

**GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

Company Number: 03693002

Charity Registration Number: 1074958

GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND

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Greater London Fund for the Blind

Reference and Administrative information

Patron	HRH The Countess of Wessex
Trustees	Anna Tylor (Chair) Harry Harris Frans Pettinga (Resigned 6th July 2017) Raj Mehta Keith Felton (Appointed 31st January 2017) Charles Colquhoun (Appointed Hon Treasurer & Trustee 7th March 2017) Daniel Stuart-Smith (Appointed 7th March 2017) Sharon Petrie (Appointed 9th May 2017) James Matthews (Appointed 12 th July 2017) Jazz Matharu, Hon. Treasurer (Resigned 27th September 2016) John Sharman (Resigned 6th December 2016)
Key management personnel:	
Chief Executive	R E (Cass) Edwards
Charity Registration Number	1074958
Company Registration Number	3693002
Registered Office	Sir John Mills House 12 Whitehorse Mews 37 Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7QD
Auditors	Wilkins Kennedy LLP Bridge House London Bridge London SE1 9QR
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc. 91 Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7HW
Solicitors	Gregory, Rowcliffe&Milners 1 Bedford Row London WC1R 4BZ Portner Law Limited 7-10 Chandos Street London W1G 9DQ

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report and their financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2017, which have been prepared in accordance with that Act, the Charities Act 2006 and the governing instrument.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Instrument

The Greater London Fund for the Blind ('the Fund', 'the GLFB' or 'the Charity') is a registered charity, number 1074958, and a company limited by guarantee under company number 03693002.

The Charity's objects and regulations are determined by the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8 January 1999 which replace the constitution of the original unincorporated charity inaugurated in 1923 and last amended on 21 April 1997. On 8 November 2005 the Charity formally adopted a new Memorandum and Articles of Association which replaced those previously adopted.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Governing Body is made up of up to nine trustees seven of whom are independent (including the Honorary Officer's) and two trustees who are appointed from amongst the Member Societies, each of whom provides services for people who are blind or visually impaired. Each trustee also holds the office of Director of the Company and is subject to re-election by rotation as set out in the revised constitution by the Membership.

The trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Anna Tylor (Chair)
Frans Pettinga (Resigned on 6th July 2017)
Harry Harris
Raj Mehta
Keith Felton (Appointed 31st Jan 2017)
Charles Colquhoun (Appointed Hon Treasurer & Trustee 7th March 2017)
Daniel Stuart-Smith (Appointed 7th March 2017)
Sharon Petrie (Appointed 9th May 2017)
James Matthews (Appointed 12th July 2017)
Jazz Matharu, Hon. Treasurer (Resigned 27th September 2016)
John Sharman (Resigned 6th December 2016)

The Company Secretary is Mrs J Laidler.

Induction and Training of Trustees

During the year a trustee training day was arranged. This was led by a partner of Geldard's with particular expertise in charity law, and social enterprise within the Third Sector. In addition the Chief Executive and senior GLFB staff arranged induction programmes, site and shop visits as required.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors is responsible for the overall governance, strategic management and planning of the charity, with the power to approve budgets, allocations, investments, retentions and such designation of any of the special funds held. The Board meets at least four times a year.

A Finance Risks & Audit (FAR) committee meets within 7-10 days prior to the four quarterly meetings of the Board to give more detailed consideration to such finance, audit and risk matters delegated to it by the Board.

A Remuneration Committee comprising members of the FAR and Board.

A Special Projects Advisory Group (SPAG) meets to consider applications for funds from member societies and other external charitable organisations that work to provide services and opportunities for people with visual impairment and make grant funding recommendations to the Board of Directors. This Group currently comprises two directors and the Chief Executive.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

Principal Activity

The Charity's objects are to support the provision of welfare services for blind and partially sighted people, primarily but not exclusively, within the area bounded by the M25 motorway. The principal activity of the Charity is fundraising, in order to grant aid and distribute resources directly to a diverse number of blind welfare charities who in turn deliver a comprehensive programme of services specific to the needs of blind and partially sighted people throughout Greater London.

Governance

Over the last decade a number of Special Resolutions were passed, the most recent being the revisions to the Memorandum and Articles of Association leading to improved governance, appointment of independent trustees to further strengthen the work of the board, and lastly to open up the channels to facilitate a wider distribution of resources through new grant distribution powers.

A Members' Contingency Reserve Fund is maintained to enable the Charity to meet any future funding deficiency or unforeseen reduction in the funds available for general distribution to member organisations.

The Charity acts in compliance with the terms laid down by the new Fundraising Regulator, new data protection guidelines, and the highest professional conduct and standard when raising funds from the general public. In addition, the charity has its own internal processes and procedures to record and respond quickly to matters of public concerns or complaint should any arise in the conduct of its fundraising activities by staff or third party contractors.

Strategy

In the summer of 2016 the Board set out to review its strategic aims and at the same time revisit and update the previous agreed Business Plan.

Following a series of discussions, amendments and formal approval was given for the adoption of a new Plan in June 2017.

The key drivers were mission, values and purpose and these were stated as follows

Our Vision

To help every blind and partially-sighted Londoner realise their potential, living full and Independent lives as valued members of society.

Our mission

To fund high quality, sustainable community-based services so that the blind and partially-sighted Londoners can access the services they need in order to achieve their aspirations

How we will achieve our goals?

