simply not be possible.

We'd like to thank the following trusts and foundations for their generous support over the past year:

- Freemasons' Charity
- Wolfson Foundation
- Annandale Charitable Trust
- Astor Foundation
- D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- February Foundation
- Hospital Saturday Fund
- Ian Fleming Charitable Trust
- Inman Charity
- Inverforth Charitable Trust
- James Tudor Foundation
- Mallinckrodt Foundation
- R.U.B. White Charitable Trust
- Scouloudi Foundation
- ShareGift
- Sir Halley Stewart Charitable Trust
- St Elizabeth Foundation
- Thomas Deane Trust
- William Allen Young Charitable Trust
- William Arthur Rudd Memorial Trust
- Linder Foundation

To stay up to date with Hospice news, opportunities and achievements, visit www.hospiceuk.org and join us on social media on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Bluesky.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

Our net movement on funds, before investment gains, was a surplus of £3.9M (2024/25: £1.5M).

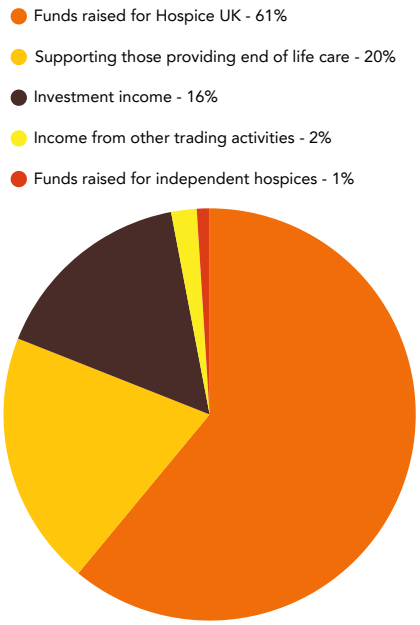
The key indicator by which the trustees measure our financial performance is the surplus or deficit on unrestricted general funds before any investment gains/losses. We recorded a surplus on unrestricted general funds of £4M (2024/25: £1.1M) before investments gains. The trustees were satisfied with the financial performance.

Our total income for 2025/26 was £112M. This was up on the prior year (£34M), due to exceptional income of £99M (2024/25: £25M) from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

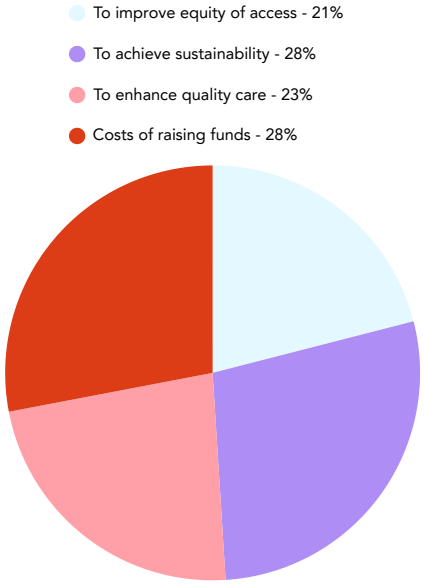
Chart 1 shows the proportion of our income coming from various sources (excluding DHSC, Capital grant Funding) and highlights that, unusually for a membership organisation, we are very reliant on fundraising income, which represents 62% per cent of our total income.

As seen in Chart 2, total expenditure increased from £32.6M in the previous year to £108.5M. £74M of the increase was due to an exceptional grant programme, otherwise expenditure would have been at similar levels to the prior year. We spent 95% of our expenditure on charitable activities, and 5% on our fundraising activities.

Income Breakdown
Chart 1



Expenditure Breakdown
Chart 2



Our trading subsidiary Help the Hospices Trading made a profit of £50k (2024/25: £227k), which was donated to the charity under Deed of Covenant. As well as advertising income, the trading subsidiary runs education and training events, and carries out some fundraising activities, all under the control of and for the benefit of the charity. The subsidiary continues to perform well, in line with prior years.

Our investment performance and holdings are regularly reviewed by the Finance Committee against a benchmark of similar investments. Our investments are held in line with our investment policy, which lays out guidelines for risk and asset mix, as well as ensuring there are appropriate ethical policies in place. We exclude any companies involved in the manufacture of landmines, cluster bombs, chemical weapons or weapons of mass destruction or who engages in predatory lending. We also exclude any companies that derive more than 10% of their turnover from tobacco, pornography, unconventional oil or gas extraction, coal power generation. We restrict investments to institutions that have high standards of governance and corporate social responsibility.

In the financial year under review, our investments increased in value by £102k (2025/26: £11,000 decrease). The trustees are satisfied that the portfolio continued to meet its investment objectives during the year.

Principal Funding Sources and Income Generation Strategy

Most of the charity's income comes from fundraised income. More than half of this income is non-recurring, and therefore significant new fundraising income needs to be generated each year.

The biggest sources of fundraising income are from corporate partnerships, charitable trusts and gifts in wills. Payroll giving and fundraising events are also important sources. Our fundraising strategy focusses on maximising donations from existing income sources, while diversifying developing new income streams.

To that end, we hope to grow our donations from our Compassionate Employers programme, corporate partners, philanthropists, and digital fundraising in future years.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the reliability of income streams, our commitment to future expenditure and the risks we face as a charity.

We are dependent on some volatile forms of fundraising income and much of our income is only committed for one year. However, we do have some forms of more reliable income, and our income streams are becoming more diverse as we seek to reduce our risk.

Based on an analysis of our commitments, and the risks associated with various income streams, the trustees have determined that we should aim to hold free reserves (defined as unrestricted general funds) of at least £4.2M. This is to ensure that we can meet our commitments to member hospices, our staff and other stakeholders, should our annual income not meet our expectations. Should our free reserves significantly exceed the levels set out in this policy, we will review our activities appropriately and authorise additional expenditure on specific projects.

At 31 March 2026, the charity had total funds of £16M (2025: £12M). Of these, £5.2M (2025: £4.2m) represented free reserves, £2.4M (2025: £2.3M) represented restricted funds, and the remainder comprised designated funds. Free reserves remained in line with the charity's reserves policy. The majority of designated funds are set aside for the purchase of a new head office building, which we hope to achieve in 2026.

Grant making policy

Hospice UK aims to make a real, practical difference in everything we do. Our grant programmes demonstrate this commitment with a range of grants to hospices, including supporting their staff.

Our grant programmes are funded by the generous donations received from external sources, including trusts and foundations. We are grateful for their support. The criteria for project grant programmes are considered by our Grants Committee and each respective funder, taking into account any restrictions the funders may include. The Grants Committee has delegated authority to award grants up to a maximum value of £100,000 each. Where the value exceeds £100,000 the recommendations of the Committee will be considered by the Board.

Applications for funding for individuals, e.g. through the Professional Development Grants programme, are considered and approved by the Head of Grants.

Risk assessment

The Trustees, together with the Senior Leadership Team, regularly identify and monitor risks to which Hospice UK is exposed and ensure that appropriate systems and controls are in place to manage significant risks.

During the year, the trustees and senior management devoted several meetings (at full Board, Governance Committee and senior leadership team) to carrying out a full review of the risks facing the charity and the mitigations that are in place to address them.

This led to the development of a new risk strategic register, which assesses the risks of us not achieving our three strategic objectives (around equity, quality and sustainability) and will be reviewed by the Board biannually going forward.

