

A LOOK BACK AT 2023/24

OSCR

Scottish Charity Regulator

www.oscr.org.uk

Registered Charity

SC016791



**HIGHLAND
HEALTH BOARD
ENDOWMENT
FUND CHARITY**

**SCOTTISH
REGISTERED CHARITY
NO: SC016791**



A LOOK BACK AT 2023/24

At the Highland Health Board Endowment Fund charity we are dedicated to improving the wellbeing and healthcare experience of the individuals and families cared for by our NHS in Highland and Argyll & Bute.

As the official charity of NHS Highland we are privileged to support and enhance the vital work delivered by the NHS. Ranging from simple improvements and amenities to truly transformational innovations, our aim is to enrich the journey of our population from infancy to end of life.

Staff from across the entire organisation work together each day to tackle everything from routine care and support to the most challenging illnesses and conditions facing people in Highland and Argyll & Bute. Staff working in both hospitals and community settings deliver outstanding support to keep people healthy and well in the community for longer.

Our donors and supporters are united in fundraising to offer our patients and their families a chance at a healthier and happier future. With the help of our supporters we can provide state of the art medical equipment; fund innovative research; provide support services to patients and their families; train and educate our workforce and contribute to enhancing our hospitals and other care environments.

Every year brings unique challenges, as well as opportunities for the NHS. As a charity we have embraced our role in strengthening the work of NHS Highland and this review will share some of our highlights.

OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the charity is the advancement of health through:

- improving the physical and mental health of our Highland population
- providing services and facilities for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness
- research relating to the causation, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness

To achieve this, the charity funds projects and activities which will improve health outcomes and experiences of people using our NHS services. We are an independent but integral part of the work of NHS Highland.

The charity accomplished an enormous amount through our role as a responsible investor of our funds and we observe a policy of ethically choosing not to invest in companies involved in manufacture of tobacco, alcohol or armaments.