- We will raise funds and resources so that the local organisation's that we support can focus on service delivery to blind and partially-sighted Londoners.
- We will work with our members and collaborate with other sector participants to make effective use of resources within the sector, such as that Londoners can access the services that they need wherever they live.
- We will use our influence within the sector and wider society to support our ambitions.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit (continued)

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. Blindness can strike at any time. Because help, advice, counselling and support is vital at the 'point of diagnosis' the Fund has supported a number of blind welfare charities with the establishment of Eye Clinics throughout various London and regional eye hospitals. In addition to raising awareness of the critical need for eye care prevention and service, the Fund has funded a number of special initiatives in schools, clubs and community centres so that immediately an eye problem, or condition, has been identified each individual may be supported through the difficult and uncertain journey ahead, with appropriate counselling advice and rehabilitation training.

For almost a century the Fund has successfully raised a considerable level of resources to support the work of those charities engaged in the provision of key services to meet the special and ever changing needs of those who are visually impaired. Without these funds raised and distributed by the GLFB many essential services would be lost or reduced significantly at a time of enhanced need.

General Distributions, and Special Projects Advisory Group grants (SPAG)

Funds raised are regularly distributed to members as quarterly core grants.

In addition, special project funding (SPAG) is awarded each year to members and non-member charities who are seeking to initiate projects or services which would not otherwise be supported through the general distribution of core grants, provided they meet the SPAG criteria.

This year Special Grants (SPAG) totalled £48,720 (March 2016, £79,920), during the year we recalled £44,000 from grantees who breached our grant agreement, meaning a net £4,720 was paid out. The Grants were approved to support music and theatre workshop, IT equipment purchases, family support worker, lunch clubs, recreational activities, training & educational projects etc.

Achievements, Performance and Special Events

Change and New Developments

During the year the strengthening of the board has been paramount with the appointment of several new trustees and Hon Treasurer being achieved.

The Finance Audit & Risk (FAR) committee has been able to devote more time to the detailed financial management and stability of the charity. Attention has also focused on risks and the more rigorous fundraising compliance requirements arising from legislative changes.

A fresh approach to our reserves and investment led to a new policy being agreed and, for the first time, investment managers have been appointed to manage the GLFB investments.

Overall the raising of funds centrally and through our trading operations represents a continuing challenge, part of the aim of the new strategy will be to seek new, sustainable and enterprising ways to generate more income for both general and specific distribution purposes. This will include enhancing our digital presence and developing stronger social networks to improve our profile and income generating capability.

Finally the performance of each department is continually reviewed by senior staff and the board to ensure that KPI's, budgets income, and associated costs set are being achieved.

The year has been both a challenging and rewarding with a number of strategies put in place to manage, monitor and improve our overall performance. These are regularly reported to the Board and subject to continuous review and re-evaluation.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Special Events

A lunch was kindly hosted by HRH The Countess of Wessex in her home on Bagshot Park towards the end of last summer and was a great success. Set in the most unique surroundings, the lunch was stunningly prepared and presented by Mosimann's in the Indian Room and rounded off with a most inspirational speech by Vice President Sir John Major. The day was concluded with Vice President Sir Rocco Forte proposing a Vote of Thanks to The Countess, Sir John and guests before announcing that the event had raised just in excess of £55k.

Perks Field has become the venue for the annual London Metal Week football event sponsored by Koch Industries. Located in the grounds of Kensington Palace, with permission from the Royal Household Sports Association, over 100 guests witnessed a thrilling sporting spectacle contested by teams from S America, Europe, and UK and raised £14K.

The Player of the Day and other team and special awards were presented by former England and Chelsea footballer Paul Elliott.

Looking forward, the Fund has received confirmation from HM The Queen to hold a private dinner in the State Apartments at Buckingham Palace.

Finally, the recently adopted Business Plan comprises the following key points that will be addressed in the year ahead:-

- Appointments of three new key fundraising personnel;
- Review of our image and brand with enhanced digital presence and improve website design/access etc.;
- A commitment to review the level of future grant allocation with more impact reporting by all recipients;and
- Greater engagement with our membership coupled with the creation of new partnerships with others working in our sector.

Trading

The trading year under review has been a challenging but the covenanted surplus was maintained at a similar level to last year and a covenanted surplus of £ 268,000 (£282,000 March, 2016) has been paid over to the Parent Company.

The Trading Company remains in good health despite the tough competition in the high streets from other charity shops and retailers, as well as ever increasing rental and operating costs. The re located Kensington shop and others are performing well above expectations.

Total expenditure for trading activities increased from £645,587 to £660,083 due to an increase in general shop maintenance and staff costs however the profit before tax for the Trading subsidiary decreased from at £282,510 at 31st March 2016 to £268,021 in the current year. Nevertheless we intend to continue exploring every avenue to maximise income from sales though there are limited resources at our disposal.

To this end, the trading company has embarked on a new strategy during which a greater focus will be given to online sales/opportunities together with enhanced staff training, shop refits, volunteer recruitment etc.

Finally, we continue to be immensely grateful to the general public for the donation of saleable goods, our Retail Services Manager and all her staff, many of whom are long serving, loyal and hardworking volunteers on whom the business is absolutely dependent.

