

RNIB Charity annual report and financial statements 2018/19

The Trustees, who are also directors of RNIB Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in submitting their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the 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) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity. The Reference and Administrative Details also form part of this report.



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Trustees' Report and Strategic Report

Structure and objectives

Our legal structure

RNIB Charity (company number 08971500, charity number 1156629 (England and Wales) and charity number SC044876 (Scotland) was established as a subsidiary of the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) on 1 April 2014 in order to provide some of RNIB's service delivery. RNIB provides central support and fundraising activity for RNIB Charity and all other entities within the group.

On 1 April 2017, most of the assets and liabilities of RNIB Charity were transferred to RNIB Group. The aim of the reorganisation was to better enable RNIB to provide support and services to all of its beneficiaries and to reduce the cost and administrative burden of operating separate charities.

The remaining activity within RNIB Charity relates principally to the running of schools and care homes. These will be transferred to RNIB once regulatory consents have been obtained from the Care Quality Commission, Ofsted and the Care Inspectorate in Scotland, and then the company will be dissolved.

RNIB Group's annual report and financial statements provide additional details of the work of RNIB and its aims for the next twelve months. Copies are available from RNIB, 105 Judd Street, London, WC1H 9NE or our website www.rnib.org.uk.

RNIB Charity is governed by a Trustee Board, which currently consists of two people. It takes all important strategic, policy and financial decisions and has overall responsibility for RNIB Charity activities. Full details of Trustees are included within the 'Who's who at RNIB Charity' section.

Trustees serve a three-year term of office, but may serve for no more than three consecutive terms of three years, other than in the case of an Honorary Officer in exceptional circumstances approved by the Board.

An induction pack is provided to all new Trustees and they are invited to attend an intensive induction day during which they are provided with information on the key services provided by RNIB Charity and the main challenges and policy issues facing RNIB Charity. Each Trustee receives an annual appraisal during which any individual training needs are identified. Where collective training needs are established, these are delivered to the Board as a whole.

How we are managed

All members of the RNIB Charity Board are also members of the RNIB Group Board. During 2018/19, RNIB Group refreshed Board, Committee and Steering Group membership, remaining committed to continuing to strengthen the breadth of skills, experience and effectiveness of the governance arrangements.

Trustees and Independent Committee and Steering Group Members serve terms of office of up to three years and do not serve more than three consecutive terms of three years. An induction pack is provided to all new Trustees and Independent Members, and they are invited to attend a comprehensive induction day. Each Trustee receives an annual appraisal, during which any individual training needs are identified. Where collective training needs are established, these are delivered to the Board as a whole.

Structure

The Trustee Board makes all important strategic, policy and financial decisions, and has overall responsibility for RNIB Charity activities.

Eight second-tier governance bodies support the Board in its work (two of which have now disbanded):

- Audit and Risk Committee
- Finance Committee (disbanded in May 2019 as remit to oversee improvements in certain controls was delivered against)
- Regulated Services and Safeguarding Committee
- People Committee (formed in July 2018)
- Remuneration Committee (disbanded in June 2018 with governance transferred to People Committee)
- Customer Steering Group
- Relationship Steering Group
- Business Change Steering Group

The day-to-day management of RNIB is delegated to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT). The Chief Executive with the support of the rest of the ELT reports to the Board for all major decisions. Matt Stringer joined as Chief Executive on 13 May 2019.

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During 2018/19, the ELT was made up of:

- **Interim Chief Executive Officer**
Eliot Lyne (from 6 April 2018)
- **Director of Care, Education and Safeguarding**
Nick Apetroaie (from 23 May 2018)
- **Director of Corporate Services**
Corinne Mills (to 25 September 2018)
- **Director of Development**
Keith Valentine (from 1 June 2018)
- **Interim Director of Digital Transformation**
Neil Beckingham (from 1 January 2019)
- **Director of Finance**
Gemma Wadsley (to 31 July 2018)
Deirdre Robertson (from 3 September 2018 to 16 November 2018 – Interim Director of Finance and Corporate Services)
Stuart Fox (Acting from 19 November 2018 to 25 July 2019 and permanent thereafter)
- **Interim Director of People**
Rosalyn Parker (from 11 March 2019)
- **Director of Relationships**
Dr Sophie Castell
- **Director of Services**
Jamie Dormandy (Acting to 1 July 2018)
David Clarke (from 2 July 2018)
- **Strategic HR Advisor**
Ali Peck (from 5 September to 31 January 2019)

Charity Governance Code

In 2018/19, we began to use the Charity Governance Code to support the Board's ongoing development. Trustees and Independent Members all receive a copy of the Charity Governance Code as part of their induction, and all Trustees receive the Essential Trustee publication. We have used the Code to inform much of the improvement work we have undertaken in respect of governance throughout 2018/19. Our continued improvements in respect of governance will continue into 2019/20.

Our Board of Trustees

We saw the departure in 2018/19 of three long-serving members of the RNIB Charity Board; Margaret Bennett, Derek Child and Simon Finnie. We are very grateful for their service to RNIB over many years and thank them for their work.