This strategic risk register is supported by an operational risk register which has identified key risks in six categories:

- Membership engagement – mitigated by regular communication and feedback mechanisms, including through our Advisory Council, consultations and surveys.
- Our brand and reputation – mitigated by proactive comms work.
- Workforce – mitigated by regular feedback mechanisms, including new pulse surveys, staff forum and monitoring by the People & Support Services Committee.
- Financial – mitigated by regular monitoring by the finance, audit and income generation committee, management accounts and dual authorisation / separation of responsibility.
- IT & Data – mitigated by a detailed IT plan overseen by the People & Support services committee
- Governance – mitigated by overview from the Governance Committee, and by a recent, very positive, external review of our governance arrangements

Compliance with Fundraising Standards

Staff employed by Hospice UK carry out most of our fundraising activities. For some activities, we work with other organisations or individuals to assist with our fundraising.

For example, we work with payroll giving agencies to sign up supporters to our payroll giving schemes and specialist organisations to organise charity challenge events. All arrangements are governed by written agreements that cover the responsibilities of both parties and ensure that anyone working on our behalf adheres to our strict ethical standards, and we take all recent steps to protect vulnerable people.

Hospice UK is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and complies with the Code of Fundraising Practice and the Fundraising Promise. No instances of non-compliance with any relevant regulations or guidelines have been identified during the year, and no complaints were received in relation to our fundraising activities. Much of our income is generated from companies or trusts. When seeking to raise money from the public, we only send marketing material to those who have previously said they are happy to be contacted by us (and individuals are free to change their minds at any time). We take great care to ensure that our level of communication with our supporters is proportional and appropriate.

Key Performance Indicators

The board has agreed twelve key performance indicators, against which they will annually review progress against our strategy. These focus on our three strategic goals and three internal ways of working. As of March 2026, we were ahead of target on five of these measures, broadly in line with target on three, behind target on two and had only developed baseline measures for the final two so were unable to assess progress at this stage.

Plans for Future Periods

The year ahead

We approach the coming year with both optimism and caution. There is unprecedented political and public support for palliative and end of life care, including a growing recognition of the value and financial fragility of the UK's hospice sector. Behind this momentum is an extraordinary community of hospice charities, staff, volunteers and supporters who make hospice care possible every day.

Over the first two years of our strategy, hospices have clearly seen the value of working more closely together — locally, regionally and through innovative collaborations. Nationally, Hospice UK's work with and for our members continues to strengthen a more united hospice movement.

Sustaining political momentum

The assisted dying debate across the UK has provided a significant backdrop to two years of sustained campaigning, irrespective of the wide range of views on the issue itself. Our challenge now is to ensure that political momentum is not lost following the Bills being voted down in Holyrood and Westminster. Hospice UK will continue to hold politicians to account on both sides of the argument and press for widespread support for palliative care to become meaningful action.

In the first two years of our strategy, we have helped secure important, though largely short-term, support across the four nations. This has included support for salary increases in Scotland and Wales, a clear promise of future support for hospices in Northern Ireland, and successive years of capital investment in England.

This support has provided a lifeline for many members and given Hospice UK the credibility and time to launch our Four-Point Plan for Fair Funding in England. At the same time, the Government's recognition of the need for better palliative care has led to the Palliative and End of Life Care Modern Service Framework, due to be published in autumn 2026. We will work to ensure it includes a clear, timebound commitment to reform how hospice care is commissioned locally.

Using better data to make the case

Our campaigning has been strengthened by our growing ability to collect, analyse and present data from member hospices. This evidence shows the reach, significance, activity and financial fragility of the sector. The next year will mark an important milestone, as members gain access to the data portal to submit data returns and compare their reach, inclusion, activity and financial performance with other hospices.

Responding to financial pressure

Despite this progress, the financial resilience of many hospices continues to worsen. We enter the new year with significant goodwill and interest, but no concrete offer of additional financial support for members in England and Northern Ireland. The wider fiscal environment is also becoming more challenging, increasing the risk that hospice service cuts may accelerate.

We also expect increased scrutiny of the hospice sector to bring greater policymaker interest in consolidation, shared roles and services, mergers, and care costing models. A worsening financial environment may expose weaknesses in leadership or governance among some members, so Hospice UK is increasing its support in this area.

Improving equity, quality and workforce support

Improving the equity and quality of hospice care remains central to Hospice UK's work. This year we will deliver an unprecedented number of programmes to help hospices respond to unmet and evolving needs, including support for people with progressive neurological conditions, young people moving from children's to adult services, and socio-economically disadvantaged communities.

Meeting these needs depends on a thriving, sustainable hospice workforce with the right skills, confidence and capacity. This year, Hospice UK will launch a larger programme of work to support wellbeing, education and career development across the hospice workforce. We will also continue to strengthen the wider hospice community through high-value media coverage, the national legacy campaign, online communities, knowledge sharing and conferences.

Supporting our people

Internally, we want the year ahead to be an inspiring experience for everyone working or volunteering at Hospice UK. We will continue to provide a safe, inclusive and supportive working environment, using pulse survey feedback to listen and respond. We also hope to move to a new office, which would be an important milestone for our people after a long period in sub-optimal office space.

Structure, governance and management

The objectives of the charity are:

to facilitate and promote the relief, care and treatment of the sick, especially of the dying, and the support and care of their families and carers and of the bereaved;

to facilitate and promote the charitable activities of those persons (whether individuals or organisations) which provide and/or support hospice care;

to provide or facilitate education and training for professionals and volunteers engaged in palliative care and increase awareness among the public of the values, principles and practice of hospice and palliative care.

Governance documents and constitution

Hospice UK is a charitable company limited by guarantee constituted on 29 September 1992 and governed by articles and memorandum of association. The trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act. No specific restrictions are imposed by the governing documents.

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, Help the Hospices (Trading) Ltd, (company number 2000660), which is used as a vehicle for fundraising.

The Board of Trustees

The charity has a membership for organisations whose primary purpose is to provide and / or support hospice care. Each member can nominate individuals to stand for election as trustees of the charity. Nominations are based on the skills, experience and competencies needed to ensure a representative balance of professional expertise on the Board of Trustees and voted on by all members.

Hospice UK trustees are detailed on page 46. Following a governance review, our constitution was updated at our AGM in November 2023, and trustees are now appointed for an initial three-year term, which can be extended to three, three-year terms. The majority of the trustees are elected from within the membership, with additional trustees from outside of the membership being co-opted to fill specific skills gaps, so long as the majority of the Board is always made up of member trustees. The full Board met five times during the year.

New trustees receive a wide-ranging induction information pack and complete conflict of interest and eligibility statements on joining the charity. Trustees are welcomed with at least one familiarisation day visit to Hospice House, to meet with staff and other trustees. Further induction information is supplied as new trustees join Board committees and become involved in the charity's activities.

The Board monitors and controls the programme of the charity through at least four Board meetings each year and through a number of Board committees. The committee structure was updated during the year and now comprises the following five committees:

Governance Committee

During the year Governance Committee has focused on strengthening the organisation's governance framework and ensuring alignment with best practice. This has included oversight of a comprehensive governance review, implementation of its recommendations, and development of updated committee structures, terms of reference and delegated authority arrangements.

The Committee has also reviewed emerging sector standards, including the updated Charity Governance Code, and has begun aligning organisational practices with these expectations.