Financial Review

The directors are disappointed to report that total income was £2,092,991 for the year ended 31 March 2017 a decrease of some 19% compared to revenue of £2,553,294 last financial year, this contributed to surplus of £568,000 (£995,000, 31 March 2016) available for distribution to the members. This income derives principally from the trading and fundraising activities.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Financial review (continued)

As mentioned above, the trading income was similar to last year at £928,103 (£928,097 at 31st March 2016), representing 44% of total income. However fundraising income from supporters and the public decreased during the year. This was mostly attributed to legacies £104,449, (£551,691, 31st March 2016), Donation from individuals at £891,396 (£952,539, 31st March 2016), Corporate and Trust donors £74,336 (£30,056, 31st March 2016),) and investment income £28,477 (£35,509, 31st March 2017), though Special Events £66,230 (£55,402 last financial year) did increase. The reported decrease reflects the challenges of operating in the current charitable landscape.

Total expenditure for the Fund decreased from £2,461,503 to £2,290,863 due to effective financial controls.

The amount distributed to member societies totalled £762,012 (£822,867, 31st March 2016). The amount of Special Project Grant (SPG) awarded to member societies and charities working in the field of blind welfare was £48,720 (March 2016, £79,920), the decrease was mostly attributed to stringent grant application assessment criteria which was implemented during the year. We also recalled £44,000 from grantees who breached our grant agreement resulting in a net SPAG position of £4,720.

Funds carried forward as at 31st March 2017 were £3,085,753 (March 2016, £3,288,397) after a net outflow of resources of (£202,644) (net inflow of £92,791, March 2016).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees recognise the need for the Fund to have a formal reserves policy and have agreed that, whilst making quarterly allocations to the member societies and other non-member organisations which support visually impaired people, the Fund will ensure that it holds twelve months of planned expenditure and members transitional funding a total of £2m to ensure continued financial security of the fund. This is in addition to having sufficient funds in reserve to finance future fundraising initiatives or opportunities through the Development/Members Reserve Fund, Premises reserve, and special initiatives through the Sir John Mills Fund, the Special Projects Advisory Group funding pool, and an appropriate provision for dilapidations. Whilst these reserves will primarily take the form of cash resources, the Trustees also recognise that should an exceptional event occur that the Fund could have recourse to its fixed assets.

The GLFB Board has delegated investment decisions to Finance, Audit & Risk (FAR) Committee. Investment management is delegated to an authorised professional CCLA investment manager/s, regulated by the FCA.

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibilities with regard to risk management and to this end have endeavored to ensure that the Fund has adequate procedures, processes and strategies in place to monitor, eliminate or mitigate as appropriate, any risk or potential risks faced by the organisation.

Particular attention is given to the staffing, operations and financial management of the Fund, and after careful cyclical review trustees are satisfied that the Fund has appropriate systems of control in place to manage exposure to the key risks which are also continually reviewed by the senior management team, FAR Committee, and presented to the Board.

The Trustees review the main risks to the charity annually or more often as required.

Through the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, Trustees have oversight of risk management matters including a balanced risk matrix scorecard on which known risks are defined, rated according to likelihood and impact with a risk rating score against each. This score is then supported by mitigating strategies and action as required, underpinned by ongoing monitoring and checking to ensure compliance with policies, including risk assessments.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Risk Management (continued)

The main risks identified at the current time, and mitigating actions are:

1. Sudden reduction in income raised.

There is likely to be continuing pressure on the charity to raise the level of resources available to finance the diverse number of services provided by members at its current level.

These grants to most members remain critical to their survival by providing the resources needed to pay for salaries of specialist posts, special project development and equipment.

Every fundraising activity in the voluntary sector is conducted in an increasingly competitive background, so every penny raised counts. However the Fund recognises the potential for a sudden reduction in planned income is always real, and ever present.

Mitigating actions

- Developed a clear fundraising strategy with an emphasis on diversifying into new income streams whilst demonstrating the impact of the work we support, its public benefit, and whenever appropriate working with other partners in similar field.
- Avoiding over dependence on any single individual funding stream.
- Maintaining a fresh and positive approach to acquisition of new donors and supporters through the new digital platforms with effective social media communications
- Building and maintaining new relationships with enhanced awareness of branding with key stakeholders.
- Work towards a greater level of engagement with members and other blind welfare charities

2. Increasing HR costs, and retention of staff

The National Living Wage impact on staff cost along with inflation and the increase of employer contribution rates for workplace pensions.

At the same time it has become increasingly difficult to both recruit and retain staff of the right calibre. This has an impact on cost and potentially quality, although throughout our trading operation we have a reservoir of talented and committed volunteers.

Mitigating actions

- Continue to maintain tight control on non-staff costs and seek efficiencies.
- Continue to look for external leadership and talent development programmes
- Build relationships with preferred recruitment agencies & use efficient and effective procedures and processes when recruiting and inducting new staff.
- Enshrine a policy of appropriate reward and recognition
- Boost key employee morale by cultivating a culture for more engagement, openness, and feedback
- Benchmark terms and conditions of employment, training and development opportunities for both volunteers and paid staff.
- Campaign to recruit more volunteers

3. Reputational damage due to Theft, Fraud or loss of cash

In addition to the seriousness of any incident, there is the potential damage to our reputation arising from theft, fraud or loss of funds raised centrally, at external sites, or from any of our retail trading outlets.