We were very pleased to welcome Dr Heather Giles and Stuart Alan Tinger as new Trustees from May 2019.

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At 31 March 2019

Eleanor Southwood

Other Trustees serving in 2018/19

Margaret Bennett (to 10 October 2018)

Derek Child (to 31 March 2019)

Simon Finnie (19 October 2018 to 31 March 2019)

New Trustees appointed after 31 March 2019

Dr Heather Giles (from 2 May 2019)

Stuart Alan Tinger (from 2 May 2019)

Independent members of the Audit and Risk Committee

Michael Barber and Jonathan Blackhurst were the independent members of the Audit and Risk Committee, with Michael Barber taking on the role as Chair of the Committee from 1 January 2019. Susan Crichton was appointed as a further independent member of the Committee in September 2019.

Independent members of the Regulated Services and Safeguarding Committee

David Ashcroft was appointed as the independent Chair of the Committee in May 2018. In March 2019, two independent members, Nicola Shaw and Graham Hewett were appointed to the Committee.

Independent members of the People Committee

Rupert Evenett and Richard Brewster were the independent members of the People Committee from its formation in July 2018.

Our registered office

We are registered at 105 Judd Street, London WC1H 9NE, telephone 020 7388 1266.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of RNIB Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. 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 Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102, have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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.

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

Statement of public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

RNIB Charity's charitable objects are enshrined within its constitution and as such the Trustees ensure that this constitution is carried out for the public benefit through our four strategic priorities. This is done through delivery of services that whilst aimed primarily at those who are blind or partially sighted, are where appropriate open to all who might benefit throughout the United Kingdom.

Where we provide specialist services or products for which we charge, and these are supplied directly to blind and partially sighted people, then we provide a significant subsidy for these from our own charitable funds. Where fees are paid through central or local government or commercial organisations then the pricing model covers the costs for the delivery of the service and long-term maintenance and development. We also, where necessary, provide individuals with access to assistance in applying for funding.

This report allows us to show how our charitable funds are distributed and spent, and the benefits and impact that has on those using the services and the wider impact on society for the reported year and in the future.

Relationship with other charities

We maintain close links and support the aims of other organisations such as local, national and international charities working with or for people with sight problems. We also work closely with other disability charities on issues of mutual concern. We deliver services in partnership with some societies for blind and partially sighted people, and some of our funding comes from charities and trusts which support our aims.

RNIB Charity is part of the RNIB group of charities.

Our Year

This has been a hugely significant year for RNIB, as the Group celebrated its 150th anniversary, and a time of change as we look to the future. We've also faced serious challenges and have tackled some urgent and important issues.

There have been many advances since the original organisation was founded by Thomas Rhodes Armitage in 1868, however too much has stayed the same, as we face both old and new challenges in making sure people have the advice, information and confidence to live the life they choose. Outdated societal attitudes, lack of choice, inaccessible services and digital exclusion remain very real barriers.

A new strategy has been developed during the year, to support our vision to create a world where there are no barriers for people with sight loss. Led by blind and partially sighted people, we work collaboratively to find creative and innovate ways to overcome challenges, being open and inclusive, continually challenging ourselves and others.

The activities remaining within RNIB Charity, are focussed on our schools, colleges and residences, where we continue to provide specialist education, care and therapies for blind and partially sighted children.

The year has brought some real challenges. In November 2018 we closed RNIB Pears Centre for Specialist Learning in Coventry after our regulators raised serious concerns about how we were running the service. This wasn't an easy decision and we are profoundly sorry that RNIB let down the young people in our care and their families. It is now clear that we are not the right organisation to be running this highly complex service for children with such specialist needs. As a result of these issues, the Charity Commission opened a statutory inquiry which, at the time of writing, is still ongoing. We are cooperating fully with the commission and will be implementing their recommendations to build on the improvements we have already made.

We have created the new role of Director of Care, Education and Safeguarding to lead improvements at our establishment-based services and ensure greater visibility of these functions at executive level. We also created a Regulated Service and Safeguarding committee, chaired by an independent member with strong expertise in safeguarding and care services. The committee has a clear focus on service improvement and corporate safeguarding performance. Thirteen out of our 14 regulated services have been rated as "Good" or higher by their respective regulator. We were especially pleased that Sunshine House School in Northwood received a rating of "Outstanding" from Ofsted in January. One care home was judged to be Requires Improvement and we have put an action plan in place to make the necessary improvements.

Our strategy, performance and business plan

In 2017/18, with RNIB Group, we consulted with blind and partially sighted people and now have ongoing engagement to ensure we're tackling the issues that matter most. From this, we developed our new strategy and the four group priorities which underpin it. In 2018/19 we put our new strategy into practice.

