

Charity number: 218627

# Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Report and financial statements.  
For the year ended 30 September 2024

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

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**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

**Reference and Administrative Information**

**Constitution**

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust ("the Trust") is regulated by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners (revised and updated on 25 February 2021) (registered number 218627) ("the Scheme").

**Trustees**

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were:

	<b>Grants Committee</b>	<b>Property Committee</b>	<b>Almshouse Committee</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>
Keith Dudley (Chair until 6 September 2024)	X (Chair from February 24)	X	X	X
Inge Kettner (Vice Chair until 8 February 2024)	X (Chair)	X	X	X
Neil Andrews (Until 8 May 2024)		X		X (Chair)
Andrew Burley	X (Chair from 6 Sept 24)	X (Chair)	X	
Councillor Diane Donaldson*		X	X	
Jayne Lockett	X		X	
Andrew Morris (Vice Chair from November 24)		X		X (Chair from 8 May 24)
Councillor Jane Mosson*	X			
Dr Francis Murray (Interim Chair from 6 September 2024)			*(Chair)	X
Councillor David Pears*	X			
Councillor Simon Ward**				X
Surrinder Bains	X		X	
Fahmida Ismail	X	X		X
Rita Martin	X			
Brian Maynard (From 1 April 2024)		X		X
Nigel Meredith (From 1 April 2024)		X		X
Helen Miles				X
Stuart Roberts			X	

Nominated By:      \* Birmingham City Council      \*\* Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

**Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity number** 218627 – registered in England & Wales

**Registered office and operational address** Lingard House, Fox Hollies Road  
Sutton Coldfield B76 2RJ  
**Telephone number** 0121 794 0970

**Principal officers** Tina Swani MBA FCIM (Chief Executive until 31 December 2024)  
Rob Semple ACMA (Financial Controller until 29 February 2024)  
Pamela Johnston MBE JP (Almshouse Manager until 30 June 2024)  
Claire Evans ACA (Finance Director from 1 February 2024, Interim Chief Executive from 1 December 24)  
Claire Arrowsmith FCCA (Property Manager from 1 July 2024)  
Clare Haines BA (Grants Manager)  
Helen Kimmet (Administration Manager)

**Bankers** HSBC Bank plc  
67 The Parade  
Sutton Coldfield  
B72 1PD

**Auditor** Sayer Vincent LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
110 Golden Lane  
London  
EC1Y 0TG

**Investment Managers** Rathbone Investment Management  
8 Finsbury Circus  
London  
EC2M 7AZ  
CCLA Investment Management  
One Angel Lane, London  
EC4R 3AB

**Investment Consultants** Stanhope Consulting LLP  
35 Portman Square  
London  
W1H 6LR

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
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<b>Property Managers</b>	Johnson Fellows LLP Charter House, 163 Newhall Street Birmingham B3 1SW	Nick Russell Associates Lavender Cottage Lucton HR6 9PH
	EOS Surveyors Ltd Arion Business Centre Harriet House, 118A High Street Birmingham B23 6BG	
<b>Solicitors</b>	Ansons Solicitors 316 – 318 Lichfield Road Mulberry Walk Sutton Coldfield B74 2UG	Blackhams Lancaster House 67 Newhall Street Birmingham B3 1NR
<b>Insurance Brokers</b>	Endsleigh Insurance (Brokers) Ltd Quadrangle Imperial Square Gloucestershire GL50 1PZ	
<b>Marketing</b>	Gary Phelps Communications Ltd 23 Station Road Wylde Green Sutton Coldfield	
<b>HR Consultants</b>	Colden Human Resources 2a Hollyfield Road Sutton Coldfield B75 5SG	

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024. Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1-3 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's trust deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

**History of the Trust**

The Trust's origins go directly back to Bishop Vesey, an inhabitant of Sutton Coldfield, born in the town, who persuaded Henry VIII to grant a Charter in 1528 establishing a Warden and Society (Corporation) to govern the Town. The Corporation was obliged to use rental and other income to provide poor relief and improve the locality. Over the next four centuries, other bequests and endowments came within the Corporation's oversight. These included charities in memory of Thomas Jesson in the 1700s to provide apprenticeships for boys and to distribute bread to Sutton's poor. After a long and famous legal action, the Corporation's charities were reorganised in the 1820s and enriched by lands acquired in the 1825 Enclosure Award. From this time, Almshouses were built and the charities provided elementary schools (including teaching and uniforms) for Sutton's children. Practical necessities such as coal, blankets and boots were widely distributed. In pre-welfare state days, the charities financed nursing and medical care for people in need and made grants to widows.

In 1886, the Town became a Borough, and the Trust took over the Corporation and various related charities within one body. This operated closely alongside the Council and was administered by the Town Clerk. New Almshouses were built, including two in the 1890s from a bequest by Frances Lingard. When Sutton Coldfield became part of Birmingham in 1974, the independence of the Trust was safeguarded which ensured the continuing provision of benefits for individuals and organisations within the former Borough boundaries. Although the separate historic charities have been consolidated into one charity, the Trustees' fundamental aims and priorities are still very similar to those pursued by Bishop Vesey and his successors over nearly five centuries.

**Vision**

The vision of Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust is to enhance the quality of life for all in Sutton Coldfield.

**Mission statement**

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust aims to alleviate hardship and improve the quality of life for residents of the Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield through the provision of housing and grant awards to support individuals and community organisations.

**Values**

The Trust strives to be responsible; inclusive; caring; transparent and sustainable in all our activities.

## Trustees' Annual Report

### What our values mean

- **Responsible** applies to all matters including being a good employer, caring for the environment, protecting our assets and good governance.
- **Inclusive** relates to our operations, beneficiaries, staff and all those we work with, embracing equality, diversity and inclusion.
- **Caring** reflects the helping nature of the Trust and its core purpose.
- **Transparent** demonstrates our commitment to openness and sharing.
- **Sustainable** ensures the Trust continues to make a lasting contribution and remains in good shape for the centuries ahead.

### Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The principal objectives of the Trust are the provision of Almshouses and the distribution of funds and other measures for the alleviation of hardship and other needs for inhabitants and organisations within the boundaries of the former Borough of Sutton Coldfield.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting grant making policies. They consider the information which is contained in this report about the Trust's objectives, activities and achievements demonstrates the benefits to its beneficiaries and, through them to the public, which arise from those activities.

### Review of activities and achievements

The Trust formally launched its five-year plan "looking forward to 2028" in May 23. The title of the plan signifies the date the Trust will celebrate a heritage of 500 years, having responded and adapted over the past five centuries to meet constantly changing need. The aims of the five-year plan are as follows.