Alongside this, there has been continued attention to strengthening risk management and organisational accountability. This has included proposals to simplify and improve risk reporting, development of revised risk policies and registers, and clearer delineation of responsibilities between the Board and its sub-committees.

In parallel, the Committee has monitored governance-related operational matters, including complaints handling, membership criteria and engagement, and oversight of grant-making structures. The committee met four times during the year.

People & Support Services Committee

People Committee & Support Services has focused on strengthening the organisation's approach to workforce planning, culture and organisational effectiveness.

This has included oversight of the People and Culture Plan, covering areas such as wellbeing, working environment, personal development and pay and benefits, alongside regular monitoring of key workforce indicators including recruitment, retention and sickness levels.

The Committee has maintained a strong focus on ensuring robust people policies, processes and governance. This has included review and updating of key policies such as equality, diversity and inclusion, bullying and harassment, sickness absence and whistleblowing, as well as consideration of wider staff experience issues including learning and development, inclusion and organisational culture.

During the year, the committee's responsibilities were expanded to cover IT, digital and data issues.

The committee met four times during the year.

Finance, Audit & Income Generation Committee

The Committee has maintained a strong focus on ensuring the organisation's financial resilience and sustainability.

This has included close scrutiny of financial performance through regular review of management accounts, budgets and statutory financial statements, alongside oversight of a robust external audit process.

Significant attention has therefore been given to forward financial planning, including development of the annual budget and medium-term plans, as well as ensuring appropriate controls over large-scale funding programmes and associated risks.

The Committee has also considered how best to deploy the organisation's financial resources to maximise impact while maintaining long-term stability. This has included detailed discussion of reserves levels and the development of a clear plan to utilise surplus funds in support of strategic priorities, alongside investment oversight and policy review to ensure appropriate risk management. The committee met four times during the year.

Renumeration & Nominations Committee

This newly formed committee met once during the year. It focused on ensuring that the organisation's approach to pay, benefits and senior appointments is fair, competitive and aligned with its strategic objectives.

This has included oversight of annual pay award recommendations, informed by benchmarking, financial performance and wider economic considerations, alongside review of the organisation's pay policy and benefits framework.

The Committee has paid particular attention to ensuring that remuneration decisions support recruitment and retention while reflecting the organisation's values and external context. In parallel, the Committee has played a central role in strengthening leadership and governance through oversight of trustee recruitment, succession planning and Board composition.

Day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and then across the organisation through a regularly reviewed schedule of delegation.

Grants Committee

During the year, the Committee met to consider applications and allocate funding across two project grant programmes: Financial Hardship and Dying Matters Community Grants. Through this work, the Committee provided oversight of the assessment and decision-making process, helping to ensure that available funding was directed in-line with the purpose and criteria of each programme.

Following the appointment of a new Chair, the Committee reviewed its approach to assessing project grant applications and making award decisions. This work focused on strengthening the consistency and robustness of the process, while ensuring that Committee members have a clear basis on which to assess applications and reach well-informed decisions.

Together, these developments have supported the Committee in fulfilling its delegated responsibilities and maintaining effective oversight of Hospice UK's project grant-making activity. The Committee will continue to keep its processes under review to ensure that funding decisions remain fair, consistent and aligned with the objectives of each grant programme.

Membership

The membership structure of Hospice UK came into being in April 2007. On 31st March 2026, there were 207 members (31 March 2025: 212)

Members of Hospice UK engage to shape our future programmes and priorities by:

- helping to shape the governance of the organisation by nominating and electing trustees to the Board – more than half of the trustees of Hospice UK are elected from within and by member hospices.
- ensuring country and regional views are represented at a national level by electing representatives to the Advisory Council and Hospice Boards Council (formerly known as the Forum of Chairmen) and contributing their expertise to support our work through expert committees and other project steering committees

In the event of winding-up, each member is liable to pay a maximum of £1.

The Advisory Council and the Hospice Boards Council

The Advisory Council plays a key role in Hospice UK and is the forum through which members formally communicate with Hospice UK.

Member hospices, via elected representatives, advise our Board and Senior Leadership Team on key issues and priorities relating to hospice philosophy, policy, practice and professional development. Hospice UK communicates the work of the charity back to the members and seeks views.

The Hospice Boards Council is a national network that promotes the role of hospice chairs and trustees and feeds back to Hospice UK issues relating to the governance of hospices in order to help shape our governance support programmes.

The Chairs of the Advisory Council (Helen Bennett) and the Hospice Boards Council (Lorraine Chapman) each hold a place on the Board of Hospice UK.

Reference and administrative information

Trustees

Sharon Allen - 1,4
Stephen Roberts - 1,4 (Resigned 23 July 2025)
Chloe Chik - 1,3,4
Rosemary Keeton - 1,4 (Resigned 25 March 2026)
Michael Miller - 1,2 (Resigned 25 March 2026)
Michelle Rollinson - 2,4
Rhian Edwards - (Resigned 15 August 2025)
David Smith - 2
Paul Jennings, Chair - 1,4
Samuel Kyerematenng - 3
Helen Laville - 1
Sabrina Bajwah - 2,5
Alison Richardson - 1,5
Richard Winter - 3,4 (Appointed 1 July 2025)
Helen Bennett - 2 (Appointed 1 July 2025)
Andrew Strevens - 3,5 (Appointed 1 July 2025)
Lorraine Chapman - 3,5 (Appointed 6 April 2026)
Kathleen Fadden - 1 (Appointed 6 April 2026)
Alice Ainsworth - 2 (Appointed 6 April 2026)

Membership of Board committees as of 31 March 2026

1 – Governance Committee
2 – People & Support Services Committee
3 – Finance, Audit & Income Generation Committee
4 – Remuneration and Nominations Committee
5 – Grants Committee

Founder
Anne, Duchess of Norfolk CBE

Vice-Presidents
Prof. David Clark
Martyn Lewis CBE
Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Lord Howard of Lympne
Robert Peston
Merrill Powell MBE

Senior Leadership Team (as at date of approval)

Toby Porter	Chief Executive
Craig Duncan	Chief Operating Officer
Catherine Bosworth	Director of Income Generation and Grants
Charlie King	Director of External Affairs
Steve Thorlby-Coy	Director of Transformation
Annette Alcock	Director of Programmes

Registered office
34 – 44 Britannia Street
London
WC1X 9JG

Charity and company registration
Registered charity in England and Wales: 1014851
Registered charity in Scotland: SC041112
Company limited by guarantee: 2751549

Solicitor
Bates Well
2-6 Cannon Street
London
EC4M 6YH

Auditors
HaysMac LLP
10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Bank
Coutts and Co.
440 Strand London
WC2 0QS

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Hospice UK for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the situation of the charitable company and group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company and group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

As far as trustees are aware:

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

The trustees are responsible for ensuring the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditors

HaysMac LLP have expressed their willingness to continue as the charitable company's auditors, and a resolution to this effect will be proposed at the AGM.