Mitigating actions

- The continued enforcement of strict rules, audit trail and procedures currently in place relating to the handling of cash receipts, and donations.
- Personnel with access or entering the Counting Room are robustly controlled.
- All collection devices/medias are sealed & accounted for continuously with clear limit for cash in transit as determined by our insurance cover.
- All transactions reconciled regularly to bank statements
- Shop Managers bank sales daily. Spot checks and test purchased are regularly deployed

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Risk Management (continued)

- Comprehensive quality monitoring & control with full compliance reporting, investigation and processing of any complaint or reportable incident notified.
- 'Early warning' risk, and Business Continuity Plan in place
- All Staff/volunteers receive and clear DBS checks newly appointed staff monitored throughout probationary period.

4. Governance & Trustee recruitment

The Trustees recognise the importance of appointing further directors with the right background, skills and experience to both Fund and Trading Company board's to strengthen, diversify, and invigorate its present composition, in line with the agreed skills matrix.

Mitigating actions

- Appointed new independent trustees.
- Finance Risks and Audit Committee appointed to monitor risks, compliance and improve governance.
- Specific tasks set for a standing committee to review the governance of the GLFB

In summary the Trustees are satisfied those reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that the major risks to the charity are identified and reviewed and that there are systems in place to mitigate them. It does however recognise that such processes are designed to manage rather than eliminate all major risks, and that they can provide only reasonable but not absolute assurance.

Plans for Future Periods

Looking forward

The year ahead promises to be a challenging year with the implementation of the new corporate 2016-19 strategy, incorporating a review of governance, risk, financial reporting. New ideas will be explored to allow us to build a strong platform on which to enhance our profile and grow our income. In respect of the latter the services of external Marketing/PR/Branding specialist will be considered as part of our strategy to continue to move the GLFB forward.

With our 95th year in full steam the commitment of our Royal Patron has remained undimmed with plans for two major events in the pipeline.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Report of The Trustees

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Greater London Fund for the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the 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 auditor is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller entities.

By order of the Board

Trustee

C S Glynn
C.S. Colquhoun

Date:

26th September 2017.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Independent Auditor's Report

To The Members of Greater London Fund For The Blind

We have audited the financial statements of Greater London for the Blind for the year ended 31 March 2017, which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and the Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 11, 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.

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the the group's and the parent charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report⁶ to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2017, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Independent Auditor's Report

To The Members of Greater London Fund For The Blind

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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


- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees Annual Report has 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees Annual Report:

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees Annual Report:

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



John Howard (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of **Wilkins Kennedy LLP, Statutory Auditor**

Bridge House
London Bridge
London SE1 9QR

Date: *26 September 2017*

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

For The Year Ended 31 March 2017

	Notes	2017	2016
		£	£
INCOME			
Donations and legacies	2	1,070,181	1,534,286
Charitable activities	3	66,230	55,402
Other trading activities	4	928,103	928,097
Investment income	5	28,477	35,509
Total income		2,092,991	2,553,294
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		1,524,131	1,558,716
Charitable activities		766,732	902,787
Total expenditure	6	2,290,863	2,461,503
NET INCOME BEFORE GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS			
		(197,872)	(91,791)
Gain/(losses) on investment assets	14	-	-
NET INCOME BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)			
		(197,872)	(91,791)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)			
Actuarial (loss)/gain on defined benefit pension schemes	17	(4,772)	(1,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(202,644)	(92,791)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		3,288,397	3,195,606
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	18	3,085,753	3,288,397

There were no recognised gains or losses other than those shown in the above Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 17 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets

As at 31 March 2017

	Notes	2017 Group	2016 Group	2017 Charity	2016 Charity
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11	363,056	359,280	318,063	321,378
Investments	12	-	-	100	100
		<u>363,056</u>	<u>359,280</u>	<u>318,163</u>	<u>321,478</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	13	129,717	393,175	55,294	318,767
Investments	14	2,367,273	2,636,115	2,367,273	2,636,115
Cash at bank and in hand		1,018,353	910,750	775,969	799,188
		<u>3,515,343</u>	<u>3,940,040</u>	<u>3,198,536</u>	<u>3,754,070</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(525,798)	(736,075)	(289,827)	(637,258)
Net current assets		<u>2,989,545</u>	<u>3,203,965</u>	<u>2,908,709</u>	<u>3,116,812</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		3,352,601	3,563,245	3,226,872	3,438,290
Provision for liabilities	16	(120,848)	(120,848)	-	-
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	17	(146,000)	(154,000)	(146,000)	(154,000)
Net assets		<u><u>3,085,753</u></u>	<u><u>3,288,398</u></u>	<u><u>3,080,872</u></u>	<u><u>3,284,290</u></u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds:	18				
- Designated funds		1,365,465	1,365,465	1,365,465	1,365,465
- General reserve		1,720,288	1,922,932	1,715,406	1,918,825
		<u><u>3,085,753</u></u>	<u><u>3,288,397</u></u>	<u><u>3,080,871</u></u>	<u><u>3,284,290</u></u>