#### 1. Almshouses research and assessment of future need.

Research has been undertaken into the housing needs of Sutton Coldfield. This will inform longer-term consideration about any potential future housing scheme for a more diverse range of beneficiaries. A review of Almshouse Governance has also been undertaken to ensure we implement best practice, safety and compliance.

#### 2. Grants programme expansion.

The trust's grants budget increased from £1.5m to £1.75m. The community newspaper "Royal Sutton Coldfield Charity News" was distributed in October 2024, showcasing the incredible work of charities and community organisations across the Royal Town, including those projects that are as a result of a grant award from SCCT. This has already stimulated applications from organisations we had not reached previously. We have also commissioned Our Place to manage individual grant applications.

#### 3. Supporting heritage, green spaces and community

Conversations continue with Birmingham City Council and Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Centre about the future of our community centres. These provide vital services and places for people to meet and socialise. Over the past 12 months we have developed a more granular view of the importance and diversity of support provided through mosques, churches, libraries and community centres.

## Trustees' Annual Report

### 4. Being well run, efficient, accessible and inclusive.

We have 'gone digital' with our new grant software system and look forward to working with grant applicants to support them in this transition. Going digital does not mean losing the human element in the grant application process. Our grants staff continue to be responsive and supportive of all grant applicants particularly those who may not have experience at making applications.

### 5. Continual improvement of assets and their uses.

We used social media to advertise vacant almshouse properties, which led to a very positive response; we now have a small waiting list. In addition, we have commenced a benchmarking project to compare the costs and the way we run our almshouses with other housing schemes. This has led to improvements in staffing arrangements, engagement with residents, and use of the residents' communal facilities.

**Equality, diversity and inclusion** is embedded throughout the five-year plan. In order to truly enhance the quality of life for all in Sutton Coldfield, without exclusion, staff and trustees have participated in a review of EDI, which will be leading to an action plan and an accompanying EDI statement.

**Learning how to make a positive environmental contribution** is a regular theme through the five-year plan, for example two years ago, Manorial Wood was replanted with deciduous saplings. In order to preserve their growth, bracken removal is required from time to time and in August 2024, Bronwyn & Abbey were appointed to carry out the removal of bracken by hand. This avoided the use of harmful chemicals, thus preserving biodiversity and contributing to maintaining clean air.

Awarding grants is the second, yet no less vital, purpose of the Trust. Grant awards in the year covered a wide range of needs. The Trust awarded £1,718,000 (2023 £1,102,000) in grants during the year.

A full list of grants made by the Trust is included in its Annual Review, available on the Trust's website [www.suttoncoldfieldcharitabletrust.com](http://www.suttoncoldfieldcharitabletrust.com) or from the registered address. A summary of the grants awarded by the Trust for community and individual purposes during the year can be found below:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Relief of those in need	575	461
Advancement of education	200	197
Advancement of religion	32	30
Advancement of health or the saving of lives	380	129
Advancement of citizenship or community development	291	151
Advancement of the arts, culture, heritage and science	29	42
Advancement of amateur sport	101	28
Advancement of environmental protection or improvement	109	64
	-----	-----
Total grants awarded	1,717	1,102
Awarded grants unclaimed or cancelled	(44)	(52)
	-----	-----
Net grants awarded (note 4 to the financial statements)	1,673	1,050
	====	====

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

As well as Almshouses, the Trust manages around 1,000 acres of agricultural land, 15 commercial properties and an investment portfolio, with the help of its expert advisers, in order to generate the income for the provision of homes and grant awards.

### **Trustee resignations and appointments**

Sadly, this year has been marked by the loss of Keith Dudley, who died on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 after 10 years as Trustee and almost 3 years as Chair. Keith's contribution to our board was deeply valued, and his presence is sorely missed. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family.

In the year the Trustees welcomed Nigel Meredith and Brian Maynard to the Board and look forward to benefiting from their fresh insights and expertise. Trustees would like to thank Inge Kettner and Neil Andrews who both stepped down in the year.

### **Staff resignations and appointments**

In December 2024, Tina Swani resigned as chief executive having worked with staff and Trustees to strengthen the governance, profile and strategic direction of the trust as well as building a more inclusive working culture and environment. We look forward to welcoming her successor, Lisa Martinali, joining as our new chief executive in 2025. Lisa brings much experience as a charity CEO and working in community regeneration.

Pamela Johnston, Almshouse Manager, retired in June 2024 after an incredible 37 years of dedicated service and whose role included maintaining a thriving almshouse community, high quality homes, assessment of personal grants and overseeing the distribution of school clothing grants. Almshouse Warden, Michael Mitchell retired in August 2024 after 4 years' excellent service supporting residents.

We thank all our staff for all their hard work and commitment including those we have welcomed to the team this past year, Finance Director, Claire Evans, Almshouse Manager Emma Baxter and Community Grants Officer, Jo Williams.

### **Grant making policy.**

The Trustees apply surplus income to benefit the residents of the former Borough of Sutton Coldfield by making awards to individuals, institutions or organisations in the following ways:

- The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantages.
  
- Making awards to institutions or organisations for the:
  - Relief of those in need
  - Advancement of education
  - Advancement of religion.

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

- Advancement of health or the saving of lives.
- Advancement of citizenship or community development.
- Advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science.
- Advancement of amateur sport.
- Advancement of environmental protection or improvement.
- Other purposes that are currently recognised as charitable or are in the spirit of any purposes currently recognised as charitable.

## **Risk Management**

The Trustees are committed to the identification, assessment and management of the major risks to which the Trust may be exposed. This is a continuous obligation involving all Trustees and staff.

A risk register is used for the on-going review of risks and controls, by the Risk Management Sub-Committee (which meets at least twice a year) the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees to ensure that the risk management process is operating satisfactorily. The risks are recorded and assessed in terms of impact and probability and a traffic light system employed to highlight areas of particular concern. The Trustees adopt a flexible approach, responding to newly identified areas of risk as well as evaluating progress in mitigating risks previously identified.

The Trustees have identified the following key strategic risks to the charity. Actions to mitigate against these risks are also detailed;

**Risk:** Project delivery: Failure to adequately scope, resource and manage the projects related to the five year plan and to properly assess and mitigate the associated risks.

**Mitigation:** This risk is managed by strong governance via the 5-year plan and Board/Committee scrutiny of individual workstreams and projects. The Trust also commissions extensive external specialist advice in developing and managing projects and carries out risk assessments of large projects.