The over-arching group strategy and priorities are focused around four strategic areas below:

Priority 1: Equip people with sight loss so they can thrive

Priority 2: Mobilise the community

Priority 3: Change society

Priority 4: Create a fit-for-purpose organisation

RNIB Charity activities focus on Regulated Services, which sit within Priority 1. Through our association with the wider group, we are addressing the other three key priorities insofar as they impact our service delivery, beneficiaries and organisation.

RNIB Groups' expert information and advice will equip blind and partially sighted people, and anyone who cares about sight loss, so they can live the life they want to lead. We provide services, information and advice to everyone who wants it. Through our Sight Loss Advice Service, we're available face-to-face in eye clinics, over the phone and online. Our reading and product services are available to everyone, and through our specialist regulated services we provide education and care to children and adults with sight loss.

Within RNIB Charity, this is delivered through:

- Our schools, college and residences, where we continued to provide specialist education, care and therapies for blind and partially sighted children and young people with additional disabilities. We want everyone to achieve their goals for learning, to develop independence skills.
- Our residential care homes, where we provide short and long term stays for older people with sight loss in environments designed to make life easy and comfortable.
- Our community living service, where we provide residential care and supported living to adults aged 18-65 with sight loss and additional needs, including learning disabilities.

The full details of the new strategy and business plan can be found within the RNIB Annual Report and Accounts.

Our values

Our values describe our ethos and drive our behaviours:

- Led by blind and partially sighted people: Blind and partially sighted people are at our heart and influence everything we do.
- Collaborative: We work together to make the biggest difference.
- Creative: We understand challenges and find ways to overcome them and move forward.
- Inclusive: We include and value people with diverse experience, abilities and backgrounds.
- Open: We are honest, candid and transparent, challenging ourselves and others.

Financial review

Total income for 2019 was £20.2million (2018: £21.8million) of which £4.7million (2018: £3.9 million) came from a grant from Royal National Institute of Blind People, the charity which undertakes our fundraising activity.

Expenditure was all allocated to Equipping people with sight loss for 2019 £20.2m (2018 Independence £21.8m).

We held minimal designated reserves of £0.04m at the end of the year and general reserves were nil as there is no intention for RNIB Charity to hold general reserves as set out in the reserves policy below.

Reserves policy

The Charity does not retain general reserves in its own right as it is fully funded on an annual basis by RNIB. RNIB Group's combined general reserves were £32.8million at 31 March 2019 (2018: £25.6 million). The Charity carries no restricted reserves, but does have a designated reserve to reflect the carrying value of fixed assets. At 31 March 2019, RNIB Charity held designated funds totalling £0.04m (2018: £0.05million) which relates to fixtures, fittings and equipment.

Remuneration

The RNIB Group is led by the Executive Leadership Team consisting of the CEO and seven Directors. The total remuneration paid to this group was £0.9m (2018: £0.9m). Of this, none (2018: £67,000) related to termination and loss of office payments. Executive leadership pay is determined by the People Committee which is comprised of Board Trustees and independent members.

RNIB are committed to equality and diversity. The median gender pay gap for the whole economy was 17.9 per cent in October 2018 (source: ONS). RNIB Group and RNIB Charity are able to report median gender pay gap figures of 8.07 per cent in RNIB Group and 1.76 per cent in RNIB Charity. Our full gender pay gap disclosure is available from our website. This includes our action plan about this issue.

Safeguarding, health and safety and compliance

Safeguarding

The last two years have been highly significant for safeguarding in charities, with an enhanced focus on charities' roles and responsibilities in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of everyone that they come into contact with. At RNIB the need to strengthen and improve our approach to safeguarding has been highlighted through an ongoing Charity Commission statutory inquiry, triggered by serious concerns at RNIB Pears Centre.

As an organisation we have developed a major plan of work to address this, and to create a new approach across every part of the organisation. Our Safeguarding Policy sets out six key areas of work, and a new governance structure has been put in place to ensure that safeguarding is at the forefront of all we do. In developing this plan, we have sought to improve our understanding of why we failed to get things right for vulnerable children and young people at RNIB Pears Centre, and apply the lessons learnt across the whole organisation.

Six key areas of work

- Promoting a safe and trusted environment and a culture that prioritises safeguarding.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all people within RNIB.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Treating with respect, care and dignity, the victims of abuse and other safeguarding concerns.
- Treating with respect, care and dignity, those that are subject of concerns or allegations.
- Encouraging a culture of learning throughout the organisation.

Significant progress has been made against this plan. Face-to-face safeguarding training has been provided for all staff, and a new volunteer e-learning system has now been rolled out. A new case management system will be launched with over a hundred staff undergoing training to enable RNIB to track concerns, identify trends and achieve clear outcomes in safeguarding cases. A draft version of our safer recruitment policy and guidance was produced in April 2019, and this is being developed as part of an overall safe recruitment approach for staff and volunteers.

A specialist team has been recruited and developed, with the Head of Safeguarding, Safeguarding Case Officer and Safeguarding Training Officer providing a Central Safeguarding Function which offers oversight, support and continuous

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organisational learning¹ and development, as well as a safe place for anyone to raise concerns. Additional scrutiny is provided through a Safeguarding Improvement Plan and governance structure which now includes a Regulated Services and Safeguarding Committee, in addition to the Audit and Risk Committee and Board of Trustees.