Approved by the Board on 26th September 2017 and signed on their behalf by

C S Colquhoun

Trustee - C.S. Colquhoun

The notes on pages 17 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Greater London Fund for the Blind
Consolidated Cash Flow Statement
For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	£(121,550)	20,294
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(39,689)	(23,733)
		(161,239)	(3,439)
Changes in cash and cash equivalents in the year		£(161,239)	£(3,439)
Net funds at 31 March 2016		£3,530,865	3,534,304
Net funds at 31 March 2017	24	£3,369,626	£3,530,865

The notes on pages 17 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. Accounting policies

Greater London Fund for the Blind is a company limited by guarantee in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 3 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principle activities are set out on page 5.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

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 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Greater London Fund for the Blind 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 note(s). The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

b) Legal status of the Charity

The charity is a Private Limited Company by guarantee without share capital. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to a maximum of £10 per member of the charitable company.

c) Group financial statements

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking GLF Charitable Purpose Trading Company Limited on a line-by-line basis in accordance with FRS 102 – section 9 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102) – section 24.

A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charity has not been present because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Details of GLF Charitable Purpose Trading Company Limited are given in note 12 of the financial statements.

d) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e) Fund Accounting

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for specific restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds – these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

f) Income

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

- Income from donations: Are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from legacies: Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate.
- Special event income is accounted for when the entitlement has occurred.
- Income from trading activities is included in the period in which the group is entitled to receipt.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

g) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make 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:

- Cost of raising funds includes costs of generating voluntary income, fundraising costs, and costs of running the charity shops and their associated support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Distributions to member societies represent the amount of income of the charity which is distributable to the member societies of the charity in accordance with its objects and constitutions.

Staff costs are allocated between costs heading according to the function of each employee.

h) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include governance costs, administrative office function costs, depreciation and premises costs. These are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charitable company.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulations and good practice.

Support and Governance costs are allocated between the expenditure categories noted above on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis, for example, time spent, per capita or floor area.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:-

Freehold building – over 50 years

Leasehold improvements – over the life of the lease

Furniture and fittings – over 10 years

Models and collection materials – over 5 years

Office equipment and motor vehicles – over 3 to 5 years

j) Fixed asset investment

The investments of the charitable company consist of the investment in the subsidiary, an unquoted company. The trustees consider it appropriate to include this investment at cost. See note 12 for more details.

k) Debtors

Debtors include amounts owed to the charity for the provision of goods and services or amounts the charity has paid in advance for the goods or services it will receive. Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount.

Other debtors and prepayments are recognised at the settlement amount due.

l) Current asset investments

Current asset investments includes:-

Investment in a delisted company – the investment is included in the accounts at its market value at the balance sheet date. Any loss or gain on revaluation is taken to the statement of Financial Activities.

Cash deposits with an original maturity date of more than 3 months.

m) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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 accounts.

n) 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.

Other creditors and accruals are recognised at their settlement amount due.

o) Provision for liabilities

A provision is made for dilapidation on leasehold properties where the group has a contractual obligation to bear such costs. The provision for these costs is based on the results of an external Chartered Surveyor's report. Provision is made for the expected costs of such dilapidation over the term of the lease and is reviewed annually.

A liability for the agreed pension scheme deficit plan has been included, in accordance with The Pension Trust Scheme Schedule of Contributions dated the 31 March 2017.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) Pension

The Fund contributes to a Pensions Trust scheme for certain senior employees. This scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. It is not possible to identify the Charity's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of this Scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis and therefore, as required by FRS 102, accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme.

The Fund also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for employees under auto-enrolment. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the undertaking in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Fund to the scheme.

q) Financial Instruments

The Charity 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.

r) Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

s) Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part II 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 to charitable purposes.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

t) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting 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 following accounting and estimates and judgements have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

(i) Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge of tangible assets is sensitive to change the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 11 for the carrying amount of the fixed assets, and note 1(i) for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

(ii) Defined benefit pension scheme

The present value of the defined benefit pension scheme asset depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net costs for pensions include the discount rate. See note 17 and 17.1 for more details.

(iii) Dilapidation provision

The company has certain leases of premises which require these premises to be refurbished at the end of the lease to the standard for the lease at commencement. Provision is made for the expected costs of such dilapidations, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard No.12, over the term of the lease.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

2. Donations and legacies	2017	2016
	£	£
Legacies	104,449	551,691
Donations from individuals	891,396	952,539
Corporate and trust donors	74,336	30,056
	<u>£1,070,181</u>	<u>£1,534,286</u>
<p>The Charity has been notified of certain legacies which have not been accrued due to uncertainty as to the amount receivable. The estimated value of these legacies is in the region of £70,000 (2016: £70,000).</p>		
3. Income from charitable activities	2017	2016
	£	£
Special Event Income	66,230	55,402
	<u>£66,230</u>	<u>£55,402</u>
4. Other trading activities	2017	2016
	£	£
Income from trading activities(note 12)	928,103	928,097
	<u>£928,103</u>	<u>£928,097</u>
5. Investment income	2017	2016
	£	£
Bank Interest	28,477	35,509
	<u>£28,477</u>	<u>£35,509</u>

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

6.	Expenditure	Distributions and grants (note 7) £	Staff costs (note 10) £	Support costs (note 6.1) £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
	Raising funds:					
	Face to face fundraising	-	59,203	102,909	162,112	350,522
	General fundraising	-	418,831	283,105	701,937	562,607
	Trading company expenditure (note 12)	-	313,129	346,953	660,082	645,587
	Charitable activities:					
	Distribution to member societies (note 7)	762,012	-	-	762,012	822,867
	Grants to individual charities (note 8)	4,720	-	-	4,720	79,920
		£766,732	£791,163	£732,968	£2,290,863	£2,461,503