**Risk:** Financial Risk: Failure to manage and maximise the trust's assets and protect the permanent endowment.

**Mitigation:** This risk is managed by appropriate investment policies, prudent internal policies and strong governance over the application of Total Return Accounting, management of the Trust's assets by professional advisers, scrutiny of advisers via Board and Committee, a suitable reserves policy and regular budgeting, monitoring and reporting on financial performance.

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**Risk:** Loss of Income: Failure to realise projected income from large land sales, due to factors outside the Trust's control e.g. property values, planning consents.

**Mitigation:** This risk is managed by strong and active involvement in land transactions by Board and Committees and appropriate technical and legal advice on land sale transactions. The Trust's medium term financial forecasts are reviewed at least annually to ensure that they reflect the latest state of knowledge about the level and timing of land sale receipts to ensure that the Trust does not over commit.

### **Staff pay and remuneration (including key management personnel)**

The Trust's staffing structure and changes to pay and conditions of staff must be approved by the Board. A Remuneration Sub-Committee of the Board appraises pay annually and makes pay recommendations to the Finance Committee and the full Board. During the year the Trust implemented a wider people policy review to modernise its terms and conditions of employment and its associated pay policy.

Pay awards are based on conditions set out in the updated contracts of employment and a range of factors including.

- Inflation indices
- The financial position of the Trust
- External benchmarking of pay award and salaries.
- Economic trends and forecasts
- Progression and achievements of the charity as a whole
- Business, governance and regulatory requirements
- Demands upon the charity and changing needs of beneficiaries.
- Any other internal and external circumstances

### **Structure, governance and management.**

Information relating to reference and administrative matters are set out above (pages 1-3).

The Board comprises 12 (minimum) to 16(maximum) trustees in total, made up of 8 to 12 co-opted trustees, who are appointed for terms of five years, and 4 nominated trustees, who are put forward by Birmingham City Council and Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council for terms of four years. Trustees may serve a maximum of three terms following which at least 12 months must expire before reappointment.

### **The Board of Trustees**

The Board seeks Trustees who diversify and balance the breadth of qualities, background, skills and experience required for delivering the Trust's charitable and strategic objectives.

That expertise has included medicine, law, property, industry, faith, education, engineering, human resources, science, sheltered housing, town planning, marketing, accountancy and Local Government. An induction process helps trustees to understand their responsibilities and the work of the Trust. Trustees have a two-yearly review with the Chair; new trustees have an additional review in their first year.

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
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**Trustees' Annual Report**

The Board of Trustees is responsible for all of the Trust's activities and meets quarterly to receive reports, make decisions, and determine strategy. A strategy day is held at least every two years, supplemented by regular reports on progress against the agreed actions. The Board also identifies and manages any risks to ensure the efficient and safe undertaking of its responsibilities. The Board oversees the financial health of the Trust, ensuring that management of its investments and accounts are robust, effective controls are in place and sufficient resources are available to meet the demands of the Almshouse and grant-making programme as the two core purposes of the Trust.

Every Trustee is a member of one or more of the following Committees:

- Almshouse Committee
- Grants Committee
- Finance Committee
- Property Committee

In addition, the Trust has sub-committees for remuneration and risk management. Whilst each Committee has its approved membership, all Trustees may attend any Committee meeting at any time and have access to all agendas and papers through an on-line Trustee portal. Advisors may also attend Committees to provide specialist guidance. Working groups may be set up for specific purposes.

**Review of Governance and Compliance**

Following the publication of the revised Charity Governance Code late in 2020 the Trust has continued to progress the actions it identified as priorities.

These actions have included a review of policies primarily related to GDPR, a review of how the Trust communicates internally and externally, and a review of how Equality Diversity and inclusion is embedded throughout the Trusts operations.

The Board of Trustees are periodically invited to complete a feedback survey after board meetings to consider its effectiveness and areas for improvement. The strategic and governance reviews have supported clarity of planning to enhance charitable benefit at a time of continued and increasing adversity and uncertainty.

**Fundraising**

The Trust does not undertake any fundraising activities in its own right or through third parties and so does not consider it necessary to register with the Fundraising Regulator or comply with any voluntary code of practice related to fundraising. The Trust has not received any complaints relating to fundraising.

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **Financial Review**

The year under review saw a sustained level of underlying operating income and modest growth in Investment asset values, despite the challenging financial climate.

Total income in the last year was £2,165,000 (2023: £2,222,000) and the total expenditure was £2,969,000 (2023: £2,223,000) including grants (net of cancelled grants) of £1,673,000 (2023: £1,050,000). This resulted in net expenditure before gains/losses on investments of £804,000 (2023: £1,000).

The Trust's work is dependent on income and investment returns from its endowments. The past year saw a general increase in property and non-property investment asset values. The Trust reported a gain on investment assets of £4,869,000 (2023: £1,111,000) which in turn gave rise to an overall net increase in total funds of the Trust of £4,065,000 (2023: £1,110,000). At 30 September 2024, total Trust funds amounted to £77,256,000 (2023: £73,191,000).

After an extensive review, and taking legal and financial advice, the Trust decided to adopt the Total Return Accounting (TRA) Policy from 1 October 2023. The Trustees have decided to take £1,806,000 (2023: £1,600,000) from the permanent endowment to unrestricted funds. This is made up of £1,490,000 (2023: £1,600,000) net investment income received from the endowment funds during the year plus a further £316,000 (2023: £nil) from the opening value of the permanent endowment unapplied Return.

Continuing with careful financial management and disciplines, combined with appropriate support from the Trust's advisers and the additional flexibility offered by TRA, the Trust is confident of fulfilling its dual obligations of the provision of Almshouses and community grant giving.

### **Evaluating Impact and Benefits**

The Trust maintains close contact with organisations to ensure that the anticipated benefits from the grant have been achieved. All applications to the Trust are required to set out the objectives, or resulting benefits, from a potential grant award. This enables outcomes to be measured consistently.

A formal monitoring process is also in place. This enables Trustees to focus on those projects delivering the greatest impact. Depending on the value of the award, this is achieved by completion of a monitoring form at the conclusion of the project. Where necessary, interim reports are produced. Quarterly reports providing an overview of project progress, are made available to the Trustees for scrutiny.

Trust officers also evaluate impact through meetings, both in person and online, telephone discussions and visits to grant beneficiaries.