AN OVERVIEW OF OUR REGION*

OUR POPULATION



320,860
OR 5.9% OF
SCOTLAND'S
POPULATION

OUR GEOGRAPHY



42% OF SCOTLAND'S
LANDMASS WITH 36
POPULATED ISLANDS

OUR WORKFORCE



10,745 STAFF
WORKING AT
OVER 100 SITES

*Figures as at September 2022

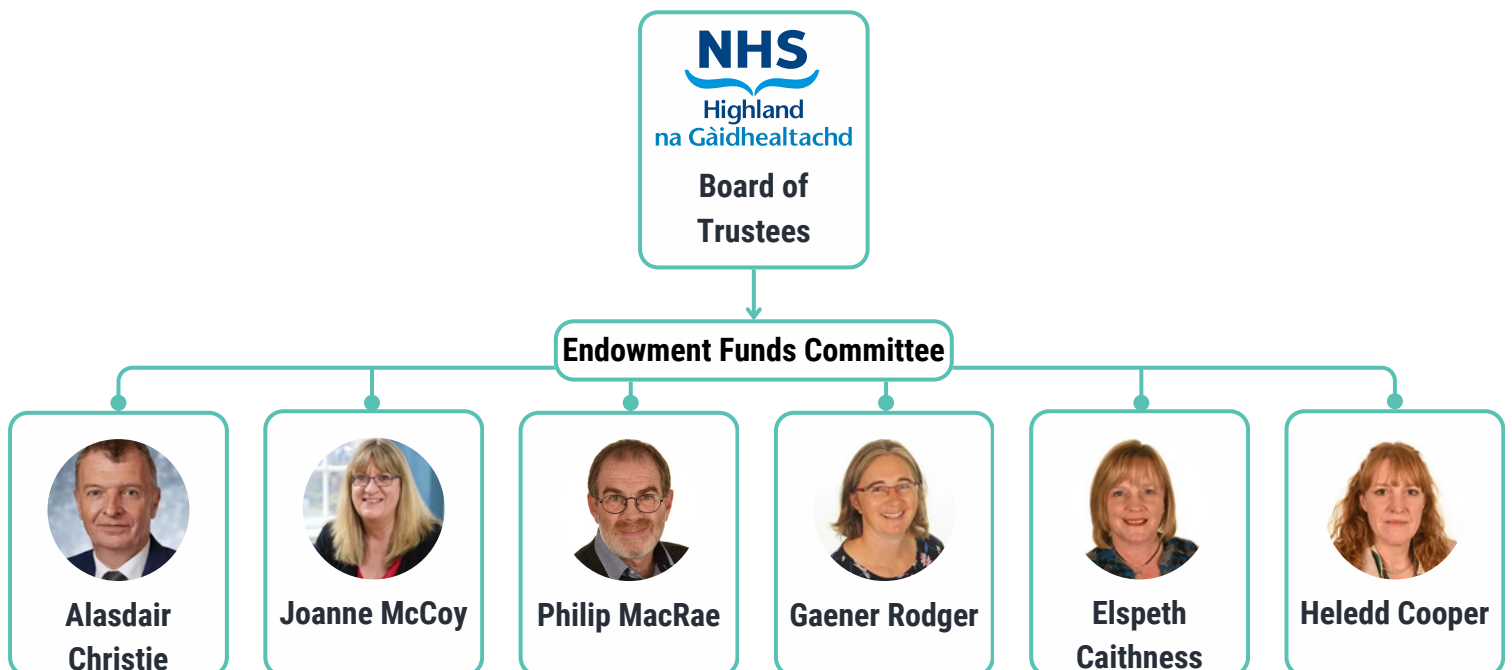
OUR TRUSTEES

All members of the Highland Health Board who have been appointed by Scottish Ministers are also trustees of the charity.

The Board of Trustees also appoint several of their members to the Endowment Funds Committee. This committee met quarterly in 2023/24 to review grant proposals and oversee the governance and strategic direction of the charity.

Details of meetings throughout the year are available on the NHS Highland [website](#).

We want to thank all trustees for their role in leading and shaping the work of the charity.



Our investment advisors were Adam & Company Wealth Management and our auditors were MacKenzie Kerr Ltd. Our full accounts are [available online](#).

ACHIEVING OUR PRIORITIES

Through targeted support we have delivered meaningful projects and activities aligned to our charitable objectives.

Strong governance and guidance processes ensured we delivered our work in accordance with industry best practice.



OUR GRANT MAKING

WHAT WE FUNDED



£7,384

Clinical
Research



£158,610

Medical and
Other Equipment



£51,714

Workforce
Professional
Development



£163,848

Patient Support
and Amenities



£131,358

Workforce Support
and Amenities



£185,811

Building and
Infrastructure
Enhancements

Each year the charity commits funds to support a range of activities with a common aim - to advance health and wellbeing in Highland. Our support empowers NHS Highland to do more beyond the core delivery of health services.

Trustees met throughout the year to assess grant applications and monitor progress and delivery of live projects. The charity team supported over 350 front-line staff in utilising charity funds to bring their ideas to life.

Our actions have been made possible with the vital support of donors and our partners at NHS Charities Together who provided vital additional grant-funding to support delivery of several projects.

SMALL CHANGES BIG IMPACT

Staff working with amputee patients at our Vascular Unit in Raigmore Hospital saw that patient experience could be vastly improved with a relatively small change to automate the operation of the doors at the entrance of the ward.

New automatic doors were installed and Kristina, a senior charge nurse tells us about the difference they've made.

“These doors have made a huge difference for my patient’s wellbeing. Benefits include improved accessibility, independence, safety, convenience and hygiene. It has a significant role to ensure and create a more inclusive and person-centred environment”.



“

“As a new amputee, the doors have been a tremendous benefit, enabling independence without the need for assistance or porters. Gives independence, easy to use. It has been a big help in my stay on the ward”

Patient feedback

”

TINY TABLET

IMPRESSIVE OUTCOMES



The dedicated team at the Corbett Centre in Inverness saw an opportunity to provide something a little different for the adults who engage with their services.

A 'Tiny Tablet' interactive activity table was purchased following an exploration of various options.

The potential uses are endless with the tablet being useful for a whole

host of activities: art, games, music, reminiscence and training just to name a few.

The device can be used with individuals as well as groups and staff have found it invaluable for creating connections and engagement with service users.



"This gives us an interactive and engaging platform for our staff to support individuals, using a wide range of educational games, activities, and content designed to maximise their development, cognitive skills, fine motor skills, learning and as important as anything, just having fun!"
Ian, NHS Staff Member



CARING FOR THE STAFF WHO CARE FOR YOU



Photo credit: Project Wingman

Between May and July 2023 the fantastic team at Project Wingman visited six sites across the region: Wick, Raigmore, New Craigs, Fort William, Lochgilphead and Dunoon.

Nearly 1,200 members of the workforce took time out to visit the dedicated relaxation space. Staff were offered a chance to decompress and have a break from the clinical working environment and 97.6% found it valuable. Staff were also able to offer suggestions for future support, highlighting mindfulness, fatigue and sleep issues as priorities.