The Trustees' Report, which incorporates a Strategic Report, was approved by the Trustees on 14 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Paul Jennings Chair of Board of Trustees

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Trustees and Members of Hospice UK

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Hospice UK for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charitable Company Statement of Financial Positions, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows 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 group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of the group's and parent charitable company’s net movement in funds, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report included within the Trustees' Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the independent school regulations, safeguarding regulations, health and safety requirements, GDPR, employment law and charity law and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and consider other factors such as payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to the improper recognition of revenue and management bias in accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transaction reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error as fraud involves intentional concealments, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Lee Stokes (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of HaysMac LLP, Statutory Auditor
10 Queen Street Place
London EC4R 1AG

Date: 22 October 2026

Consolidated statement of financial activities
(Incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General £'000	Unrestricted Funds Designated £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	**2026 Total £'000**	2025 Total £'000
Income						
Donations and legacies:	**2**					
Funds raised for Hospice UK		6,120	-	1,922	**8,042**	5,876
Government capital grants funding		-	-	99,201	**99,201**	25,000
Funds raised for independent hospices		-	-	97	**97**	156
Other Trading and Investment Income						
Income from other trading activities		204	-	-	**204**	42
Investment income		2,095	-	-	**2,095**	455
Income from charitable activities:						
Membership, training and other		1,810	-	917	**2,727**	2,568
Total income		**10,229**	**-**	**102,137**	**112,366**	34,097
Expenditure						
Expenditure on charitable activities:	**3**					
To Improve equity of access		1,119	31	774	**1,924**	1,501
To enhance quality care		1,300	52	777	**2,129**	2,124
To achieve sustainability		1,269	45	1,283	**2,597**	2,291
Hospice Capital Funding Grant		-	-	99,201	**99,201**	25,000
Costs of raising funds	**3**	2,577	51	-	**2,628**	1,679
Total expenditure		**6,265**	**179**	**102,035**	**108,479**	32,595
Net income/(expenditure) before		**3,964**	**(179)**	**102**	**3,887**	1,502
Realised (losses)/gains on investments	**10**	(83)	-	-	**(83)**	19
Unrealised gains/ (losses) on investment	**10**	184	-	-	**184**	(11)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	**5**	**4,065**	**(179)**	**102**	**3,988**	1,510
Transfer between funds	**14**	(3,021)	3,021	-	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**1,044**	**2,842**	**102**	**3,988**	1,510
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	**14**	4,162	5,568	2,281	**12,011**	10,501
Total funds carried forward	**14**	**5,206**	**8,410**	**2,383**	**15,999**	12,011

A full comparative statement of financial activities for the prior year is shown in note 19

HospiceUK

Balance sheet
As at 31 March 2026

	Note	The group 2026 £'000	The group 2025 £'000	The charity 2026 £'000	The charity 2025 £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9	**1,150**	1,045	**1,150**	1,045
Investments	10	**5,341**	5,207	**5,341**	5,207
		6,491	6,252	**6,491**	6,252
Current assets					
Debtors	12	**1,667**	1,028	**1,973**	1,255
Short-term deposit - Investments		**8,300**	4,619	**8,300**	4,619
Cash at bank and in hand		**30,002**	4,062	**29,499**	3,574
		39,969	9,709	**39,772**	9,448
Creditors					
Amounts due within one year	13	**30,461**	3,950	**30,282**	3,707
Net current assets		**9,508**	5,759	**9,490**	5,741
Total net assets	15	**15,999**	12,011	**15,981**	11,993
Funds	14				
Restricted funds		**2,383**	2,281	**2,383**	2,281
Unrestricted funds					
General funds		**5,206**	4,162	**5,188**	4,144
Designated funds		**8,410**	5,568	**8,410**	5,568
Total funds		**15,999**	12,011	**15,981**	11,993

The Charity's net movement in funds for the year was £3,988,000 (2025: £1,510,000)

The notes on pages 56 to 73 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the trustees 14 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Paul Jennings
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Company number 2751549

HospiceUK

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Net cash generated by operating activities	**27,744**	213
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	**(185)**	(21)
Receipts on the disposal of investments	**5,745**	1,500
Receipts on the disposal of short-term investments	**-**	2,000
Payments to acquire investments	**(5,779)**	(2,000)
Payments to acquire short-term investments	**(3,680)**	(4,590)
Investment income	**2,095**	455
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	**25,940**	(2,443)

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Net movement in funds for the year	**3,988**	1,510
Non-operating cashflows eliminated		
Depreciation	**80**	78
Investment income	**(2,095)**	(455)
Losses/(gains) on investments	**(101)**	(8)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(639)**	234
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	**26,511**	(1,146)
Net cash generated by operating activities	**27,744**	213
Cash and cash equivalents at 01 April 2025	**4,062**	6,505
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2026	**30,002**	4,062

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Cash in hand at the beginning of the year	**4,062**	6,505
Increase in cash in hand	**25,940**	(2,443)
Cash in hand at the end of the year	**30,002**	4,062

Reconciliation of net debt

The charity had no borrowing or other financing liabilities at any point during the year. Consequently, the charity had no net debt and a reconciliation of net debt, as envisaged by FRS 102, has not been provided.

1. Accounting principles
The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the Financial Statements are shown below.

a. Basis of Preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - Charities SORP (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1000.

b. Legal status of the charity
Hospice UK is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England, Wales and Scotland and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is 34-44 Britannia Street, London, WC1X 9JG. The principal activity of the charity is to support those providing end of life care.

c. Going concern
At the balance sheet date the Trustees consider that given reserve levels are in line with targets there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. Future cash flows forecasts and budgets indicate that the charity can continue to operate into 2028 and beyond.

d. Group financial statements
These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company, Hospice UK and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Help the Hospices (Trading) Limited - company number 02000660. The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption included within FRS 102 not to produce an individual Statement of Cash flows.

The parent company has also taken advantage of the exemption available under Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to present a separate parent company Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

e. Income
Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met;
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where income has related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

During the period all income arose from within the UK.

Grants and donations
Donations, grants and gifts are recognised when receivable. Sponsorship from events and events registration fees are recognised when the event takes place.
Revenue grants are recognised when received or receivable whichever is earlier.

Legacy income
Pecuniary legacies are recognised on notification. For residuary legacies, entitlement is taken on a case by case basis as the earlier of the date when the charity is aware that probate has been granted, and either:

- the estate has been finalised and estate accounts have been received by the charity; or
- notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made and the distribution has been made since the year end.

Where these conditions are not met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed accordingly.

Investment income
Investment income represents interest receivable from UK bank deposits and investments. This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Investment gains and losses includes any gain or loss resulting from change in market value at the end of the year and any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

f. Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis under the following headings:

Costs of raising funds
Costs of raising funds comprises fundraising costs incurred in seeking donations, grants and legacies; costs of fundraising activities including commercial trading; and their associated support costs. Fundraising costs do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Expenditure on charitable activities
Expenditure on charitable activities is analysed by the charity's key charitable objectives as identified in the charity's current strategy.

Expenditure on charitable activities comprises the costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Accounting principles (continued)

Redundancy payments
Redundancy and termination costs are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities and a liability on the Balance Sheet immediately at the point the charity is demonstrably committed to either: terminate the employment of an employee or group of employees before normal retirement date; or provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy. The charity is considered to be demonstrably committed only when it has a detailed formal plan for the termination and is without realistic possibility of withdrawal from the plan.

Support and governance costs
Support costs comprise those costs which are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objectives of the charity and include governance cost, finance, and office costs.
Support costs include irrecoverable VAT.
Support costs are allocated to each of the activities on the basis of estimated average headcount deployed supporting each objective in the year.

g. Grants
Grants payable are recognised on approval of the grant by the Grants Committee and notification to its recipient.

h. Taxation
Hospice UK meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

i. Pension
Hospice UK contributes towards defined contribution pension plans for employees. Pension costs are recognised when they fall due.