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **Investment Policy and Performance**

The Trust's assets are invested in property, UK and overseas equities, government bonds, unit trusts, other financial instruments and cash deposits to generate income to meet current and future charitable objectives whilst seeking to manage investment risk. The Trust's investment objectives are to generate an acceptable level of income to facilitate grant giving and maintenance of the Almshouses, whilst also seeking to preserve capital values in real terms

Both the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees receive quarterly reports from the investment managers, which consider the Trust's income requirements, the risk profile and property managers' view of market prospects in the medium term. This strategy is set within the Total Return Accounting Policy which states that the Endowment Fund is to be invested long term to maximise total returns to meet current and future charitable objects whilst seeking preservation of capital in real terms.

A major part of the Trust's investment portfolio has been managed over a number of years by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. A smaller portfolio (the Charitable Funds) has been invested in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund since April 2021. The Trustees are supported by Stanhope Consulting, the appointed investment advisors, in the assessment and monitoring of the investment managers. According to Stanhope's calculations, the Trust's total investment portfolio generated returns of 12% over the year to 30 September 2024, ahead of the target of CPI +4%, which would have been 6%.

In July 2024 the year the Trust undertook an investment strategy review, which is seeking to look to increase the Trusts equity exposure to allow for increased returns, but mitigating any risk associated with this by holding significant property investment assets and a cash buffer. This will be implemented in 2025.

### **Reserve Policy and Going Concern**

On 30 September 2024 the Trust holds Endowment Funds of £68,269,000 (2023: £64,527,000) including 'Functional Endowment (Almshouse assets) of £1,340,000 (2023: £1,442,000). Total Return Accounting in the year has allowed the Trust to use this fund to further the Trust's charitable objectives. The Trust holds two unrestricted designated reserves as follows:

Extraordinary Repair Fund (for extraordinary repair, improvement or re-building). It is a requirement of the Trust's Scheme to maintain this reserve. The Extraordinary Repair Fund at 30 September 2024 amounted to £1,180,000 which represents estimated planned maintenance costs for the next five years including inflation. (2023: £1,180,000).

In 2022 Trustees established an unrestricted designated "Environment Management Fund" to be used for maintaining the Trust's rural and woodland estate. At 30 September this amounted to £28,000 (2023: £38,000).

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The Trustees retain free unrestricted reserves to the extent considered necessary to ensure that adequate funds are available to cover future expenditure items, which may not otherwise be covered by incoming resources. The Trustees undertook a detailed review of the Trust's reserve policy in 2023 and will continue to review this annually. In undertaking this review, Trustees were mindful that the Trust is in a relatively healthy financial position. Equally the long-term outlook is challenging, and the Trust has an ambitious five-year plan.

After consideration Trustees consider that it is appropriate to hold undesignated free reserves of at least £7,400,000. Actual undesignated free reserves in 2024 were £7,503,000 (2023: £7,313,000). The difference is small and therefore no future action is expected to be necessary. The target is made up as follows:

	£'000
Minimum Working reserve	2,000
Reserve against downside risks	2,000
Reserve for future operating deficits (per medium term forecast)	400
Reserve to fund development Plan initiatives	<u>3,000</u>
Total Free reserves Target	<u>7,400</u>

Trustees have a rolling five-year financial plan. Based on this plan, Trustees review the reserves to ensure appropriate amounts are set aside. Based on this work, the Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trusts ability to meet liabilities as they fall due for the 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts. Trustees take a long-term view over free reserves needed to meet future deficit budgets and are happy with the free reserves held in the accounts

**Future Plans and Objectives**

The Sutton Coldfield Five Year Plan sets a strategic direction from 2023-28. The pace of that direction will be determined by the timing of planning permission on Langley Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE). The details of the objectives within the plan are covered above ("Review of activities and achievements"). Both staff and Trustees are working through the detailed long term delivery plans that maintain longevity of the Trust and enhance its support for residents of Sutton Coldfield

The Trust has conducted a number of reviews in readiness to mobilise these ambitions and inform future decisions, including the social needs review (2022), research into future housing needs (2024) and Falcon Lodge feasibility study (2023). Integral to these ambitions is our commitment to fostering an environment where equality, diversity, and inclusion are at the core of everything we do.

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **Statement of responsibilities of the trustees**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

### **Auditor**

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the Trust's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The Trustees' report has been approved by the Trustees on 19 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Francis Murray  
Chair

**Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust (the 'Trust') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

**Other Information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the Trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;  
or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out in the Trustees' report, the Trustees 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 Trust'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 Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

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

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 are set out below.

**Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the finance and investment committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the Trust's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the Trust operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Trust from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

**Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust**  
**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

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 transactions 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 concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://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 Trustees as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trust and the Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Date

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor  
110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

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

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 30 September 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £'000	Endowment funds £'000	2024 Total £'000	Restated Unrestricted funds £'000	Restated Endowment funds £'000	2023 Total £'000
<b>Income from:</b>							
Charitable activities							
Almshouses		274	-	274	235	-	235
Donations		5	-	5	-	-	-
Investments	2	206	1,680	1,886	203	1,784	1,987
<b>Total income</b>		<b>485</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>2,165</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>2,222</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds							
Investment Property Expenses		176	46	222	101	51	152
Investment Management Costs		50	143	193	39	133	172
Charitable activities							
Almshouses		570	102	672	581	79	660
Grant Funding	4	1,882	-	1,882	1,239	-	1,239
<b>Total expenditure</b>	3	<b>2,678</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>2,969</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2,223</b>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income before net gains on investments</b>		<b>(2,193)</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>(804)</b>	<b>(1,522)</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>(1)</b>
Net gains on investments							
Investment Property	11	-	1,485	1,485	-	410	410
Listed Investments	12	566	2,818	3,384	86	615	701
<b>Total Net gains on investments</b>		<b>566</b>	<b>4,303</b>	<b>4,869</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,111</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) after net gains on investments</b>		<b>(1,627)</b>	<b>5,692</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>(1,436)</b>	<b>2,546</b>	<b>1,110</b>
Transfer of investment income							
Additional allocation of Total return	19	1,490	(1,490)	-	1,600	(1,600)	-
	19	316	(316)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Transfer between funds</b>		<b>1,806</b>	<b>(1,806)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>(1,600)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>179</b>	<b>3,886</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>946</b>	<b>1,110</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Total funds brought forward		8,531	64,660	73,191	8,367	63,714	72,081
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>8,710</b>	<b>68,546</b>	<b>77,256</b>	<b>8,531</b>	<b>64,660</b>	<b>73,191</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 18 to the financial statements.

## Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

### Balance sheet

As at 30 September 2024

	Note	£'000	2024 £'000	£'000	2023 £'000
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Tangible assets	10	1,340		1,442	
Investment properties	11	26,915		25,971	
Investments	12	40,531		37,286	
			<b>68,786</b>		64,699
Debtors: amounts due in more than one year	13		<b>8,735</b>		8,735
<b>Current assets:</b>					
Debtors: amounts due within one year	14	229		230	
Cash and cash equivalents		1,476		1,148	
		<b>1,705</b>		<b>1,378</b>	
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(1,764)		(1,527)	
<b>Net current liabilities</b>			<b>(59)</b>		(149)
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>77,462</b>		73,285
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		<b>(206)</b>		(94)
<b>Total net assets</b>	17		<b>77,256</b>		73,191
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>	18				
Endowment funds					
Functional endowment		1,340		1,442	
Permanent endowment		67,206		63,218	
Total endowment funds			<b>68,546</b>		<b>64,660</b>
Unrestricted income funds:					
Extraordinary Repair Fund		1,180		1,180	
Environmental Management Fund		27		38	
General Fund		7,503		7,313	
Total unrestricted funds			<b>8,710</b>		8,531
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>77,256</b>		73,191

Approved by the trustees on 19 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Dr Francis Murray  
Chair

Andrew Morris  
Vice Chair

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 September 2024

	2024 £'000	£'000	2023 £'000	£'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>				
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	4,065		1,110	
Investment Management Fees	143		133	
Depreciation charges	102		78	
Gains on investments	(4,869)		(1,111)	
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	(1,886)		(1,990)	
Decrease in debtors	1		90	
Increase in creditors (excluding investment managers' fees)	345		41	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
<b>Net cash (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>(2,099)</b>		<b>(1,649)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>				
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,886		1,987	
Purchase of fixed assets	-		(474)	
Proceeds from the sale of investment property	541		25	
Funds transferred (to)/ from investments	-		(44)	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>		<b>2,427</b>		<b>1,494</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>328</b>		<b>(155)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>1,148</b>		<b>1,303</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>		<b>1,476</b>		<b>1,148</b>
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents and of net debt</b>				
	At		At 30	
	1 October		September	
	2023	Cash flows	2024	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Cash at bank and in hand	27	578	1,171	
Deposit accounts maturing within 3 months	555	(250)	305	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>1,476</b>	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	

**1 Accounting policies**

**a) Statutory information**

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The registered office address is Lingard House, Fox Hollies Road, Sutton Coldfield, B76 2RJ.

**b) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the Trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

The Trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

**c) Public benefit entity**

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**d) Going concern**

Mindful of the net current liability position recorded on the balance sheet, the Trustees note that, after considering the level of cash reserves and unrestricted investments held in Fixed Assets and the capacity of the Trust to flex its activities if income levels fall significantly, there are no material uncertainties to the availability of sufficient unrestricted resources available to meet the Trust's commitments for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

**e) Income**

Income is recognised when the Trust has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from investment properties includes property income receivable less provision where the eventual receipt of income is considered doubtful.

Incoming resources from charitable activities relates to funds received in respect of Almshouse Weekly Maintenance Contributions (WMCs) and any donations received by the Trust.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

**f) Dividends and interest receivable**

Dividends from quoted investments are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by the Trust's investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio. Other investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis. Dividends and interest are shown as gross amounts prior to any tax deduction which is recoverable.

**g) Fund accounting**

The Trust has a permanent endowment, comprising the Walmley Almshouses and Fixed Asset Investments (property and securities). The Walmley Almshouses are held for charitable purposes and are treated as Functional Endowment assets. The Fixed Asset investments are held to generate income, which is wholly unrestricted.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives. They are retained to the extent that they are considered necessary to ensure that adequate funds are available to cover future expenditure items, both of a capital nature and revenue costs, which may not be covered by incoming resources.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes. Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 18.

**1 Accounting policies (continued)**

**h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

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

- The costs of raising funds consist of investment management fees and property expenses together with their associated staffing, support and governance costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of making grants and managing almshouse properties undertaken to further the purposes of the Trust and their associated staffing, support and governance costs.

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

**i) Grants payable**

Grants payable are made to third parties in furtherance of the Trust's objects. Single or multi-year grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and that any condition attaching to the grant is outside of the control of the Trust.

Conditional grants – Where payment of a grant is subject to a condition which is under the control of the Trust no commitment is recognised until the condition has been fulfilled.

Contingent grants – A contingent liability is disclosed for those grants, which do not represent liabilities, where the possible obligation, which arises from past events, will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Trustees' control.

**j) Allocation of governance and support costs**

Directly attributable payroll and other costs are allocated to the relevant activity (Raising Funds, Almshouses and Grants). Staff costs are allocated based on an estimate of staff time in the year. This estimate of staff time is reviewed at least annually.

Costs that are not directly attributable to an activity (support and governance costs) are apportioned by activity using appropriate cost drivers.

**k) Tangible fixed assets**

Items of equipment associated with Almshouse improvements are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £5,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use. Major components are treated as a separate asset where they have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits and are depreciated separately over their useful lives.

Almshouses are stated at cost. However, the construction cost of the older blocks which were completed between 1896 and 1974 (containing 38 units) are not included within the balance sheet due to the age of the properties and the consequent unavailability of reliable costing information.

Where capital additions to the Almshouses are made, they are depreciated over the shorter of the remaining useful life of the property to which they relate and the life of the individual building component on a straight-line basis. Where necessary, the Trust makes an impairment charge for assets when they are due for replacement within the planning period and there is clear Trustee approval to the replacement programme.

Following a detailed review, all Almshouse assets and capital improvements are recorded as part of the Endowment Fund as 'functional permanent endowment', with associated depreciation and impairment also being charged to the Endowment

Security and other equipment are stated at cost although office equipment and IT are normally written off in the year of acquisition.

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

- Almshouses 20 years – straight line on net book value
- Security and other equipment 5 years – straight line

**1 Accounting policies (continued)**

**l) Investment properties**

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently included in the balance sheet at fair value and not depreciated. Any change in fair value is recognised via the statement of financial activities as a gain or loss. The valuation method used to determine fair value is stated in note 11 to the accounts. The Trust's Investment properties are fully valued by independent valuers every five years on the basis of open market value for existing use, with desktop valuations in the intervening years.

**m) Listed investments**

Listed investments are made up of basic financial instrument and cash held by two Investment houses. the financial instruments are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market bid price. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

**n) Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**o) Long Term Debtors**

Where the Trust enters into transactions for the sale of land/ other investment properties, the amount receivable is initially recognised as a debtor at the invoiced / contracted value. Amounts due to the Trust after more than one year are disclosed accordingly.