“Thank you so much for your time and kindness. I’ve recently been off work with mental health problems and it was wonderful to visit”

“The bus is brilliant, gave us a great space to chat away from the office”

“Thank you so much for visiting Dunoon! This has been invaluable for staff wellbeing”

SOLAR POWER TO THE PEOPLE

The Trustees were delighted to support the delivery of an innovative pilot project at Raigmore Hospital. A solar car charging hub was installed to provide much-needed additional charging ports for staff and visitors. Over two years the project will evaluate the use and impact of the charging ports and the impact for patients and visitors, as well as staff, many of whom may not have private access to charging ports.

We're proud to support the work towards decreasing carbon emissions and congratulate the team behind this innovative effort. Results of this exciting pilot will be shared as they become available.



*“This project will have a significant positive benefit for NHS Highland’s patients, staff, visitors and the general public”
Neil, Project Manager*

CREATING SPACE TO FLOURISH



Trustees committed a significant grant to support the refurbishment of the Ruthven ward at New Craigs Hospital.

The team behind the project are utilising existing space within the ward but modernising it in line with the latest standards and innovations to provide a homely, comfortable and safe patient experience

The Charity was delighted to be able to support various enhancements to the wider works programme all of which are aimed at improving the experience of patients during their time on the ward.

The grant will provide a range of additional elements such as murals, destination seating zones, improved signage and wayfinding and enhanced bathing facilities. These measures will also enhance the environment for staff supporting patients during their stay on the ward.



*“The aim of the project team is to create the Highland’s first dementia-specific inpatient facility”
NHS project lead*

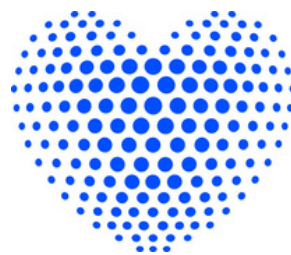
REVITALISING RAIGMORE'S DINING EXPERIENCE



The charity secured a substantial grant from NHS Charities Together to undertake a long overdue modernisation of Raigmore Hospital's main dining hall.

The project increased seating capacity and created dining and break-out areas, fostering a tranquil environment for patients, their families and staff to relax away from clinical settings. The resulting increase in footfall and positive feedback has been very welcome. Existing furniture was repurposed where possible to minimise waste.

“After 21 years, your funding has given us the opportunity to improve our facilities for staff, patients and visitors”
Steven, Facilities Manager



SUPPORTED BY
**NHS
CHARITIES
TOGETHER**

BRINGING SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER

No one wants to spend Christmas in a healthcare setting and donations ensure we can provide a wee treat to patients who are with us during the holiday season. Staff work hard to cheer up wards with decorations and coordinate entertainment for patients.

The Trots of Fun therapeutic animal group visited New Craigs Hospital in Inverness just before Christmas. Both patients and staff enjoyed meeting the animals and we thank the staff for making this a special time for all involved.



*“It brought much joy and big smiles to the faces of many patients across site, we are grateful for endowments being able to make this possible”
Joyce, New Craigs staff member*



OUR FINANCIALS

Throughout 2023-24 we have maximised our support for the region, responding to needs identified by patients, their families and the workforce.

We are proud to have delivered excellent value for money to our donors, our stakeholders and the public across Highland, Argyll & Bute.

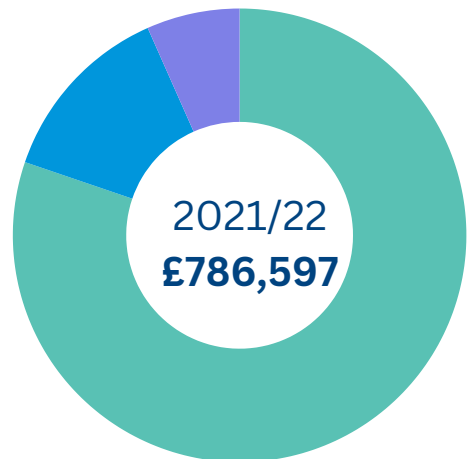
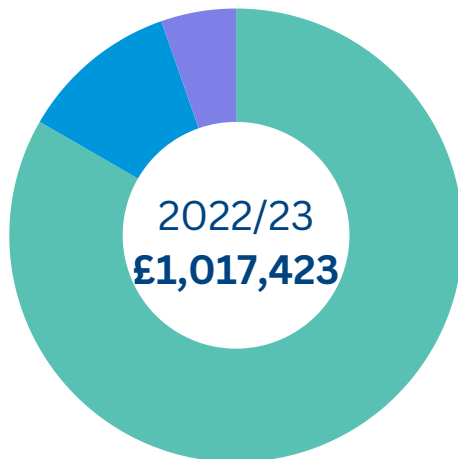
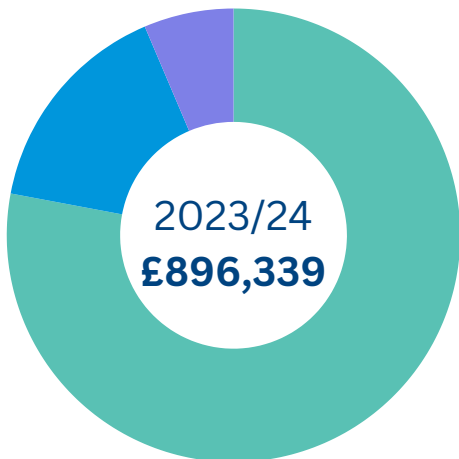
Our full accounts are [available online](#).