The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included with the associated staff costs and allocated to raising funds, charitable activities, support and governance costs and charged to the unrestricted funds of the charity.

The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for employees' contributions.

j. Fixed assets
All assets costing more than £1,500 are capitalised at their historical cost when purchased. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their value in the accounts may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is incurred at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The annual depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Freehold land	nil %
Building and improvements	2% of cost
Furniture and office equipment	25% of net book value
IT equipment and software	33% of cost

k. Investments
Investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing bid market price, except for the shares in the trading subsidiary which are carried at cost.

The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

l. Short term investments
Short term investments include investments with a maturity of between three and twelve months from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m. Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amounts receivable at the balance sheet date.

n. Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

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

p. Fund accounting
Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the fund, together with an agreed allocation of management and support costs.

Accounting principles (continued)

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated to further any of the charitable purposes of Hospice UK.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

The aim and use of each material designated and restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

q. Operating Leases
Operating leases are recognised over the period of which the lease falls due.

r. Judgements and key sources of uncertainty
No judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies.

The key assumptions concerning the future and key sources of estimation uncertainty at the key reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- Estimation of the useful economic life of buildings, furniture and office equipment and IT equipment.

s. Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the SoFA.

t. Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date. All financial instruments of the charity are measured at cost with the exception of investments in the charity's portfolio, which are measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing bid market value with all realised and unrealised gains included in the statement of financial activities. The value of investments as well as their original cost is stated in note 10. Financial assets include investments in the portfolio, the bank balances, trade debtors, accrued income and other debtors but exclude prepayments and taxation. Financial liabilities include trade creditors, other creditors, accruals and deferred income but exclude social security and other taxes due.

2. Donations and Legacies - Group

	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	**2026 Total £'000**	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	2025 Total £'000
Corporate donations	1,008	217	**1,225**	1,154	89	1,243
Trusts and other charities	586	1,382	**1,968**	295	1,567	1,862
Payroll giving	246	97	**343**	182	109	291
Challenge events	504	-	**504**	472	-	472
Campaigns and special events	708	-	**708**	70	-	70
National Garden Scheme	405	45	**450**	405	45	450
Legacies	2,415	-	**2,415**	1,037	-	1,037
Individual donors	246	31	**277**	168	8	176
Government and statutory income	-	247	**247**	-	431	431
Government grants - capital funding	-	99,201	**99,201**	-	25,000	25,000
Other voluntary income	2	-	**2**	-	-	-
Total Donations and Legacies	6,120	101,220	**107,340**	3,783	27,249	31,032

Donation and legacy income can be analysed as follows:

Income for Hospice UK	6,120	1,675	**7,795**	3,783	1,662	5,445
Government and Statutory Income	-	247	**247**	-	431	431
Income for Hospices	-	97	**97**	-	156	156
Government capital grants	-	99,201	**99,201**	-	25,000	25,000
	6,120	101,220	**107,340**	3,783	27,249	31,032

3. Analysis of expenditure - Group

a) 2026

	Direct Costs: Charitable activities				Cost of Raising Funds	Support and governance	**2026**
	Equity	Quality	Sustainability	Capital Grants			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	**£'000**
Staff costs (Note 7)	735	916	805	-	1,085	1,120	**4,661**
Grants payable (Note 4)	480	391	-	99,201	-	-	**100,072**
Local hospices donations	-	-	97	-	-	-	**97**
Other expenditure	305	291	1,266	-	886	901	**3,649**
	1,520	1,598	2,168	99,201	1,971	2,021	**108,479**
Support and governance	404	531	429	-	657	(2,021)	-
Total expenditure 2026	**1,924**	**2,129**	**2,597**	**99,201**	**2,628**	**-**	**108,479**

b) 2025

	Direct Costs: Charitable activities				Cost of Raising Funds	Support and governance	2025
	Equity	Quality	Sustainability	Capital Grants			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Staff costs (Note 7)	626	1,043	653	-	919	1,062	**4,303**
Grants payable (Note 4)	284	346	77	25,000	-	-	**25,707**
Local hospices donations	-	-	109	-	47	-	**156**
Other expenditure	248	335	1,128	-	275	443	**2,429**
	1,158	1,724	1,967	25,000	1,241	1,505	**32,595**
Support and governance	343	400	324	-	438	(1,505)	-
Total expenditure 2025	**1,501**	**2,124**	**2,291**	**25,000**	**1,679**	**-**	**32,595**

3. Analysis of expenditure - Group (continued)

Support costs are not attributable to a single activity and have been apportioned on the basis of the number of people employed within an activity.

c. Analysis of support costs - 2026

	Charitable activities				Cost of Raising Funds	2026
	Equity	Quality	Sustainability	Capital Grants		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Finance	103	135	109	-	167	**514**
Facilities	79	104	84	-	129	**396**
Governance	15	20	16	-	24	**75**
Human Resources	63	83	67	-	103	**316**
Strategy & Legal	1	1	1	-	1	**4**
Irrecoverable VAT	2	3	2	-	3	**10**
IT & Business Systems	141	185	150	-	230	**706**
	404	531	429	-	657	**2,021**

d. Analysis of support costs - 2025

	Charitable activities				Cost of Raising Funds	2025
	Equity	Quality	Sustainability	Capital Grants		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Finance	70	81	66	-	89	**306**
Facilities	80	93	75	-	102	**350**
Governance	13	15	12	-	17	**57**
Human Resources	59	70	56	-	76	**261**
Strategy & Legal	2	2	2		3	**9**
Irrecoverable VAT	(46)	(53)	(43)	-	(58)	**(200)**
IT & Business Systems	165	192	155	-	210	**722**
	343	400	323	-	439	**1,505**

Notes to the financial statements

4. Grants payable - Group

Grants given comprise of:		2026 £'000	2025 £'000
DHSC Hospice Capital Funding Grants		**99,201**	25,000
Masonic CF - Financial Hardship Grants Programme		**400**	400
Masonic CF - Professional Development Grants		**133**	166
The Wolfson Foundation - Professional Development Grants		**135**	134
The National Lottery Community Fund The UK Fund – Connected Communities		**99**	-
National Garden Scheme - Personal Development Grants		**20**	-
Dignity Plc - Dying Matters Community Grants		**80**	-
The Rank Foundation		**-**	77
Other grant programmes		**4**	20
	Note 3	**100,072**	25,797
Provision for grants which may not be claimed		**(130)**	(90)
		99,942	25,707

A full list of grants awarded in the year is available from our website at *https://www.hospiceuk.org/innovation-hub/support-for-your-role/grants/reports-lists*

1498 (2025: 628) grants were made to 189 (2025: 197) organisations.

5. Net income/(expenditure) for the year - Group

This is stated after charging / crediting:		2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Depreciation		**80**	78
Trustees' indemnity insurance		**1**	1
Auditors' remuneration:			
Audit - Hospice UK		**28**	24
Audit - Help the Hospices (Trading) Ltd.		**7**	6
Other services		**-**	2
Operating leases	**Note 17**	**3**	7

6. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Help the Hospices (Trading) Limited pays all its available profits to the charity under a deed of covenant. Its charge to corporation tax in the year was nil (2025: £nil).