From time to time, the Trust enters into Development Agreements, where the arrangements with the third party includes deferred payments at key project milestones (e.g. planning consent, completion of the scheme). In these cases, the Trust can be virtually certain of receiving economic benefits, but the final sums and timing can vary. The resulting residual interest of the Trust in the land is carried in the balance sheet at the lower of:

- the present value of the estimated future receipts (net of fees and associated costs) discounted at the Trust's cost of capital; and
- the market value of the underlying asset (based on the last professional valuation) less net amounts already received in respect of the transaction.

Where the timing of future cash flows is uncertain, the amount expected to be received is disclosed as a debtor falling due after more than one year, even where the Trust anticipates receiving payment earlier. The Trust only recognises a debtor as a current asset when it is contractually entitled to payment. This calculation is reviewed at least annually.

**p) Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**q) Creditors and provisions**

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

**r) Financial instruments**

The Trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**s) Pensions**

Contributions are paid into Personal Pension Plans operated by Aviva. Pension costs charged in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the Trust in the year.

**1 Accounting policies (continued)**

**t) Endowments**

The Endowment Fund represents those assets which must be held permanently by the Trust, principally investments. Net income arising on the Endowment Fund can be used in accordance with the objects of the Trust and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund includes Almshouse fixed assets of £1,340,000 (2023: £1,442,000) as a "functional permanent endowment" and depreciation and impairment of these assets has also been charged against the Endowment Fund.

**u) Total Return**

On 8th November 23, by way of a resolution and in accordance with the Charities (Total return) Regulations 2013, the Trustees adopted the Total Return approach to Permanent endowment fund as at 1st October 2023. At this date the total fund was analysed between the trust for investment, being the estimated value of the Endowment as at 1st October 2001 and the unapplied total return.

Subsequently, the investment income is now allocated to the Endowed Funds and then subsequently a portion of the unapplied total return is allocated to income each year, which is calculated as follows: both property and investment income received in the year less management charges plus an amount from the opening unapplied return which is calculated so that the transfer from the investment endowments totals CPI+4% of the average investment endowments for previous 3 years as agreed by trustees and in line with New Investment Strategy.

**v) Judgements and estimates**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenditure during the reported period. The estimates and associated judgements are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and underlying judgements are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

In the preparation of these financial statements, key estimates and judgements have been made by the Trustees concerning the valuation of investment properties and the Trust's interest in the Langley SUE project. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates. Further details of key estimates and judgements are provided in the relevant notes.

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

2 Income from investments (current year)

	Unrestricted £'000	Endowment £'000	2024 Total £'000	Unrestricted £'000	Endowment £'000	2023 Total £'000
Rents and property income receivable	-	702	702	-	778	778
Dividends and interest	206	978	1,184	203	1,006	1,209
<b>Total income</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>1,987</b>

3a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Raising funds		Charitable activities			2024 Total £'000
	Investment property expenses £'000	Investment management costs £'000	Almshouses £'000	Grants £'000	Support costs £'000	
Staff costs (Note 6)	28	10	142	106	127	413
Grant making (note 4)	-	-	-	1,673	-	1,673
Property expenses	93	-	178	-	8	279
Professional fees	70	152	15	-	32	269
Office costs	-	-	-	-	9	9
IT and marketing	-	-	-	-	120	120
Meeting costs	-	-	-	-	9	9
Depreciation	-	-	102	-	-	102
Sundry & irrecoverable VAT	6	23	40	-	27	96
	197	185	476	1,779	332	2,969
Support costs	25	8	196	103	(332)	-
<b>Total expenditure 2024</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>1,882</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,969</b>

3b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Raising funds		Charitable activities			2023 Total £'000
	Investment property expenses £'000	Investment management costs £'000	Almshouses £'000	Grants £'000	Support costs £'000	
Staff costs (Note 6)	21	8	127	76	134	366
Grant making (note 4)	-	-	-	1,050	-	1,050
Property expenses	44	-	200	-	7	251
Professional fees	53	128	6	-	36	223
Office costs	-	-	-	-	12	12
IT and marketing	-	-	-	-	116	116
Meeting costs	-	-	-	-	8	8
Depreciation and impairment	-	-	78	-	-	78
Sundry & irrecoverable VAT	7	26	60	-	26	119
	125	162	471	1,126	339	2,223
Support costs	27	10	189	113	(339)	-
<b>Total Expenditure 2023</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,223</b>

Within support costs are Governance costs of £146,000 (2023: £174,000). This is made up of staff costs of £127,000 (2023: £134,000), professional fees £10,000 (2023: £29,000) and meeting costs of £9,000 (2023: £8,000).

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

4 Grant making

	2024 No.	£'000	2023 No.	£'000
<b>Grants for:</b>				
Grants for Community purposes	88	1,619	75	997
Individual educational and personal Grants	7	7	20	24
School clothing Grants	906	91	808	81
Sub-total	1,001	1,717	903	1,102
Grants unclaimed or cancelled	-	(44)	-	(52)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>1,673</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>1,050</b>

Grants for community purposes comprise:

	2024 No.	£'000	2023 No.	£'000
Grants awarded:				
Greater than £1,000	61	1,602	51	984
£1,000 or less	27	17	24	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>1,619</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>997</b>

A full summary of grants made by the Trust is included in its Annual Review, available on the Trust's website [www.suttoncoldfieldcharitabletrust.com](http://www.suttoncoldfieldcharitabletrust.com).

5 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Depreciation	102	79
Operating lease rentals receivable:		
Property	(702)	(771)
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	17	14
Other services	-	-

**6 Analysis of staff costs, Trustee expenses, and the cost of key personnel**

Staff costs were as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Salaries and wages	<b>338</b>	304
Social security costs	<b>31</b>	24
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	<b>44</b>	38
	<b>413</b>	366

One employee earned more than £60,000 during the year in the band £60,000–£69,999 (2023: 1).

The Trust considers its key personnel to be the Chief Executive and the Finance Director as well as the unremunerated Trustees. The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key personnel were £148,000 (2023: £131,000).

The charity Trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from the Trust in the year (2023: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the Trust (2023: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represents costs of mileage, training/ development and IT consumables used for Trust business. These were nil for the year (2023: £344 for 2 Trustees) .

**7 Staff numbers**

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>No.</b>	No.
Almshouses staff	<b>3</b>	3
Office staff	<b>8</b>	8
	<b>11</b>	11

**8 Related party transactions**

During the year, the following related party transactions were recorded and, in all cases, the related parties took no part in the discussion or decision of grants approved. They were also not involved in the payment process of the relevant grant.