TOTAL INCOME



EXPENDITURE



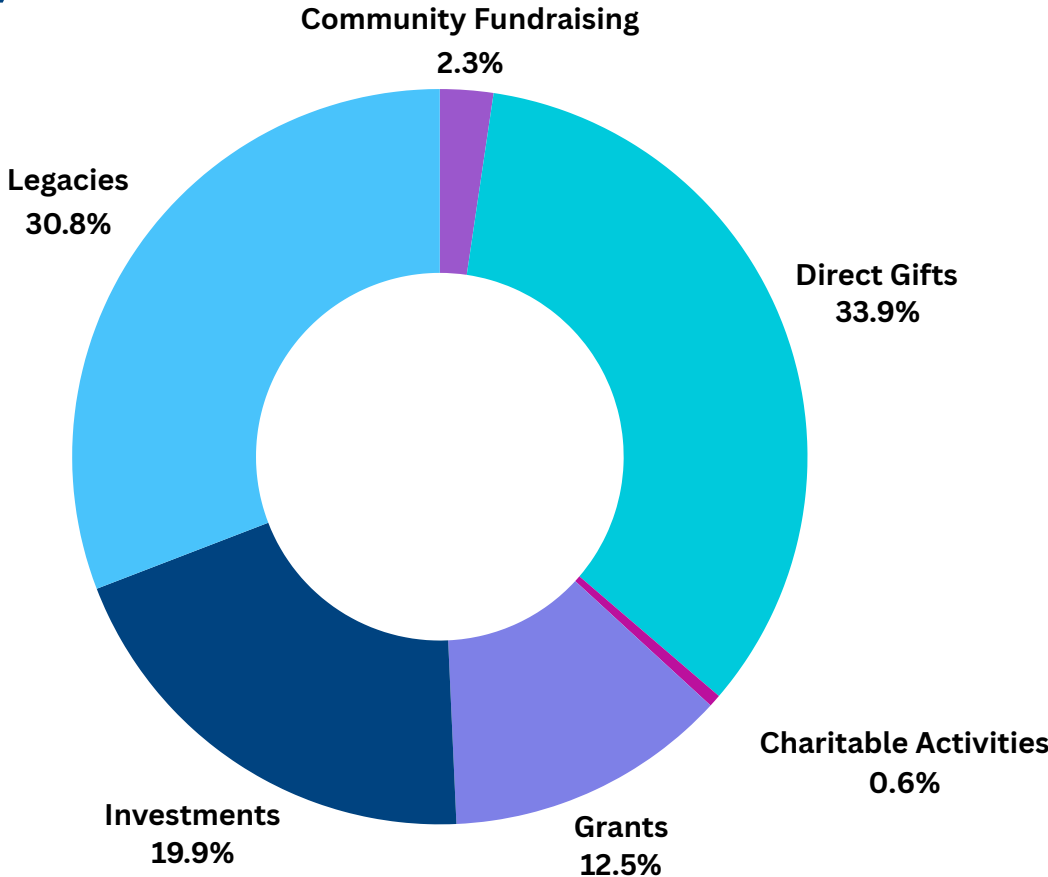
Grants awarded **£698,725**
 Staff costs **£140,248**
 Support Costs **£57,366**