RNIB is committed to ensuring that everyone is confident in raising, responding to and reporting safeguarding concerns, whatever their role.

Health and safety

This year we reviewed how we manage health, safety and welfare to ensure it aligns with our core objectives. We remain resolute in our commitment to ensure the safety and health of our customers, our people and all those we come into contact with.

To maintain this commitment, in 2019 we will be introducing a new two-year occupational health and safety strategy, supported by clear targets and time scales for delivery. The strategy will focus on six key areas:

- delivering assurance
- leadership and management
- training and competence
- communication and engagement
- risk management
- wellbeing and mental health.

In order to deliver a successful and effective safety management system, we will ensure our people are well trained, competent and confident. Training must remain accessible and engaging, suit an individual's needs, and enable them to play an active part in safety.

We will also be focusing on wellbeing and mental health as part of our new strategy. We will be rolling out one-day mental health awareness training to support managers and staff at all levels. Additionally, we aim to deliver a two-day mental health first aid training course to 10 per cent of staff by 2020.

Information governance

We are committed to improving, embedding and maintaining a clear and consistent approach to the way that customer data is managed in RNIB.

This year we have focused on embedding the processes and controls that we have previously introduced. We report against these monthly at the Information

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Governance Group. Next year we will continue to improve these controls and deliver a programme to further improve customer Privacy and Security.

We are continuing to concentrate on giving our staff the guidance, tools, knowledge and confidence to manage customers' information securely and compliantly, and to be open and honest if they make a mistake or find something that concerns them. In March 2019, RNIB submitted the new NHS Data Security and Protection Toolkit to demonstrate compliance against the enhanced GDPR requirements.

Data security

We are continuing to invest resources into making sure our data security is a top priority. Our public websites are protected by advanced security services to help prevent "denial of service" attacks, while encrypting all information.

We have invested in Microsoft Cloud and use its robust security services wherever possible. This allows us to identify every user and device which accesses our corporate services. We've made significant progress in moving our services to the cloud where they are hosted on modern, secure platforms. We will build on this next year, moving a significant portion of our server infrastructure to the cloud, reducing cost and consolidating data.

Our staff use Office 365, ensuring our information is stored in one manageable place. When staff work remotely, multiple levels of authentication are required.

This year we implemented significant changes to our email security to ensure our staff and customers stay safe. As well as checking emails for spam and malicious content we also detect and block suspicious links. Impersonation detection alerts the recipient when an email is pretending to be from a trusted source. Next year we will complete our rollout of Windows 10. Our investment will ensure we're at the forefront of Microsoft's Modern Workplace initiative which delivers a range of integrated security services while providing a great user experience.

Application Access policies will enable us to have complete control over how our information is accessed and shared, even when working with approved third parties.

We will continue to work with trusted partners to ensure the best people are providing our security monitoring services.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The strategic management of risk is an integral part of RNIB's decision-making processes and culture, supporting effective planning and evaluation of activities. Our risk management is focused on risks and opportunities associated with delivering the strategy and business plan.

The Board of Trustees is satisfied that the major risks have been identified and processes for addressing them have been put in place. It's recognised that control systems can only provide reasonable - but not absolute - assurance that major risks are being adequately managed. Overall, we are confident that our risk position remains within acceptable levels.

Risk	Primary mitigations
Finance Risk of unanticipated falls in voluntary income, reducing liquidity and capacity to effectively deliver against plans.	Our risk-based reserves policy protects us against the impact of short-term volatility of cash flows. We closely monitor our forward indicators, income against budgets and perform regular reforecasting. This ensures early recognition of longer-term challenges and the need for course correction if required.
People Risk of inability to find and keep people with the right skills to deliver our plans. Also fitness for purpose of organisational culture.	Our reward and benefits package is benchmarked against the sector, and in line with an approved pay policy. We monitor turnover, with exit interviews providing qualitative data and have recruited interim resource to cover short-term gaps. We map the capability of our teams against requirements, continually consult and refine comms to ensure all are aligned behind our plans.

Risk	Primary mitigations
Safeguarding, regulatory and operating risk Risk of safeguarding incidents, particularly in education or care setting.	Strong safeguarding improvement plans with all employees appropriately trained. New and strengthened safeguarding policy, procedures and protocols all implemented. Regular structured reviews of regulatory compliance and clear risk management protocols.
Technology, data and digital Risk of insufficient pace and depth of digital transformation combined with failure to resolve issues of data quality and integration, thereby failing to meet customer expectations. Also, risk of cyber-security breaches.	A Vision for Transformation with a new digital ecosystem is being implemented. Various internal systems are also being overhauled and subject to an investment plan to ensure fitness for purpose, effectiveness and efficiency.