7. Analysis of staff costs - Group

a) Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was 79 (2025: 79). The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2026 No.	2025 No.
To Improve equity of access	**12**	14
To enhance quality care	**16**	16
To achieve sustainability	**13**	13
Raising Funds	**20**	17
Support and Governance	**18**	19
	79	79

b) Staff costs

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Salaries and wages	**3,729**	3,541
Social security costs	**497**	387
Pension contributions	**390**	324
Temporary and agency staff and recruitment	**45**	51
	4,661	4,303

Included within staff costs is a redundancy payment of £25k (2025: £19K) made to a staff member.

The charity considers its key management personnel to be its trustees and the members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

The charity's trustees were not paid and did not receive any benefits from employment with Hospice UK in the year (Prior year: £nil). They were reimbursed expenses during the year as stated in note 16.

The value of payments and other benefits, including pension contributions and redundancy payments to members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), in the year was £836k (2025: £746k) to seven individuals (2025: six)

The number of employees whose total employee benefits excluding pension contributions exceeded £60,000 was:

	2026 No.	2025 No.
£60,000 - £70,000	**4**	4
£70,000 - £80,000	**1**	1
£80,000 - £90,000	**1**	-
£90,000 - £100,000	**2**	4
£100,000 - £110,000	**1**	-
£110,000 - £120,000	**1**	2
£120,000 - £130,000	**1**	-

Pensions contributions for higher paid employees totalled £72k (2025: £74k).

8. Pension - Group

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £355k (2025: £324k).There was £nil outstanding at the year end (2025: £37k)

9. Tangible fixed assets - group and charity

	Freehold land £'000	Building £'000	Furniture and office equipment £'000	IT equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost					
At the start of the year	163	1,651	345	151	**2,310**
Additions	-	31	60	94	**185**
Disposals	-	-	(117)	-	**(117)**
At the end of the year	**163**	**1,682**	**288**	**245**	2,378
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	-	839	312	114	**1,265**
Charge for the year	-	33	10	37	**80**
Disposal in year	-	-	(117)	-	**(117)**
At the end of the year	**-**	**872**	**205**	**151**	1,228
Net book value					
At the end of the year	**163**	**810**	**83**	**94**	**1,150**
At the start of the year	163	812	33	37	1,045

10. Investments - Group and Charity

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Market value at the start of the year	**5,097**	3,087
Additions	**5,780**	2,785
Disposal at Market Value	**(5,745)**	(764)
Unrealised investment gains/(losses)	**184**	(11)
Market value at the end of the year	**5,316**	5,097
Capital account	**25**	110
Total Fixed Assets Investments	**5,341**	5,207
Historic cost at the year end	**5,601**	5,096
Realised (losses)/gains on investments	**(83)**	19

Investments comprise:	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
UK Common investment funds	**5,316**	5,097
Cash and cash equivalents	**25**	110

11.Subsidiary Undertaking

a) Trading

The charitable company controls one subsidiary. Help the Hospices (Trading) Limited - company number 02000660 is registered in England and Wales.

An investment of £100 is held by Hospice UK in Help the Hospices (Trading) Ltd. This represents the cost of acquiring the whole of the ordinary share capital of the company. Help the Hospices (Trading) Limited is used for non-primary purpose trading activities.

The results of Help the Hospices (Trading) Limited are shown below and have been consolidated on a line by line basis into group financial statements. Available profits are distributed to the charitable company by deed of covenant.

	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Turnover	**985**	835
Cost of sales	**(577)**	(313)
Gross profit	**408**	522
Administrative expenses	**(358)**	(295)
Profit on ordinary activities	**50**	227
Payment under Deed of Covenant	**(50)**	**(227)**
Net result	**-**	**-**

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:	2026 £'000	2025 £'000
Assets	**703**	663
Liabilities	**(685)**	(645)
Funds	**18**	18

12. Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2026 £'000	2025 £'000	**2026 £'000**	2025 £'000
Trade and other debtors	**752**	184	**591**	54
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking	**-**	-	**506**	402
Prepayments and accrued income	**915**	844	**876**	799
	1,667	1,028	**1,973**	1,255

Within prepayments and accrued income is £249k (2025: £505k) of prepayments relating to fundraising events which will be held after the year end.

13. Creditors: amounts due within one year

a) Creditors

	The group		The charity	
	2026 £'000	2025 £'000	**2026 £'000**	2025 £'000
Trade and other creditors	**217**	285	**213**	272
Tax and social security	**145**	-	**145**	-
Pension contributions payable	**-**	37	**-**	37
Amounts due to independent hospices	**97**	112	**97**	112
Grants payable	**28,730**	2,340	**28,730**	2,340
Accruals	**167**	135	**162**	128
Deferred income	**1,105**	1,041	**935**	818
	30,461	3,950	**30,282**	3,707

The Charity is part of a group VAT registration and therefore is potentially liable for VAT liabilities of its subsidiaries. As at 31 March 2026 its subsidiary trading company, Help the Hospices had a creditor value relating to value added tax of £88k (2025 £111k).

b) Deferred income reconciliation

	The group		The charity	
	2026 £'000	2025 £'000	**2026 £'000**	2025 £'000
Balance brought forward	1,041	1,583	818	1,384
Amount recognised in year	(1,041)	(1,583)	(818)	(1,384)
Amount deferred in the year	1,105	1,041	935	818
Balance carried forward	**1,105**	1,041	**935**	**818**

Notes to the financial statements

14. Movements in funds

a) 2026	At 1 April 2025 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Net investment gains/(losse £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31 March 2026 £'000
Restricted funds						
Awards and grants						
Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA)	-	90	(90)	-	-	-
Department of Health and Social Care - Capital Grants	-	99,201	(99,201)	-	-	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	237	600	(598)	-	-	239
The Wolfson Foundation	-	200	(139)			61
Personal Development Grants Fund (Wolfson)	309					309
Grant Writeback Fund	211	-	130	-	5	346
Other projects						
Health and Social Care Board	16	157	(173)	-	-	-
Quality & Equity Work	363	-	-	-	-	363
Equity & Substainability Work	69	-	-	-	-	69
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	34	-	(34)	-	-	-
Anonymous donor (Neurological project)	288	-	(96)	-	-	192
The Linder Foundation	100	-	(100)	-	-	-
Legacy Campaign	296	917	(950)	-	-	263
St Elizabeth Foundation	-	161	(51)	-	-	110
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	219	(239)	-	-	(20)
Dignity Place	-	117	(78)	-	-	39
Thomas Deane Trust	-	66	(66)			
Other	358	409	(350)	-	(5)	412
Total restricted funds	**2,281**	**102,137**	**(102,035)**	**-**	**-**	2,383
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Fixed assets	1,045	-	(80)	-	185	1,150
Building repairs	680	-	-	-	(680)	-
Capital fund - building	-	-	-	-	6,000	6,000
Capital fund - technology	402	-	(76)	-	(126)	200
Member Data Portal	-	-	-	-	110	110
Fundraising Innovation	400	-	-	-	-	400
Governance & leadership fund	-	-	-	-	300	300
Legacy equalisation	1,000	-	-	-	(1,000)	-
Future programmes to improve equitable access	1,050	-	-	-	(1,050)	-
Future quality improvement programmes	991	-	(11)	-	(980)	-
Workforce	-	-	(12)	-	262	250
Total designated funds	**5,568**	**-**	**(179)**	**-**	**3,021**	8,410
General funds	4,162	10,229	(6,265)	101	(3,021)	5,206
Total unrestricted funds	**9,730**	**10,229**	**(6,444)**	**101**	**-**	13,616
Total funds	**12,011**	**112,365**	**(108,479)**	**101**	**-**	15,999