6.1	Support Costs	2017 £	2016 £
	Fundraising costs	225,904	339,731
	Recruitment expenses	457	6,224
	Rates, utility and insurance costs	15,118	10,769
	Telephone costs	6,365	4,020
	Legal fees	5,537	7,840
	Audit and accountancy fees	15,206	6,830
	General office costs	32,259	29,477
	Governance Costs	17,918	-
	IT Costs	17,806	15,571
	Depreciation	28,843	19,586
	Subscriptions, Training & Staff Welfare	6,213	2,198
	Bank charges	11,389	4,870
	Trading activities	346,953	367,327
	Interest on pension	3,000	-
		£732,968	£814,443

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

7. Distribution To Member Societies	2017	2016
	£	£
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind	63,836	69,071
Clarity – Employment for Blind People	89,370	96,700
Kingston upon Thames Association for the Blind	63,836	69,071
Merton Vision	63,836	69,071
Metropolitan Society for the Blind	127,671	138,144
The Middlesex Association for the Blind	89,370	96,700
SeeAbility	127,671	138,144
Surrey Association for Visual Impairment	63,836	69,071
Sutton Association for the Blind	63,836	69,071
	<u>753,262</u>	<u>815,043</u>
Additional "Geranium Day" funds raised for distribution to Local Associations and Clubs for the Blind	8,750	7,824
Total Distributions	£762,012	£822,867
Grants to Individual Charities (Note 8)	48,420	84,920
Grants recalled	(44,000)	(5,000)
	£4,420	£79,920
Total Distribution and Grants to Individual Charities	<u>£766,432</u>	<u>£902,787</u>

8. Grants to Individual Charities

In the year, grants totalling £48,720 (2016: grants totalling £79,920) were made to individual charities, .

9. Net Income/(Expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Support costs include:		
Auditors' remuneration:		
For audit (Charity: £3,500)	8,450	8,200
For other accounting and taxation services	15,898	7,357
Depreciation of owned assets	35,913	28,932
Operating lease rentals	218,761	224,695
	<u>218,761</u>	<u>224,695</u>

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

10. Analysis of Staff Costs, Trustee Remuneration and Expenses and the Cost of Key Management Personnel

	2017	2016
	£	£
Wages and salaries	716,355	668,389
Social security costs	56,493	44,608
Other pension costs	18,315	31,276
	<u>£791,163</u>	<u>£744,273</u>

One trustee received £365 reimbursement for travel expenses during the year under review (2016: £Nil).

There was one employee whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 during the year and whose emoluments fell in the band £120,001 to £130,000 (2016: one, £110,001 to £120,000), in addition there were pension contributions to a defined benefit pension scheme of £27,438 (2016: £30,076).

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

Office and management	5	15
Fund raising, publicity and collections	18	6
Trading activities	20	22
	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>

The charitable company contributes to defined contribution personal pension schemes for certain employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the undertaking in independently administered funds. An amount of £18,315, represents contributions payable by Greater London Fund for the Blind to those schemes.

The key management of the charitable company comprise the elected officers, trustees and the Chief Executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charitable company were £149,162 (2016: £149,756).

Greater London Fund for the Bllnd

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

11. Tangible Fixed Assets - Group

	Freehold Building	Motor Vehicle	Improvements to leasehold properties	Furniture & office equipment	Database	Models and collection materials	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost							
At 1 April 2016	453,098	15,625	188,251	323,708	-	20,905	1,001,587
Additions	-	-	14,010	7,590	18,089	-	39,689
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2017	453,098	15,625	202,261	331,298	18,089	20,905	1,041,276
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2016	153,838	3,906	174,199	289,459	-	20,905	642,307
Charge for the year	9,062	3,125	2,029	17,174	4,522	-	35,913
At 31 March 2017	162,900	7,031	176,228	306,633	4,522	20,905	678,220
Net book value							
At 31 March 2017	£290,198	£8,594	£26,033	£24,665	£13,567	£0	£363,056
At 31 March 2016	£299,260	£11,719	£14,052	£34,249	-	-	£359,280

The Charity

	Freehold Building	Furniture & office equipment (database)	Database	Models & collection materials	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2016	453,098	217,708	-	20,905	691,711
Additions	-	7,439	18,089	-	25,528
At 31 March 2017	453,098	225,147	18,089	20,905	717,239
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2016	153,838	195,590	-	20,905	370,333
Charge for the year	9,062	15,259	4,522	-	28,843
At 31 March 2017	162,900	210,849	4,522	20,905	399,176
Net book value					
At 31 March 2017	£290,198	£14,298	£13,567	£	£318,063
At 31 March 2016	£299,260	£22,118	£	£	£321,378

Freehold buildings, consisting of 12 Whitehorse Mews, were valued on 21 June 2008 by Ernest Owers & Williams, at a market value of £795,000.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