Going concern

Following the transfer of assets, the Trustees intend to transfer the remaining activities to RNIB as appropriate and the dissolve the company. The Trustees consider that it is unlikely that the transfer will be completed during the next financial year, and hence the Charity financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. RNIB confirms its ongoing support of all its subsidiaries.

Our volunteers

Volunteers are right at the heart of our work, giving their valuable time, skills and experience to help us create a world without barriers.

In 2018-19, 4,263 volunteers supported us in 5,477 roles and their contribution equated to an estimated financial resource of more than £6 million.

Our employees

So much of what we achieve at RNIB is thanks to the hard work and commitment of our employees.

Our Leadership Visibility programme is inspiring and engaging staff from across the organisation. In Autumn 2018 we held a series of roadshows to launch our refreshed brand and strategy. Eight hundred members of staff attended and 97 per cent of attendants felt it gave them a clear understanding of our new vision.

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We've introduced monthly Skype broadcasts for our Chief Executive to share updates on strategy and performance, take real-time questions from staff and recognise colleagues' achievements. While we continue to develop Workplace as a primary internal communication channel, we are mindful that some of our workforce do not have regular access to the internet. We introduced cascade packs so that consistent key messages and updates can be shared more easily.

Staff Voice was formed to provide a channel for regular, informal conversation between staff and the Chief Executive, and the Staff Forum continues to evolve to enable all staff to provide feedback directly to the Executive Team.

Our ability to attract, develop and maintain talent remains crucial to achieving our goals. This year we mapped our capabilities across the organisation and we will build on this to feed into the recruitment process, making sure we're introducing the right skills and talent to the organisation.

We continue to invest in staff development and offer a wide range of courses and training opportunities. This year we replaced our annual appraisal process with My Development Cycle. We are now exploring ways to formalise secondments and job shadowing as part of our staff development, retention and succession strategy.

We continue to develop our apprenticeships programme by looking at ways to progress volunteers into potential paid employment. This will help us attract people from more diverse backgrounds.

Our goal is for RNIB to be a fully inclusive workplace where everyone feels completely comfortable to be themselves and bring all that they can to their roles. This year we became a Disability Confident Leader, demonstrating our commitment to equality in employing people with disability. We will build on this next year, identifying and prioritising our commitments to equality, diversity and inclusion in collaboration with our employees. Our aim is to build a range of perspectives and experiences to increase creativity and difference in RNIB.

800 members of staff attended 37 roadshow sessions across 20 locations, and 97 per cent of attendants felt it gave them a clear understanding of our new vision.

Strategy in action

In September 2018, 150 senior managers attended a conference to bring our "See Differently" strategy and brand campaign to life. The day provided an opportunity to hear directly from customers and members of the Executive Team, as well as to attend workshops to understand RNIB's new behaviours and how to apply them. Bringing senior managers together in this way allowed us to share clear, consistent messages in a positive and engaging way, and provided a networking opportunity for staff.

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- Each Trustee has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees' report including the strategic report was approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 October 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. M. Southwood', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Eleanor Southwood, Trustee

Independent auditors' report to the members and trustees of RNIB Charity

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, RNIB Charity's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 March 2019; the statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year then ended, cash flow statement for the year then ended; the accounting policies; and the notes to the financial statements.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Independent auditors' report to the members and trustees of RNIB Charity (cont'd)

Conclusions relating to going concern

ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. For example, the terms on which the United Kingdom may withdraw from the European Union are not clear, and it is difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the charitable company's activities, beneficiaries, suppliers and the wider economy.

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

Independent auditors' report to the members and trustees of RNIB Charity (cont'd)

Reporting on other information (cont'd)

With respect to the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Strategic Report and Trustees' Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Report, including the Strategic Report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified any material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report. We have nothing to report in this respect.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Independent auditors' report to the members and trustees of RNIB Charity (cont'd)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (cont'd)

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at:

www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's members and trustees as a body in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Companies Act 2006 and regulations made under those Acts (regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006) and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Other required reporting

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

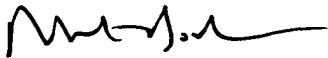
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or

**Independent auditors' report to the members and trustees of RNIB
Charity (cont'd)**

Matters on which we are required to report by exception (cont'd)

- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Nicholas Boden (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
London
22 October 2019

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2019 (including an income and expenditure account)

		2019	2018
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Unrestricted funds £'000
Income from:			
<i>Charitable activities:</i>			
Statutory and other grants		-	-
Intercompany grants receivable		4,665	3,895
Sales, fees and other service income		15,502	17,944
Total Income from charitable activities:		20,167	21,839
Total income		20,167	21,839
Expenditure on:			
<i>Charitable activities:</i>			
Equip people with sight loss	2	20,182	21,839
Total Expenditure from charitable activities		20,182	21,839
Transfer of assets	2	-	1,314
Total expenditure		20,182	23,153
Net movement in funds		(15)	(1,314)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		53	1,367
Total funds carried forward	13	38	53

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes that follow form part of the financial statements.