14. Movements in funds (continued)

b) Charity	At 1 April 2025 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Net investment gains/(losse £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31 March 2026 £'000
Restricted funds						
Awards and grants						
Health & Wellbeing Alliance	-	90	(90)	-	-	-
Department of Health and Social Care - Capital Grants	-	99,201	(99,201)	-	-	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	237	600	(598)	-	-	239
The Wolfson Foundation	-	200	(139)			61
Personal Development Grants Fund (Wolfson)	309					309
Grant Writeback Fund	211	-	130	-	5	346
Other projects						
Health and Social Care Board	16	157	(173)	-	-	-
Quality & Equity Work	363	-	-	-	-	363
Equity & Substainability Work	69	-	-	-	-	69
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	34	-	(34)	-	-	-
Anonymous donor (Neurological project)	288	-	(96)	-	-	192
The Linder Foundation	100	-	(100)	-	-	-
Legacy Campaign	296	917	(950)	-	-	263
St Elizabeth Foundation	-	161	(51)	-	-	110
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	219	(239)	-	-	(20)
Dignity Place	-	117	(78)	-	-	39
Thomas Deane Trust	-	66	(66)			
Other	358	410	(351)	-	(5)	412
Total restricted funds	**2,281**	**102,138**	**(102,036)**	**-**	**-**	**2,383**
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Fixed assets	1,045	-	(80)	-	185	1,150
Building repairs	680	-	-	-	(680)	-
Capital fund - building	-	-	-	-	6,000	6,000
Capital fund - technology	402	-	(76)	-	(126)	200
Member Data Portal	-	-	-	-	110	110
Fundraising Innovation	400	-	-	-	-	400
Governance & leadership fund	-	-	-	-	300	300
Legacy equalisation	1,000	-	-	-	(1,000)	-
Future programmes to improve equitable access	1,050	-	-	-	(1,050)	-
Future quality improvement programmes	991	-	(11)	-	(980)	-
Workforce	-	-	(12)	-	262	250
Total designated funds	**5,568**	**-**	**(179)**	**-**	**3,021**	**8,410**
General funds	4,144	9,244	(5,280)	101	(3,021)	5,188
Total unrestricted funds	**9,712**	**9,244**	**(5,459)**	**101**	**-**	**13,598**
Total funds	**11,993**	**111,382**	**(107,495)**	**101**	**-**	**15,981**

14. Movements in funds (continued)

c) 2025	At 1 April 2024 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Unrealised gains/(losse £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31 March 2025 £'000
Restricted funds						
Health & Wellbeing Alliance	-	90	(90)	-	-	-
Department of Health and Social Care	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
NHS England	25	-	(25)	-	-	-
St James's place (Quality & Equity Work)	258	-	6	-	(264)	-
Masonic Charitable Fund	152	800	(715)	-	-	237
The Kirby Laing Foundation	7	108	(115)	-	-	-
Health and Social Care Board	5	341	(330)	-	-	16
Other projects						
Quality & Equity Work	99	-	-	-	264	363
Equity & Substainability Work	69	-	-	-	-	69
Personal Development Grants Fund (Wolfson)	309					309
Grant Writeback Fund	211	-	-	-	-	211
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	179	-	(145)	-	-	34
Anonymous donor (Neurological project)	288	-	-	-	-	288
The Linder Foundation	-	100	-	-	-	100
Legacy Campaign	-	1,004	(708)	-	-	296
Other	53	820	(515)	-	-	358
Total restricted funds	**1,655**	**28,263**	**(27,637)**	**-**	**-**	**2,281**
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Fixed assets	1,042	-	(78)	-	81	1,045
Building repairs	749	-	(9)	-	(60)	680
Digital/technology	500	-	(92)	-	(6)	402
Fundraising Innovation	400	-	-	-	-	400
Frailty programme	12	-	(3)	-	(9)	-
Legacy equalisation	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Future programmes to improve equitable access	550	-	-	-	500	1,050
Future quality improvement programmes	500	-	(9)	-	500	991
Total designated funds	**4,753**	**-**	**(191)**	**-**	**1,006**	**5,568**
General funds	4,093	5,853	(4,786)	8	(1,006)	4,162
Total unrestricted funds	**8,846**	**5,853**	**(4,977)**	**8**	**-**	**9,730**
Total funds	**10,501**	**34,116**	**(32,614)**	**8**	**-**	**12,011**

14. Movements in funds (continued) d) Charity	At 1 April 2024 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Unrealised gains/(losses) £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	**At 31 March 2025** **£'000**
Restricted funds						
Health & Wellbeing Alliance	-	90	(90)	-	-	**-**
Department of Health and Social Care	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	**-**
NHS England	25	-	(25)	-	-	**-**
St James's place (Quality & Equity Work)	258	-	6	-	(264)	**-**
Masonic Charitable Fund	152	800	(715)	-	-	**237**
The Kirby Laing Foundation	7	108	(115)	-	-	**-**
Health and Social Care Board	5	341	(330)	-	-	**16**
Other projects						
Quality & Equity Work	99	-	-	-	264	**363**
Equity & Substainability Work	69	-	-	-	-	**69**
Personal Development Grants Fund	309					**309**
Grant Writeback Fund	211	-	-	-	-	**211**
Rausing Workforce	179	-	(145)	-	-	**34**
Anonymous donor (Neurological project)	288	-	-	-	-	**288**
Linder Foundation	-	100	-	-	-	**100**
Legacy Campaign	-	1,004	(708)	-	-	**296**
Other	53	810	(505)	-	-	**358**
Total restricted funds	**1,655**	**28,253**	**(27,627)**	**-**	**-**	2,281
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Fixed assets	1,042	-	(78)	-	81	**1,045**
Building repairs	749	-	(9)	-	(60)	**680**
Digital/technology	500	-	(92)	-	(6)	**402**
Fundraising Innovation	400	-	-	-	-	**400**
Frailty programme	12	-	(3)	-	(9)	**-**
Legacy equalisation	1,000	-	-	-	-	**1,000**
Future programmes to improve equitable access	550	-	-	-	500	**1,050**
Future quality improvement programmes	500	-	(9)	-	500	**991**
Total designated funds	**4,753**	**-**	**(191)**	**-**	**1,006**	5,568
General funds	4,075	5,009	(3,942)	8	(1,006)	**4,144**
Total unrestricted funds	**8,828**	**5,009**	**(4,133)**	**8**	**-**	9,712
Total funds	**10,483**	**33,262**	**(31,760)**	**8**	**-**	11,993

14. Movements in funds (continued)

e) Purposes of restricted funds

Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA) - The Department of Health & Social Care awarded £90k to a consortium of charities (Hospice UK, Marie Curie, Together for Short Lives and National Bereavement Alliance) in relation to our membership of the Alliance.The Alliance is a partnership of voluntary organisations who work to bring the voice of the sector into policy-making. Hospice UK leads the partnership.