<b>Transaction type</b>	<b>Amount £</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Related party</b>	<b>Relationship to the Beneficiary</b>
Grant approved & part paid	19,500	Wylde Green Rotary Club	A Burley	Club member
Grant approved	34,400	Bishop Vessy's Grammer School	B Maynard	Family link
Grant approved	26,200	Friends of New Valley Country Park Association	D Pears	Member
2 Grants approved & part paid	104,200	St Giles Hospice	Dr F Murray	Family link
Grant approved & part paid	16,000	Grow Family Services	H Kimmett	Family link
Grant approved	11,500	Langley Primary School	J Lockett	Professional relationship
Grant completed	19,800	Deanery CE Primary School	J Lockett	Headteacher
Grant completed	18,480	Maney Hill School	J Lockett	Family link
Grant completed	20,656	Boldmere Swimming Club	J Lockett	Former swimming coach
Grant approved & part paid	32,000	St John's Church Walmley	J Lockett & S Roberts	Members of Church
Grant approved & part paid	9,938	St Nicholas Catholic Primary School	K Dudley	Family link
Grant approved	20,531	Wylde Green Primary School	K Dudley	Family link
Grant completed	5,000	Boulevard Allotment Association	K Dudley	Family link
Grant completed	25,438	Plantsbrook School	K Dudley & C Arrowsmith	Family links
Grant approved & part paid	33,000	The Arthur Terry School	K Dudley	Family link
Grant completed	680	Glovers Trust Almshouses – Festive 23	P Johnston	Trustee
Grant completed	1,100	Lingard House Residents	P Johnston	Employee
Grant approved & part paid	54,541	Acorns Children's Hospice	R Martin	Volunteer
Grant approved & part paid	375,000	Jericho Foundation – Sutton Works	S Roberts	Family link
Grant approved	25,000	Birmingham Hospice	T Swani & S Bains	Previous employees
Grant completed	45,000	Boldmere St Michael's FC	C Arrowsmith	Family link
Supplier	2,320	Broken Yolk Catering	C Haines	Family link

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

**9 Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax, as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

**10 Tangible fixed assets**

<b>Cost</b>	Freehold almshouse property £'000	Freehold almshouse improvements £'000	Security/ safety equipment £'000	<b>Total £'000</b>
At the Start and end of the year	496	2,829	101	<b>3,426</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At the start of the year	406	1,479	99	<b>1,984</b>
Charge for the year	6	94	2	<b>102</b>
At the end of the year	412	1,573	101	<b>2,086</b>
<b>Net book value At the end of the year</b>	84	1,256	–	<b>1,340</b>
At the start of the year	90	1,350	2	<b>1,442</b>

The freehold Almshouses comprise seven blocks on the Trust's main site in Walmley. The cost of constructing the most modern block (containing 8 units, completed in 1995) is included within the balance sheet. The construction cost of the older blocks which were completed between 1896 and 1974 (containing 38 units) are not included within the balance sheet due to the age of the properties and the consequent unavailability of reliable costing information. As it was the Trust's policy to initially depreciate freehold Almshouses over 25 years, and the most recent of the non-capitalised assets were acquired in 1974, the assets, if they were included, would be fully depreciated at 30 September 2024 and would therefore have £Nil (2023: £Nil) impact on the balance sheet. However, the cost of subsequent improvement and renovation works is included.

The market value of the Almshouses is expected to be significantly higher than their carrying value.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

11 Investment properties

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Fair value at the start of the year	25,971	25,586
Proceeds from disposals	(541)	(25)
Net gain on change in fair value	1,485	410
	<u>26,915</u>	<u>25,971</u>

12 Listed investments

	2024			2023		
	Investments £'000	Cash £'000	Total £'000	Investments £'000	Cash £'000	Total £'000
Fair value at the start of the year	36,511	775	37,286	34,762	1,914	36,676
Additions at cost	17,061	420	17,481	12,115	(1,139)	10,976
Disposal proceeds	(17,620)		(17,620)	(11,067)	-	(11,067)
Net gain on change in fair value	3,384	-	3,384	701	-	701
	<u>39,336</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>40,531</u>	<u>36,511</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>37,286</u>

Investments comprise:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Equities	30,025	29,964
Fixed interest	9,311	6,547
Cash	1,195	775
	<u>40,531</u>	<u>37,286</u>

Financial Instruments

The investment values above include financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss of £39,336,000 (2023:£36,511,000)

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

13 Debtors: amounts due in more than one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Langley SUE land disposal	8,735	8,735
	<u>8,735</u>	<u>8,735</u>

The Debtor due after more than one year is in respect of proceeds from the sale of a parcel of land at Brockhurst Farm within the Langley Sustainable Urban Extension (Langley SUE). The sale agreement includes deferred payments at key project milestones (e.g. planning consent, completion of the scheme). This land sale completed in December 2021 and received outline planning consent in December 2022. The amount held in the balance sheet represents an estimate of the residual interest the Trust has in the land.

14 Debtors: amounts due within one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Rental income receivable	66	57
Dividends and interest receivable	103	148
Prepayments	60	22
Other debtors	-	3
	<u>229</u>	<u>230</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Grants payable	1,221	1,062
Rental Income due back to Tenents	79	-
Rental income received in advance	183	178
Taxation and social security	20	22
Accruals	132	205
Other creditors	129	60
	<u>1,764</u>	<u>1,527</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Retention payments	-	19
Grants payable	206	75
	<u>206</u>	<u>94</u>

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2024

17a Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Functional Endowment	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,340	-	1,340
Investment properties	-	-	-	26,915	26,915
Investments	4,598	1,207	-	34,726	40,531
Long term debtors	2,930	-	-	5,805	8,735
Net current assets/ (liabilities)	181	-	-	(240)	(59)
Long term liabilities	(206)	-	-	-	(206)
<b>Net assets at 30 September 2024</b>	<b>7,503</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>67,206</b>	<b>77,256</b>

17b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Functional Endowment	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,442	-	1,442
Investment properties	-	-	-	25,971	25,971
Investments	4,593	1,218	-	31,475	37,286
Long term debtors	2,930	-	-	5,805	8,735
Net current liabilities	(116)	-	-	(33)	(149)
Long term liabilities	(94)	-	-	-	(94)
<b>Net assets at 30 September 2023</b>	<b>7,313</b>	<b>1,218</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>63,218</b>	<b>73,191</b>

18a Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 October 2023 £'000	Income & gains £'000	Expenditure & losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At 30 September 2024 £'000
<b>Endowment funds:</b>					
Functional endowment	1,442	-	(102)	-	1,340
Permanent endowment	63,218	5,984	(190)	(1,806)	67,206
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>64,660</b>	<b>5,984</b>	<b>(292)</b>	<b>(1,806)</b>	<b>68,546</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
Designated funds:					
Extraordinary repair fund	1,180	-	-	-	1,180
Environment management fund	38	-	-	(11)	27
Total designated funds	1,218	-	-	(11)	1,207
<b>General funds</b>	<b>7,313</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>(2,677)</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>7,503</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>8,531</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>(2,677)</b>	<b>1,806</b>	<b>8,710</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>73,191</b>	<b>7,034</b>	<b>(2,969)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,256</b>

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the note below.