Grants awarded **£847,939**
 Staff costs **£115,104**
 Support Costs **£54,380**

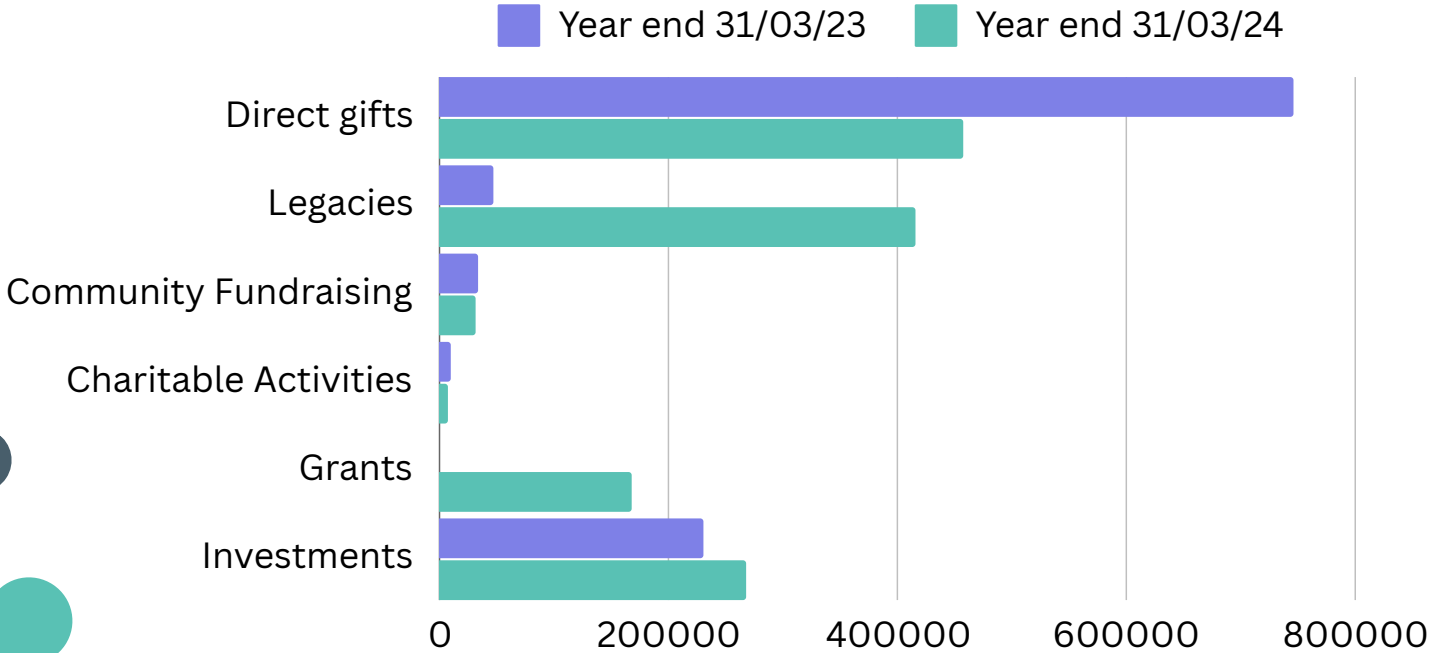
Grants awarded **£631,085**
 Staff costs **£103,267**
 Support Costs **£52,245**

For a breakdown of total income and expenditure please read our full accounts [online](#).

SOURCES OF OUR INCOME IN 2023/24



2023/24 INCOME STREAMS COMPARED TO PRIOR YEAR



OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

This year's achievements were made possible by our dedicated volunteers, NHS staff, donors, fundraisers, and strategic partners. We are deeply grateful to everyone who supported us in 2023/24.

A special thanks goes to NHS staff who fundraise in addition to their regular duties, going above and beyond to support patients, service users, residents and their families.

We also appreciate the many patients, residents, their friends, and families who raised funds or bequeathed a gift. Every donation is greatly valued. Lastly, we extend our thanks to the following charities for their partnership and support during the year:

- Bute Kidney Patients Support Group
- Caithness Disabled Access Panel
- Caithness General League of Friends
- Caithness Heart Support Group
- Caithness Vintage Tractor & Machinery Group
- Friends of Raigmore
- Highland Mindfulness Group
- League of Friends Lawson Memorial Hospital
- MV Hillhouse Trust
- NHS Charities Together
- TESCO Stronger Starts
- The County Air Ambulance Trust
- The Dr J N Marshall (Island of Bute) Memorial Trust



The Caithness Vintage Tractor & Machinery Club presenting their donation to NHS staff member, Bruce, for the Caithness renal unit.

CONTACT US

OSCR

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**CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR NHS
IN THE FUTURE?**

**[CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR
CODE](#)**