12. Investments	2017 £	2016 £
Shares in wholly owned subsidiary undertaking at cost	<u>£100</u>	<u>£100</u>

The subsidiary undertaking incorporated in the United Kingdom is G.L.F. Charitable Purposes Trading Company Limited, the principal activity of which is the operation of charity shops selling donated goods. The available profits for the year can be distributed by way of gift aid payments to the Greater London Fund for the Blind. A summary of the results of the trading company is shown below. Audited accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Profit and loss account	2017 £	2016 £
Turnover	928,103	928,097
Direct costs	<u>(638,453)</u>	<u>(612,571)</u>
Gross profit	289,650	315,526
Administrative expenses	(21,629)	(33,016)
Bank interest received	<u>757</u>	<u>285</u>
Profit before tax	268,778	282,795
Taxation	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net profit	268,778	282,795
Amount paid under gift aid	(268,000)	(282,000)
Retained in subsidiary	<u><u>£778</u></u>	<u><u>£795</u></u>

13. Debtors	Group		Charity	
	2017 £	2016 £	2017 £	2016 £
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking	-	-	6,174	6,174
Payments under gift aid	7,307	10,083	7,307	0
Other debtors	39,311	325,396	13,461	2,539,745
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>83,099</u>	<u>57,696</u>	<u>28,352</u>	<u>587,497</u>
	<u><u>£129,717</u></u>	<u><u>£393,175</u></u>	<u><u>£55,294</u></u>	<u><u>£3,133,416</u></u>

14. Current Asset Investments	Group		Charity	
	2017 £	2016 £	2017 £	2016 £
Stock investments:				
Market value at 1 April 2016	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Bank deposits	2,351,273	2,620,115	2,351,273	2,620,115
Estimated market value at 31 March 2017	<u><u>£2,367,273</u></u>	<u><u>£2,636,115</u></u>	<u><u>£2,367,273</u></u>	<u><u>£2,636,115</u></u>

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2017 £	2016 £	2017 £	2016 £
Trade creditors	13,095	41,240	13,095	41,241
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	-	129,209
Tax and social security	12,847	13,869	9,816	12,222
Other creditors, accruals and deferred income	327,015	268,391	94,076	42,011
Balance awaiting distribution	172,841	412,575	172,841	412,575
	<u>£525,798</u>	<u>£736,075</u>	<u>£289,828</u>	<u>£837,258</u>

Deferred Income

	Group		Charity	
	2017 £	2016 £	2017 £	2016 £
Balance at 1st April 2016	10,000	5,325	10,000	5,325
Amount released to Income	(10,000)	(5,325)	(10,000)	(5,325)
Amount deferred in the year	50,000	10,000	50,000	10,000
Balance at 31st March 2017	<u>£50,000</u>	<u>£10,000</u>	<u>£50,000</u>	<u>£10,000</u>

Deferred Income of £50,000 was a donation received from Sir Gosling towards the Buckingham Palace dinner scheduled in November 2017.

16. Provision for Liabilities
Group

	2017 £	2016 £
Dilapidation provision	<u>120,848</u>	<u>£120,848</u>
Dilapidation Provision		
Balance brought forward	120,848	130,848
Utilised within year	-	(10,000)
Balance brought forward and carried forward	<u>£120,848</u>	<u>£120,848</u>

17. Defined benefit pension scheme liability

	2017 £	2016 £
Group and charity		
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	<u>146,000</u>	<u>£154,000</u>
Balance brought forward	£154,000	155,000
Contributions paid in the year	(15,772)	-
Net interest expense	£3,000	-
Movement in additional funding charge	£4,772	(1,000)
Balance carried forward	<u>£146,000</u>	<u>£154,000</u>

The provision shown above represents the present value of deficiency contributions under a defined benefit pension scheme.

17.1 Pension Schemes

The Pensions Trust – The Growth Plan

The Charity participates in the above scheme, a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. It is not possible for the Charity to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

17.1 Pension Schemes - continued

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2016. This valuation showed assets of £793m, liabilities of £970m and a deficit of £177m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, The Pension Trust has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme.

Contributions to this scheme including those relating to the deficit amounted to £27,438 (2016: £30,076).

Following the change in legislation in 2005 there is a potential debt on the employer that could be levied by the Trustee of the Pension Trust Scheme in the event of the employer ceasing to participate in the Scheme or the Scheme winding up. As at 30 September 2016, being the last actuarial review, the potential debt is £333,962.

The Charity is currently considering the option of leaving the Pensions Trust Scheme.

GLFB Flexible Retirement Plan

The Charity and its Trading subsidiary also participate in an occupational defined contribution scheme, which is open to staff and is a qualifying pension scheme for auto-enrolment purposes. All eligible employees joined this scheme from the staging date of 1 March 2016.

18. Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 01-Apr 2016	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains/ (losses)& Transfers	Balance 31-Mar 2017
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds:					
- Dilapidation reserve	120,848	-	-		120,848
- Premises relocation reserve	183,992	-	(3,492)		180,500
- Special Project Awards fund(SPAG)	273,090	434,084	(4,720)	(200,000)	502,454
- Face to Face fundraising	187,535	89,370	(162,112)		114,793
- Fundraising development fund	500,000	-	-		500,000
- Sir John Mills Fund	100,000	-	-		100,000
- Pension Deficit Fund		-		250,000	250,000
General reserve:					
- The Charity	1,918,825	640,677	(1,460,457)	213,228	1,312,273
- Subsidiary undertaking	4,107	928,860	(660,082)	(268,000)	4,885
	<u>3,288,397</u>	<u>2,092,991</u>	<u>(2,290,863)</u>	<u>(4,772)</u>	<u>3,086,753</u>

The trustees have designated funds for dilapidation costs which may be required under the terms of leases on properties in the subsidiary company.