RNIB Charity, Company Number 08971500
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	38	53
Total fixed assets		38	53
Current assets			
Debtors due within one year	10	11,859	11,037
Cash at bank and in hand		15	-
Total current assets		11,874	11,037
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	11,804	10,521
Net current assets		70	516
Total assets less current liabilities		108	569
Provisions for liabilities and charges	12	70	516
Net assets		38	53
The funds of the Charity:			
Designated	13	38	53
Total Charity funds		38	53

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 October 2019 and signed on behalf of RNIB Charity by Eleanor Southwood, Trustee.



Eleanor Southwood, Trustee

The notes that follow form part of the financial statements.

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 March 2019

Cash flow statement

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	(764)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting year	23	(764)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting year	(8)	756
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting year	15	(8)

Notes to the Cash flow statement

Reconciliation of changes in resources to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Net (expenditure) for the reporting period	(15)	(1,314)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	15	28
Transfer of net assets to RNIB	-	522
Increase in current creditors	1,291	-
(Decrease)/Increase in provision for liabilities and charges	(446)	-
(Increase) in debtors	(822)	-
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	23	(764)

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 March 2019 (cont'd)

Analysis of change in net debt	1 April 2017 £'000	Cash flow 2017/18 £'000	31 March 2018 £'000	Cash flow 2018/19 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Cash at bank	756	(756)	-	15	15
Bank overdraft	-	(8)	(8)	8	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	756	(764)	(8)	23	15
Debt due within one year	-	-	-	-	-
Debt due after one year	-	-	-	-	-
Total net debt	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

1. Statement of accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgement and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of these financial statements are as set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements 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). They also conform to the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, which the Directors consider to be appropriate in the context of the Charity's ability to meet its obligations as they fall due, in the period of twelve months following the date of approval of these financial statements. RNIB confirms its ongoing support of all its subsidiaries.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the Charity during the year were the Trustees named in the 'Who's who at RNIB Charity' section.

In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

1.4 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds comprise the fixed asset designated fund only. In line with RNIB Group reserves policy, the unrestricted general fund balance in RNIB Charity is expected to be nil at each year end.

1.5 Income

Charitable activities income is recognised when it can be reliably measured, there is entitlement, and receipt is probable. Where charitable activity income is received in advance of the activity to be performed then the income is deferred.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Income from the sale of goods and services is recognised when orders are fulfilled, or services are delivered.

Accrued income is provided for in respect of revenues that have been earned in the current financial year but are yet to be invoiced.

1.6 Expenditure

(a) Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is accounted for on an accruals basis.

(b) Support costs are those incurred in support of direct service expenditures. Support costs also include the governance costs incurred in relation to the running of the Charity. The allocation of support costs is on a mixture of bases (see note 3).

1.7 Fixed assets

Tangible assets are recorded at cost, including irrecoverable VAT, or where donated, open market valuation at the time of donation. The minimum threshold for capitalisation is £5,000. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight-line basis over their expected useful lives. Where the assets have been acquired under a finance lease then depreciation, and any impairment, is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value of each asset, over the life of the primary lease. The standard rates of depreciation are five years for fixtures, fittings and equipment.

Fixed assets are subject to review for impairment when there is an indication of a reduction in their carrying value. Any impairment is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it occurs.

1.8 Debtors

Debtors are stated after provision for impairment. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. Where debtors are due after more than one year, they are discounted for the time value of money where material.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash, short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors in current liabilities.

RNIB Charity, Company Number 08971500
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

1.10 Creditors

Creditors are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount.

1.11 Other Financial instruments

RNIB 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.

1.12 Pension scheme

RNIB Charity participates in the RNIB Benefits Scheme. This is a hybrid scheme for members joining after 1 April 2005 and a defined benefit scheme for prior entrants. The charity is unable to identify, on a reasonable and consistent basis, its share of the underlying assets/liabilities as such information is unavailable on a disaggregated basis. Therefore, the Charity accounts for contributions as if the scheme were a defined contribution scheme. For the defined contribution schemes the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits are the contributions payable in the year. Details are set out in note 15.

1.13 Leased assets

Leases are regarded as finance leases where their terms transfer to the lessee substantially all of the benefits and burdens of ownership other than the right to legal title.

The obligations to the lessor are shown as part of the borrowings and the rights in the corresponding assets are treated in the same way as owned fixed assets.

All operating leases and rental expenses are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease on a straight-line basis.

1.14 Taxation

RNIB Charity is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profit from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried out in furtherance of RNIB Charity's primary objectives, if these profits are applied solely for charitable purposes.

1.15 Accounting estimates and judgements

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to make estimates and judgements. The matters considered below are considered to be the most important in understanding the judgements that are involved in preparing the financial statements and the uncertainties that could impact the amounts reported in the results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

Cost allocation

Support costs not attributable to a single charitable activity are allocated or apportioned on a basis consistent with identified cost drivers for that cost category. Cost drivers utilised include head count, floor space, and effort and judgement is exercised in applying cost drivers to cost categories.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the RNIB has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Impairment of assets

Where an indication of impairment is identified, and estimate of the recoverable value of the asset is required. This requires an estimate of the future economic benefits from the asset and the selection of an appropriate discount rate to calculate the present value of the economic benefits.