## 18b Movements in funds (prior year)

	Restated	Restated	Restated	Restated
	At 1 October	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers
	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
				At 30
				September
				2023
				£'000
<b>Endowment funds:</b>				
Functional endowment	1,046	-	(79)	475
Permanent endowment	62,668	2,810	(184)	(2,076)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>63,714</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>(263)</b>	<b>(1,601)</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>				
Designated funds:				
Extraordinary repair fund	640	-	-	540
Environment management fund	42	-	-	(4)
Total designated funds	682	-	-	536
<b>General funds</b>	<b>7,685</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>(1,957)</b>	<b>1,065</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>8,367</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>(1,957)</b>	<b>1,601</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>72,081</b>	<b>3,330</b>	<b>(2,220)</b>	<b>-</b>

**Purposes of endowment funds**

The Endowment Fund represents those assets which must be held permanently by the Trust, principally investments. Net income arising on the Endowment Fund can be used in accordance with the objects of the Trust and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund includes Almshouse fixed assets of £1,340,000 (2023: £1,442,000) as a "functional permanent endowment" and depreciation and impairment of these assets has also been charged against the Endowment Fund.

**Purposes of designated funds**

**Extraordinary repair fund** – The Trust is required in accordance with the Scheme to maintain a fund for the extraordinary repair, improvement or re-building of the Almshouses and other property belonging to the Trust. The level of this designated fund is regularly reviewed by the Trustees and is set at a level to cover at least five years' planned maintenance expenditure (including irrecoverable VAT and inflation). Amounts are transferred to meet expenditure which may be required in the future.

**Environment management fund** – In 2022 the Trust also established a designated Environment management Fund to be used for maintaining the Trust's rural and woodland estate

## 19 Permanent Endowment Fund

	Trust for Investment	Unapplied Total Return	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening balance as at 1st October 2023	44,476	18,742	63,218
Investment income to 30 September 2024	–	1,680	1,680
Less Management Fees to 30 September 2024	–	(189)	(189)
Plus Revaluations	–	4,303	4,303
Indexation from 1st October 2023 to 30 September 2024	756	(756)	–
<b>Unapplied Total Return allocated in the year</b>			
Transfer of net investment returns to unrestricted funds	–	(1,490)	(1,490)
Additional allocation to meet target for transfer	–	(316)	(316)
<b>Closing balance as at 30 September 2024</b>	<b>45,232</b>	<b>21,974</b>	<b>67,206</b>

	Trust for Investment	Unapplied Total Return	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening balance as at 1st October 2022	41,477	21,191	62,668
Investment Returns to 30 September 2023	–	1,784	1,784
Less Management Fees to 30 September 2023	–	(184)	(184)
Plus Revaluations	–	1,025	1,025
Less Transfers to functional Endowment	–	(475)	(475)
Indexation from 1st October 2022 to 30 September 2023	2,999	(2,999)	–
<b>Unapplied Total Return allocated in the year</b>			
Transfer of net investment returns to unrestricted funds	–	(1,600)	(1,600)
<b>Closing balance as at 30 September 2023</b>	<b>44,476</b>	<b>18,742</b>	<b>63,218</b>

## 20 Operating lease commitments receivable as a lessor

Amounts receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows for each of the following periods

	Property	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Less than one year	582	530
One to five years	1,534	1,267
Over five years	41,839	41,140
	<b>43,955</b>	<b>42,937</b>

The above figures include rental income from two properties, both with lease terms of 999 years. The total due to the Trust in respect of these properties is £40,223,000 (2022: £40,264,000).

**21 Capital commitments**

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no capital commitments (2023: £nil)

**22 Prior Period Adjustment**

On 8th November 23, by way of a resolution and in accordance with the Charities (Total return) Regulations 2013, the Trustees adopted the Total Return approach to investments as at 1st October 2023. As this date the total fund was analysed between the trust for investments, being the estimated value of the Endowment as at 1st October 2001 and the unapplied total return, being the balance of the fund as shown below.

	<b>Trust for Investment £'000</b>	<b>Unapplied Total Return £'000</b>	<b>Total £'000</b>
Opening Balance as at 1st October 2001	25,084	-	25,084
Investment Returns to 30 September 2022	-	31,325	31,325
Less Management Fees to 30 September 2022	-	(2,869)	(2,869)
Plus Revaluations	-	42,929	42,929
Less Transfer to Charitable funds	-	(30,800)	(30,800)
Transfer to Functional Endowment		(3,001)	(3,001)
Indexation from 1st October 2001 to 30 September 2022	16,393	(16,393)	-
	<b>41,477</b>	<b>21,191</b>	<b>62,668</b>

Subsequently, the investment income is allocated to the Endowed Funds and the Unapplied Total Return is applied to income in the year in accordance with the Trustees' policy. This is explained in more details in the Trustees' Report and is permitted in accordance with the regulations.

Following the application of a Total Return approach to investments, fund balances for the prior year are restated as follows

	<b>Unrestricted funds £'000</b>	<b>Endowment funds £'000</b>	<b>Total £'000</b>
<b>Statutory accounts for 2022-23</b>			
<b>Reserve Position</b>			
<b>Funds previously reported</b>	8,664	64,527	<b>73,191</b>
<b>Adjustment on restatement</b>			
Deduction of Management Charges from Investment income transferred between funds	(133)	133	-
<b>Funds restated</b>	<b>8,531</b>	<b>64,660</b>	<b>73,191</b>
<b>Impact on Income and Expenditure</b>			
Net movement in funds as previously reported	297	813	1,110
<b>Adjustment on restatement</b>			
Deduction of Management Charges from Investment income transferred between funds	(133)	133	-
<b>Net movement in funds restated</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>946</b>	<b>1,110</b>