The premises reserve represents an amount previously designated by the trustees towards the costs of extending and refurbishing the Fund's head offices. In November 2006 this property was renamed Sir John Mills House. This reserve fund will be subject to depreciation reducing over the next 50 years.

The Special Project Awards Fund is set aside for grants to external charities working in the field of blind welfare and to member societies with projects in need of additional financial support. During the year, the trustees awarded grants totaling £48,720.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

18. Unrestricted Funds - continued

An additional amount of £89,370 was set aside by the trustees for future Face to Face fundraising campaigns. The Face-to-Face investment of £162,112 for the year was charged against this fund.

The amount of £100,000 in the name of Sir John Mills Foundation designated by the trustees as Sir John Mills fund is to be used for projects honouring his memory and the work he had done for the Charity.

An amount of £268,000 has been gifted by the trading company to the parent charity in March 2017.

The Fundraising Development Fund has been established primarily to provide a designated pool of resource to enable any future fundraising initiative to be underwritten without serious impact on those funds that would normally be available for distribution to recipient charities during the financial year. In addition, this reserve, might be applied in exceptional circumstances to help the fund maintain a consistent policy of grant making, regardless of market conditions, with the proviso that the Board retain the right to 'undesignate' this Fund whenever it is deemed prudent or appropriate to do so.

19. Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2017 the group has commitments under operating leases as follows:-

Leasehold properties	Group		Charity	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	£	£	£	£
Leases which expire:				
Within one year	122,241	158,029	356	2,851
Between two and five years	398,707	424,948	-	356
After five years	<u>500,695</u>	<u>613,371</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

20. Capital Commitments

There were no capital commitments as at 31 March 2017 (2016: none).

21. Related Party Transactions

Two trustee of GLFB, R. Mehta and K. Felton are trustees of Middlesex Association for the Blind and Blind Aid respectively. For 2016-17, Middlesex received £89,370 of distribution (2016: £96,700), of which £14,725 (2016: £36,263) remained unpaid at the year end. Blind Aid received £127,671 of distribution (2016: £138,144), of which £21,036 (2016: £51,805) remained unpaid at the year end.

The Corporate Secretary J. Laidler is a partner in the firm Gregory, Rowcliffe and Milners, the Charity's solicitors.

All trustees are required to declare any interest and sign the Register of Interests to avoid any possible conflict of interests, reviewed and signed annually.

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

22. Allocation of Net Assets between Funds

The funds of the group are represented by the following assets:

	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	363,056
Current assets	3,515,343
Current liabilities	(525,798)
Long term liabilities and provisions	(266,848)
	<u><u>£3,085,753</u></u>

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

	2017 £	2016 £
Net movement in funds before distributions and grants	568,860	994,578
Distributions paid to member societies	(762,012)	(822,867)
Grants to individual charities	(4,720)	(79,920)
Depreciation	35,913	28,932
Decrease in debtors	263,458	(317,260)
Increase/(decrease) in pension scheme liability	(12,772)	-
(Decrease)/increase in creditors and provisions	(210,277)	216,831
Net cash inflow from operations before distributions	<u><u>£(121,550)</u></u>	<u><u>£20,294</u></u>

24. Analysis of Net Funds

	At 1 April 2016 £	Cash flow £	Non-cash changes £	At 31 March 2017 £
Cash at bank and in hand	910,750	107,603	-	1,018,353
Cash on short term deposit (Note 14)	2,620,115	(268,842)	-	2,351,273
	<u><u>£3,530,865</u></u>	<u><u>£(161,239)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>£3,369,626</u></u>

Greater London Fund for the Blind

Notes To The Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
Distributions and Grants		
Distribution to member societies	762,012	822,867
Grants to individual charities	4,720	79,920
	<u>766,732</u>	<u>902,787</u>
Direct Costs		
Direct support costs	122,995	78,904
Face to Face fundraising	162,112	301,637
Salaries and national insurance costs	353,799	353,985
Rent and rates of office	5,201	4,797
Lighting and heating	4,012	1,399
Insurance	5,905	4,573
Printing, postage and stationery	15,274	12,956
IT Costs	17,806	15,571
Telephone, fax and internet	6,365	4,020
Repairs, maintenance and office costs	16,265	12,269
Travel, subsistence and entertaining	720	951
	<u>710,454</u>	<u>791,062</u>
Administrative Expenses		
Staff salaries and national insurance costs	65,032	52,487
Pension costs	-	18,732
Recruitment cost	457	6,224
Subscriptions, Training and staff welfare	6,213	5,497
Audit and accountancy fees	15,206	6,831
Legal and professional charges	5,537	7,840
Governance	17,918	0
Depreciation expense	28,843	19,586
Bank charges	11,389	4,870
Interest on pension	3,000	
	<u>153,595</u>	<u>122,067</u>
Total charity expenditure	1,630,781	1,815,916
Trading company expenditure	660,082	645,587
	<u>£2,290,863</u>	<u>£2,461,503</u>