2. Expenditure

	2019			2018		
	Direct costs £'000	Support costs £'000	Total £'000	Direct costs £'000	Support costs £'000	Total £'000
Charitable activities						
Equip people with sight loss	15,783	4,399	20,182	17,887	3,952	21,839
Total expenditure on charitable activities	15,783	4,399	20,182	17,887	3,952	21,839
Transfer of assets	-	-	-	1,314	-	1,314
Total expenditure	15,783	4,399	20,182	19,201	3,952	23,153

The transfer of assets included in the table above is the transfer of the net book value of the tangible fixed assets relating to the services transferred to RNIB at 1 April 2018.

3. Support costs allocation

	2019							
	Human resources £'000	Finance £'000	IT £'000	Legal services £'000	Property services £'000	Other £'000	Govern- ance £'000	Total £'000
Charitable activities								
Equip people with sight loss	1,089	693	1,311	123	236	716	231	4,399
Total expenditure	1,089	693	1,311	123	236	716	231	4,399

	2018							
	Human resources £'000	Finance £'000	IT £'000	Legal services £'000	Property services £'000	Other £'000	Govern- ance £'000	Total £'000
Charitable activities								
Equip people with sight loss	1,204	660	1,053	115	281	527	112	3,952
Total expenditure	1,204	660	1,053	115	281	527	112	3,952

RNIB Charity, Company Number 08971500
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Basis of allocation:

Human resources and volunteers – Headcount

Finance and procurement– Expenditure

Information and technology services – Number of workstations

Legal Services – Expenditure

Property services – Floor space

Other and Governance (including Strategy and performance and Group support) – Expenditure

4. Governance costs

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
External audit – PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*	46	30
Trustees' expenses	0	3
General costs incurred in servicing RNIB	185	79
Total governance costs	231	112

*Excluding VAT

5. Taxation

RNIB Charity is a registered charity and is thus exempt from tax on income and gains falling within sections 478 – 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

6. Employee remuneration

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 652 (2018: 764), of which, the average full-time equivalent was 379 (2018: 474). The total emoluments are analysed as shown below:

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	9,818	10,682
Social security costs	709	773
Pension costs	535	572
Redundancy costs	570	-
Total emoluments	11,632	12,027

RNIB Charity, Company Number 08971500
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

The following numbers of employees received total emoluments within the bands shown:

Banding	2019	2018
Between £60,001 and £70,000	-	2

No higher paid employees received payments on termination of employment (2018: nil). Included in the total emoluments figures above are payments amounting to £nil (2018: nil) on termination of employment.

Also, of the number of staff disclosed in the table above RNIB made payments on behalf of nil (2018: 2) employees in respect of the RNIB Retirement Benefit Scheme and the Teachers' Pension Scheme, and there were payments made to nil (2018:1) members of staff in respect of the defined contribution element of the RNIB Retirement Benefits Pension Scheme. The total amount of employer contributions paid in respect of these employees was £nil (2018: £22,000). For new entrants since 1 April 2005 the RNIB Retirement Benefits Pension Scheme (RBPS) is partly defined benefit and partly defined contribution so included in the numbers reported are staff that may be within both elements of the scheme.

The Charity's senior management team consists of the Chief Operating Officer and members of the Executive Board as shown in the Who's who section of this report. Senior managers are remunerated by RNIB as disclosed in the Group Trustees report.

Staff can claim reimbursement of expenditure incurred by them in the course of undertaking business on behalf of RNIB Charity. Expenses are claimed against a set policy and guidelines, are independently authorised and are not regarded as part of the employee's emoluments.

7. RNIB Charity Trustees' expenses and related parties transactions

Many Trustees and/or their organisations bear the cost of attending meetings themselves. They receive no benefits from the Charity except as users of our services.

Trustees of the Charity represent agencies and organisations throughout the United Kingdom, and they attend many committee, sub-committee and Boards of Governors' meetings, most of which are held at the Charity's London service centre.

Eleanor Southwood became Chair of RNIB in November 2017. During the 18/19 financial year she received a salary of £26,000 (2018: £10,242) in respect of carrying out her duties as Chair of RNIB. These payments have been made with the consent of the Charity Commission. Eleanor is also an Elected Councillor for London Borough of Brent, to whom RNIB raised invoices and credits totalling £437,132 (2018: £390,046) during the financial year, at the close of business on the 31 March 2019, £143,604 (2018: £102,867) was still owing to RNIB.

The RNIB Group enters a comprehensive range of insurance policies to protect trustees, officers and employees against losses and legal liabilities arising from neglect or default in the course of business. Total premiums for these policies amounted to £26,589 (2018: £24,302).