Department of health and Social Care - Capital Grants - the Department of Health and Social Care have awarded Hospice UK £125M over two years for onward grants to hospices in England for investment in their capital infrastructure. £99.2M was received in the year ended 31 March 2026 (2025: £25M), and distributed to hospices who in turn spent it on capital projects.

Masonic Charitable Foundation - awarded grant funding to support the Financial Hardship Grants Programme. Additionally, they have awarded grant funding for professional development grants.

The Wolfson Foundation - have awarded grant funding for professional development grants.

Personal Development Grants Fund - a fund restricted to personal development grants (largely funded by the Wolfson Foundation)

Health and Social Care Board - The Department of Health in Northern Ireland have commissioned Hospice UK to support their **work in transforming the health service in Northern Ireland through our work on Project ECHO.**

Anonymous donor (Neurological project) - a three year programme aimed at improving end-of-life care for people with progressive neurological conditions and their families.

The Linder Foundation - Are supporting a two year programme focusing on the development of the National Hospice Services Data Portal.

Legacy Campaign - Hospice UK is leading a national legacy campaign to encourage people to protect hospice care by leaving a gift in their will to support local hospices.

St Elizabeth Foundation - are supporting a Socio-Economic Disadvantage programme

The National Lottery Community Fund - The UK Fund - Connected Communities programme. The small deficit balance at year end reflects the timing of programme expenditure and is being met from unrestricted funds pending future recovery through project activity.

Other projects - represents restricted funds for a variety of programmes supporting hospice care in the UK.

f) Purposes of designated funds

Fixed assets - represents the value of our tangible fixed assets
Capital fund - building - Capital fund to be used for the purchase of a new office building
Capital fund - technology - Fund designated for investment in IT equipment
Member Data Portal - Funds set aside to complete the Member Data Portal project.
Fundraising Innovation - Fund designated to support investment in new fundraising initiatives, including additional funding for the Hospice Legacy Campaign
Governance & leadership fund - Fund designated to support governance and leadership development initiatives.
Workforce - Fund designated to underwrite the workforce programme over three years if external funding is not secured.

The designated funds comprise amounts transferred from the general fund, in line with the charity's internal decisions to earmark resources for specific purposes. No external income was received directly into these funds during the period.

15. Analysis of net assets between funds - Group

a) 2026

Group

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	**2026 Total £'000**
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,150	-	**1,150**
Investments	5,341	-	-	**5,341**
Net current assets	(135)	7,260	2,383	**9,508**
	5,206	**8,410**	**2,383**	**15,999**

Charity

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	**2026 Total £'000**
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,150	-	**1,150**
Investments	5,341	-	-	**5,341**
Net current assets	(153)	7,260	2,383	**9,490**
	5,188	**8,410**	**2,383**	**15,981**

b) 2025

Group

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	2025 Total £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,045	-	1,045
Investments	5,207	-	-	5,207
Net current assets	(1,045)	4,523	2,281	5,759
	4,162	5,568	2,281	12,011

Charity

	General £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	2025 Total £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,045	-	1,045
Investments	5,207	-	-	5,207
Net current assets	(1,063)	4,523	2,281	5,741
	4,144	5,568	2,281	11,993

16. Related party transactions

a) Independent hospices and trustees

Over 60% of the Trustees are closely associated with independent charitable hospices and palliative care. As we have awarded 1498 grants during the year to organisations working in palliative care, it is not unusual that some of these grants are to organisations with which our trustees are associated.

Trustees who sit on the awards committee withdraw from all decisions regarding grants to any organisation, or individual within the organisation, with which they are associated and so cannot influence these decisions in any way.

A summary of the grants awarded to organisations, or individuals within the organisation, associated with our trustees is given below. The total value of all grants awarded in the year is disclosed in note 4.

Hospice UK's member hospices also benefit from funding through our national corporate partnerships and our payroll giving scheme. The total value of all local hospice donations in the year is disclosed in note 3.

	Number of grants	Value of grants £'000	Hospice Donations £'000	**2026 £'000**	2025 £'000
St Andrews	6	380	-	**380**	94
Arthur Rank	14	686	-	**686**	239
St Luke's Sheffield	8	755	1	**756**	229
Saint Michael's Hospice (Harrogate)	4	569	-	**569**	194
Naomi House and Jacksplace Hospices	7	336	-	**336**	129
Compton Care	16	752	-	**752**	240
North Devon Hospice	12	337	-	**337**	107
Hospice of the Good Shepherd	8	282	-	**282**	82
St Giles Hospice	7	499	-	**499**	-
St Leonard's Hospice	10	337	-	**337**	155
Pilgrims Hospice	8	903	1	**904**	-
Total	**100**	**5,836**	**2**	**5,838**	1,469

Hospice UK paid the cost of travel and expenses incurred by Trustees whilst fulfilling their duties to Hospice UK. This includes the reimbursement of expenses totalling £3.7k (2025: £5.6k) for trustees.

b) Worldwide Hospice and Palliative Care Alliance (WHPCA)

The CEO of Hospice UK, Toby Porter, is a trustee of the Worldwide Hospice and Palliat Alliance (WHPCA), a charity registered in the UK.

Hospice UK provided various services to WHPCA, including financial and payroll proces and financial management and reporting support, charged at £4k (2025: £4k).

The Trustees do not consider WHPCA to be a subsidiary or an associate and the result assets of WHPCA have not been included in the group accounts.

There were no other related party transactions in the year (2025: nil)

17. Operating lease commitments

Net income for the year for the Group are stated after charging operating lease payments on equipment of £3k (2025: £7k).

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

	2027 £'000	2026 £'000
No later than one year	**3**	3
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	3

18. Contingent Assets

The charity has been notified of a number of potential legacies which do not meet the conditions for recognition as income at the balance sheet date. The value of these gifts is uncertain, but is estimated at £0.8M (2025: £1.7M) The charity is extremely grateful to all the generous donors who support it through gifts in wills.

Notes to the financial statements

19. Consolidated statement of financial activities
(Incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	2025
	General	Designated	Funds	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income				
Donations and legacies:				
Funds raised for Hospice UK	3,783	-	2,093	**5,876**
Government capital grants funding	-	-	25,000	**25,000**
Funds raised for independent hospices	-	-	156	**156**
Other Trading and Investment Income				
Income from other trading activities	42	-	-	**42**
Investment income	455	-	-	**455**
Income from charitable activities:				
Supporting those providing end of life care	1,554	-	1,014	**2,568**
Total income	**5,834**		**28,263**	**34,097**
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities:				
To improve equity of access	903	41	557	**1,501**
To enhance quality care	1,253	60	811	**2,124**
To achieve sustainability	984	38	1,269	**2,291**
Hospice Capital Funding Grant	-	-	25,000	**25,000**
Costs of raising funds	1,627	52	-	1,679
Total expenditure	**4,767**	**191**	**27,637**	**32,595**
Net income/(expenditure) before gains/(losses) on investments	**1,067**	**(191)**	**626**	**1,502**
Realised gains on investments	19	-	-	**19**
Unrealised (losses)/gains	(11)	-	-	**(11)**
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	**1,075**	**(191)**	**626**	**1,510**
Transfer between funds	(1,006)	1,006	-	**-**
Net movement in funds	**69**	**815**	**626**	**1,510**
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	4,093	4,753	1,655	**10,501**
Total funds carried forward	**4,162**	**5,568**	**2,281**	**12,011**



HospiceUK

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