8. Net income for the year is stated after charging

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Auditors' remuneration – statutory audit fee	46	30
Depreciation charge – tangible fixed assets	15	28

9. Tangible Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £'000
Cost	
Balance 1 April 2018	312
Additions	-
Eliminations on Disposal	(6)
Balance 31 March 2019	306
Accumulated depreciation	
Balance 1 April 2018	259
Charge for the year	15
Eliminations on Disposal	(6)
Balance 31 March 2019	268
Net book value 31 March 2019	38
Net book value 31 March 2018	53

10. Debtors due within one year

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade debtors	930	1,623
Amounts owed by Group undertakings	10,558	9,162
Other debtors	94	-
Prepayments and accrued income	277	252
Total	11,859	11,037

11. Creditors amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade creditors	146	202
Taxes and social security costs	125	192
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	10,223	9,723
Finance leases	-	-
Other creditors	1,231	30
Bank overdraft	-	8
Accruals	49	328
Deferred income – all utilised in the year	30	38
Total	11,804	10,521

12. Provisions for liabilities and charges

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £'000	Charged to income and expenditure £'000	Released during the year £'000	Balance at 31 March 2019 £'000
Potential VAT costs	446	-	446	-
Redundancy and termination costs	-	-	-	-
Sleep in provision	70	-	-	70
Total	516	-	-	70

The release in the VAT provision is as a result of the ongoing work in relation to the review that is taking place in respect of a potential liability relating to VAT that has been recovered in relation to RNIB's Lottery fundraising activities.

13. RNIB Charity statement of funds

	1 April 2018 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Transfers £'000	Gains (losses) £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Designated	53	-	-	(15)	-	38
General	-	20,167	20,182	15	-	-
Total	53	20,167	20,182	-	-	38

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances are represented by:	2019 Unrestricted funds £'000	2018 Unrestricted funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	38	53
Net current assets	70	516
Long term liabilities	(70)	(516)
Total net assets	38	53

15. Pensions

RNIB Charity participates in the RNIB Retirement Benefits Scheme. This is a hybrid scheme for members joining after 1 April 2005 and a defined benefit scheme for prior entrants. The assets and liabilities of the scheme are accounted for within the Group accounts. The charity is unable to identify, on a reasonable and consistent basis, its share of the underlying assets/liabilities as such information is unavailable on a disaggregated basis. Therefore, the Charity has accounted for contributions as if the scheme were a defined contribution scheme. In the year, the Charity made contributions totalling £364,000 (2018: £433,000) and 152 members (2018: 270 members) remain active.

RNIB Charity also participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for employees who were formerly employed by local education authorities. The Teachers' Pension Scheme is an unfunded scheme. Contributions on a "pay as you go" basis are credited to The Exchequer under arrangements governed by The Superannuation Act 1972. Therefore, this scheme is treated as a defined contribution scheme from an accounting perspective. RNIB Charity made contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme for 20 employees (2018: 23) totalling £97,000 (2018: £104,000).

RNIB Charity has an auto-enrolment pension scheme which is administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). This is a defined contribution scheme. In the year RNIB Charity contributed £74,000 (2018: £35,000) on behalf of 748 employees (2018: 452).

16. Group commitments

a. Capital

At 31 March 2019, RNIB Charity has no outstanding commitments (2018: £nil)

b. Operating leases

At 31 March 2019, RNIB Charity has no non-cancellable operating leases. (2018: £nil)

17. Contingent liabilities

At 31 March 2019, there are no contingent liabilities. (2018: £nil)

18. Ultimate Controlling Party

The Trustees of the Charity consider that the ultimate controlling party of the Charity is Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) number 226227, in England and Wales and number SCO39316 in Scotland. Established in 1868, RNIB was incorporated under Royal Charter in 1949, with a Supplemental Charter in 1993 (revised in 2007 and 2014).

Copies of the RNIB financial statements are available at www.rnib.org.uk.

RNIB Charity, Company Number 08971500
Who's who at RNIB Charity

Trustees

Derek Child (to 31 March 2019)
Margaret Bennett (to 10 October 2018)
Simon Edward Finnie (19 October 2018 to 31 March 2019)
Dr Heather Giles (from 02 May 2019)
Stuart Alan Tinger (from 02 May 2019)
Eleanor Southwood

Professional advisers

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
1 Embankment Place
London
WC2N 6RH

Actuarial advisers

Towers Watson
21 Tothill Street
London
SW1H 9LL

Solicitors

Bates Wells & Braithwaite
2-6 Cannon Street
London
EC4M 6YH

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Marylebone Road and Harley Street
Branch
10 Marylebone High Street
London
W1A 1FH

Farrer & Co
66 Lincolns Inn Fields
London
WC2A 3LH

Board of Trustees

Current members of the Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, are listed below.

Eleanor Southwood
Dr Heather Giles
Stuart Alan Tinger

Contact details

RNIB Charity
105 Judd Street
London
WC1H 9NE
t: 020 7388 1266
t: 0131 652 3140

Charity Commission Reg:

England and Wales: 1156629
Scotland: SC044876